“Everyone, as a member of society, has the right to social security and is entitled to realization, through national effort and international co-operation and in accordance with the organization and resources of each State, of the economic, social and cultural rights indispensable for his dignity and the free development of his personality.”

Article 22.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights

IN TODAY’S ISSUE:

- President and Givi Targamadze don’t understand each other
- Peace-keepers car hit two
- Prisoner found dead in prison ? 5
- Giga Makharadze can be released
- Prisoner dies from intoxication
- Will Margoshvili murder investigation reveal kidnapping mafia?
- Two prisoners escaped
- NGO’s against Ministry of Justice
- Hostages in Pankisi valley will soon be released
- Teachers on hungry strike demand increase of salary
- Census held normally
- Damage caused by foreigners
- Public Defender against prosecutors
- Elene Tevdorazade addressed Ministry of Security and Prosecutor’s Office
- Will Georgia protect religious freedom?
- Dudu Dadiani was Killed for personal reasons
- Son of police high rank official kidnapped
- Clash of “father” Basili with Police
- Public Defender demands adoption of law on religion
- Guram Sharadze demands halting of mosque building
- Sect broadcast and preaching heresy
- Intimidation Sabotages Trial of Violent Priest
- Patriarchate Condemns Bible Burning Priest
- The Civil Code of Georgia, translated into English is available
- Course on Election Observation and Human Rights Monitoring
- Summer University on Human Rights and the Right to Education
- East-West Dialogue 2002
President and Givi Targamadze don’t understand each other

TBILISI, GEORGIA. President turned down initiatives of Givi Targamadze, member of anti-corruption Presidential Council.

Targamadze proposed larger freedom of expression, idea of hold the elections of Mayors and holding referendum to hold premature Presidential and Parliamentary elections.

President pointed out that people are not ready yet for Mayor’s elections(?!). According to president’s remarks, when he nominates candidates he is rarely mistaken. However Givi Targamadze considers that this is not an argument, but rather president’s fear to loose authority and that’s why Targamadze does not share President’s ideas.

Peacekeepers’ car hits two pedestrians

GEORGIAN-ABKHAZIAN CONFLICT ZONE. Car of Russian peace-keepers hit two pedestrians - Bulia and Bechvaia - residents of village Tsulukidze. As it appeared officers were taking soldier to hospital who just had heart attack. Soldiers brought two accident victims to the hospital too. Bulia died on arrival. Bechvaia is in serious condition. Russian peace-keepers went to police and reported their guilt. According to experts peace-keepers were not drunk. Investigation had been launched.

Prisoner found dead in prison ? 5

TBILISI, GEORGIA. 21 years old Akaki Merabishvili found dead in prison ? 5 in Tbilisi. It is unknown whether it was a murder or suicide. Suicide version is more reliable. He was taken to cell number 128 night before and found dead next morning.

Giga Makharadze can be released

TBILISI, GEORGIA. Ex-diplomat Giga Makharadze will address Mtatsminda-Krtsanisi court pleading conditional release. Makharadze was imprisoned in 1997 in U.S.A. for car accident while driving under influence of alcohol and was extradited to Georgia in 2000. He was condemned for 7 years of imprisonment. According to Georgian penal code after half of the sentence is served (8th of April 2001) Makharadze can be released. 160 Members of Parliament also addressed Mtatsminda-krtsanisi court and supported Makharadze plea.

Prisoner dies from intoxication

KSANI, GEORGIA. According to press-center of Ministry of Justice in Penitentiary 25 years old prisoner Alexander Gazaev has died at T.B. prophylactic center.

Gazaev was imprisoned in 2000 and according to press-service - condemned for 8 years. Reason of death was TB intoxication.

Will Margoshvili murder investigation reveal kidnapping mafia?

PANKISI GORGE, GEORGIA., Head of Human Rights Protection Union “Ndoba” Mr. Ilia Barabadze rejects the version of relation of Pankisi Valley criminal authority Vepkia Margoshvili murder to his spouse Lida Saltaeva. According to Barabadze, investigation of this case will lift up the curtain over many secrets, among them well-known Jrnalist’s - Giorgi Sanaya murder.

On the 5th of October 2001 Saltaeva was arrested in airport on her way to Moscow on charges of drug dealing.

