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Maria Montessori Institute Model
of United Nations



BACKGROUND

General Assembly



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Topic: Strategies to promote respect for differences and diversity. And the construction of an inclusive society.

Chair

Mr. President: Jorge Gael Muñoz Saldaña

Mr. Moderator: Santiago Bejar Espinoza

Mr. Conference Officer: Erik Maximiliano Castro Pozos

Committee History

By the year 1945, the General Assembly was created based on the “Charter of the United Nations”, reflecting the need to have an instance that deals with several issues. Its creation took place at the United Nations Conference on International Organization, also known as the San Francisco Conference. The GA held its first session on January 10, 1946. Since then, it has continued to serve as a central platform for diplomatic dialogue, cooperation, and decisionmaking among UN member states.



Introduction

The World Summit for Social Development, held in March 1995, established the concept of social integration to create an inclusive society, "a society for all," as one of the key objectives of social development. The Copenhagen Declaration and Program of Action, a key outcome of the Summit, committed to making poverty eradication, full employment, and social integration primary objectives of development. Member States pledged to promote social integration by fostering inclusive societies that are stable, safe, just and tolerant, and that respect diversity, equal opportunities and the participation of all people, including disadvantaged and vulnerable groups and individuals.

The challenge for policymakers and practitioners is how to make the concept of integration and inclusion operational - to be used as a practical tool to promote an inspiring, yet realistic, set of policy measures geared towards a "society for all". This requires a paradigm shift to recognize the dignity, worth and importance of every person, not only as an ethical norm and moral imperative, but also as a legal principle, social objective and, ultimately, practice. "No human being should be condemned to endure a short or miserable life as a consequence of class, country, religious affiliation, ethnicity or gender."



To this end, social inclusion, both as an overarching goal and as a multidimensional process, can play a key role in promoting sustainable human development. This report examines the essential elements needed to create an inclusive society and outlines concrete strategies to promote social integration and social inclusion. It highlights the importance of promoting social inclusion as a multidimensional concept, which must be integrated into various processes at multiple levels. It underlines the essential role of international organizations, national and local governments, and civil society in promoting social inclusion.

The engagement of multiple stakeholders, especially civil society, is crucial, as it enhances the transparency and accountability of the process and can ensure the active participation of all members of society, regardless of their origins. This report consolidates the results of a webbased multi-stakeholder meeting, as well as the results of the Expert Group meeting, results of the Expert Group meeting on "Creating an Inclusive Society: Practical Strategies to Promote Social Inclusion" and papers presented by participating experts, as well as other resources relevant to the topic.



Historical Background

The historical context of efforts to promote respect for difference and diversity is important to understand the challenges and progress made over time. In the mid-20th century, we witnessed transformative social movements that laid the foundations for integration. The civil rights movement in the United States in the 1950s and 1960s marked a breakthrough in the fight against segregation and racism. Its success highlights the need for systemic change and inspires new movements to defend the rights of other marginalized groups. After the Civil Rights Movement, the feminist movement gained momentum in the 1960s and 1970s, challenging gender norms and defending women's rights.

At the same time, the disability rights movement emerged, advocating for equality and accessibility. In the late 20th century and beyond, the LGBTQ rights movement fought discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity. Together, these historic movements highlight interconnected struggles for justice, equality, and acceptance of diverse identities. Lessons learned from these movements highlight the importance of legislative change, educational initiatives and social change in creating a framework for social inclusion.



As society develops, it becomes clear that promoting respect for differences is an ongoing process. The historical struggle provides a roadmap for contemporary efforts, highlighting the need for inclusive policies, cultural competence, and continued adaptability to meet challenges in diverse contexts and inclusion is changing. The intertwined nature of these movements teaches us that true inclusion requires recognizing and accepting the complexity of human identity, helping to create a society where differences are not only recognized but also honored.

