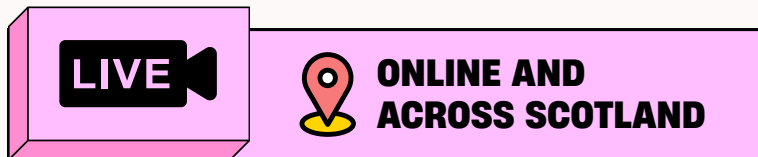


SCOTLAND'S HUMAN RIGHTS FESTIVAL

PROGRAMME 2026



[@SCOTLANDHUMANRIGHTSFESTIVAL](https://twitter.com/SCOTLANDHUMANRIGHTSFESTIVAL)

**SCOTLAND'S FIRST
HUMAN RIGHTS FESTIVAL**

9-13 DEC '26

SCOTLAND'S HUMAN RIGHTS FESTIVAL

CELEBRATING HUMAN RIGHTS FOR ALL

Scotland's Human Rights Festival 2026 will be the first national, multi-day festival dedicated to celebrating, explaining and strengthening support for human rights across the country. Taking place from Wednesday 9 to Sunday 13 December 2026, the festival is Scotland-wide, with a mix of online, hybrid and in-person events.

Human rights are often framed as legal language, political argument or something that only applies to other people. Scotland's Human Rights Festival exists to close that gap.

The festival has a clear purpose: **to make human rights more visible, more accessible and more relevant**. We are bringing human rights out of policy papers and into stages, streets, screens and conversations across Scotland.

Some events will inform. Some will challenge. Some will entertain.

Led by [Human Rights Consortium Scotland](#) and in collaboration with core partners [Art27 Scotland](#) and [Libereco - Partnership for Human Rights](#).

Follow the festival on [instagram](#).



HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT

Please donate to keep the festival going

Human Rights Consortium Scotland and our partners do not receive any regular funding to coordinate and host Scotland's Human Rights Festival. We also try to keep entry free of charge for as many events as possible - just a small number are charged for and will always feature concession or tiered pricing.

We also want the festival to become a regular fixture in Scotland's cultural calendar.

To make all of this happen we need your support – **every donation helps, no matter how small.**

You can donate by visiting www.hrcscotland.org.



FESTIVAL SPONSORS

Scotland's Human Rights Festival 2026 is made possible with support from:



ALBA | CHRUTHACHAIL

LOTTERY FUNDED



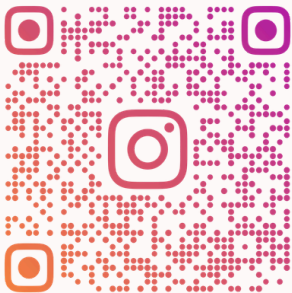
ALLIANCE
HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE
ALLIANCE SCOTLAND
people at the centre



THE NATIONAL



Law Society
of Scotland



SCOTLANDHUMANRIGHTSFESTIVAL

**Follow the
Festival on
Instagram**



WORLD CARE
FOUNDATION



MULTI DAY

MORAY RAPE CRISIS

Freedom, Dignity and Justice: Supporting Survivors
of Sexual Violence in Moray

Wednesday 9th - Friday 11th

Exhibition



Elgin

ART IN HEALTHCARE

Right To Art: Expressing Power Within

Wednesday 9th - Sunday 13th

Exhibition / Workshop



Hybrid

SEHAM & NAJMA

From Waiting to Belonging: Unwritten Stories of
Migration

Wednesday 9th - Sunday 13th

Exhibition



Glasgow

DUNDEE STUDENTS FOR SCHOLARS AT RISK

Exhibition on Academic Freedom

Wednesday 9th - Sunday 13th

Exhibition



Dundee

SOHTIS

Creative witnessing: in my shoes, on my path
Thursday 10th - Friday 11th

Creative Workshop

Edinburgh

UTOPIA BARCELONA

Eucaristía by Brots Theatre Company.
Saturday 12th - Sunday 13th

Theatre

Edinburgh



SCOTLAND'S HUMAN RIGHTS FESTIVAL



WEDNESDAY

CEMVO

Stories of Connections: Human Rights, Anti-Racism and Climate Justice

11:00 - 14:00

Interactive Workshop



Glasgow

**DISABILITY
EQUALITY
SCOTLAND**

Realising disabled people's rights to participation in cultural life

12:00 - 13:00

Webinar



Online

**OUTSIDE THE
BOX / AGE
SCOTLAND /
SOPA**

Championing Older People's Rights in Scotland

12:00 - 13:00

Webinar



Online

**THE
DONALDSON
TRUST**

Dignity, Justice and Neurodivergence -
Changing the Narrative

12:30 - 13:30

Webinar



Online

THE ALLIANCE

Putting human rights on the map: understanding
our rights and health

13:00 - 15:00

Creative Workshop



Edinburgh

THRE

Pulling in the Same Direction: Using Human
Rights to Strengthen the Third Sector

14:00 - 16:00

Workshop



Glasgow

DISABILITY EQUALITY SCOTLAND

What is it like to live in Scotland as a disabled
person?