Two prisoners escaped
RUSTAVI, GEORGIA. On January 30th, 2001 at 4-6 a.m. two prisoners have escaped from Rustavi prison # 2. They are: Gala Tsertsvadze condemned for 15 years for murder and Paata Dolaberidze condemned for 11 years for robbery. Criminal case had been launched.

**NGO’s against Ministry of Justice**

TBILISI, GEORGIA. Recent changes in Ministry of Justice caused dissatisfaction of NGO’s. They opposed transfer of 8 officials from Prosecutor’s Office. According to Nana Kakabadze, chairperson of NGO “Former Political Prisoners for Human Rights”, Minister of Justice Roland Giligashvili does not comply with European Council recommendations on elimination of Prosecutor Office role in the Ministry Justice system. Giligashvili staffed Penitentiary with prosecutors.

New Head of Penitentiary Department Paata Mkheidze used to be Head of Prosecutor’s Office Department on Penitentiary Supervision and left without attention facts of delivering beaten prisoners from police.

Minister reacted strictly and declared that he is not obliged to tell anyone whom he is going to nominate.

**Hostages in Pankisi valley will soon be released**

TBILISI, GEORGIA. According to Avtandil Ioseliani – former Head of Intelligence Department hostages will soon be released in Pankisi Valley. As it became known two month ago Gardabani region resident Aziz Khalilov had been kidnapped who was replaced by his Father.

On November 2001 monk Basili Machitadze was kidnapped. The fate of Levan Kaladze, brother of famous football player Kakha Kaladze also remains vague; he was kidnapped in spring 2001. Mass demonstrations of local citizens now are being held in Akhmeta region demanding order and security from government.

**Damage caused by foreign citizens**

TBILISI, GEORGIA. Damage caused by foreign citizens in Georgia between 1998 and 2001 amounts to 149496 Gel. out of it only 86702 Gel. had been paid off. According to Nugzar Sulashvili, head of Center for the protection of migrants and foreign citizens, rate of pay is very low and it’s necessary to take drastic measures. 17 Georgian citizens were killed in Georgia by foreign visitors, 8 of them were murdered and 5 died during car accidents.

**Census held normally**

TBILISI, GEORGIA. According to State Department on Statistics 98.4% of population took part in census and that means census is considered to be held. In a month first results will be known. By the end of the year all data will be completed and published. “Hotline” operates for them who were, due to various reasons, unable to participate.

According to last data, 4 million 200 thousand people live in Georgia. More than a million have already left the country. The same amount of people is going to follow them. Georgia faces real threat of demographic catastrophe because mainly young people leave the country. Nation grows old - 18 % of population receives pension.

The reasons of migration are obvious – hardship, criminal situation, corruption, mass violations of human rights, loss of territorial integrity and non-democratic governance.

**Teachers on hungry strike demand increase of salary**

KUTAISI, GEORGIA. On the 24th of January in Kutaisi, group of teachers headed by Manana Gurchumelidze launched hungry strike with demand of salary increase. Teachers are from Kutaisi, Kharagauli, Martvili, Senaki, Samtredia and Bagdati. One of the strikers has been already hospitalized, Manana Gurchumelidze herself is in quite serious condition.

Teachers demand payment of salary and increase of wages at least up to living minimum. Generally, teacher salary amounts 30 Gel. (Approx. 17 USD) and living minimum per person is 120 Gel (app. 60 USD).
Will Georgia protect religious freedom?

TBILISI, GEORGIA. Human Rights Information and Documentation Center and group of citizens are going to appeal following case to the European Court of Human Rights in February 2002:

On the 27th of July 2002 Tbilisi Gldani-Nadzaladzevi district court refused to register non-profit organization Union – Tbilisi Church of Christ. The decision was made without any legal argumentation. Members of the Union were informed of refusal only on the 30th of August, only after the deadline has passed when they had right to appeal the decision. Now they are deprived of this right.

Human Rights Information and Documentation Center considers this fact as grave violation of human rights that emphasizes one more time the fact that religious minorities are discriminated in Georgia.

Public Defender against prosecutors

TBILISI, GEORGIA. According to Public Defender Nana Devdariani, she has facts proving that prosecutors take bribes from police. She did nor name concrete persons because of presumption of innocence.

