

AGENDA ON HUMAN RIGHTS



1 ■ Introductions and protocols. I will welcome everybody and give a reminder of our agreements and protocols for getting the most from the VC (use 'I' statements, respond to what you hear, listen actively and respectfully, start with your name and end with thank you when you speak...).

2. Student introductions. We will begin our dialogue by hearing what from a few students **what they think makes their school and community special, as well as something they might change if they could.** There will be an opportunity for students to ask response questions based on what is shared.

WHAT DO YOU THINK MAKES YOUR SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY SPECIAL, AS WELL AS SOMETHING YOU MIGHT CHANGE IF YOU COULD. (trad. Cosa pensi che renda la tua comunità o la tua scuola speciale, c'è qualcosa che cambieresti se potessi?)

1ST STUDENT: SANTAMATO ANTONIO : Hello, My name isI live in Bari, in the south of Italy. what I think is special of Bari is that it is an important port, university and it's the city of Saint Nicholas. My school's name is Giovanni Pascoli. It's located in an historical building and I like it very much because it is near the sea. This is my last year in this school and in these days I'm really busy with my last year exams. I think that my school is gradually changing in order to welcome students from different cultures. For example the opportunity of participating to the programme FACE TO FAITH has been very important for me because I've learned deeply the importance of respect towards people who comes from different countries and have different cultures. **Thank you**

2ND STUDENT: TEDESCO CLAUDIA: Hello, my name isI think Bari is special because is my town, the town where I was born and where all my family and friends live. I like the historical center very much, because it's full of shops and it's also the place where young people could meet. The most special moments of the year are the first 10days of May when the festival of Saint Nicholas takes place. Every year, thousands of pilgrims come to Bari from all over the world to give thanks and worship at the tomb of San Nicholas. My city really changes in those days and I have the opportunity to reflect on the fact that even if we live in different parts of the world it is not difficult to find something that we have in common, something that can make us feel part of a great community. **Thank you.**

3RD STUDENT: (BUTTIGLIONE) Hello, my name isI think my school is special because I've learned a lot of things here but, above all, I've learned to be a responsible student. I've learned that if

I change my behavior, this has a ripple effect in my community, encouraging others to do the same. The city where I live, Bari, is also very special, thanks to its football team. After 6 (???) years the Bari football team is returning to *serie A*, the top division in Italian Football and we are all in celebration for this. There is a special atmosphere in these days and I won't never forget it. **Thank you.**

3. Human Rights. Next we will move towards the heart of the dialogue, considering Human Rights. I will begin this part of the dialogue with a question such as "What do you feel are basic human rights?" "Whose responsibility do you think it is to uphold human rights?" Hopefully students will have response questions and comments that will develop our dialogue. It will be useful if students are familiar with the UN Declaration of Human Rights; of course, some students might believe this declaration does not go far enough, or they may disagree with some of its content, but it would be useful if we can all begin by referencing the same set of rights. (trad. Quali sono per te i diritti umani basilari? Chi pensi ha la responsabilità di sostenere i diritti umani?)

1) MANGANELLA CLAUDIA: Hello, my name is The two main rights that I find to be basic are Life and Liberty. We must have faith in what we do in life, we must be free to become what we want and not be afraid. We must respect the rules, as well. The rights aren't respected when the children suffer unjust situations, when they cannot play, they cannot study and they are also obliged to fight and work. No one should be subjugated to the others, because we are all equal, with equal rights and duties. The right to life, liberty, freedom of thought, and equal treatment before the law, are rights, I can say, "natural", which means that they are not earned and cannot be denied on the basis of race, creed, ethnicity or gender. These rights are often legal rights and are **protected by the rule of law**. Therefore all nations have an important role in promoting worldwide respect for human rights. In other cases, **humanitarian intervention** are necessary to protect human rights. **International witnesses, observers and reporters** are also important to bring violations of human rights to public notice and discourage further violence. **Thank you.**

2) MILELLA DANIELE: Hello, my name is Human rights are those rights which you enjoy simply because you are a human being. They are not a privilege. They are a responsibility. For example I THINK THAT THE RIGHT TO SEEK A SAFE PLACE TO LIVE IS VERY IMPORTANT. Anyone has the right to overcome mistreatment in their own country by finding asylum in another safe state. For example in Africa there are wars and millions of people die and it's their right to RUN AWAY FROM DANGER and sure death. In Italy in the last months we have assisted to a great flow of people coming from the north coasts of Africa to escape from their country where there is war, poverty and terrible living conditions and to find refuge in our country where they expect to live a better life! it is our duty to give these people a hope for the future, protecting them and saving their lives. I think that the primary responsibility for upholding human rights lies with states. **Thank you.**

