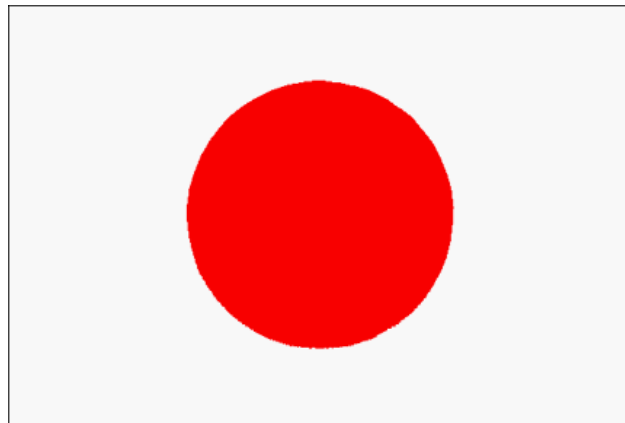


## Universal Periodical Review

*Forth Cycle*

# JAPAN



**Right to Life**  
**Related Human Rights Issues**  
**Right to peace**

July 14<sup>th</sup> 2022

*“From the politics of taking life to the politics of affirming it”*

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**We understand the right to life  
as being the full enjoyment of Life,  
as being the right not to be killed,  
as being everyone's responsibility not to kill or let others die.**

The Center for Global Nonkilling has a unique mission,  
inspirational for individuals and transformative for societies:  
*"To promote change toward the measurable goal of a killing-free world  
by means open to infinite human creativity in reverence for life".*

The Center for Global Nonkilling (CGNK) was founded by Glenn Paige (1929-2017), Professor of political science, author of the book "Nonkilling Political Science"<sup>1</sup>, widely translated<sup>2</sup>. CGNK is a worldwide congregation of persons, scholars and others, working at creating societies that do not kill and enabling all individuals to do so. We are all nonkilling centres and we are all global. Valuing life in all its dimensions is a fulfilling mission for everyone. Please yourself: become a Nonkilling Centre by celebrating, enhancing and protecting life for everyone, everywhere, at all the time<sup>3</sup>.

For the Universal Periodic Review, we make submissions providing the International Community and the Country under review with either reports on all or most aspects of the right to life in the State under review. Or we make submissions calling for the ratification of the basic treaties of the "life constitution": the Convention on the prevention and the punishment of the crime of genocide, the second protocol of the Covenant on Civil and Political Rights aimed at the abolition of the death penalty, the convention on enforced disappearances. Local constitution shall similarly uphold life in a dignified and inspiring manner.

The present submission focuses on aspects of human rights in Japan we consider as having the best potentials, or needs, for progress at the present time.  
In an annex, we join a detailed overview of the right to life.

### **Universal Periodic Review of Japan**

All States have a full duty of exemplarity.

Such a duty – being examples in the respect and promotion of human rights –  
is vested in their commitment to human rights and sustainable development.

Reciprocally, exemplarity is enshrined in our capacity,  
as human beings, to give the best of ourselves.

The duty of exemplarity is somehow expressed in international law; it is needed to reach the  
legitimate and peaceful goals of the International Community.

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## Introduction

Japan has a constitution that is peace oriented and has produced in 2021 an extensive SDG Voluntary National Report (VNR) that describes its policies for its priority areas as being oriented for “People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace, and Partnership” (the five P’s)<sup>4</sup>.

We commend Japan both the quality of the VNR report and for its human and humane endeavors. The VNR also provides important figures regarding the right to life in practice. However, they are still, in the fields of life, of peace and human rights, of human rights law spaces and needs for improvements, endeavors: some of them are listed hereafter.

### **The right to life in the international and national human rights constitutions**

*Living happily*<sup>5</sup>

The following treaties, international legal obligations, are directly concerned by the enjoyment of the right to life:

- The Convention on the prevention and punishment of the crime of *genocide*,
- The Covenant on *civil and political rights* (article 6),
- Its Optional protocol aiming at the *abolition of the death penalty*,
- The Convention on *enforced disappearances*.

These conventions are the minimum legal standards needed for any country to internationally recognize and show full respect for life and the right to life, for its people as for our species.