Prosecutors responded public Defender and demanded names of their shameless colleagues. It’s surprising because not so long ago Deputy Prosecutor General Vanedi Beridze pointed at corrupted prosecutors directly and no one objected.

Elene Tevdoradze addressed Ministry of Security and Prosecutor’s Office

TBILISI, GEORGIA. Father of murdered journalist Giorgi Sanaya, Vakhtang Sanaya blamed Head of Parliamentary Committee of Human Right Elene Tevdoradze in murder of his son.

Tevdoradse denies this blame and declares, that cassette with crimes of law enforcement officers is in the hands of those taped on this cassette. Tevdoradze does not relate the murder of journalist with this famous tape.

She is ready to be examined by Ministry of Security and Prosecutor’s Office, but now as she turned out to be “suspect” in Sanaya murder she has no right to lift her immunity. We guess Tevdoradze, as human right’s defender, will have to defend herself too.

Dudu Dadiani was killed for personal reasons

TBILISI, GEORGIA. Dudu Dadiani, vice-president of Georgian Basketball Federation was murdered in Tbilisi. City Prosecutor’s Office investigates the case. No concrete version of crime exists yet. Group of investigators headed by Pagava works on several versions simultaneously.

According to one unofficial version, he was killed for his personal life, according to other - for business. City prosecutor believes that murderer will be found soon. Dadiani was killed in the afternoon in Sports Department building. This fact proves that no one is protected in Georgia and these facts are common place.

Son of police high rank official kidnapped

KHONI, GEORGIA. On the 4th of February, son of Ministry of Interior high rank official colonel Vakhtang Kvachantiradze had been kidnapped from home in Khoni.

Criminals also drove away victim’s car “Vaz –2106”. There is an information, that Kidnappers want to exchange Kvachantiradze on arrested recently Irakli Balavadze. Balavadze was arrested on the 17th of January on charges of illegal
keeping of machine-gun. Kvachantiradze managed to flee from kidnappers. In Ministry of Interior officials declared zero tolerance against suspects and noted that they won’t consider ultimatum.

Police now itself becomes victim of impunity. There are many facts of cooperation of police with criminals and now criminals encouraged by this directed their activities against police.

Public Defender demands adoption of law on religion

TBILISI, GEORGIA. According to Nana Devdariani, Public Defender, no legal framework had been elaborated to regulate activities of religious organizations and that provides grounds for human rights violations.

Public Defender Office received more than 80 complaints on religious issues last year. Majority of complaints are collective and more then 410 Georgian citizens think, that their religious rights are violated.

Devdariani named several examples:
On the 14th of March at about 11 p.m. church of “Christian Baptists” was robbed; Robbers took 34,440 Deutsche Marks and 5423 USD.
On the 29th of April 2002 house of witness of Jehovah Nugsar Butkhuri was robbed in Mukhiani, door was broken and religious literature burnt.

According to Public Defender if such facts are not eliminated in Georgia, it will have serious negative reflection on international relations the country’s image.

Guram Sharadze demands halting of mosque building

TBILISI, GEORGIA. Member of Parliament Guram Sharalisze demanded halting of illegal building of mosque in village Karajala of Gardabani region. According to Sharadze Deputy Governor of Kvemo Kartli region Ali Iusbashev and Minister of Building Merab Chkhenkeli confirm this tact. Member of Parliament demands from Levan Mmaladze, Governor of Kremo Kartli region to be involved in the matter.

Sect broadcast and preaching heresy

TBILISI, GEORGIA. Georgian Patriarchy denounces broadcast of various religious programs and preaching. “Such programs should not be broadcasted, that’s preaching heresy”—position of Patriarchate. Broadcast of these programs is made possible due to vast amount in funding and support from various sects. “Sects are dangerous for people and state as well”.

