

HANA *forum*

Full plate, full life – adequate nutrition as human right

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights 60 years

Tuesday 9 December 2008 1 pm – 3.30 pm, Reception 3.30 pm – 5 pm

Hanasaari – Swedish-Finnish Cultural Centre, Hanasaarenranta 5, Espoo

The right to food is a fundamental human right and it is also incorporated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights adopted in 1966. In 1996, the international community also adopted the Rome Declaration, which reaffirms the right of everyone to have access to safe and nutritious food.

As part of the Millennium Development Goals, the UN member countries have pledged to halve the number of people suffering from hunger and malnutrition by 2015. However, according to the estimates produced by FAO, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the situation has deteriorated in recent years so that in 2007 about 923 million people worldwide were suffering from malnutrition. Pregnant women and children under school age are in a particularly vulnerable position as inadequate nutrition can put their physical and mental development at risk.

The seminar discussion is part of the preparatory work for a report on human rights that the Finnish government will submit to the Parliament next spring. The fact that Finland will chair a discussion on the right to food in the UN Human Rights Council in the coming spring makes the issue all the more important.

Following the seminar, a reception will be held on occasion of the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. A fundraising organized by the Red Cross will be held in connection with the reception.

12.30 pm Registration and welcoming coffee

A 60th anniversary photoshow produced by the French foreign ministry

1 pm Welcoming address

Gunvor Kronman, Director of the Hanasaari – Swedish-Finnish Cultural Centre
Jutta Urpilainen, Chair, UN Association of Finland

1.15 pm Opening address

Tuija Brax, Minister of Justice

1.30 pm

Asbjörn Eide, Professor, the Norwegian Centre for Human Rights at the University of Oslo
Barbara Ekwall, Coordinator, Right to Food Unit, FAO

2 pm Panel discussion

Asbjörn Eide, Professor, the Norwegian Centre for Human Rights at the University of Oslo
Barbara Ekwall Coordinator, Right to Food Unit, FAO
Sofie From-Emmesberger, Head of the Unit for Human Rights Policy, Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland
The discussion will be chaired by **Kristiina Kouros**, Secretary General of the Finnish League for Human Rights

3.30 pm – 5 pm

Reception on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Restaurant Johannes
Fundraising organized by the Red Cross

Languages: Finnish, Swedish. Simultaneous interpretation Finnish-Swedish-English.

Participation is complimentary. However, registration is required by 4 December at www.hanaholmen.fi/humanrights.

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The event is organized by the UN Association of Finland, The Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland, the Finnish League for Human Rights and Hanasaari – Swedish-Finnish Cultural Centre