14:00 - 15:00

Webinar



Online

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

Workshop 1: Understanding Human Rights

16:00 - 18:00

Workshop



Aberdeen

IMAGINATE

Children's Rights and The Performing Arts

16:00 - 18:00

Group Discussion



Edinburgh

**INTERCULTURAL
YOUTH
SCOTLAND**

Every Name a Narrative, Every Youth a Right
17:00 - 20:00

Film / Roundtable / Dinner / Music



Edinburgh

**UNIVERSITY OF
STIRLING /
SCOTTISH
YOUTH
PARLIAMENT**

First Word on Human Rights: Young People's
Lives Online
18:00 - 19:30

Workshop / Participatory Discussion



Online

**ART27
SCOTLAND**

The Gazan Women
20:00 - 22:00

Theatre



Edinburgh



SCOTLAND'S HUMAN RIGHTS FESTIVAL



THURSDAY INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS DAY

UNIVERSITY OF STIRLING

Peace, Conflict and the Future of Human Rights: A
Conversation between Academics, Advocates and Artists
10:00 - 16:00

Conference / Panel Discussion

 Stirling /
Online

TOGETHER SCOTLAND

Getting children's rights right: Proactively
implementing children's rights from the outset
10:00 - 11:30

Webinar

 Online

SOCIALUDO / ISPA

Inside the System: Playing Our Way to Housing as a
Human Right
10:30 - 12:30

Serious Game / Discussion

 Edinburgh

SEE ME

Human Rights in Practice: Freedom, Dignity and
Justice in Mental Health Care
11:00 - 12:15

Interactive Session

 Online

**CHILDREN'S
HEALTH
SCOTLAND**

**WE ARE THE HEALTH RIGHTS DEFENDERS: A
Youth-Led Film Screening**

11:00 - 12:00

Film Screening



Online

BEMIS

**RIGHTS IN COLOUR: Voices, Art and Human Rights
in Scotland**

11:00 - 13:00

Exhibition / Music / Poetry



Glasgow

**DISABILITY
EQUALITY
SCOTLAND**

**Disabled people's Access Panels and social justice;
making a grassroots difference**

13:00 - 14:00

Webinar



Online

IRISS

**Beyond the Buzzword: Rights Frameworks as
Relational Practice**

13:00 - 14:00

Workshop



Online

**LUKE
PADFIELD**

**'Every Last Scrap of Courage: A mock trial on the
Right to Adequate Clothing**

13:00 - 15:00

Theatre / Mock Trial



Edinburgh

MAKING RIGHTS REAL

Shifting the Dial on structural racism against Scottish
Gypsy Travellers: Making our Podcast
13:00 - 13:40

Workshop / Presentatation



Online

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

Workshop 2: Lived Experience Event
16:00 - 18:00

Workshop



Aberdeen

STUDENTS' FEDERATION OF INDIA UK

Azaadi ki Awaaz: Film Screening and Discussion
Event
17:00 onwards

Film Screening / Discussion



Edinburgh

MARYHILL INTEGRATION NETWORK VOICES

MIN Voices present: Paper Human Rights
17:00 - 19:00

Interactive Art / Poetry



Glasgow

EQUATE

Who Builds the Future? Women, AI, and Digital
Justice
18:00 - 20:30

Film Screening / Discussion



Edinburgh

MEND

**Beyond Scottish Exceptionalism: Does Scotland
Have an Islamophobia Problem?**

18:00 - 19:30

Panel Discussion



Edinburgh

**SPIJI /
NUJ**

**Holding Power to Account: Public Interest
Journalism and Human Rights**

19:00 - 21:00

Film Screening / Discussion



Edinburgh



NUJ
NATIONAL UNION
OF
JOURNALISTS

SCOTLAND'S HUMAN RIGHTS FESTIVAL



FRIDAY

MULTI CULTURAL FAMILY BASE

Seen and Heard: Children and Human Rights in a Changing World

10:00 - 16:00

Workshop



Edinburgh

SCOTTISH FAIR TRADE

Who made this? Human Rights Behind Everyday Good

12:30 - 14:00

Panel Discussion



Edinburgh

INCLUSION SCOTLAND

A Movement Still In Motion – Disabled People's Rights in Action

14:00

Film Screening / Discussion



Glasgow

CHARLIE MAC MINDFULNESS

When the going gets tough! Mindfulness-based meditation wellbeing session

15:00 - 16:15

Meditation / Wellbeing Session



Online

**ABERDEEN
CITY
COUNCIL**

**Workshop 3: Women Only Lived Experience
Event**

16:00 - 18:00

Workshop



Aberdeen

**WORKER
SUPPORT
CENTRE**

Threads and Tales

16:00 - 18:30

Community Art / Storytelling / Music



Perth

DOVIRA

**The Architecture of Persecution: Freedom, Dignity,
and the Right to Belong**

18:00

Musical Theatre



Glasgow

**UNIVERSITY
OF
STRATHCLYDE**

Rights at the Musicals

19:00 (doors at 18:30)

Cabaret



Glasgow

SCOTLAND'S HUMAN RIGHTS FESTIVAL



SATURDAY

**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**

WRITE FOR RIGHTS

10:00 - 17:00

Writing Workshop

 **Glasgow**

**EXPRESSING
SCOTLAND**

Cultural Rights Ceilidh

12:30 - 16:30

Discussion / Music / Storytelling

 **Edinburgh**

**ABERDEEN
CITY
COUNCIL**

Workshop 4: Family Fun Session

13:00 - 15:00

Children / Family Workshop

 **Aberdeen**

**ART OF
BIRDIE
STUDIO /
UBELONG**

The Shape of Dignity: Art, Conversation & Open Mic

13:00 - 17:30

Art / Conversation / Open Mic

 **Glasgow**

**ASHLIN
STOVER**

Why Human Rights? Exploring Careers, Pathways,
and Purpose

15:00

Webinar



Online

**MARYHILL
INTEGRATION
NETWORK /
HELEN
MCCRORIE**

This Home, This Voice Film Screening

17:30 - 20:00

Film Screening



Glasgow

**DR NELLY
BEN
HAYOUN-
STÉPANIAN**

OUTER SPACE IS QUEER: Postcolonial Futures,
Resistance and Human Rights Beyond Earth

19:30 - 21:00

Film Screening / Talk / Discussion



Edinburgh

**ART27
SCOTLAND
/ RAJPOT**

Erasure and Resilience: Cultural Rights and Nackens,
Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Voices in the Arts
Time TBC

