

Chapter 1 : Human Rights and Civil Liberties

Civil liberties are the basic freedoms granted to a country's citizens - they are often defined by law (including, but not limited to, human rights law) and evidenced in government documentation. People need not earn civil rights - citizenship automatically confers them in most cases.

History[edit] The phrase "Rights for Civil" is a translation of Latin *ius civis* rights of a citizen. Roman citizens could be either free *libertas* or servile *servitus* , but they all had rights in law. The Virginia declaration is the direct ancestor and model for the U. Bill of Rights The removal by legislation of a civil right constitutes a "civil disability". In early 19th century Britain, the phrase "civil rights" most commonly referred to the issue of such legal discrimination against Catholics. In the House of Commons support for civil rights was divided, with many politicians agreeing with the existing civil disabilities of Catholics. The Roman Catholic Relief Act restored their civil rights. In the s, Americans adapted this usage to newly freed blacks. Congress enacted civil rights acts in , , , , , and Protection of rights[edit] T. Marshall notes that civil rights were among the first to be recognized and codified, followed later by political rights and still later by social rights. In many countries, they are constitutional rights and are included in a bill of rights or similar document. They are also defined in international human rights instruments , such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. Civil and political rights need not be codified to be protected, although most democracies worldwide do have formal written guarantees of civil and political rights. Civil rights are considered to be natural rights. Thomas Jefferson wrote in his A Summary View of the Rights of British America that "a free people [claim] their rights as derived from the laws of nature, and not as the gift of their chief magistrate. In many countries, citizens have greater protections against infringement of rights than non-citizens; at the same time, civil and political rights are generally considered to be universal rights that apply to all persons. According to political scientist Salvador Santino F. Implied or unenumerated rights are rights that courts may find to exist even though not expressly guaranteed by written law or custom; one example is the right to privacy in the United States , and the Ninth Amendment explicitly shows that there are other rights that are also protected. The United States Declaration of Independence states that people have unalienable rights including "Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness". It is considered by some that the sole purpose of government is the protection of life, liberty and property.

Chapter 2 : Human Rights and Civil Liberties - Matrix International

The undersigned human rights and civil liberties organizations urge the Saudi and UAE-led coalition to immediately and unconditionally release Radhya Almutawakel and Abdulrasheed Alfaqih, two.

Taiwan, which is separated from China, has its own Constitution. The six fundamental rights are right to equality, right to freedom, right against exploitation, right to freedom of religion, cultural and educational rights and right to constitutional remedies. These include individual rights common to most liberal democracies, incorporated in the fundamental law of the land and are enforceable in a court of law. Violations of these rights result in punishments as prescribed in the Indian Penal Code, subject to discretion of the judiciary. These rights are neither absolute nor immune from constitutional amendments. They have been aimed at overturning the inequalities of pre-independence social practices. Specifically, they resulted in abolishment of untouchability and prohibit discrimination on the grounds of religion, race, caste, sex, or place of birth. They forbid human trafficking and unfree labour. They protect cultural and educational rights of ethnic and religious minorities by allowing them to preserve their languages and administer their own educational institutions. All people, irrespective of race, religion, caste or sex, have the right to approach the High Courts or the Supreme Court for the enforcement of their fundamental rights. It is not necessary that the aggrieved party has to be the one to do so. In public interest, anyone can initiate litigation in the court on their behalf. This is known as "Public interest litigation". The Fundamental Rights emphasize equality by guaranteeing to all citizens the access and use of public institutions and protections, irrespective of their background. The rights to life and personal liberty apply for persons of any nationality, while others, such as the freedom of speech and expression are applicable only to the citizens of India including non-resident Indian citizens. These provisions act as a check both on State action and actions of private individuals. Fundamental Rights are not absolute and are subject to reasonable restrictions as necessary for the protection of national interest. In the *Kesavananda Bharati vs. State of Kerala*, often called the "Basic structure doctrine", this decision is widely regarded as an important part of Indian history. In the *Maneka Gandhi v. Union of India*, according to the verdict, no act of parliament can be considered a law if it violated the basic structure of the constitution. This landmark guarantee of Fundamental Rights was regarded as a unique example of judicial independence in preserving the sanctity of Fundamental Rights. The Fundamental Rights can only be altered by a constitutional amendment, hence their inclusion is a check not only on the executive branch, but also on the Parliament and state legislatures. The President can, by order, suspend the constitutional written remedies as well. Rights and Duties of the People. Constitution prior to the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and that is because it came into life during the Allied occupation of Japan. This constitution may have felt like a foreign imposition to the governing elites, but not to the ordinary people "who lacked faith in their discredited leaders and supported meaningful change. The people also tend to rely upon bureaucrats to remedy social problems, including even human rights violations, rather than the court. The trend is more evident in the long term. Among several examples, the Diet bicameral legislature ratified the International Bill of Human Rights in 1948 and then it passed the Law for Equal Opportunity in Employment for Men and Women in 1945, measures that were heralded as major steps toward a democratic and participatory society. Among these are child abuses etc. Also, the government lists systematic problems with gender biases and the standard reference to sexual preferences for jobs and other functions in society. In 1948, the U.S. Australia was a key player and signatory to the UN Universal Declaration on Human Rights. The Constitution of Australia does offer very limited protection of rights: Refugee issues Within the past decade Australia has experienced increasing contention regarding its treatment of those seeking asylum. Although Australia is a signatory to the UN Refugee Convention, successive governments have demonstrated an increasing tightening of borders; particularly against those who seek passage via small water vessels. The Abbott Government like its predecessors the Gillard and Howard Governments has encountered particular difficulty curbing asylum seekers via sea, increasingly identified as "illegal immigration". The recent involvement of the Australian Navy in refugee rescue operations has many human rights groups such as Amnesty International concerned over the "militarisation" of treatment of refugees. The current "turn-back"

