

HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY

PREAMBLE

Human rights are universal and inalienable; indivisible; interdependent and interrelated. Human rights are inherent to all human beings, regardless of race, sex, nationality, ethnicity, language, religion, or any other status. Human rights include the right to live one's life with liberty, freedom from slavery, without torture or intimidation, with the freedom of speech, the equal right to work, readily available education, and to live with respect and dignity. Everyone is entitled to these rights, without discrimination, and the government is responsible for respecting, upholding, and promoting these rights

VISION

The vision of the Greens is a world in which the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) are universally implemented. Where national and international compliance with International Human Rights Law is prioritised, laying down the obligations of governments to promote, protect and respect human rights and fundamental freedoms of individuals and groups. These obligations are articulated in agreements including the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and its Protocols; the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and its Protocols; and many other international conventions for the protection of rights and freedoms. These rights need implementation at local, national and international levels.

OBJECTIVE

The objective is a strong national human rights system that monitors, protects, and enforces human rights for all regardless of race, sex, sexual preference, or other discriminatory measures - and has active participation in and compliance with international human rights bodies, legislation, and practices.

ACTION

Universal human rights are fundamental and must be respected and protected in all countries and for all people. Economic, social, cultural, environmental, civil and political rights are universal, interdependent, inseparable, and interrelated. Therefore, the Greens will –

Commitment to Human Rights

- Endorse the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, International Labour Organisation (ILO) conventions, UN Declaration on Indigenous Rights, other international instruments and the Global Greens Charter for the protection of rights and freedoms, and implement them in domestic law.
- Work with local communities to promote awareness of human rights and ensure their protection
- Ensure that the UN Commission for Human Rights and other treaty bodies are adequately resourced
- Call for the Universal Declaration of Human Rights to be amended to include rights to a healthy natural environment and intergenerational rights to natural and cultural resources.

- Secure universal and effective recognition and observance of the principles and spirit expressed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- Ratify and adhere to all international human rights conventions including their optional protocols
- Ensure that international human rights law is also protected by national legislation that is binding on the government and is respected, protected, and promoted domestically
- Ensure equal opportunity to participate in the decision-making processes that affect peoples' lives and environments
- Ensure the right to free expression and assembly by all

Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

- Ensure the right to work and the right to social protection in just and favourable conditions
- Ensure that everyone has the right to equal pay for equal work without discrimination
- Ensure an adequate standard of living and the highest attainable standards of physical and mental well-being
- Ensure the right to education and the enjoyment of benefits of cultural freedom and scientific progress

Community Rights

- Ensure equal rights and community obligations as citizens, without imposing unwanted conformity to the values and lifestyle of the dominant culture or government
- Recognise that all communities, whether empowered or disadvantaged and discriminated, are sections of society deserving of protection by law without discrimination based on ethnicity, race, faith, religion, sex, language, geographical location, or any other status
- Support the rights of nature to exist and to flourish, through legal protections developed in partnership with local communities
- Legislate to protect the community and environment where a company proposes to carry out an activity in the community which would violate that community's rights
- Uphold the rights of women to make their own decisions, including control of their fertility by the means they deem appropriate, free from discrimination or coercion
- Support the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)
- Support the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and support moves for indigenous people to establish and work through their own international bodies
- Support the rights of Indigenous and Tribal Peoples to self-determination, land rights, and access to traditional hunting and fishing rights for their own subsistence, using humane and ecologically sustainable techniques

International

- Ensure that governments keep human rights violations on the agenda during their diplomatic and international duties
- Condemn political violence used to intimidate opponents as strongly as torture, illegal imprisonment, uncontrolled personal data disclosure or extraordinary rendition by western governments

- Act against dictatorships and regimes that deny human rights, regardless of their political claims
- Free political prisoners and ensure torturers are brought to justice in a timely manner
- Put an end to the trafficking of women and children and slavery of all kinds
- Promote and strengthen the role of the International Criminal Court and use all available means to encourage all nations to ratify the Rome Statute
- Protect citizens subjected to human rights abuses by foreign countries
- Promote agreed international human rights with other countries, including the application of diplomatic and commercial pressures on regimes and governments that violate human rights
- Put an end to the death penalty, oppose the death penalty in all cases, and support campaigns for its abolition
- Put an end to the practice of forced evictions, territorial invasions, and land grabs for resources on the basis of ethnic, religious, territorial or development claims
- Support and promote efforts to further develop, refine and articulate the rights of communities and of nature in binding international agreements

References:

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