Poetry / Music / Discussion



Edinburgh

SCOTLAND'S
HUMAN
RIGHTS
FESTIVAL



SUNDAY

**JEROME
JOSEPH**

The Council of Europe: A Sales Pitch

12:15 - 13:15

Presentation



Online

**HUMAN
RIGHTS
CONSORTIUM
SCOTLAND**

Stand Up Comedy with headliner Susie
McCabe

16:00 - 18:00

Stand up Comedy



Glasgow

**INTERNATIONAL
HUMAN RIGHTS
DESK**

The Architecture of Persecution: Freedom,
Dignity, and the Right to Belong

Time TBC

Film / Roundtable / Dinner / Music



Glasgow



ONLINE



Disability
Equality
Scotland

**Realising disabled people's rights to
participation in cultural life**
Disability Equality Scotland

Webinar



Online

Wednesday 9th December, 12:00 - 13:00

Accessibility is not just about physical spaces. Accessible communication is key to inclusion and participation. The team at Disability Equality Scotland are exploring how accessible and inclusive communication can support participation in arts and culture. At this online event, we will showcase some examples from the UK and other countries that demonstrate how the right to full participation in cultural life can be enabled. These examples include accessible fiction, accessible exhibition guides, and accessible documents about art and artists.

Registration: Please register [here](#).

art in
healthcare

Right To Art: Expressing Power Within *Art In Healthcare*

Exhibition / Workshop

 **Hybrid**

Wednesday 9th to Sunday 13th December, 10:00 - 16:00

Access to creative expression is not a privilege—it is a fundamental human right. Right To Art: Expressing The Power Within brings together political and contemporary artworks from the Art in Healthcare (AiH) collection alongside bold creations by Room For Art (RFA) participants and local community members. AiH's collection features contemporary and modern artworks from established artists living and working in Scotland, including original drawings, paintings, photography and print.

Works that would normally be experienced in museum and galleries across the country, are placed in health and community social care spaces nationwide, embedding artwork in the everyday and in public spaces. Accompanying the exhibition of works will be an artist led workshop empowering people to utilise and embrace the Taking Creative Care toolkit that AiH have collaborated to develop with those living with long term health conditions, artists and healthcare workers.

Built upon the core values of freedom, dignity, equality, and justice, this exhibition and workshop explores the vital connection between art, mental health, and social change. From honouring the full ecosystem of healthcare workers to confronting historic disparities in women's health, the showcase highlights art as a political tool for recovery, advocacy, and radical self-care.

Registration: To sign up for the workshop (limited places available) or for more info please email – ruby@artinhealthcare.org.uk



Championing Older People's Rights in Scotland Outside The Box / Age Scotland / SOPA Webinar

Online

Wednesday 9th December, 12:00 - 13:00

Older people make up a quarter of Scotland's population, set to rise in the next 20 years. 1 in 8 live in poverty, and almost half of over 50s face loneliness and social isolation. Older people's rights are often overlooked, yet we lack a dedicated minister or commissioner in the Scottish Parliament. What we do have is a network of Older People's Champions in 23 local authorities amplifying older people's voices in decision-making. Age Scotland and the Scottish Older People's Assembly (SOPA) are campaigning for all local authorities to appoint an Older People's Champion. This interactive webinar will aim to raise the profile of Older People's Champions in the run up to the 2027 Scottish council elections. Speakers from the Champions' Network, Age Scotland and SOPA will outline how to better support older people's rights through Champions. Delivered by Outside the Box, it will include a Q&A and follow-up resource.

Registration: Please register [here](#).





Dignity, Justice and Neurodivergence - Changing the Narrative
The Donaldson Trust

Webinar

 **Online**

Wednesday 9th December, 12:30 - 13:30

Justice for neurodivergent people is rooted in dignity, belonging, and equitable participation. By recognising and removing systemic barriers, and valuing neurodivergent perspectives and experiences, we can create more inclusive environments where people are respected, empowered, and able to thrive. Through discussion of inclusive and universal design principles, we will consider how organisations and communities can create environments where more people can participate, contribute, and thrive.

We will explore:

- Neurodiversity through the lens of dignity and justice, contrasting traditional pathology-based approaches with the social model
- How barriers are often created by systems, processes, and assumptions
- The importance of seeing the person beyond labels, recognising the strengths, perspectives, rights, and expertise that neurodivergent people bring; and the value of lived experience
- How changing the narrative from deficit to difference can transform expectations, experiences, and outcomes.

Registration: Please register [here](#).



Disability
Equality
Scotland

"What is it like to live in Scotland as a disabled person?"

Disability Equality Scotland

Webinar

 Online

Wednesday 9th December, 14:00 - 15:00

The current cost-of-living crisis for disabled people isn't just a societal inconvenience – it breaches their human rights

Internationally, disabled people's human rights are protected within a raft of treaties like CRPD and ICESCR. These treaties have been signed by the UK so should be realised in practice. Also, disabled people should be legally protected from discrimination under the Equality Act 2010, whether at work, in education, as a consumer, when using public services, when buying or renting property.

This event will present research carried out by Disability Equality Scotland over the last two years on the cost-of-living crisis for disabled people in Scotland. Participants will hear about the realities facing disabled people and discuss the implications for their human rights.

Please note: Participants require to pre-register by **Monday 23 November**, to ensure provision of BSL/captioning (if required)

Registration: Please register [here](#).

UNIVERSITY of
STIRLING



First Word on Human Rights: Young People's Lives Online

University of Stirling / Scottish Youth Parliament

Workshop / Participatory Discussion



Online

Wednesday 9th December, 18:00 - 19:30

What do young people want adults to understand about their lives online – and what happens when decisions affecting their lives are made without them?

