Theoretical Framework: Human Rights Education
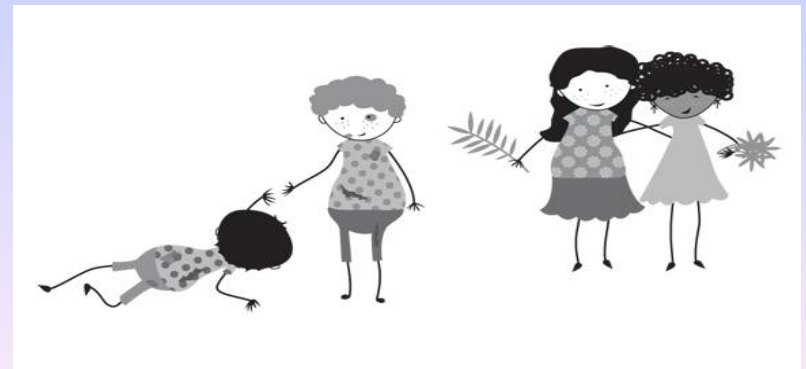
Human Rights Education: Definition

"...educational programmes and activities that focus on promoting equality in human dignity, in conjunction with other programmes such as those promoting intercultural learning, participation and empowerment of minorities"

Official definition of Human Rights Education for the Council of Europe Youth Programme

Long term Aim

The creation of a culture where human rights are understood, respected and promoted

General Objectives of HRE

➢to strengthen **respect** for human rights and fundamental freedoms

➢to develop a **value** for human dignity

➢to develop **attitudes and behaviour** that will lead to respect for the rights of others

➢to ensure **gender equality**

General Objectives of HRE

➢to promote respect, understanding and appreciation of **cultural diversity**, particularly towards different national, ethnic, religious, linguistic and other minorities and communities

➢to empower people towards more **active citizenship**

➢to promote **democracy, development, social justice, communal harmony, solidarity and friendship** among people and nations
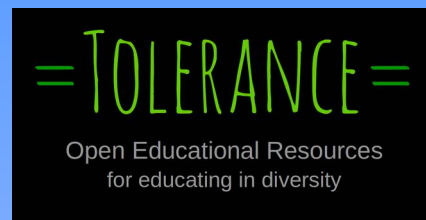
Outcomes of HRE

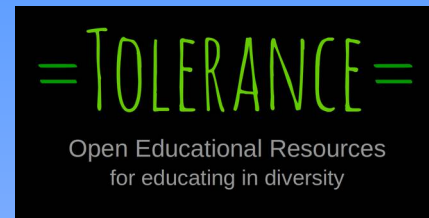Knowledge

Skills

Attitudes and Values

Knowledge

Key **concepts** such as: freedom, justice, equality, human dignity, non-discrimination, democracy, universality, rights, responsibilities, interdependence and solidarity

The **role** of human rights in one's own life, in the life of communities, and in the lives of other people around the world

Knowledge

The **distinction** between civil/political and social/economic rights

Main **social changes, historical events and reasons** leading to the recognition of human rights;

Knowledge

Major international instruments such as the United Nations Declarations of Human Rights and the European Convention on the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (ECHR)

Local, national, international bodies, non-governmental organisations, individuals working to support and protect human rights

Skills

Active listening and communication: being able to listen to different points of view

Critical thinking: finding relevant information, appraising evidence critically, being aware of preconceptions and biases, recognising forms of manipulation, and making decisions on the basis of reasoned judgement

Skills

The ability to **work co-operatively** and to address conflict positively

The ability to participate in and organise **social groups**

Acting to promote and **safeguard human rights** both locally and globally

Attitudes and Values

A sense of **responsibility** for one's own actions, a commitment to personal development and social change

Curiosity, an open mind and an appreciation of diversity

Solidarity with others and a commitment to support those whose human rights are under threat

Attitudes and Values

➢A sense of human dignity, of self-worth and of others' worth, irrespective of social, cultural, linguistic or religious differences

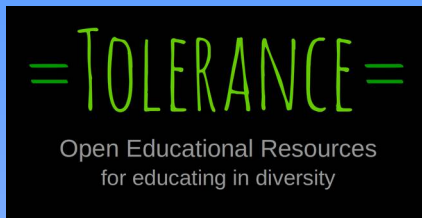➢A sense of justice, the desire to work towards the ideals of freedom, equality and respect for diversity

Intercultural Education

Intercultural Education seeks to promote equality and human dignity through:

➢The recognition of equality and interrelations between cultures

➢The pursuit of an intercultural society

Multicultural Society

What do you understand by this term?

When did you first hear it?

Multicultural Society

➢Many different ethnic groups live together

➢The majority tolerates the minorities

➢Difference is considered negatively

Intercultural Society
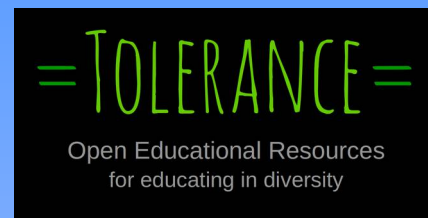
➢What does this mean?

➢When did you first hear this term?

Intercultural Society

➢Many ethnic groups live together

➢Exchange and mutual recognition of the different values and ways of life

➢Real acceptance of diversity and maintenance of equal relations

Examples?