National constitutions shall similarly reflect the stand in favor of life.

#### **I. A universal right to life Prevention of genocide**

In a time in which humanity must learn to survive on our planet and to repel any possible war, the prevention of genocide, care for the sustenance of life for all individuals, social and political groups, for the humankind is of vital importance. The universal prevention of genocide, through the ratification of the Convention, but also through the establishment of local focal points for prevention will be a great sign of hope, a solid work to prevent genocide.

Every person needs to be part of a social group to live and thrive in society, to relate with its kin, its government and institutions; every individual, every social group and every State is concerned, has a right and a responsibility, a duty to enhance life for each and all, to protect and be protected against all forms of discrimination, violence or worse, against any destruction of life, including genocide.

The United Nations Special Adviser for the Prevention of Genocide calls for the universal ratification of the Convention<sup>6</sup>. The Human Rights Council has adopted resolutions containing similar calls<sup>7</sup>.

The ratification of the Convention and adapting local laws is a rather simple accomplishment. It requires a decision to ratify, a parliamentary decision to adapt the criminal code and criminalize genocide and a certified letter to the Secretary General confirming ratification.

Endorsing the prevention of genocide is a national endeavour. Tools and initiatives are available for the efficient prevention of genocide and atrocity crimes<sup>8</sup>.

Japan received from Armenia, during the third cycle, a recommendation asking for the ratification of the Convention. Regretfully, it was noted, without detailed explanations<sup>9</sup>. We hope for a change.

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We welcome the election of Japan as a member of the Security Council for the period 2023-2024, during its Universal Periodic Review. As a member of the Security Council, Japan will have a greater responsibility in favour of the progress and the achievement of peace, but also of human Rights.

As one of the “big” countries still in need of doing this ratification<sup>10</sup>, it will be a great and clear sign of progress given by Japan to the world, a care for the well-being to see Japan ratify the Convention.

**We warmly recommend to the State of Japan the swift ratification of the Convention on the Prevention and the Punishment of the Crime of Genocide.**

We welcome explanations whatever position is chosen.

## **II. Life as a power of the people**

The Constitution of Japan speaks in the name of the people<sup>11</sup>.

It can only be revised by referendum, which has never happened<sup>12</sup>.

It grants life as a human right, noteworthy in conjunction with the right to happiness<sup>13</sup>.

Further, in accordance with public welfare, life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness shall receive “supreme consideration” in legislation and all official acts<sup>14</sup>.

Indeed, the prevalence of life in public policies is an absolute duty, that sometimes needs deeper and more extensive applications.

## **III. Life as an institutional gift Prohibition of death penalty**

To respect life is to value all lives, without exceptions, distinctions or discriminations.

It is also living as an example of this valuation of life.

States and their authorities have a duty to stand as examples of their respect for life and for the right to life. They are the ones that shall lead, by their example and their policies, the changes of opinions needed regarding the use of the death penalty – whatever is said by the polls – thus bringing dignity and regard for life, both to the State they represent and to the people they serve. However, as the Constitution of Japan permits such a treatment of persons (to kill them)<sup>15</sup>, and as the Constitution is protected by a right of referendum, the people of Japan also have a life-saving obligation, a responsibility to see this change happen.

We also recall that the right to life granted to all is also the responsibility vested in all to refuse to kill. The act of killing is the same, be it official or a crime: a killing. Accepting that one could be killed and accepting to kill anyone is accepting that act of killing, which impedes our own quality of life and our right to security<sup>16</sup>. Regardless of who is killed by whom, why or how, a killing is the destruction of life, inasmuch the destruction of the right to life<sup>17</sup>.

Our conscience is hurt by such killing possibilities: we call for all persons facing situations in which they may kill to exert their right to Conscientious Objection<sup>18</sup>.

**We urgently recommend to the State and the people of Japan to a change of policy regarding the application of the death penalty and to prepare the legal changes needed to definitely abolish it and become a killing-free Nation-State.**

### **The right to life practice**

*A happy and fulfilled life span<sup>19</sup>*

- a. In its VNR, longevity is a base criterion for one of Japan’s action priority<sup>20</sup>.

