

*What  
could we  
do...*

*if we re-imagined  
human responsibility  
for one another  
and the planet?*

*What  
are our  
responsibilities...*

*to one another,  
to our communities  
and to the world?*

*What  
could we  
accomplish...*

*if responsibility  
were a shared value?*

*You are invited  
to initiate activities related to  
the Charter of Human Responsibilities*



## *Ten Principles to Guide the Exercise of Human Responsibilities*



*Revised through an international consultative process and adopted August 2007*

- 1.* We are all responsible for making sure that Human Rights are affirmed in our ways of thinking and in our actions.
- 2.* Every person's dignity involves contributing to the freedom and dignity of others.
- 3.* Responsibilities include ensuring the fulfilment of human potential, inclusive of material needs and non-material aspirations, as well as obligations to support the common good.
- 4.* Lasting peace can be expected only from freedom, justice, and processes for reconciliation which are respectful of human dignity and human rights.
- 5.* Development and consumption of natural resources to meet human needs and the quest for prosperity must be backed by a commitment to sustainability and the principle of precaution, assuring pro-active protection of the environment, careful management of its diversity, and equitable sharing of wealth.
- 6.* The full potential of knowledge and know-how is achieved through valuing different knowledge systems and ways of knowing, sharing them, and applying them in the service of unifying solidarity and a pluralistic culture of peace.
- 7.* Freedom of scientific research implies being guided by ethical criteria such as enhancement of biodiversity, respect for human dignity and non-human forms of life, and regard for the limitations of human knowledge.
- 8.* The exercise of power is legitimate where it serves the common good and if it is accountable to those over whom it is exercised.
- 9.* In reaching decisions about short-term priorities, evaluation of long-term consequences must concur with ethical priorities of justice and inter-generational environmental stewardship, taking into account both risks and uncertainties.
- 10.* To face the challenges of today and of tomorrow, uniting in action must be balanced with respect for cultural specificities.

**If you have questions or ideas for Charter-related activities in your community, workplace or organization, contact Nina Gregg, Coordinator of the Regional Charter Committee for the United States, at [charter.US@alliance21.org](mailto:charter.US@alliance21.org) or 865 977 7399.**

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