Clash of “father” Basili with Police

TBILISI, GEORGIA. Clash between supporters of defrocked priest Basili Mkalavishvili and Police took place once again. Reason – Jehovah’s witnesses congress in Tsnori. According to inter-press after religious holiday “Ninooba” busses stuffed with supporters of Mkalavishvili headed to Kakheti. Police blocked the road According to press-service of Mkalavishvili verbal quarrel between police and their people took place and then police took away drivers licenses from drivers.
Tract exposing religious violence being distributed Georgia-wide

TBILISI, GEORGIA. From Batumi to Lagodekhi, hundreds of thousands of copies of a tract are being distributed throughout Georgia exposing the vicious mob attacks on religious minorities over the last two years. Since the mob attacks are not the work of the population at large, but carried out by a small number of religious extremists, Jehovah’s Witnesses are distributing the tract to alert Georgian citizens to the facts.

At the same time a seven-page article in the *Awake! Magazine* containing more detailed information on the continuing mob attacks against religious minorities has been issued. *Awake!* is published in 87 languages including Georgian with an average printing of more than 20,000,000 copies.

There have been over 100 documented attacks on religious minorities resulting in serious concussions and contusions in hundreds of victims including children, elderly, disabled, and pregnant women who were severely beaten by attackers. Not only have the Police failed to arrest the well-known perpetrators, but also eyewitnesses and victims report that the Police have aided and abetted such attacks. Almost one year ago a petition, requesting that those engaging in such violence be stopped, was signed by over 133,000 citizens of Georgia and presented to the President. Despite this plea, the perpetrators remain at large to the present day because of countrywide syndrome of impunity.

Patriarchate Condemns Bible Burning Priest

by Felix Corley, Keston News Service

Metropolitan Daniil Datuashvili of the Georgian Orthodox Patriarchate has condemned the Bible-burning in Tbilisi yesterday (3 February) by Father Basil Mkalavishvili, a priest of the Greek Old Calendarist Church, and called for the immediate arrest of all those involved. "The Georgian Orthodox Patriarchate takes a very negative view of what happened yesterday," he told Keston News Service from Tbilisi on 4 February. "The Patriarchate will be issuing a press statement condemning these actions. We are demanding that the government takes immediate, serious measures to arrest all those who took part."

"The entire warehouse was turned upside-down," declared Bishop Malkhaz Songulashvili, the head of the Baptist Union. He expressed his alarm at the latest twist in what he called Mkalavishvili’s "long-running reign of terror" against religious minorities, which has seen about a hundred violent attacks on Jehovah's Witness, Baptist and Pentecostal services, meetings and property over the past few years. "This is the first time that his group has burnt Bibles," he told Keston from Tbilisi on 4 February, "though in the past they have burnt Jehovah's Witnesses newspapers and magazines."

The Georgian Baptist Union told Keston on 3 February that at about 1 pm that day a group of about 150 people arrived at the Union's warehouse in three large buses, led by Mkalavishvili. "They broke the locks with big iron sticks, forced their way into the warehouse, took out thousands of books, put them on a big pile outside the warehouse, and set fire to the pile, adding petrol to help it get burning." Thousands of Bibles, New Testaments and Bible stories, in Georgian, Armenian and other Caucasian languages, were destroyed. "While burning these Bibles they were asked by the watchman why they did that, and the answer was that they were sectarian books," the Baptist Union reported. "When asked who they were and why they did this, they told the watchman to ask Father Basil who was leading them." Within ten minutes of the start of the attack, a television crew arrived from the private Rustavi 2 channel and began filming. A report of the incident was shown at least three times on the channel over the next 24 hours.
"I had just celebrated the Eucharist at the Central Baptist Church in Tbilisi when I was given a copy of a semi-burnt Bible. The book was still warm," commented Songulashvili. "I felt incredible pain. It was a copy of the Bible burnt in the name of Christ and religion." He told Keston that about half the destroyed books belonged to the Baptist Church and half to the Georgian Bible Society, a group that brings together many Christian Churches in the country, including the Orthodox and the Baptists.

Songulashvili reported that the police had just arrived and begun to investigate the attack.

Songulashvili told Keston he had just spoken to Patriarch Ilya of the Orthodox Church, who had expressed his great concern and alarm. "He encouraged us to sue Mkalavishvili, although he is afraid people might think Mkalavishvili is connected with the Orthodox Church." The Patriarchate defrocked Mkalavishvili in 1996 and he later joined the jurisdiction of the Greek Old Calendarist Church, under Metropolitan Cyprian of Oropos and Fili.

Songulashvili reported that he would be meeting Catholic and Lutheran leaders later in the day, as well as Gela Charkviani, a political advisor to Georgian President Eduard Shevardnadze.