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We regret that the concept has not been developed further, including to translate longevity into a standing right, fully part the right to life. We also call for studies aimed at improving gender equality of life expectancies.

**We recommend reinforcing the right to longevity and work towards equality in life expectancy rates.**

b. The rate of suicides was decreasing. It has increased again during COVID. The government has been steadily working on it, with the objective of realizing “a society in which no one is driven to suicide<sup>21</sup>”. A suicide-free society is a noble objective.

**We recommend reinforcing suicide prevention, noteworthy by doing more for life valuation, giving worth and happiness to life.**

c. The homicide rate is very low and decreasing. As for suicide, realizing the objective of a nonkilling homicide-free society will be a noble goal<sup>22</sup>.

**We recommend reinforcing homicide prevention, with the aim of becoming a homicide-free country.**

d. Among injuries and violence, traffic is the greatest killer on Earth. Japan has a rather low rate and is progressing, yet SDG 3.6 aiming at halving the number of casualties by 2020 was only half met<sup>23</sup>.

**We recommend reinforcing traffic casualty prevention and progress towards fulfilling the SDG target.**

### **The peace constitution**

*Giving a future to mankind, to everyone.*

The Constitution of Japan is peace bearing. The preamble is a magnificent example of law serving life and the entire human community, of peace as a needed tool for dignity and for the future, for the well-being of each and all<sup>24</sup>.

The peace policies of Japan are largely described in its VNR<sup>25</sup>. Peace is one of its 8 priority areas<sup>26</sup>. However, we formulate the following remarks:

A. Progress of peace and non-violence through education is a means needed to achieve the sustainable goals<sup>27</sup>. Japan has mentioned peace as an element of the school’s curriculum in its VNR.

**Efforts should also be made to teach non-violence, including to security forces.**

B. Participation in civic and public life is a fulfilling endeavour<sup>28</sup>.

For all its UPR reports and the VNR, Japan has consulted with local civil society. We also know that direct democracy exists for local government. As seen, if changes in the constitution must undergo a national referendum, there is no referendum rights for laws and no initiative rights to suggest laws or changes to the constitution<sup>29</sup>.

**We encourage the Government and the people of Japan to do more for the progress of democracy, in Japan and worldwide.**

C. Peace zones

By its peaceful constitution and international policy, Japan could be considered a peace zone. Other types of peace zones can and should be established as well, both for peace as such and for special zones dedicated to nonviolent conflict solving. These zones are beneficial for human rights and their progresses.

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**Japan should consider, as did South America and the Caribbean<sup>30</sup>, declaring itself a peace zone.**

D. Prevention is key for a future free from violence. Sadly, the World Health Organization's program on interpersonal violence is not updated anymore; though Japan fared well, it can still do better<sup>31</sup>. In a different perspective, UNODC does a valuable prevention work<sup>32</sup>. However, gaps remain and "bridging" the silos to give a broad view of all prevention efforts, is still necessary.

**We encourage the Government of Japan to do more for "violence, violent conflict and crime prevention", nationally and internationally.**

E. Peaceful settlement of disputes

Internationally mandatory, procedures providing alternatives to win-lose solutions such as mediation, ombudsman, restaurative justice have, as a side effect teaching to the people to solve their conflicts peacefully and prevent them. These procedures also create a spirit of peace and peaceful settlements that encourages governments to do likewise and thus to create a world culture of peaceful settlements. These procedures should be made readily available to the population, and to specific groups frequently in need of conciliatory procedures.

**We encourage the Government of Japan to improve the availability of peaceful settlements of disputes, nationally and internationally.**

F. Use of force

To restore peace or to prevent infringements on peace, if prevention has failed, use of force, preferably non-violent and non-lethal force, is sometimes required. Any official use of force should be monitored by a totally independent mechanism encompassing victims and civil society<sup>33</sup>.

**We encourage Japan to improve its use of force policies and oversight and to become a "No-killings by the police" country.**

G. Government oversight of peace policies

To promote peace at all levels of society and worldwide, in accordance with its SDG priority n° 7: **We encourage the Government to establish a peace ministry** (or a dedicated office).