3) MILILLO DANIELE: Hello, my name is I think that an important right is the right to a nationality. We all have the right to belong to a country. Today some people are denied this right and are obliged to go abroad hoping that in the other nation these rights of justice, of equality and brotherhood can be recognized. I think that the immigrants should not feel temporary visitors, but people who intend to stay, to build or bring their families. They are called "foreigners", but they are citizens of fact, if they work and their children study in that country. They should be considered as an opportunity for cultural development of the country, for the economy and the job. On the other hand, the immigrants have to accept and respect the rules of the country they are in. I agree with my friend and I think that the primary responsibility for upholding human rights lies with states, but I also think that education plays an important role. **Education** about human rights must become part of general public education and that's what we are doing at our school. **Dialogue groups** that assemble people from various ethnicities should be organized to overcome mistrust, fear and grief in society. **Thank you.**

4) RICCI FRANCESCA: Hello, my name is I THINK NO ONE SHALL BE SUBJECTED TO TORTURE OR TO CRUEL , INHUMAN OR DEGRADING TREATMENT OR PUNISHMENT. No government can use the state of war , threat , internal political instability or any other public emergency to justify torture Even Italy has been condemned for violating the article of the

European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) due to prison conditions experienced by detainees. This because of the problem of overcrowding in the Italian prison system. In some cases prisoners share cells measuring nine square meters with two other inmates. Moreover, access to the showers is often limited due to a lack of warm water. And this prevented them from regularly using the showers for several months. It's important for Italy to re-organize its prison system in such a way as to respect the dignity of detainees as human beings. **Thank you.**

5) FORNARELLI GIUSEPPE: Hello, my name is I think human rights are based on the principle of respect for the individual. Each person deserves to be treated with dignity. The language of hatred now has spread everywhere, from video games to advertising, but also in sports. I love football but lately I've seen something I really don't like during football matches. In sport racist chants are becoming common. Some footballers may be targeted (also) *because of their* association with an opposing team. Black *footballers* playing in the serie A are also racially abused. Recently, a spectator threw the banana onto the pitch near the Brazilian international football star Alves. Alves picked up the banana to take a bite before going on with game and setting up a goal. He won praise for his reaction and I clap to him as well. **Thank you.**

6) PELLEGRINO SIMONA: Hello, my name is I think that a basic right is that of having a regular process and I think that this right is not respected in situations where people don't commit any crime and they are arrested. People are rarely mistaken for others and they are arrested for nothing. I think it is unfair because the police must first investigate and only after asserting the guilt, people should be arrested. A few days ago I heard a news on tv about a man from Senegal who has been put in prison for ten years because of an homonymy mistake. It's evident that judges and police investigations must be more accurate and careful in order to avoid this kind of terrible mistake. **Thank you**

7) EPIFANI ALESSANDRO: Hello, my name is The two main rights that I find to be basic are Life and Liberty. Sadly these rights are often repressed by governments that crush those unfortunate to be born under their rule. In many countries, such as Africa or some Arabic countries, the right to life, freedom and security of the person are not always guaranteed. In many countries people live in places that cannot be called houses, they do not have food and children cannot go to school. People die because there are not medicines or hospitals. Wars, for political or religious reasons, kill many innocent people, every day.. Life is an absolute value because it is the basis of legality. The right to life is linked to the right to freedom, and security. These values are inseparable. Each person must be free from any form of dictatorship, must be entitled to all the rights of citizenship, must be free to practice his own religion and to express his own thoughts. **Thank you.**

8) CIANCIARUSO MARIA CHIARA: Hello, my name is "Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; (This right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.)" I think this right is generally respected because every person not only in my city but around the world, too, can express everything they like. Everyone can say his thought. Also the prisoners can express their truth for their freedom. However there are some situations in which this right is denied. For example some categories are less listened to than others and for them it is really difficult not to express their needs but to be heard. I mean poor or unemployed people, those without family like orphans. **Thank you.**

9) TEDESCO CLAUDIA: Hello, my name is the goal of the human right n 8 according to the International Declaration of human rights is to get justice. Human beings have the right to a fair process to protect them when their rights are violated and to give them the possibility of defending when they are accused of something. Also those without education are equal to any other else before the law. Today there are still people who can't have a regular process and are discriminated before the law like women in Africa, or people condemned to torture or electrical chair. **Thank you.**

4. Faith Communities. I will invite students to share thoughts on what they think is the role of faith communities in upholding the rights of others. I will encourage them to think of examples of where faith communities have worked for the rights of others. It will be great to hear personal stories and examples that illustrate their ideas. If there is time, it would be great to also hear some reflections on ways that students try to uphold the rights of others in their everyday life (such as by challenging bullying).