Why do we need intercultural education?

➢Increasing cultural diversity of Europe

➢Allows young people to respond to difference and diversity?

➢To enable young people to take an active stance against racism, racial discrimination and religious discrimination and prejudice

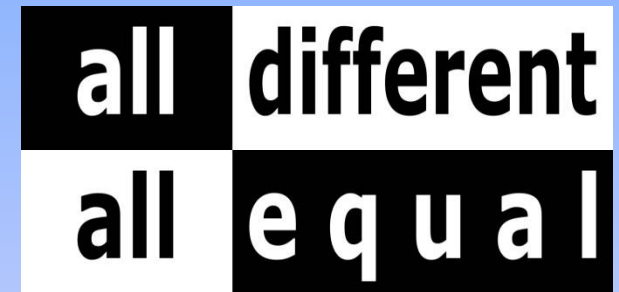# All Different All Equal Educational Pack

➤14+

all different
all equal

➤Council of Europe

➤Activities to combat racism, racial discrimination and religious discrimination and prejudice.

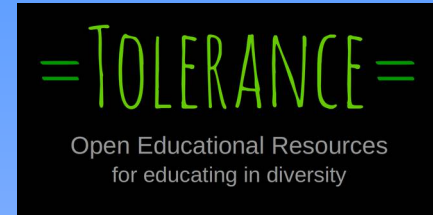➤The reality in each country may vary so you must take that into account (Eg Roma populations and Muslim populations)

Citizenship Education

➢Citizenship education encourages the development of young people as active and responsible citizens

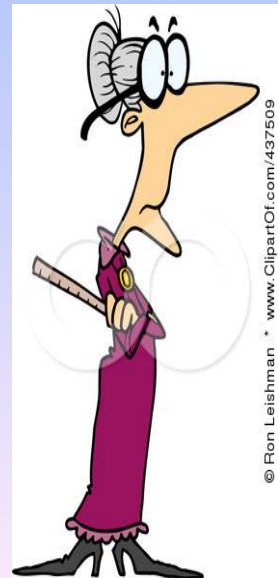➢Prompts persons to take an active stance in promoting human rights

The Educators

Starting point: the **needs, preferences and abilities** of the participants

Must take into account the **social/religious/ethnic setting** in which the activity will occur

Educators must **include** the participants in the entire

Learning process. Do not fall into the trap of assuming

 that the educator is in possession of an ultimate truth,

which must be passed on to passive learners

Educational Settings

Informal education: The lifelong process, whereby every individual acquires attitudes, values, skills and knowledge from the educational influences in his or her own environment and from daily experience (family, neighbours, marketplace, library, mass media, work, play, etc.)

Formal education refers to the structured education system that runs from primary school to university, and includes specialised programmes for technical and professional training

Non-formal education refers to any planned programme of personal and social education for young people designed to improve a range of skills and competencies, outside the formal educational curriculum
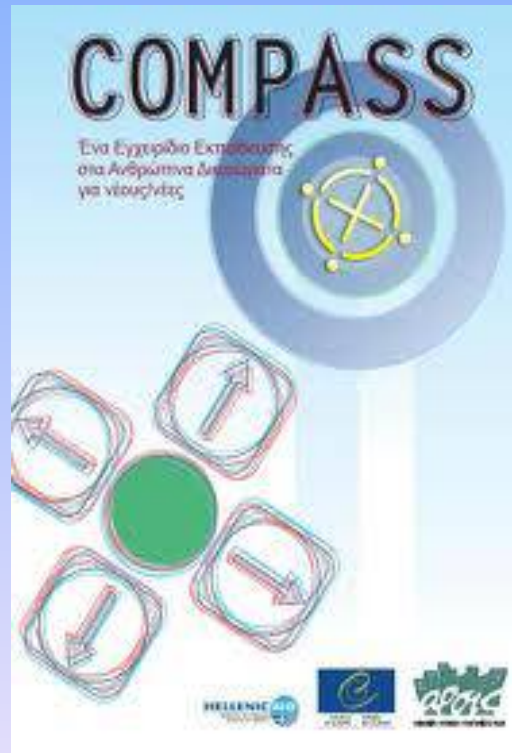
Non-formal education

It is:

➢Voluntary

➢Accessible to everyone (ideally)

➢Participatory and learner-centred

➢About learning life skills and preparing for active citizenship

➢Starts from the needs of the participants

Formal, non-formal and informal education are complementary and mutually reinforcing elements of a lifelong learning process.
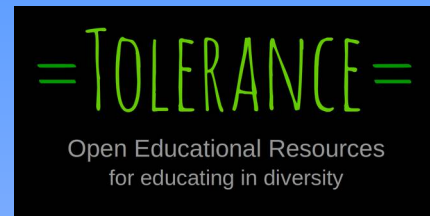
Tools: **COMPASS**

13+
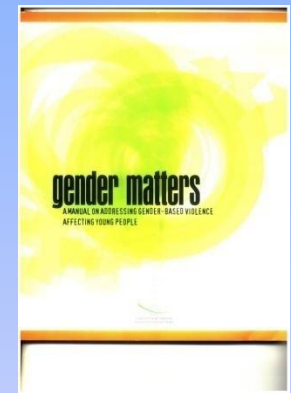
Other Tools for Human Rights Education

Other Tools for Human Rights Education