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Article I Rights of Citizens

Section 1: Right to life

1. Everyone has the right to life.

2. No one shall be condemned to the death penalty or executed.

3. Deprivation of life shall not be regarded as inflicted in contra­vention of this Article when it results from the use of force which is no more than absolutely necessary:

   (a) in defense of any person from unlawful violence;

   (b) in order to effect a lawful arrest or to prevent the escape of a person lawfully detained;

   (c) in action lawfully taken for the purpose of quelling a riot or insurrection.

Section 2: Right to the integrity of the person

1. Everyone has the right to respect for his or her physical and mental integrity.

2. In the fields of medicine and biology, the following must be respected in particular:

(a) the free and informed consent of the person concerned, according to the procedures laid down by law,

(b) the prohibition of eugenic practices, in particular those aiming at the selection of persons,

(c) the prohibition on making the human body and its parts as such a source of financial gain,

(d) the prohibition of the reproductive cloning of human beings.

Section 3: Prohibition of torture and inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment

No one shall be subjected to torture or to inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

Section 4: Prohibition of slavery and forced labor

1.        No one shall be held in slavery or servitude.

2.        No one shall be required to perform forced or compulsory labor.

3.        For the purpose of this Article the term “forced or compulsory labor” shall not include:

(a) any work required to be done in the ordinary course of detention imposed according to the provisions of Article 5 of this Convention or during conditional release from such detention;

(b) any service of a military character or, in case of conscien­tious objectors in countries where they are recognized, service exacted instead of compulsory military service;

(c) any service exacted in case of an emergency or calamity threatening the life or well-being of the community;

(d) any work or service which forms part of normal civic obli­gations

Section 5: Right to liberty and security

1. Everyone has the right to liberty and security of person. No one shall be deprived of his liberty save in the following cases and in accordance with a procedure prescribed by law:

(a) the lawful detention of a person after conviction by a com­petent court;

(b) the lawful arrest or detention of a person for non­-compliance with the lawful order of a court or in order to secure the fulfilment of any obligation prescribed by law;

(c) the lawful arrest or detention of a person effected for the purpose of bringing him before the competent legal authority on reasonable suspicion of having committed an offence or when it is reasonably considered necessary to prevent his committing an offence or fleeing after having done so;

(d) the detention of a minor by lawful order for the purpose of educational supervision or his lawful detention for the pur­pose of bringing him before the competent legal authority;

(e) the lawful detention of persons for the prevention of the spreading of infectious diseases, of persons of unsound mind, alcoholics or drug addicts or vagrants;

(f) the lawful arrest or detention of a person to prevent his effecting an unauthorized entry into the country or of a person against whom action is being taken with a view to deportation or extradition.

2. Everyone who is arrested shall be informed promptly, in a lan­guage which he understands, of the reasons for his arrest and of any charge against him.

3. Everyone arrested or detained in accordance with the provi­sions of paragraph 1 (c) of this Article shall be brought promptly before a judge or other officer authorized by law to exercise judicial power and shall be entitled to trial within a reasonable time or to release pending trial. Release may be conditioned by guarantees to appear for trial.

4. Everyone who is deprived of his liberty by arrest or detention shall be entitled to take proceedings by which the lawfulness of his detention shall be decided speedily by a court and his release ordered if the detention is not lawful.

5. Everyone who has been the victim of arrest or detention in contravention of the provisions of this Article shall have an enforce­ able right to compensation.

Section 6: Right to respect for private and family life

1. Everyone has the right to respect for their private and family life, their home and his correspondence.

2. There shall be no interference by a public authority with the exercise of this right except such as is in accordance with the law and is necessary in a democratic society in the interests of national secu­rity, public safety or the economic well-being of the country, for the prevention of disorder or crime, for the protection of health or morals, or for the protection of the rights and freedoms of others.

Section 7: Protection of personal data

1. Everyone has the right to the protection of personal data concerning them.

2. Such data must be processed fairly for specified purposes and on the basis of the consent of the person concerned or some other legitimate basis laid down by law. Everyone has the right of access to data which has been collected concerning them, and the right to have it rectified.

3. Compliance with these rules shall be subject to control by an independent authority.

Section 8: Right to marry

Men and women of marriageable age have the right to marry and to establish a family, according to the state laws governing the exercise of this right.

Section 9: Freedom of thought, conscience and religion

1. Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion. This right includes freedom to change religion or belief and freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or in private, to manifest religion or belief, in worship, teaching, practice and observance.