First Word on Human Rights will put young people's perspectives at the centre of a timely conversation about human rights in digital spaces. Developed in partnership between the University of Stirling and the Scottish Youth Parliament, the event will be shaped and led by young people, drawing on issues that matter to them in their online lives.

Through short contributions and interactive discussion, young people will explore what they want adults and decision-makers to understand about issues including participation in decision-making and democratic spaces, access to information and opportunities, connection, education, wellbeing, protection and agency.

The event will also introduce the idea of evolving capacities: moving away from simple assumptions about what children and young people can or cannot do at particular ages, and asking instead what support adults and institutions should provide to enable children and young people to exercise their rights safely and meaningfully.

Registration: Please register [here](#).



Getting children's rights right: Proactively implementing children's rights from the outset *Together Scotland*

Webinar

 Online

Thursday 10th December, 10:00 - 11:30

Join Together (Scottish Alliance for Children's Rights) for the second session of our 2026/2027 webinar series, designed to support those working with and for children to embed children's rights in their practice.

In this webinar we will explore a range of children's rights tools, promoted by the UNCRC, that help ensure children's rights are considered from the outset. These include Child Rights Impact Assessments and child rights budgeting, which support informed decision-making and help ensure children have the resources and opportunities they need to grow up with dignity. In addition to ensuring child-friendly monitoring and complaint mechanisms which embed justice within services from the start.

The webinar will focus on implementation in Scotland but will also explore international case studies and perspectives, creating an opportunity to broaden Scotland's learning of successful children's human rights implementation.

Registration: Please register [here](#).



Human Rights in Practice: Freedom, Dignity and Justice in Mental Health Care

See Me

Interactive Session



Online

Thursday 10th December, 11:00 - 12:15

What do the principles of freedom, dignity, and justice actually look and feel like when we access mental healthcare? This interactive session explores how services can support us to access and receive equitable care without fear of stigma, discrimination or judgement.

Bringing together Scotland's national service reform priorities of right-based, person-centred, recovery-focused, trauma-responsive, and intersectional practice, we'll explore the practical actions service leaders and practitioners can take to reduce mental health stigma and discrimination.

- How leadership and governance can create the conditions for human rights to be realised.
- How cultures of care can support dignity, equity, and inclusion.
- How policies and pathways can provide fair and accessible care.
- The role different people play to realise rights-based practice.

This session will invite participants to move beyond human rights as legislation and policy towards something that people can experience in mental health services.

Registration: Please register [here](#).



Children's
Health Scotland

WE ARE THE HEALTH RIGHTS DEFENDERS: A Youth-Led Film Screening *Children's Health Scotland*

Film Screening



Online

Thursday 10th December, 11:00 - 12:00

Originally premiered at Children's Health Scotland's My Health, My Rights Conference, We Are the Health Rights Defenders is a powerful youth-led film created through our Health Rights Defenders programme in partnership with Media Education. It shares the experiences, perspectives and hopes of children and young people with long-term health conditions, highlighting why children's health rights matter and how young people are helping to shape positive change across Scotland. Supported by The National Lottery Community Fund.

Registration: Please register [here](#).



Disability
Equality
Scotland

**Disabled people's Access Panels and social
justice; making a grassroots difference**
Disability Equality Scotland

Webinar

 **Online**

Thursday 10th December, 13:00 - 14:00

Access to services is a fundamental human right and an essential element of the well-known 'AAAQ' element of a human rights based approach (that services are available, accessible, acceptable, and of good quality). However, as we know, too many disabled people are still denied full enjoyment of this right. This event will showcase the work of Access Panels. Unique to Scotland, these are groups of disabled people who volunteer their time and work together to improve accessibility and wider social inclusion in their local communities. At our event, participants will hear direct from Access Panels about action they have taken that has led to real, positive change for disabled people in their communities.

Registration: Please register [here](#).



Beyond the Buzzword: Rights Frameworks as Relational Practice

Iriss

Workshop

 Online

Thursday 10th December, 13:00 - 14:00

Rights-based practice gets spoken about in every meeting now, for many it's become a phrase to nod along to rather than something we actually do.

Frameworks like the UNCRC and the ECHR can feel like they belong in policy documents and training slides, but we believe they should inhabit any relationship between people. Our session will support practitioners in social work, social care and beyond to use rights frameworks as relational tools, not just legal ones.

Drawing on restorative approaches and lived experience, you will leave able to use at least one framework as a practical, dignity-based tool in your everyday work. In true Iriss style this online session will be engaging and practical - bring your lunch! Led by Davie Donaldson and Dr Emily Whyte.

Registration: Please register [here](#).

MAKING
RIGHTS
REAL

Shifting the Dial on structural racism against Scottish
Gypsy Travellers: Making our Podcast
Making Rights Real

Workshop / Presentation

Online

Thursday 10th December, 13:00 - 13:40

Hear about our podcast, which is being released in January 2027, from members of the Shifting the Dial research project and Making Rights Real. Why did we need to do a podcast about racism and discrimination towards Travellers? What we are learning, and how have we used storytelling and interviews to research with our community? Call in during your lunch hour and meet the researchers, community organisers and podcast editor direct from their caravans.

Registration: Please register [here](#).



charlie mcmillan
Mindfulness

When the going gets tough! Mindfulness-based meditation wellbeing session

Charlie McMillan Mindfulness

Meditation / Wellbeing Session

 Online

Friday 11th December, 15:00 - 16:15

Mindfulness-based meditation is a great way to find balance and peace and step away from the busyness that surrounds us on a day-to-day basis. Meditation can help manage stress and is practiced by millions of people worldwide as a way to enhance their wellbeing. This session is free to join and is suitable for those who practice regularly or people who have never practiced before but are interested in finding out more. Charlie has been practicing mindfulness-based meditation for 10 years and will lead 3 practices during the session. Everyone is welcome.