Emil Adelkhanov of the Centre for Peace, Democracy and Development in Tbilisi told Keston that two of Mkalavishvili's representatives had visited the independent TV studio Stereo One on 25 January and tried to force it to cancel broadcasts of a daily Protestant programme. When the station refused and called the police, a crowd of Mkalavishvili's supporters besieged the station. The commercial director and one of the founders of the studio, Paata Mchedlishvili, moved the programme to a less prominent slot as a result of the pressure. "The claims are now stronger and it is the freedom of religious expression for all minority groups that is now threatened," Adelkhanov declared.

**Intimidation Sabotages Trial of Violent Priest**

by Felix Corley, Keston News Service

The criminal trial of the violent priest Basil Mkalavishvili and his main accomplice Petre (Gia) Ivanidze failed to begin at Tbilisi's Didube-Chugureti district court for the second time on 5 February as a large crowd of Mkalavishvili's supporters packed the courtroom and intimidated those present. "There was chaos in court," the Jehovah's Witnesses' lawyer Tamaz Svanishvili told Keston News Service from Tbilisi on 7 February. "Our security was not guaranteed. I have never seen anything like it in my five years as a lawyer." However, an aide to the judge hearing the case denied to Keston that security measures had been inadequate. Zaza Bokua, a clerk to Judge Ioseb Chkheidze, also denied to Keston that there had been an atmosphere of intimidation. "Order was preserved in the courtroom," he claimed.

Bokua, who told Keston the case would resume for the third time in the afternoon of 14 February, stressed that court officials had called the police to make sure they were present, and said the sole reason the judge had not proceeded with the trial was the absence of the victims. "All proper security measures were taken," he insisted. "The victims did not turn up. What else could we do?" Jehovah’s Witness representatives told Keston from Tbilisi that they stayed away from the hearing as they had not received the security guarantees they had requested.
Svanishvili, the newly-engaged lawyer for the Jehovah's Witnesses who is not himself a Jehovah's Witness, does not believe judge Chkheidze did enough. "He should have done more to protect the security of participants. Five policemen were present but left the courtroom before the hearing started. We don't know why. Maybe they were instructed to do so."

In a statement issued after the trial, the Jehovah's Witnesses reported that about three hundred of Mkalavishvili's supporters, mostly men, armed with metal and wooden crosses, tried to invade the courtroom before the hearing began. "Many entered and occupied areas reserved for attorneys as they rang their religious bell and waved large anti-Jehovah's Witness banners. As the victims' attorneys made their way through the mob to Judge Ioseb Chkheidze's chambers, they overheard security police being ordered away from the scene. The courtroom was left with no security."

Attorneys explained to Chkheidze that under these circumstances it was impossible to proceed with the trial as it was too dangerous for the victims or their attorneys to attend, the Jehovah's Witnesses added. "Furthermore, a fair trial could not be held under such circumstances. The judge agreed and postponed the trial."

In the wake of the failed hearing, Mkalavishvili was reported to have declared that if the case was postponed a third time, he would ignore the trial. Keston was unable to reach him on 7 February either at home or on his mobile.

Jemal Kubaidze, an investigator at the city procurator who prepared the case against Mkalavishvili, told Keston from Tbilisi on 7 February that the case covers five violent incidents conducted by Mkalavishvili and Ivanidze, three against the Jehovah's Witnesses, one against the Baptists and one against the newspaper Rezonans. Asked whether he believed the pair were guilty, he responded: "If I didn't think they were guilty I wouldn't have completed the investigation and sent the case on to the court." Asked why Mkalavishvili and his accomplices have not been sentenced earlier for the violence dating back several years, he declared: "I'm not the procurator. That is a question for them. I was given the case to investigate in April 2001, I completed it and sent it to court in September, in just four months."

At the first attempt to hear the case against Mkalavishvili and Ivanidze on 25 January, the prosecutor failed to appear and the case had to be postponed.

Mkalavishvili, who was defrocked as a priest by the Georgian Orthodox Patriarchate in 1996, is now a priest of the Greek Old Calendarist Church under the jurisdiction of Metropolitan Cyprian. Keston has been unable to contact Metropolitan Cyprian to ask what measures he has taken to prevent violence and other criminal activity by his priest or whether he intends to defrock him.