2. The right to conscientious objection is recognized, in accordance with the national laws governing the exercise of this right.

Section 10: Freedom of expression and information

1. Everyone has the right to freedom of expression. This right shall include freedom to hold opinions and to receive and impart in­ formation and ideas without interference by public authority and regardless of frontiers. This Article shall not prevent States from re­quiring the licensing of broadcasting, television or cinema enter­prises.

2. The exercise of these freedoms, since it carries with it duties and responsibilities, may be subject to such formalities, conditions, restrictions or penalties as are prescribed by law and are necessary in a democratic society, in the interests of national security, territorial integrity or public safety, for the prevention of disorder or crime, for the protection of health or morals, for the protection of the reputa­tion or rights of others, for preventing the disclosure of information received in confidence, or for maintaining the authority and impar­tiality of the judiciary.

Section 11: Freedom of assembly and of association

1. Everyone has the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and to freedom of association with others, including the right to form and to join trade unions for the protection of his interests.

2. No restrictions shall be placed on the exercise of these rights other than such as are prescribed by law and are necessary in a democratic society in the interests of national security or public safety, for the prevention of disorder or crime, for the protection of health or morals or for the protection of the rights and freedoms of others. The freedom of assembly and of association shall not prevent the imposition of lawful restric­tions on the exercise of these rights by members of the armed forces, of the police or of the administration of the State.

Section 12: Freedom of the arts and sciences

The arts and scientific research shall be free of constraint. Academic freedom shall be respected.

Section 13: Right to education

1. Everyone has the right to education and to have access to vocational and continuing training.

2. This right includes the possibility to receive free compulsory education. 3. The freedom to found educational establishments with due respect for democratic principles and the right of parents to ensure the education and teaching of their children in conformity with their religious, philosophical and pedagogical convictions, shall be respected, in accordance with the national laws governing the exercise of such freedom and right.

Section 14: Freedom to choose an occupation and right to engage in work

1. Everyone has the right to engage in work and to pursue a freely chosen or accepted occupation.

2. Every citizen of the Union has the freedom to seek employment, to work, to exercise the right of establishment and to provide services in any Member State.

3. Nationals of third countries who are authorized to work in the territories of the Member States are entitled to working conditions equivalent to those of citizens of the Union.

Section 15: Freedom to conduct a business

The freedom to conduct a business in accordance with Community law and national laws and practices is recognized.

Section 16: Right to property

1. Everyone has the right to own, use, dispose of and bequeath his or her lawfully acquired possessions. No one may be deprived of his or her possessions, except in the public interest and in the cases and under the conditions provided for by law, subject to fair compensation being paid in good time for their loss. The use of property may be regulated by law in so far as is necessary for the general interest.

2. Intellectual property shall be protected.

Section 17: Right to asylum

The right to asylum shall be guaranteed with due respect for the rules of the Geneva Convention of 28 July 1951 and the Protocol of 31 January 1967 relating to the status of refugees and in accordance with the Treaty establishing the European Community.

Section 18: Protection in the event of removal, expulsion or extradition

1. Collective expulsions are prohibited.

2. No one may be removed, expelled or extradited to a State where there is a serious risk that he or she would be subjected to the death penalty, torture or other inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

Section 19: Equality before the law

Everyone is equal before the law.

Section 20: Non-discrimination

1. Any discrimination based on any ground such as sex, race, color, ethnic or social origin, genetic features, language, religion or belief, political or any other opinion, membership of a national minority, property, birth, disability, age or sexual orientation shall be prohibited.

2. Discrimination on grounds of nationality shall be prohibited.

Section 21: Equality between men and women

Equality between men and women must be ensured in all areas, including employment, work and pay. The principle of equality shall not prevent the maintenance or adoption of measures providing for specific advantages in favor of the under-represented sex.

Section 22: The rights of the child

1. Children shall have the right to such protection and care as is necessary for their well-being. They may express their views freely. Such views shall be taken into consideration on matters which concern them in accordance with their age and maturity.

2. In all actions relating to children, whether taken by public authorities or private institutions, the child’s best interests must be a primary consideration.

3. Every child shall have the right to maintain on a regular basis a personal relationship and direct contact with both his or her parents, unless that is contrary to his or her interests.

Section 23: The rights of the elderly

The Union recognizes and respects the rights of the elderly to lead a life of dignity and independence and to participate in social and cultural life.