Registration: Please email charliemac.mindfulness@outlook.com to register.



JAMES MADISON
COLLEGE

Why Human Rights? Exploring Careers, Pathways, and Purpose

Ashlin Stover

Webinar



Online

Saturday 12th December, 15:00

This online presentation will explore why human rights matter, the diverse pathways into human rights work, and how young people can begin building careers with purpose. Drawing on my experiences as a university student pursuing a career in international human rights, I will discuss how research, service, and fieldwork have shaped my path, including my work related to the International Criminal Court through Michigan State University's Human Rights Data Science Lab and my international experiences as an Obama-Chesky Voyager Scholar for Public Service. The webinar will also include students from the University of Washington Bothell's Washington, D.C.-based seminar on careers in human rights. Professor Camille Walsh, Associate Professor of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences at UW Bothell, will share her work and career pathway, while students will discuss their own experiences and interests in human rights. The presentation will conclude with a Q&A.

Registration: Please email stoveras@msu.edu to register.

**JEROME
JOSEPH**

The Council of Europe: A Sales Pitch
Jerome Joseph

Presentation

 **Online**

Sunday 13th December, 12:15 - 13:15

For over seventy years, the United Kingdom has been a member of Europe's most important human rights organisation, the Council of Europe. Throughout these seven decades, the Council of Europe has profoundly changed the everyday lives of the Scottish people, from ending corporal punishment to improving the rights of domestic violence victims, victims of human trafficking and the LGBTQ community.

However, despite the fantastic work it does, the Council of Europe faces a communications problem. It receives far less attention than other organisations like the UN or the EU and when it is in the news, it is often misconstrued or deliberately misrepresented.

In this interactive webinar, we will celebrate and raise awareness of the ways in which the CoE has changed British society for the better. We will also invite attendees to think of ways of raising the profile of this fundamental organisation and of changing the narrative around human rights in general.

Registration: Please register [here](#).





EDINBURGH



Putting human rights on the map: understanding
our rights and health
The ALLIANCE
Creative Workshop



Quaker Meeting House,
7 Victoria Terrace,
Edinburgh, EH1 2JL

Wednesday 9th December, 13:00 - 15:00

This creative and engaging session is designed to encourage people to think about how we can relate human rights to our own everyday experiences. We'll hear from two speakers who will help set the scene and highlight how understanding our rights helps us to identify if they are not being met and how we can claim and defend them. The session will explore the right to health and how a Human Rights Bill could be transformative.

Together we'll spend the second part of the session working to identify and map out the human rights we interact with daily, using different personas that offer different types of perspectives and help us to understand how rights intersect. Finally, we will consider the practical actions that people can take to help them understand their rights.

Registration: Please register [here](#).



Imagine

Children's Rights and The Performing Arts
Imagine

Group Discussion

 Lyceum Theatre,
Wydnam Bar,
30B Grindlay St,
Edinburgh

Wednesday 9th December, 16:00 - 18:00

Calling performance makers and performing artists practitioners for young audiences: warm up with us (and a hot drink of your choosing*) for an informal conversation about the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and what it really means for your creative practice.

Join us in a no pressure, cosy and friendly space to swap ideas with fellow practitioners over a tasty treat in mug. Facilitated by Imagine's Children's Rights and Participation Manager, they'll guide the conversation and give you the inside scoop on our new project, Children as Dramaturgs.

Stick around at the end for a bit of networking, catching-up, and general merriment with old friends and new faces.

Winter's cold. This session won't be.

*Hot drinks and sweet nibbles will be provided.

Registration: Please email your name to
applications@imagine.org.uk to register.



Every Name a Narrative, Every Youth a Right *Intercultural Youth Scotland*

Film / Roundtable / Dinner / Music



Custom Lane,
1 Customs Wharf,
Leith, Edinburgh,
EH6 6AL

Wednesday 9th December, 17:00 - 20:00

Join us for dinner and a discussion on young people's human rights.

Every Name a Narrative, Every Youth a Right

Join us in person for an inspiring event where youth voices take center stage as part of the Human Rights Festival. We're diving deep into the stories that shape identities and looking at how we get it right for children and young people from ethnically diverse communities.

Come join us for an eventful evening!

Registration: Please register [here](#).



The Gazan Women
Art27 Scotland

Theatre

 **Traverse Theatre**
(Traverse 1),
10 Cambridge St,
Edinburgh, EH1 2ED

Wednesday 9th December, 20:00 - 22:00

The Gazan Women is a powerful play drawn from real-life testimonies of people living in Gaza. The stories told reflect the personal and complex realities of surviving a genocide with dignity.

Based on The Suppliant Women, an ancient Greek play by Aeschylus known for the first written use of the word 'democracy', the script intertwines the lived experiences of Gazans through interviews conducted by Art27 Scotland. In this piece of theatre, we are creating a window into life in Gaza and posing the urgent moral questions we, as an audience, must wrestle with.

From our audiences:

"Life changing performances... a once in a lifetime show."

"Powerful beyond anything I have heard or experienced and the triumphant, defiant exuberant finish fills me with hope."

"The best use of theatre I have experienced in a long time... This show should be shown all over the world. THANK YOU."

This performance is generously sponsored by the World Care Foundation.

<https://www.worldcarefoundation.org/>

Registration: Please register [here](#).



Survivors of Human Trafficking in Scotland

Creative witnessing: in my shoes, on my path SOHTIS

Creative Workshop

121 George St
Edinburgh,
EH2 4YN (ROOM 8)

Thursday 10th - Friday 11th December, 10:00 - 16:00

Human trafficking deprives people of their freedom and dignity. Rebuilding a life after trafficking takes time, compassionate support, and a community stands alongside survivors.

This December, join us at SOHTIS for a day of creative reflection as part of Scotland's first Human Rights Festival. Together, we can end human trafficking in Scotland.