As well as the five incidents covered by the current case, Petre Balakhashvili, an investigator at the city procuracy is investigating further violent incidents. "I am looking at ten or eleven other incidents," he told Keston from Tbilisi on 7 February. "In addition, two district procuracies in Tbilisi are looking at one further incident each." Asked why only 17 or 18 of Mkalavishvili's attacks are being investigated given that there have been more than 100 in the past few years, Balakhashvili responded: "There aren't a hundred cases. Where are they? If there are facts, then a criminal case is inaugurated." He admitted that there might be other incidents on which he has not yet received evidence.

Asked when his current investigation would be completed, he declared: "I can't say. It takes time to investigate the evidence and interview witnesses."
Meanwhile, pressure on the Georgian authorities is mounting in the wake of Mkalavishvili's raid on a Baptist warehouse at Vashlisdjvari near Tbilisi and burning of thousands of Bibles and religious books on 3 February (see KNS 4 February 2002). Metropolitan Daniil Datuashvili told Keston on 7 February that the Georgian Orthodox Patriarchate had issued a statement condemning the religious violence on 4 February. "It was printed in the newspapers and a representative of the Patriarchate also appeared on television."

Georgi Tskomelidze, secretary to the Catholic bishop Giuseppe Pasotto, told Keston from Tbilisi on 6 February that Bishop Pasotto had signed the joint statement by religious leaders condemning the violence. "The Catholics, Baptists, Lutheran and Armenians have already signed," he reported, "and the Muslims and Jews also wish to sign." He said the Orthodox had declined to sign the joint statement, preferring to make their views known independently.

The raid on the Baptists was also discussed on 6 February at the regular monthly meeting of European Union (EU) ambassadors at the British Embassy in Tbilisi. "We are very concerned about the religious violence," Torben Holtze, head of the EU delegation in Georgia, told Keston from Tbilisi on 7 February, "though this latest incident is nothing new." He said that the issue is likely to be raised "at the appropriate level in the European Union and in discussions with the Georgian authorities". President Eduard Shevardnadze is due to visit Brussels in mid-March.

'Source: Keston Institute <http://www.keston.org>'

The Civil Code of Georgia, translated into English by IRIS Georgia, is available for download from IRIS server:

code_civil.DOC (1343 KB)
http://www.iris.ge/docs/translations/code_civil.doc

code_civil.ZIP (581 KB)
http://www.iris.ge/docs/translations/code_civil.zip

You may also download Civil Code Glossary:

code_civil_glossary.DOC (623 KB)
http://www.iris.ge/docs/translations/code_civil_glossary.doc

code_civil_glossary.ZIP (176 KB)
http://www.iris.ge/docs/translations/code_civil_glossary.zip

And the General Administrative Code, updated according to the last amendments:

code_admin_general.DOC (284 KB)
http://www.iris.ge/docs/translations/code_admin_general.doc

code_admin_general.ZIP (60 KB)
http://www.iris.ge/docs/translations/code_admin_general.zip

If you experience any problem with these downloads, please don't hesitate to
Course on Election Observation and Human Rights Monitoring

The Institute for Human Rights at Åbo Akademi University offers a Course on Election Observation and Human Rights Monitoring between Monday 27 May and Friday 31 May 2002.

Human rights monitoring involves sustained and systematic efforts to gather data from different sources involving human rights violations and/or apply warning indicators to the probable occurrence of such violations, as well as evaluation and dissemination of the collected information. International organisations increasingly use the presence of human rights monitors in their efforts to uphold the observance of human rights. Election observation often takes place during times of transition and involves in many cases an international effort to ascertain that democratic legitimacy is created in the electoral and legislative process by correct electoral procedures and by the application of, inter alia, the right of association, assembly, speech, and free press. Although election observation focuses on the electoral process, the trend is to make it more long-term, thereby including elements of human rights monitoring.

The course seeks to provide the participants with the theoretical knowledge and the practical skills required for successful election observation and human rights monitoring. The course is designed to serve as a basic training programme for those interested in working for national, regional or international organisations as human rights monitors and/or election observers. The course also offers the participants an opportunity to gain a richer understanding of the interconnections between human rights, development and democracy.