H. Peoples oversight of peace policies: the Human Right to Peace

**The promotion and the effective implementation of a human right to peace, as provided for in the preamble of the Constitution of Japan, shall be legally established.**

Peace originates in and enhances our human nature. Seeing it prevail is the greatest expression of our dignity, the best use of our capacities towards and within well-being.

Peace is supported by knowledge: it is possible!

Peace is supported by intents: it is desirable!

Peace is supported by skills, it is achievable<sup>34</sup>!

Peace is a right<sup>35</sup>, but it is also a method and the link needed, for their completion, between all other human rights.

Though not worded as such, peace is fully present in article 28 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights: "*Everyone is entitled to a social and international order in which the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration can be fully realized*". Such an order is indeed a peaceful order.

Peace is fully present in the Sustainable Development Goals<sup>36</sup>.

The links between *human rights and peace* are widely being developed<sup>37</sup>.

We regret the vote by Japan against the Declaration on the Right to Peace in 2016<sup>38</sup>, more than not as this vote contradicts its own constitution, which grants such a right to peace<sup>39</sup>.

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Nevertheless, Japan should use all possible peaceful means to improve peace, its understanding and improvements, inland as abroad. It is time to adhere to peace more thoroughly, to grant it to the people, to learn about peaceful methods, and to implement them for peace to prevail, always<sup>40</sup>. We hope to be of help towards this achievement.

**We encourage the Government of Japan to establish a national dialogue on the progress of peace and a procedure allowing the people of Japan to make remarks, comments and if need be, to raise and address grievances about Japan's peace policies.**

**We encourage the Government of Japan to continue reporting on the progresses of peace through its VNRs and here, everywhere it deems it useful, taking in account the suggestions made here.**

I. Financing peace

“The world is over-armed and peace is underfunded”, Ban Ki-Moon.

To improve the financing of peace, people shall be able to pay their taxes in a peace fund (or to the United Nations Peacebuilding fund), moreover if they refuse, on grounds of conscience, to pay for military activities<sup>41</sup>.

**We encourage the government of Japan to set up a peace fund and to allow taxpayer to pay the part of their taxes dedicated to the military budget in this fund instead.**

The international peace constitution

*Determined to save succeeding [and present] generations from the scourge of war<sup>42</sup>*

We congratulate Japan for the recent acceptance of the reciprocal jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice, indeed a peace creating endeavour<sup>43</sup>.

J. Japan is almost up to date regarding peace and disarmament treaties, congratulations.

**We recommend to Japan ratifying the following international instruments<sup>44</sup>:**

- A. The third protocol of the Geneva conventions.**
- B. The fifth protocol of the Convention on Conventional Weapons.**
- C. The treaty on the prohibition of nuclear weapons<sup>45</sup>.**

*All this being peacefully said,  
calling on each and all to achieve a peaceful and sustainable,  
indeed a nonkilling world,  
we wish to the people and to the authorities of Japan  
a participative and constructive Universal Periodic Review  
and we welcome to Geneva,  
a City of Peace,  
the Delegation of Japan.*

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<sup>1</sup> <https://nonkilling.org/center/publications-media/books-cgnk-publications>

<sup>2</sup> <https://nonkilling.org/center/publications-media/books-translations>

<sup>3</sup> <http://nonkilling.org/center/how-to-help>

<sup>4</sup> VNR, page 14.

<sup>5</sup> And safely under international and national law.

<sup>6</sup> [http://www.un.org/en/genocideprevention/documents/171208\\_AD\\_International%20Day\\_FINAL.pdf](http://www.un.org/en/genocideprevention/documents/171208_AD_International%20Day_FINAL.pdf)

<sup>7</sup> Without a vote at its 37<sup>th</sup>, 43<sup>rd</sup> and 49<sup>th</sup> sessions [http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/dpage\\_e.aspx?si=A/HRC/RES/37/26](http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/dpage_e.aspx?si=A/HRC/RES/37/26) § 7

<https://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/43/29> § 7,

<https://undocs.org/Home/Mobile?FinalSymbol=A%2FHRC%2FRES%2F49%2F9&Language=E&DeviceType=Desktop&LangRequested=False> § 10.

<sup>8</sup> I. e. <http://www.gaamac.org/organizations>

<sup>9</sup> 161.26. <https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/upr/jp-index> .