Through anonymised testimonies and simple collective activities, visitors are invited to pause, reflect, and leave a small message of hope for survivors rebuilding their lives. No art skills needed, just a few minutes and an open mind.

Creativity is a human right too, and trauma-informed art therapy interventions have real power in recovery. A qualified art therapist will be present throughout the day.

Come and learn about the impact of human trafficking in Scotland, see the tree grow through the day, and find out how SOHTIS's Sunrise service supports survivors, and how you can too.

Sign up is not compulsory, but we would love to know if you are planning to come along! Please sign up via the link below.

Registration: Please register [here](#).



Inside the System: Playing Our Way to Housing as a Human Right *Socialludo / ISPA*

Interactive Session



EdinTrain,
16 St Mary's St,
Edinburgh
EH1 1SU

Thursday 10th December, 10:30 - 12:30

Step inside the systems that decide who gets housed, who gets heard, and who falls through the gaps. This fast-paced, hands-on session utilises Socialludo's Pathways Paradox serious game being used to train housing, health, social care, police, third sector and education professionals Scotland-wide for the new Ask&Act statutory duties coming into play next year for all services. This will be an experience that surfaces the challenges, opportunities, and barriers within housing and support systems, and brings together diverse perspectives on what it takes to future-proof our homes and communities.

Developed by Socialludo in collaboration with Social Bite, Pathways Paradox is used across the UK by housing associations, health and social care partnerships, local authorities, and third-sector organisations to spark honest conversation and drive systemic change. Delivered in partnership with the University of Stirling's ISPA project, the session opens up frank discussion of freedom, dignity, and justice in housing. Expect lively debate, a little competition, creative problem-solving, and yes, fun: serious games are engaging even while tackling serious issues.

Registration: Please register [here](#).



LUKE PADFIELD

'Every Last Scrap of Courage: A mock trial on the Right to Adequate Clothing

Luke Padfield

Theatre / Mock Trial



Edinburgh Central
Youth Hostel, Leith
Walk, EH7 4AL

Thursday 10th December, 13:00 - 15:00

The event will focus on the recently incorporated UNCRC, which establishes a set of rights for children under the 18 within the context of devolution. Within that context, the right to adequate clothing is included, as necessary component of children's rights, maintaining the dignity of the child, and contributing towards the purpose of education (i.e. the fulfilment of the child's full potential). The event will consider the meaning and role of the right to adequate clothing in relation to achieving the purpose of education, as set out in legislation; and talk about the implications for that potential in the absence of legal protections beyond the age of 18.

Registration: Details for registration TBC.





Azaadi ki Awaaz: Film Screening and Discussion Event

Students' Federation of India UK

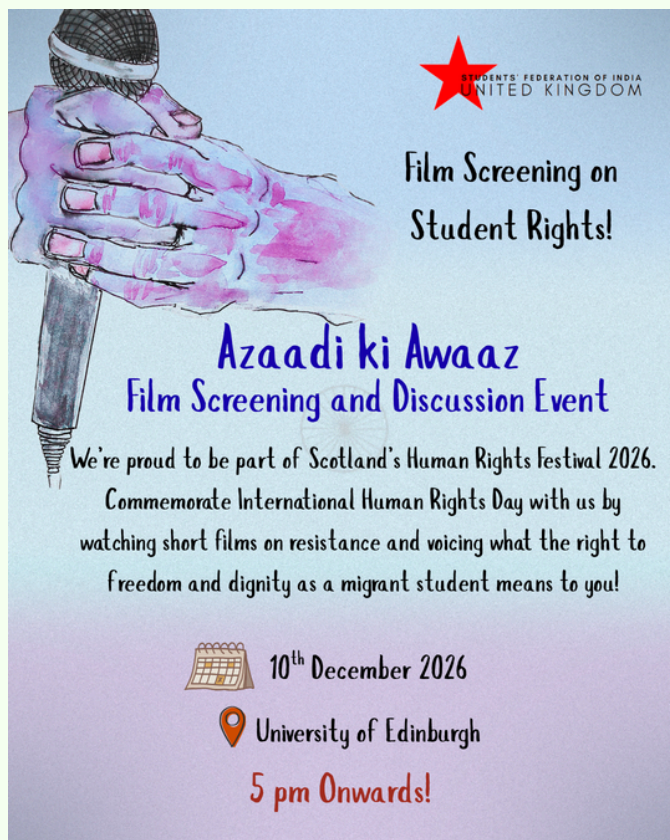
Film Screening / Discussion

 University of Edinburgh

Thursday 10th December, 17:00

Join SFI-UK for a screening of short films that platform migrant students' voices and an open floor to explore what the right to freedom and dignity means to us as South Asian students in Scotland.

Registration: Please email sfi.unitedkingdom@gmail.com to register.



EQUATE

Who Builds the Future? Women, AI, and Digital Justice

Equate Scotland

Film Screening / Discussion



CodeBase,
37a Castle Tr
Edinburgh,
EH1 2EL

Thursday 10th December, 18:00 - 20:30

What happens when half the population is missing from the design of the technologies shaping our future?

Join us for a screening of CODE: Debugging the Gender Gap, the award-winning documentary exploring why women remain underrepresented in computer science and technology fields. The film examines how stereotypes, educational barriers, workplace cultures, lack of role models, and sexism shape who enters and succeeds in the technology sector.

The screening will be followed by a discussion connecting the film's exploration of the gender gap in technology to the rapidly developing field of artificial intelligence.

Women remain significantly underrepresented in the UK AI workforce, particularly in technical, research, and senior roles. At the same time, AI is creating and amplifying new forms of gender-based violence, including deepfakes, sexualised AI-generated content, impersonation, harassment and surveillance. This raises a fundamental question: if women are underrepresented in designing and governing AI, who is identifying and preventing the harms that disproportionately affect women and girls?