policy is particularly divisive, as it involves placing refugees in government lifeboats and turning them towards Indonesia. Europe[edit] European Convention on Human Rights[edit] The European Convention on Human Rights , to which almost all European countries belong apart from Belarus , enumerates a number of civil liberties and is of varying constitutional force in different European states. Czech Republic[edit] Following the Velvet Revolution , a constitutional overhaul took place in Czechoslovakia. In , the Charter of Fundamental Rights and Basic Freedoms was adopted, having the same legal standing as the Constitution.

Chapter 3 : Civil liberties - Wikipedia

The ACLU Human Rights Program (HRP) is dedicated to holding the United States accountable to international human rights laws and standards as well as the rights guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution. The criminal justice system in the United States raises serious constitutional and human rights.

June 19, 1: Authorities working at government-controlled Seiyun city airport detained the advocates on June 18, , as they were preparing to travel abroad to an event at the Center for Humanitarian Dialogue in Oslo, Norway. The advocates were given no reasons for the detention, but were told by the detaining Yemeni government security forces that they were not permitted to travel and were being arrested at the behest of the Saudi and United Arab Emirates UAE -led Coalition. After their release, they received further threats from officials that they could be detained again soon. The actions of the governments are in breach of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, including the right to liberty and to be free from arbitrary detention Article 9 , the right to liberty of movement and to leave any country Article 12 , and the rights to freedom of expression Article 19 , peaceful assembly Article 21 , and association Article 22 . The arbitrary detention of Almutawakel and Alfaqih comes at a time when the United Nations considers Yemen the worst humanitarian crisis in the world. Millions of Yemenis are suffering from the devastating consequences of violations committed by the Saudi-led Coalition, the Houthis and other armed groups including al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula. The UAE-led offensive on the port of Hodeidah, critical for the supply of humanitarian aid to the country, threatens to exacerbate this already dire situation. The work of Radhya Almutawakel, Abdulrasheed Alfaqih, and other human rights defenders to document the rights violations in Yemen is therefore all the more vital to ensure that the global community remains informed of the rights situation in one of the most underreported conflicts in the world. Mwatana is a globally recognized Yemeni civil society organization, which impartially investigates violations by all parties to the war in Yemen. The detentions of Almutawakel and Alfaqih are part of a pattern of harassment and repression of human rights work in Yemen committed by all sides. Alfaqih was briefly detained by authorities loyal to Yemeni President Hadi on June 14, . In , the Yemeni embassy in Washington, D. Senators attacking the reputation of Mwatana. The Houthis have repeatedly beaten, threatened, harassed , and detained representatives of Mwatana and other advocates. More than ten journalists remain arbitrarily and unlawfully detained by the Houthis since early . Throughout the conflict, human rights defenders and journalists have been harassed, threatened, beaten, arbitrarily detained, and forcibly disappeared in both government and Houthi-controlled territory. The undersigned groups call on the Yemeni government authorities and the Saudi and UAE-led Coalition authorities to provide full reparations for the unlawful detention of Almutawakel and Alfaqih, including public acknowledgment of wrongdoing, apology, and a commitment to refrain from any further hindrance of human rights work, including any threats of detention or restrictions on travel. The groups call on all sides to the conflict, including the Houthis, to respect the rights of human rights defenders. The signatories also call on other states, particularly those allied with or who support the warring parties, to urge the parties to the conflict to uphold the rights of defenders, to increase their efforts in ending all human rights abuses, and to cease ongoing law of war violations in Yemen. We stand in solidarity with our human rights advocate colleagues in Yemen.

