

Chapter 8: Human Rights Worksheet

8.1 Case Study: Child Workers in Bolivia

- In your own words, briefly summarize important facts about the case. Include important actors and events.
- What are the important legal and political questions raised by this case?

8.2 Creating Human Rights

Origins of Human Rights

- What is the difference between universalism and relativism? Provide 2—3 examples that illustrate this difference.
- How have imperialism and political power shaped various components of the modern human rights system?

Multilateral Human Rights

- What are the key events and documents that shape multilateral human rights law?
- What institutions oversee this area of international law?

Regional Human Rights

- What are the key events and documents that shape regional human rights law?
- What institutions oversee this area of international law?

8.3 Physical Integrity Rights

Genocide and Ethnic Cleansing

- What are the elements of the definition of genocide?

- Provide 2—3 examples of severe human rights violations that qualify as genocide. Provide 2—3 examples of severe human rights violations that do not qualify as genocide.
- How does genocide relate to the concept of “responsibility to protect”?
- What is ethnic cleansing?
- Provide 2—3 examples of ethnic cleansing.

Torture

- What criteria are included in the Convention Against Torture?
- What obligations do states have under the Convention Against Torture? How do these obligations connect to the topics of refoulement, amnesties, and universal jurisdiction?
- How can we understand the widespread use of torture, despite its broad condemnation?

Human Trafficking

- What is human trafficking?
- What obstacles make it difficult to prevent and punish human trafficking?
- How has scorecard diplomacy influenced human trafficking?

8.4 Civil and Political Rights

Expression, Assembly, and Association

- What are the rights to freedom, assembly, and association?
- What competing values sometimes cause states to restrict these rights?
- Provide examples in which states have struggled to balance expression/assembly/association against competing values.

Religion

- How does international law define “religion”?
- How broad is the right to manifest religious beliefs?
- Provide examples in which states have struggled to balance religion against competing values.

Criminal Justice

- What are the major criminal justice protections under international human rights law?

- Provide examples in which states arguably fail to provide these protections.
- Describe the debate over the legality of the death penalty.

8.5 Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights

Labor

- What are the major labor protections under international human rights law?
- What institutions oversee these protections?

Economic and Social Assistance

- What are the major economic and social assistance obligations under international human rights law?
- What institutions oversee these obligations?

Cultural Rights and Marginalized Groups

- What are cultural rights?
- What marginalized groups have special protection under international human rights laws?
- What institutions oversee various rights and protections?

8.6 Case Study Revisited: Do Children Have a Right to (be Protected from) Work?

- How do the topics discussed in this chapter help you to understand this case?
- How would *you* answer the legal and political questions that are raised by this case?¹

¹ Note: Some of these questions may require that you express an opinion or make a value judgment. There is no inherently correct or incorrect opinion/value, but you should be able to support your answer (and argue against alternative opinions/values) using basic facts and logic.