<sup>10</sup> In decreasing order of population, countries still in need of doing this ratification: Indonesia (272 mio people), Japan (125 mio), D.R of Congo (92 mio), Thailand (67 mio), Kenya (47 mio). Then 7 African countries and the Dominican Republic with a population of over 10 mio inhabitants (between 33 and 10 mio), 11 countries between 10 and 1 mio, and 19 below 1 mio, for a total of 45 countries and still 800 million people not covered by the Convention.

<sup>11</sup> Preamble. [https://www.constituteproject.org/constitution/Japan\\_1946?lang=en](https://www.constituteproject.org/constitution/Japan_1946?lang=en)

<sup>12</sup> The Constitution of Japan is very “sober”, limiting itself to Imperial issues, rights and institutions (Parliament, executive, judiciary, local institutions, finance and revision of the constitution), with no further policy enhancements, such being left to the parliament.

The most contentious issue, we know of (Covid has raised other ones) is the “Renunciation to war” clause, article 9.

In our opinion, the first paragraph is in conformity with morals, the purpose of humanity to ban war (UN Charter preamble) and with international law regarding the illegality of war, as it is said in the Charter of the use of threat or force and moreover by the duty to settle different peacefully (UN Charter art 2, § 3-4); the open question being whether renouncing to war is in accordance with the right to self-defense (UN Charter art. 51). a) Before all this is a matter of mean, not of end as using the right to self-defense doesn't automatically, by far, result in war as other occurrences in History have proven (I. e. Costa Rica, 1948-9, 1954); war which should be avoided however and anyhow. b) Second but not last, the end of “renouncing to war” is far greater than situations (and means used therein) in which this absolute endeavor of mankind (no war) may be tested. As such, all Nations should follow the constitutional stand of Japan and, with the help of more comprehensive peace policies (see herein), renounce to war ... and world peace would be made.

The second paragraph, banning war means, without any reservations for self-defense and which could be interpreted as making the existence of any military force as illegal, would be in contradiction with reality, Japan having, budget wise, one of the biggest armies in the world.

It can be noted that for the writers of the constitution, if the Emperor is chapter I, article 9 is the only article in chapter II and it precedes chapter III on (human) rights and duties of the people. Such order of the dispositions could be interpreted as peace being more important, or at least as preceding rights. It surely shows that peace and human rights are mutually reinforcing.

#### “CHAPTER II. RENUNCIATION OF WAR

*Article 9 Aspiring sincerely to an international peace based on justice and order, the Japanese people forever renounce war as a sovereign right of the nation and the threat or use of force as means of settling international disputes.*

*In order to accomplish the aim of the preceding paragraph, land, sea, and air forces, as well as other war potential, will never be maintained. The right of belligerency of the state will not be recognized.”*

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Article\\_9\\_of\\_the\\_Japanese\\_Constitution](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Article_9_of_the_Japanese_Constitution)

For recent developments (randomly – ? – proposed by google): <https://english.kyodonews.net/news/2021/06/dc855d516e11-japan-enacts-revised-referendum-law-in-constitutional-amendment-push.html>

<https://www.voanews.com/a/japan-conservatives-eye-constitutional-revision-after-election-win/6653350.html>

<sup>13</sup> Or as said, the “pursuit of happiness”.

<sup>14</sup> *Article 13 “All of the people shall be respected as individuals. Their right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness shall, to the extent that it does not interfere with the public welfare, be the supreme consideration in legislation and in other governmental affairs”.*

<sup>15</sup> Art. 31

<sup>16</sup> Provide security from deadly judicial errors, to name the least. Less death penalty and thus more respect for life respect which also means less enforced disappearances, less homicides and less wars. Not an unworthy goal.

<sup>17</sup> The unabated right to life gives confidence in life; a confidence we all need, and which opens wider for equal and universal betterment of life. The right to life also recalls our common destiny as members of the human community, the fate and the right

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to life of our species.

Further arguments regarding the death penalty, including links with the SDG, with other human rights and deterrent effects are found in annex one.