Chapter 4 : Joint Statement by Human Rights and Civil Liberties Groups | Human Rights Watch

The undersigned human rights and civil liberties organizations condemn the unlawful detention yesterday of Radhya Almutawakel and Abdulrasheed Alfaqih, two prominent Yemeni human rights defenders.

Tweet What Are Civil Liberties? The difference between human rights and civil liberties may be largely semantic. It could be said that human rights are those fundamental rights considered to be universal to all people. Civil liberties, however, may be those rights and freedoms recognised by a particular country. People need not earn civil rights - citizenship automatically confers them in most cases. Countries around the world may define civil liberties differently - and may, depending on prevailing circumstances, be more or less likely to uphold those civil liberties. This may be as true of notorious authoritarian states, as of countries which are celebrated for the permissive stance they take towards their citizens. Today it is considered by many people to be the blue print for constitutions and bills of rights all over the world. A well known example of a Bill of Rights actively followed and upheld by its people is the one enshrined in the Constitution of the United States. These rights are frequently relied upon in the American courts. Human Rights and Civil Liberties in the UK Whilst the UK may not have a written constitution, setting out the civil liberties and rights of its citizens, it has a long common law history of recognising certain freedoms. Indeed, many written constitutions around the world are based on the rights long upheld by the British courts. Under this rule anyone who has been arrested, or deprived of their liberty, may request that they are presented before a judge so that the legality of their detention can be judicially determined. It has been argued that the spirit of this ancient law has been severely undermined by the introduction of modern anti-terrorist legislation. The Act also made it possible for people to bring a case in a UK court based on a breach of European Convention rights. Whenever possible, judges should interpret other UK legislation in a way which is compatible with the European Convention. This declaration does not affect the validity of a UK Act which is intended to reflect the principle of Parliamentary sovereignty. An individual may still take his case to the European Court of Human Rights as a last resort. Civil Liberties Around the World In countries all over the world people argue for greater freedoms to be accorded. In America and other Western societies, for example, there have been campaigns to extend the right to marry to all people regardless of their sexuality. In more restrictive countries, some people risk their lives in support of basic civil liberties such as free speech, the right to peaceful protest and freedom of assembly. What constitutes a civil liberty may depend very much on the country that a person calls home.

Chapter 5 : Human Rights and Civil Liberties | Costs of War

The Costs of War Project is a team of 35 scholars, legal experts, human rights practitioners, and physicians, which began its work in We use research and a public website to facilitate debate about the costs of the post-9/11 wars in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Pakistan.

Chapter 6 : Civil Liberties & Human Rights - Ruth Costigan; Richard Stone - Oxford University Press

Following that, a big dilemma made governments and courts to wonder if an adoption of a Bill of Rights is needed which it would guarantee civil liberties and human rights in the way that the European Communities Act incorporates the Treaty of Rome.

Chapter 7 : Human Rights and Civil Liberties | Green Party of California (GPCA)

While human rights are universal in all countries, civil rights vary greatly from one nation to the next. No nation may rightfully deprive a person of a human right, but different nations can grant or deny different civil rights and liberties.

Chapter 8 : Civil and political rights - Wikipedia

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