

# HUMAN RIGHTS TIMELINE

Introducing Human rights	Duration	No. of participants	Short Description	Preparation	Materials
	30–45 min	10-25	Participants create a joint human rights timeline	Make a frame for the timeline, see underneath	Flipchart paper (or black or whiteboard) Marker Pens Small post-its/cards

## ACTIVITY AIM:

**Activity Type: Reflection, Movement**

- To get talking about what human rights are
- To show that human rights are all around us, and that we all know something about human rights
- To enable participants to regard and use each other as a resource

## HOW:

### 1. PREPARATION

Make a frame for the timeline shown below, using flipchart paper on the wall, with large post-its or card, or drawn up on a blackboard or whiteboard.

### 2. INTRODUCTION TO PARTICIPANTS

Hand out post-its or cards in three different colours. Then ask participants to write down one human rights event on each: a) one personal, b) one national and c) one international. Ask them to place these events on the timeline.

### 3. SUMMING UP AND FOLLOW UP

When everyone has placed their events on the timeline, go through the events one by one. Start with the global, then national. Ask participants to elaborate and explain. Note if there are many similar events, and ask whether participants think some important events are missing. Ask who would like to share their personal events and let participants explain these one by one. Don't force anyone to divulge sensitive information.

Let the timeline hang on the wall throughout the course and refer to it when relevant.

### NOTE:

The activity can become very emotional as participants' personal events may include disturbing experiences such as torture and ethnic discrimination.. Ensure that there is a supportive atmosphere and be ready to assist participants who find it difficult to cope. It is OK if they do not want to explain their event; it is enough that we can read about it.

Source: Adapted from Chris Cavanaugh (1999): CA workshop, presented in Flowers (2000): The Human Rights Education Handbook.



## TIMELINE

1900 1910 1920 1930 1940 1950 1960 1970 1980 1990 2000 2010

Personal

National

International