<sup>18</sup> Conscientious objection is a recognized right, at least to military service, which is in times of conflict a major cause of killing. Conscientious objection is valid in times of peace as well, as objecting to the possibility of any killing. Based on article 18 of CCPR, we consider that it could also be based on article 6, the right to life, as a refusal to kill. We also consider that the right to conscientious objection should be extended to any mandatory killing. Similarly, the right shall be recognized to persons refusing to pay for killings or to pay for military service (<https://www.peacetaxinternational.org>).

<sup>19</sup> Here, we only present the most important aspects of the prevention of deprivations of life.

To be more comprehensive, should at least be evaluated or mentioned here: reproductive rights, conditions required for prenatal and genetic engineering, abortions, birth registration, infant and maternal mortality, euthanasia, as well deaths due to official use of force, to work and leisure activities and deaths in custody; to name some aspects of the applications of the right to life.

<sup>20</sup> VNR p. 53.

<sup>21</sup> VNR p. 101.

<sup>22</sup> 0.3 / 100,000 – world: 6.1 / 100,000. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_countries\\_by\\_intentional\\_homicide\\_rate](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_countries_by_intentional_homicide_rate), quoting Japan's Ministry of interior.

Every life counts. Yet with such a low rate and few homicides cases, one of the best rates in the world, why maintain death penalty, thus augmenting the number of killings (in 2021 from 874 to 877) and the rate? And if the rate is so low, can it still have a general deterrent effect? Indeed, in casu, one may be refrained by the penalty, but the general valuation of life will most likely save more lives, including the lives the State will not take.

<https://www.statista.com/statistics/1037037/japan-number-of-murders-by-region/>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_executions\\_in\\_Japan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_executions_in_Japan)

<sup>23</sup> The average for 100,000 inhabitants came down between 2015 and 2019 from 4 to 3.1 (world 16/100,000), VNR p. 101. Japan also helps to diminish traffic injuries in its international cooperation, VNR p. 68.

<sup>24</sup> Quote: [https://www.constituteproject.org/constitution/Japan\\_1946?lang=en](https://www.constituteproject.org/constitution/Japan_1946?lang=en)

*"We, the Japanese people, acting through our duly elected representatives in the National Diet, determined that we shall secure for ourselves and our posterity the fruits of peaceful cooperation with all nations and the blessings of liberty throughout this land, and resolved that never again shall we be visited with the horrors of war through the action of government, do proclaim that sovereign power resides with the people and do firmly establish this Constitution. Government is a sacred trust of the people, the authority for which is derived from the people, the powers of which are exercised by the representatives of the people, and the benefits of which are enjoyed by the people. This is a universal principle of mankind upon which this Constitution is founded. We reject and revoke all constitutions, laws, ordinances, and rescripts in conflict herewith.*

*We, the Japanese people, desire peace for all time and are deeply conscious of the high ideals controlling human relationship, and we have determined to preserve our security and existence, trusting in the justice and faith of the peace-loving peoples of the world. We desire to occupy an honored place in an international society striving for the preservation of peace, and the banishment of tyranny and slavery, oppression and intolerance for all time from the earth. We recognize that all peoples of the world have the right to live in peace, free from fear and want.*

*We believe that no nation is responsible to itself alone, but that laws of political morality are universal; and that obedience to such laws is incumbent upon all nations who would sustain their own sovereignty and justify their sovereign relationship with other nations.*

*We, the Japanese people, pledge our national honor to accomplish these high ideals and purposes with all our resources".*

<sup>25</sup> VNR P. 12 (global ceasefire, development, humanitarian and peace nexus), 14 (Five P's: people, planet, prosperity, peace and partnership), 15 (Priority area n°7), 36 (role of unions), 37 (of schools), 43 (gender and peace, SC/res 1325), 51 (gender in international cooperation, education), 54 (Peace through health in int' cooperation), 61 (Tourism), 62 (Science and peace), 83-84 (priority area 7, international order, crime and violence prevention, Hiroshima), 85 (Rule of law favoring peaceful settlements of disputes), 87-89 (international cooperation, human security, institutions)

<sup>26</sup> P. 15

<sup>27</sup> P. 32 +. SDG 4.7.