Participation in the course requires at least a basic knowledge of human rights. Otherwise qualified participants who do not meet this particular requirement will be provided with preparatory reading and exercises which must be completed prior to the course. The course is composed of lectures, seminars, practical case studies and role-playing exercises. Participants who wish to obtain academic credits (2 Finnish credits) for the course must pass an additional exam. The teaching language is English. Approximately 12 seats are, on the basis of prior agreements, reserved for applicants from the CIS, the Baltic States and Western Russia, as well as Africa and Latin America.

The number of participants is restricted to 25. Approximately 12 seats are, on the basis of prior agreements, reserved for applicants from the CIS, the Baltic States and Western Russia, as well as Africa and Latin America.

Applicants will be informed in April whether they have been admitted to the course. Those admitted will receive an assignment to be presented at the course. The course fee is EUR 169. Students at Åbo Akademi University and the University of Turku are exempted from the fee. The course is sponsored by the European Commission.

Applicants should complete the attached application form, include letters of reference, and return the application form to the Institute for Human Rights at the address below. For more information and application forms, please contact the Institute for Human Rights, or see the website of the Institute at http://www.abo.fi/instut/imr/courses.htm.

The deadline for applications is 15 March 2002.

Summer University on Human Rights and the Right to Education

session VIII
April - December 2002
PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES

The Summer University on Human Rights and the Right to Education offers a post-graduate programme. Its purpose is to give students the theoretical and practical means to help promote human rights and sustainable human development in today's globalised environment.

The programme is organised within the framework of the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education. In addition to a presentation of the international mechanisms for the protection of human rights, the programme offers a specific focus on economic, social and cultural rights, the right to development, the right to education, and the gender issue. In response to today's new political challenges, it also addresses intercultural dialogue, social responsibility and the fight against racism and xenophobia.

The programme includes theoretical courses as well as practical sessions at the United Nations. Students attend meetings of the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (SCHR), the Committee for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR).

TARGET GROUPS

The number of participants is limited to 75, divided into three groups. Those eligible are:

1. Decision makers, whether jurists or not (diplomats, civil servants, members of parliament, NGO activists), journalists, academics, teachers, etc.

2. Students with at least a bachelor's degree, with preference given to those who hold degrees in law, social sciences and education.

Working languages: French, English, Spanish.

PROGRAMME

Unit I
PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Registration: applications must be received by March 15 2002. Candidates must include with their application a statement of objectives, a CV, as well as copies of their diplomas and certificates.

Summer university on human rights and the right to education
32, rue de l'Athénée CH – 1206 Geneva, Switzerland
tel +41 22/ 789 34 42 fax +41 22/ 789 29 22
e-mail uni@oidel.ch www.droitshumains.org/uni
**Unit I: Internet training** will take place from **15 April to 31 May 2002** on the SUHR website: www.droitshumains.org/uni Participants who do not have access to internet facilities can receive documents by post.

An examination concludes Unit I, and determines admission to Unit II. The examination will take place on **May 31** **2002**. Registration to Unit II will be confirmed on **June 10 2002**.

**Unit II: Training at the UN** in Geneva will take place from **August 3 to 16 2002**. Practical information concerning the programme and the stay in Geneva will be made available in due time.

**Unit III:** the deadline for submission of dissertations is **November 30 2002**.

**Financial aid:** SUHR does not deliver grants. Candidates are responsible for finding the necessary funding for their tuition fees, travel and accommodation. A list of organisations that provide grants for human rights education is available on the Summer University's web site.

A certificate stating the global cost of the programme may be delivered upon request.

A few grants financed by the Swiss authorities are available for candidates from least developed countries.

**East-West Dialogue 2002**

The preparations for this summers course for young Europeans at Hojskolen Ostersoen "East-West Dialogue 2002" is well under way. "East-West Dialogue 2002 is of course the successor to the Minority Courses.

The programme is now available in much more detail and therefore included in this email. I hope you will help distribute it among your contacts.

A description of the aim and content of the Course is available on Peoplesite at: http://www.people.hojoster.dk/2002/index.htm

The latest development is that the European Youth Foundation under the Council of Europe now also supports the project financially.

For detailed information contact:
-------------------------------------------
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