Drawing on the evidence and Equate Scotland's currently on-going pilot study - Women shaping AI in Scotland - the discussion will explore why women's representation in AI matters not only for equality, skills, and innovation, but also for safety, human rights, and digital justice.

Registration: Please register [here](#).

mend

Muslim engagement
& development

Beyond Scottish Exceptionalism: Does Scotland Have an Islamophobia Problem?

MEND

Panel Discussion



Edinburgh TBC

Thursday 10th December, 18:00 - 19:30

Scotland often prides itself on a culture of inclusivity, but does the narrative of "Scottish exceptionalism" obscure the everyday realities of Islamophobia?

This panel discussion critically examines the presence and impact of Islamophobia across Scottish institutions and public life. Bringing together key voices, the event will highlight the systemic underrepresentation and exclusion of Scottish Muslims from human rights frameworks, statutory protections, and policymaking spaces. Panelists will explore how the lack of meaningful community input leaves major gaps in legislative protection and community safety, while offering concrete strategies to ensure genuine inclusion, representation, and urgent policy reform.

Join us for a vital, action-oriented conversation on building a human rights framework in Scotland that truly includes everyone.

Registration: Please register [here](#).

SPIJI & NUJ

**Holding Power to Account: Public Interest Journalism
and Human Rights**
*Scottish Public Interest Journalism Initiative / National Union
of Journalists Scotland*
Film Screening / Discussion



Quaker Meeting House,
7 Victoria Tr, Edinburgh,
EH1 2JL

Thursday 10th December, 19:00 - 21:00

Speakers: **Peter Osborne** (journalist and broadcaster), **Nik Williams** (Index on Censorship), **Joyce McMillan** (Scottish Public Interest Journalism Initiative).
Chair: **Simon Barrow** (author and commentator).

Public interest journalism acts as a vital pillar for human rights by holding power to account, exposing corruption, and informing public debate. Exposing human rights abuses, corporate malfeasance, and systemic discrimination against marginalised groups and individuals is fundamental to both human rights and investigative journalism. This event will feature film and discussion highlighting these burning issues of wide public concern. It will examine legal protections in the UK and under international law, current threats facing journalists, and the role of non-profit models in protecting and developing public interest journalism in the face of corporate apathy, stasis or opposition.

Registration: Please register [here](#).





**Seen and Heard: Children and Human Rights
in a Changing World**

Multi Cultural Family Base

Workshop



The Bakery
18 Brunswick Street
Lane, Edinburgh
EH7 5JG

Friday 11th December, 10:00 - 16:00 (drop-in)

This workshop's purpose is to share stories about human rights in Scotland. We are especially interested in making sure that ethnically diverse young people can share their experiences and opinions. As part of our AWARE programme, young people will host some of these conversations in creative ways, including audio recording, visual art-making, and poetry writing. This approach is in line with MCFB's participation in the Leith Town of Culture 2028 bid, focusing on wider human rights as well as the right to participate in cultural life. Within these themes, young people have already expressed the desire to discuss topics such as Climate Change, LGBTQ+ issues, Feminism, and Disability, all which fit with the theme of Freedom, Dignity, and Justice.

Discussion questions will include:

When do you feel that one of your rights was upheld?

When do you feel that one of your rights was violated or not upheld?

What is your vision for the future of human rights in Scotland?

Registration: Please register [here](#).

SCOTTISH
FAIR TRADE



Who made this? Human Rights Behind Everyday Goods *Scottish Fair Trade*

Panel Discussion



Grassmarket Community
Project, 86 Candlemaker
Row, EH1 2QA

Friday 11th December, 12:30 - 14:00

When Scotland buys from the world, what responsibility do we have for the people who make the things we consume? The session will connect everyday products - coffee, cocoa, clothing, electronics - to the human rights realities behind global supply chains. It will introduce audiences to Fair Trade as part of the solution, while opening up the wider conversation on business, human rights and environmental due diligence, and Scotland's emerging responsible business framework. Panellists, including Martin Rhodes MP, James Hughes from Brewgooder and Lexi Parfitt from Water Witness (and more!), will come together to discuss how Scotland can be a Good Global Citizen in practice, not just in principle.

Registration: Please register [here](#).

SCOTLAND'S HUMAN RIGHTS FESTIVAL

WHO MADE THIS?

HUMAN RIGHTS BEHIND
EVERYDAY GOODS

📍 11th December, 12.30-2pm, Edinburgh

SCOTTISH FAIR TRADE



supported by:

**WATER
WITNESS**



Expressing
Scotland

ART.27
SCOTLAND



Cultural Rights Ceilidh *Expressing Scotland*

Discussion / Music / Storytelling



Main Hall at Summerhall,
1 Summerhall, Edinburgh,
EH9 1PL

Saturday 12th December, 12:30 - 16:30

Explore the future of cultural rights in Scotland with Art27 Scotland and Expressing Scotland at our Cultural Rights Ceilidh. Expect lively collaborative discussion, vision setting, and prioritisation of next steps, interspersed with storytelling, music and other cultural elements as we consider what is possible for Cultural Rights in Scotland, and what steps we can take together to ensure Scotland's citizens are able to participate fully in the country's cultural life. Expressing Scotland is an agency with a mission to support the diverse range of cultural expressions within Scotland. They work to help communities navigate funding applications and reporting, as well as host Ceilidhs to help organisations and partnerships problem-solve and set-out collaborative ways of working. Art27 Scotland are based in Edinburgh and take their mission from Article 27 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights – “everyone has the right freely to participate in cultural life and to enjoy the arts.” They explore how contemporary arts, cultural practice and ideas can defend culture as a human right through great art and storytelling. They curate a multi-artform programme of exhibitions, performances, publications and events that respond to themes and provocations they believe are urgent for our times, including migration, climate change and democracy.