PELLEGRINO SIMONA: **Hello, my name is** Human rights are important for everyone, everywhere, every day. All of our human rights are equally important and should be respected by everyone. You have a right to feel safe and to be treated fairly and respectfully. Bullying can be a violation of these rights. I would like to tell about an experience of mine. It happened in my school, not in my class. By accident, I heard a conversation among some students. One of the girl, a Bulgarian, had get the best mark in the English test and some of her mates were so resented that they were mocking her. She sat uttering no words. I informed one of the teacher very soon and she said that they already know what was happening in that class and that a project of intercultural education would have started soon. I think that education has an important role in helping students to understand and to get the best from diversity. **Thank you**

Hello, my name is My parish organizes a lot of activities to help who is in need. For example some volunteers collect the packed bread and fruit left over in school canteen and bring everything to the parish canteen for poor. People who lives in the surroundings donate packed food to the parish for the same reason. At Christmas time, at my school we organize some stalls where students' handmade gifts are sold. Last Christmas we donated all the money collected to an Italian town to help them rebuild their school shattered by the earthquake. **Thank you**

Hello, my name isI think that it's important for each of us to take the responsibility to prevent pollution, to not litter, and to ensure our homes, schools, streets and other other public places are kept neat and tidy. In the context of climate change, we are also obliged to ensure we do not waste scarce resources like water and electricity. This year, thank to my school I participated to 2 school projects: the first was The Cycle of recycle, the second "keep our beaches clean and beautiful." . I feel proud of myself for having done something useful. **Thank you**

5. Reflection on learning. We will end by hearing a couple of students share a learning point from the VC. This will work best if the students are given this role prior to the video-conference, so that they can be listening out for similarities, differences and learning points.

CATACCHIO CECILIA: **Hello, my name is**What I've learned from the programme FACE TO FAITH and today after this videoconference on HUMAN RIGHTS, is that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act in a spirit of brotherhood. There can't be freedom, justice and peace without respecting the equal dignity of people, because all human beings, of different nation, skin, religion, economy are born free and equal in dignity and rights. This means that we all have some rights and we have to respect us. Human beings are endowed with reason and conscience to understand that there aren't differences among people around the world. We all live in a spirit of brotherhood and we have to avoid wars of religion, discrimination and lack of freedom. **Thank you.**

SARNIOLA PIETRO: **Hello, my name is**By participating to this programme and to this videoconference today I've had the opportunity to reflect on important topics such as the discrimination. Discrimination is practiced all over the world. There are people who consider themselves more important than others just because they have a different skin color, traditions, national origin or other conditions. Almost everyone in the world has experienced a form of discrimination in their life (from friends when they mock you even for something stupid, or from the family when one child is preferred to another). We

have to pay attention to avoid not only the clear explicit forms of discrimination like the racist behaviors, but also the little, hidden and not always clear gestures of personal discrimination that we everyday experience like bullying. In my opinion, there should not be any difference and discrimination among human beings because we are all equal, we are part of a big family, that is the world. **Thank you**

EPIFANI ALESSANDRO: **Hello, my name is**What I've learned participating to this programme and to this videoconference today is that in many countries, (such as Africa or some Arabic countries), the right to life, freedom and security of the person are not always guaranteed. In many countries people live in places that cannot be called houses, they do not have food and children cannot go to school. People die because there are not medicines or hospitals. Wars, for political or religious reasons, kill many innocent people, every day. Life is an absolute value because it is the basis of legality. The right to life is linked to the right to freedom, and security. These values are inseparable. Each person must be free from any form of dictatorship, must be entitled to all the rights of citizenship, must be free to practice his own religion and to express his own thoughts. **Thank you.**

GAZZILLI DOMENICO: **Hello, my name is**Thanks to this videoconference, today, I've had the opportunity to reflect and to concentrate on topics that I often feel so far from me. I am often concerned with my life, with my happiness, with my needs. There are big things to do but there are also the small ones. To improve the globe as a whole we cannot forget there are lots of things that we can do every day at home that have a positive impact too. People should love instead of hate. People should be generous and altruist, but for many reasons few people in the world are like that. People should avoid fighting or killing those of different color and should also avoid being selfish and spoil a nation for monetary goal. Many times we don't take the opportunity to help the others because we think we're too busy or someone else will help. If I want to make the world around me better, I have just to do the right thing and help, instead of thinking that it's someone else's problem. **Thank you.**