

Foreword

The University of Deusto's Human Rights Institute in Bilbao is releasing the twelfth issue of its Humanitarian Action and Human Rights Yearbook. The articles published in this issue intend to prompt critical reflexion and exchange of practices, experiences and research in the field of Humanitarian Action and Human Rights. The Yearbook looks to offer an opportunity to generate critical thinking that is useful not only for the academic world but also for the different Spanish and international social agents that work in these areas. The Yearbook fosters the spirit of applying knowledge that can go beyond academics and contribute to building a more just and equal society.

The twelfth issue of the Yearbook contains several types of contributions (from different disciplines and case studies) which, nevertheless, have one point in common: the socio-cultural diversity that contemporary society is distinctive for. Based on this premise and its acknowledgement as a value, several questions are raised. Thus, the first two articles are presented from a legal perspective. They offer a review of Spanish and international legislation concerning acknowledgement and guarantee of socio-cultural diversity. The first one offers an overview while the second discusses a very specific case: the burka.

Following these contributions is a series of articles that take a more general approach to socio-cultural diversity and its legal aspects. They take different places and experiences as their starting points to focus on the struggles and processes of Latin American indigenous peoples. These articles are the result of the Fifth Multidisciplinary Meeting on Indigenous Peoples held at the University of Deusto last May under the title of «Indigenous Mobility, Rights and Identities». Different legal, identity, political, economic and cultural issues are approached from a multidisciplinary view that ultimately takes us back to socio-cultural diversity, its acknowledgement and management within the framework of human rights, and recognition of indigenous subjects as citizens, both as a group and individually.

As in previous issues, the Yearbook continues to fulfil the requirements to form part of the databases of internationally recognised scientific jour-

nals. And, as in previous issues, we are looking ahead to the open call for original articles to be published in our next Yearbook, as you can see in the section on style rules. We encourage you to send original articles to be published and to share this possibility to disseminate knowledge. The Yearbook also includes an overview of the key activities held by the Institute during the last academic year.

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