Section 24: Integration of persons with disabilities

The Union recognizes and respects the right of persons with disabilities to benefit from measures designed to ensure their independence, social and occupational integration and participation in the life of the community.

Section 25: Workers’ right to information and consultation within the undertaking

Workers or their representatives must, at the appropriate levels, be guaranteed information and consultation in good time in the cases and under the conditions provided for by Community law and national laws and practices.

Section 26: Right of collective bargaining and action

Workers and employers, or their respective organizations, have, in accordance with Community law and national laws and practices, the right to negotiate and conclude collective agreements at the appropriate levels and, in cases of conflicts of interest, to take collective action to defend their interests, including strike action.

Section 27: Right of access to placement services

Everyone has the right of access to a free placement service.

Section 28: Protection in the event of unjustified dismissal

Every worker has the right to protection against unjustified dismissal, in accordance with Community law and national laws and practices.

Section 29: Fair and just working conditions

1. Every worker has the right to working conditions which respect his or her health, safety and dignity.

2. Every worker has the right to limitation of maximum working hours, to daily and weekly rest periods and to an annual period of paid leave.

Section 30: Prohibition of child labor and protection of young people at work

The employment of children is prohibited. The minimum age of admission to employment may not be lower than the minimum school-leaving age, without prejudice to such rules as may be more favorable to young people and except for limited derogations.

Young people admitted to work must have working conditions appropriate to their age and be protected against economic exploitation and any work likely to harm their safety, health or physical, mental, moral or social development or to interfere with their education.

Section 31: Family and professional life

1. The family shall enjoy legal, economic and social protection.

2. To reconcile family and professional life, everyone shall have the right to protection from dismissal for a reason connected with maternity and the right to paid maternity leave and to parental leave following the birth or adoption of a child.

Section 32: Social security and social assistance

1. The Union recognizes and respects the entitlement to social security benefits and social services providing protection in cases such as maternity, illness, industrial accidents, dependency or old age, and in the case of loss of employment, in accordance with the rules laid down by Community law and national laws and practices.

2. Everyone residing and moving legally within the European Union is entitled to social security benefits and social advantages in accordance with Community law and national laws and practices.

3. In order to combat social exclusion and poverty, the Union recognizes and respects the right to social and housing assistance so as to ensure a decent existence for all those who lack sufficient resources, in accordance with the rules laid down by Community law and national laws and practices.

Section 33: Health care

Everyone has the right of access to preventive health care and the right to benefit from medical treatment under the conditions established by national laws and practices. A high level of human health protection shall be ensured in the definition and implementation of all Union policies and activities.

Section 34: Access to services of general economic interest

The Union recognizes and respects access to services of general economic interest as provided for in national laws and practices, in accordance with the Treaty establishing the European Community, in order to promote the social and territorial cohesion of the Union.

Section 35: Right to good administration

1. Every person has the right to have their affairs handled impartially, fairly and within a reasonable time by the institutions and bodies of the Union.

2. This right includes:

(a) the right of every person to be heard, before any individual measure which would affect him or her adversely is taken;

(b) the right of every person to have access to his or her file, while respecting the legitimate interests of confidentiality and of professional and business secrecy;

(c )the obligation of the administration to give reasons for its decisions.

3. Every person has the right to have the Community make good any damage caused by its institutions or by its servants in the performance of their duties, in accordance with the general principles common to the laws of the Member States.

4. Every person may write to the institutions of the Union in one of the languages of the Treaties and must have an answer in the same language.

Section 36: Right of access to documents

Any citizen of the Union, and any natural or legal person residing or having its registered office in a Member State, has a right of access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents.

Section 37: Ombudsman

Any citizen of the Union and any natural or legal person residing or having its registered office in a Member State has the right to refer to the Ombudsman of the Union cases of maladministration in the activities of the Community institutions or bodies, with the exception of the Court of Justice and the Court of First Instance acting in their judicial role.

Section 38: Right to petition

Any citizen of the Union and any natural or legal person residing or having its registered office in a Member State has the right to petition the European Parliament.

Section 39: Freedom of movement and of residence

1. Every citizen of the Union has the right to move and reside freely within the territory of the Member States.

2. Freedom of movement and residence may be granted, in accordance with the Treaty establishing the European Community, to nationals of third countries legally resident in the territory of a Member State.