Current Importance

In today's interconnected world, the need to promote respect for differences and build inclusive societies is more important than ever. Globalization has transformed our society into a melting pot of diverse cultures, ethnicities and perspectives. Recognizing and accepting this diversity is not only a matter of moral principle but also a practical necessity to promote positive international relations and facilitate the exchange of ideas at a time when technology connects them. We cross borders.



Demographic changes in many societies highlight the need for inclusive measures to maintain harmony and social cohesion amid a rich diversity of identities. Economic success increasingly depends on diversity and inclusion, and companies are seeing tangible benefits from a workforce that brings diverse skills, experiences and perspectives. As societies struggle with political polarization and social tensions, promoting respect for differences becomes a powerful tool to bridge differences and promote mutual understanding. In a world facing complex challenges such as climate change, health crises and economic inequality, an inclusive society is better equipped to solve complex problems, embracing diverse perspectives and solving them together. Furthermore, the moral imperative to recognize and protect human rights strengthens the commitment to building a society where everyone feels valued, accepted and included, contributing to the prosperity and common well-being of communities around the world.



International and UN's facts

In a non-inclusive society, people can deal with discrimination, marginalization and exclusion issues. This affects social cohesion and obstructs the full individual development, limiting its participation in the community. In addition, the lack of respect for diversity can create conflicts, due to the strengthening of stereotypes and prejudices that promote social division.

The lack of inclusivity can cause loss of opportunities and talent, since the skills and contributions of various people are wasted due to discrimination based on gender differences, ethnicity, sexual orientation, among others. The General Assembly focuses on the promotion and protection of universal human rights, emphasizing the importance of equality and nondiscrimination. Through treaties and declarations, the UN establishes international standards that advocate the dignity and rights of all people, regardless of their ethnic origin, gender, religion or orientation.



The UN and the GA support awareness programs and campaigns (like the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination on 21 March) that seek to celebrate diversity and combat discrimination. These efforts include educational initiatives to promote mutual understanding, respect and tolerance between different communities and cultures. To facilitate constructive discussion on issues related to diversity and inclusion. These spaces allow us to share best practices, address common challenges and strengthen ties between nations in the construction of fairer and more inclusive societies.

Conclusions

The first step in promoting respect and inclusion is to recognize your own cultural identity and how it shapes your worldview, assumptions, and behaviors. You should also be aware of your implicit and explicit biases, which are the attitudes and stereotypes that affect your judgments and actions toward others. By understanding your own culture and biases, you can better appreciate the differences and similarities between people and avoid imposing your values or expectations on others.



To promote respect and inclusion is to educate yourself about other cultures and perspectives, especially those that are relevant to your work or community. You can do this by reading, watching, listening to or interacting with various sources of information and media, as well as seeking opportunities to interact with people from different backgrounds and experiences. By learning about other cultures and perspectives, you can increase your knowledge, curiosity, and empathy, and avoid making assumptions or generalizations about others.



Points To discuss.

- An inclusive society values diversity and considers the differences between people as an impetus for collective development and well-being.
- How to ensure that each individual can participate in the community to contribute to the construction of an inclusive society.
- Achieving economic sustainability on the basis of an inclusive society.
- How can educational systems promote the understanding and respect for differences from an early age?
- Eradicating discrimination and social exclusion by promoting respect and acceptance of diversity.
- Promote citizen participation. All people, regardless of their origin, are free to express their opinion and contribute to the development of their society.



Possible solutions

- Public policies that guarantee social inclusion and eliminate barriers to participation and equality of conditions.
- Develop educational programs that emphasize the importance of respecting and valuing differences, fostering an environment of acceptance, and understanding.
- Promoting the fair and positive presence of all identities in the media, counteracting stereotypes, and disseminating a more respectful image of diversity.
- To ensure that everyone has access to culturally competent and sensitive health care services culturally competent and sensitive to diversity, eliminating barriers that may arise due to cultural or linguistic differences.
- Collaborate internationally to share best practices, learn from global experiences and strengthen collective efforts towards building inclusive societies.
- Facilitate open and constructive dialogue between different communities to promote mutual understanding, using the correct terminology with the aim of fostering respect.



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