

## The role of human rights education (HRE) in the prevention of torture

### Objective

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Identify the specific role that HRE plays in the prevention of torture.

### Time

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1 hour

### Description

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This activity is divided into two parts.

In **Part A**, participants will reflect on the similarities and differences between the struggle against torture and the prevention of torture.

In **Part B**, participants will deepen their reflection on what is the prevention of torture.

### Activity

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15 min

#### Part A Brainstorm

The facilitation team leads a brainstorm with the whole group to discuss what is meant by:

- The struggle against torture
- The prevention of torture

Following this, the facilitators lead a discussion about the differences and similarities between both notions.

45 min

#### Part B The house for the prevention of torture

The facilitation team presents the outline for the House for the prevention of torture (refer to **Fact Sheet - Prevention of Torture**).

The facilitators then lead a whole group discussion using the following questions as a guide :

- How are these 3 levels inseparable?
- As an individual, how can you act on these 3 levels?
- How can you, as a group, act on these 3 levels?

## Fact Sheet – The prevention of torture

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The prevention of torture is based on an approach with three levels, which can be symbolized by a «prevention house»:

- On the first level – « the foundation» – there must be an effective legal framework that both prevents torture and ill-treatment.
- On the second level –« the walls of the house » – the rules and laws need to be enforced. Implementation involves training (police and other key actors), and the establishment of procedural safeguards (e.g.video recording of interrogations and registers) as well as penalties in the case of non-compliance with the law.
- Finally the third level – « the roof » - is made up of mechanisms and controls. These can verify that the legal framework is in place and that it is enforced. These control mechanisms include regular visits by independent bodies to any place of detention. The media and the recommendations made by international human rights bodies, also serve as a control mechanisms.

*Association for the Prevention of Torture*

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