<sup>28</sup> The practice of decision making improves foreseeing and prospective, evaluation and responsibility taking and sharing, forbearance and bearing of consequences as needed to learn and progress; participation also enhance consensus making and negotiation skills as needed to reach fundamental and universal values and through thoughts, practice and habits participation usually fosters peace and human rights.

<sup>29</sup> We recall that the Covenant on Civil and Political Rights mentions direct participation before electing freely chosen representatives. Article 25: "Every citizen shall have the right and the opportunity, without any of the distinctions mentioned in article 2 and without unreasonable restrictions: (a) To take part in the conduct of public affairs, *directly* or through freely chosen representatives; (...)"

<sup>30</sup> <https://www.transcend.org/tms/2014/02/official-text-proclamation-of-latin-america-and-caribbean-as-a-zone-of-peace/>

<sup>31</sup> <https://apps.who.int/violence-info/>

<sup>32</sup> <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/index.html>

<sup>33</sup> <https://www.policinglaw.info/country/japan> Though the figure is low (two killings in 2018), it is not nil.

See also our statement at the Human Rights Council related to George Floyd's death :

<https://nonkilling.org/center/download/human-rights-council-43rd-urgent-debate-2020-06-17-18/>.

<https://worldpopulationreview.com/country-rankings/police-killings-by-country>

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<sup>34</sup> Peace grows through care, methodology and prevention and is assured by non-violent institutions and people, peaceful practices. The responsibility and the guarantee of peace rests in each and every one of us. The UNESCO Seville Declaration on Violence, 1989, concluded “The same species who invented war is capable of inventing peace. The responsibility lies with each of us”. 30 some years later, the “tools of peace” arising from this major “invention” are largely available. They need implementation. Understand our submission here on the peace constitution as “comprehensive peace policies”.

<sup>35</sup> <http://www.undocs.org/A/RES/71/189>

<sup>36</sup> SDG 4.7 and SDG 16 as a whole: “By 2030, ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and nonviolence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture’s contribution to sustainable development (SDG 4.7)”.

<sup>37</sup> Among numerous examples, see 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the 34th session of the Human Rights Council on mainstreaming human rights on the contribution of human rights to peacebuilding, but also resolutions 2250 on youth and peace of the Security Council, the common resolutions of the General Assembly and the Security Council (2282) on Sustaining peace. Or the 13<sup>th</sup> of June 2016 appeal by Switzerland and 70 States, <https://www.admin.ch/gov/en/start/documentation/media-releases.msg-id-62152.html>. There is Conflict prevention caucus at the Human Rights Council.

United Nations General Assembly’s Declaration on the Right to Peace A/RES/71/189, <http://www.undocs.org/A/RES/71/189>.

Florence Foster: “Sustaining Peace: how can human rights help ?”, QUNO-OHCHR, February 2021, available here: [https://quno.org/sites/default/files/timeline/files/2021/2021\\_QUNO-OHCHRSustainingPeace-HowCanHumanRightsHelp.pdf](https://quno.org/sites/default/files/timeline/files/2021/2021_QUNO-OHCHRSustainingPeace-HowCanHumanRightsHelp.pdf)

<sup>38</sup> United Nations General Assembly, 2016 <http://www.undocs.org/A/RES/71/189>

<sup>39</sup> Preamble, last sentence of the second paragraph, quote: “*We recognize that all peoples of the world have the right to live in peace, free from fear and want*”. [https://www.constituteproject.org/constitution/Japan\\_1946?lang=en](https://www.constituteproject.org/constitution/Japan_1946?lang=en)

<sup>40</sup> They are possibilities described here: [http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/dpage\\_e.aspx?si=A/HRC/39/31](http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/dpage_e.aspx?si=A/HRC/39/31)

We add peaceful settlement of disputes for internal disputes as for international ones.

<sup>41</sup> <https://www.peacetaxinternational.org/>

<sup>42</sup> United Nations Charter, first phrase of the Preamble, with an adding: [and present] *generations*

<sup>43</sup> 2015, <https://www.icj-cij.org/en/declarations>

<sup>44</sup> <https://ihl-databases.icrc.org/ihl>

<sup>45</sup> We are aware that a similar recommendation was noted in the previous cycle, we ask to Japan to reconsider.

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