Section 40: Right to an effective remedy and to a fair trial

1. No person shall be held in custody for more than 72 hours without being charged with a violation of law. All persons being held in custody have the right to petition a judge for release from custody who must issue an oral and written order within 24 hours of receiving the petition to release the accused from custody or to retain the accused in custody. If the order is to retain the accused in custody, an oral and written statement must be given to the accused that provides the reasons for the decision. The accused has the right to appeal a decision that retains them in custody in which they must specify reasons such as the discovery of information regarding the innocence of the accused, judicial bias, or judicial impropriety.

2. In the determination of his civil rights and obligations or of any criminal charge against him, everyone is entitled to a fair and public hearing within a reasonable time by an independent and impartial tribunal established by law. Judgment shall be pronounced publicly but the press and public may be excluded from all or part of the trial in the interests of morals, public order or national security in a dem­ocratic society, where the interests of juveniles or the protection of the private life of the parties so require, or to the extent strictly nec­essary in the opinion of the court in special circumstances where publicity would prejudice the interests of justice.

3. Everyone charged with a criminal offence shall be presumed in­ nocent until proved guilty according to law.

4. Everyone charged with a criminal offence has the following minimum rights:

(a) to be informed promptly, in a language which he under­ stands and in detail, of the nature and cause of the accusa­tion against him;

(b) to have adequate time and facilities for the preparation of his defense;

(c) to defend himself in person or through legal assistance of his own choosing or, if he has not sufficient means to pay for legal assistance, to be given it free when the interests of jus­tice so require;

(d) to examine or have examined witnesses against him and to obtain the attendance and examination of witnesses on his behalf under the same conditions as witnesses against him;

(e) to have the free assistance of an interpreter if he cannot understand or speak the language used in court.

5. No one shall be held guilty of any criminal offence on account of any act or omission which did not constitute a criminal offence under national or international law at the time when it was committed. Nor shall a heavier penalty be imposed than the one that was applicable at the time the criminal offence was committed.

6. This Article shall not prejudice the trial and punishment of any person for any act or omission which, at the time when it was com­ mitted, was criminal according to the general principles of law recognized by civilized nations.

Section 41: Presumption of innocence and right of defense

1. Everyone who has been charged shall be presumed innocent until proved guilty according to law.

2. Respect for the rights of the defense of anyone who has been charged shall be guaranteed.

Section 42: Principles of legality and proportionality of criminal offences and penalties

1. No one shall be held guilty of any criminal offence on account of any act or omission which did not constitute a criminal offence under national law or international law at the time when it was committed. Nor shall a heavier penalty be imposed than that which was applicable at the time the criminal offence was committed. If, subsequent to the commission of a criminal offence, the law provides for a lighter penalty, that penalty shall be applicable.

2. This Article shall not prejudice the trial and punishment of any person for any act or omission which, at the time when it was committed, was criminal according to the general principles recognized by the community of nations.

3. The severity of penalties must not be disproportionate to the criminal offense.

Section 43: Right not to be tried or punished twice in criminal proceedings for the same criminal offense

No one shall be liable to be tried or punished again in criminal proceedings for an offence for which he or she has already been finally acquitted or convicted within the Union in accordance with the law.

Article II Rights of Non-Citizens

The rights of non-citizens are the same as those of citizens with the following exceptions:

1. Non-citizens may enter the Union provided that entry is in accordance with procedures established by law.

2. Non-citizens may only reside in the Union for a period of time specified by law.

3. Non-citizens may not hold any government position of employment

4. Non-citizens may apply for resident status and citizenship as specified by law.

5. Non-citizens may by employed in accordance with restrictions specified by law.

6. Non-citizens may acquire property and businesses in accordance with restrictions specified by law.

7. Non-citizens may not enter into marriage unless it is to a citizen of the Union in accordance with restrictions specified by law.

8. Non-citizens may adopt children from the Union in accordance with restrictions specified by law.

Article III Identification of Citizens of The European Union

Section 1. The identification of Citizens of the European Union shall initially be the responsibility of each member state who shall assign to each of its citizens a European Union unique identification number that shall be generated by a central repository. The process of assigning European Union identifications may be assumed by the federal government in accordance with law to be established.

Section 2. Standardized documents shall be created for issuance to citizens of the European Union such as birth certificates and passport certificates.

Section 3. Each member state shall assume the cost of assigning European Union identification numbers to its citizens and identification documents.

Section 4. For European Union citizens qualified and willing to serve in the federal government, contact information shall be collected and associated with the citizen’s European Union identification number.