Registration: Please register [here](#).



***Eucaristía* by Brots Theatre Company**
uTOpia Barcelona

Theatre



Summerhall Arts, Techcube,
1 Summerhall Pl, Edinburgh
EH9 1PL

Saturday 12th December, 19:30

Sunday 13th December, 15:00

Eucaristía is an evocative theatre piece presented by BROTS (uTOpia Barcelona), a Catalan company made up of actors who have lived experience of mental-health challenges. Through singing, shouting and acting, they perform their stories, holding up a mirror to the audience and confronting them directly.

Eucaristía explores how religious and conservative values continue to shape society, often unnoticed, and how they can lead to suffering. This project is an artistic plea for mental-health care as a collective practice, rather than as individual therapy, supporting transformation, solidarity, and a more humane approach to people who are psychologically vulnerable. Drawing on 16 years of collective artistic practice, the makers share stories of liberation, mutual support and activism for mental health.

Eucaristía is a provocative exploration of these lived experiences, a challenge to society's prejudices, and a powerful cry against stigma.

Registration: Please register [here](#).



**OUTER SPACE IS QUEER: Postcolonial Futures,
Resistance and Human Rights Beyond Earth**
Dr Nelly Ben Hayoun-Stépanian

Film Screening / Talk / Discussion

Anatomy Lecture
Theatre, Summerhall
Arts Centre, Edinburgh

Saturday 12th December, 19:30 - 21:00

In this this lively talk and Q&A, the award-winning artist, filmmaker, drag king and space-culture pioneer Dr. Nelly Ben Hayoun-Stépanian will share their new in-development film, Heartsnatcher, and investigate how to turn the International Space Station, due to be decommissioned in 2030, into a love hotel.

Drawing on decolonial, diasporic, ecological and LGBTQIA+ perspectives, they ask us: who is entitled to represent humanity in space? Whose histories travel with us? How can art and collective action challenge militarised, colonial and billionaire-led visions of the future?

Space is queer – and it could become a site for resistance, collective imagination and liberation for all.

Nelly's past projects include the world-first mission carrying Armenian pomegranate seeds to the International Space Station, and Picadilly Un:Plugged, which moonbounced human heartbeats and music, from Fela Kuti & Seun Kuti, Massive Attack and Pussy Riot, to the Moon and back.

Registration: Please register [here](#).



Image credit: Nick Ballón



Erasure and Resilience: Cultural Rights and Nackens, Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Voices in the Arts
Rajpot / Art27 Scotland

Poetry / Music / Discussion

 **Edinburgh**

Saturday 12th December

In association with community-led organisation Rajpot, Art27 Scotland are delighted to present Dr Jo Clement and Thomas McCarthy for an afternoon of poetry and music. Jo is an interdisciplinary maker of Gypsy, Roma and Traveller ethnicity and winner of a Northern Writers' Award for poetry (New Writing North). Thomas is an Irish Traveller, singer, and storyteller who comes from a long line of traditional singers and musicians. Thomas was named the Traditional Singer of the Year at the 2019 Gradam Ceoil Awards.

Following poetry from Jo, and music from Thomas, the event continues with a panel discussion chaired by Dr Rhona Ramsay. Shamus McPhee and Roseanna McPhee from Rajpot, who continue to suffer human rights abuses engendered by the 'Tinker Experiments', will discuss how enactments of cultural rights and artistic expression can help negotiate these abuses, and confront the ongoing social, political and cultural marginalisation that Nackens, Gypsy, Roma and Traveller people experience.

Registration: Please register [here](#).





GLASGOW



Stories of Connections: Human Rights, Anti-Racism and Climate Justice

CEMVO

Interactive Workshop



Renfield Centre,
260 Bath St,
Glasgow, G2 4JP

Wednesday 9th December, 11:00 - 14:00

This event hosted by CEMVO Scotland will be an opportunity to examine the intersections of human rights, anti-racism and climate justice. Participants will develop a common understanding of human rights and the value of a human rights-based approach in addressing environmental and racial inequalities. We'll learn about the benefit of recognising these topics as interlinked and intertwined in order to take the most effective action.

- Inspiring speakers will showcase how community led initiatives are driving positive change
- Interactive workshop will bring participants together to explore the key themes, share experience and identify opportunities for collaboration and collective action
- A shared meal will foster discussions around access to culturally appropriate, nutritious food and the importance of community connection.

Registration: Please email

francesca.malila@cemvoscotland.org.uk to register.



From Waiting to Belonging: Unwritten Stories of Migration

Seham & Najma

Exhibition



Romano Luv,
43 Nithsdale St,
Glasgow, G41 2PZ

Wednesday 9th - Sunday 13th December,

Wednesday to Friday 10:00 - 16:30

Saturday to Sunday 12:00 - 16:00

The exhibition brings together two connected photography and storytelling projects: Unwritten Milestones: The Silent Talent Trapped in Limbo and Stories of Food and Belonging.

Through photography and personal storytelling, the exhibition explores the experiences of asylum seekers living in limbo while waiting for decisions on their asylum claims, alongside positive stories celebrating food, culture, identity and belonging.

The exhibition aims to encourage greater understanding, challenge negative stereotypes and create opportunities for visitors to find common ground and connect with people from different backgrounds.

Registration: This exhibition is free to visit during the opening hours.



Pulling in the Same Direction: Using Human Rights to Strengthen the Third Sector

THRE

Workshop



GCVS, 348
Argyle St,
Glasgow, G2 8LX

Wednesday 9th December, 14:00 - 16:00

Our 2-hour workshop will show you how you could use human rights as a tool to strengthen your advocacy and influencing work, and foster collaboration across the third sector.

It will feature:

- Examples from across the sector on how third sector organisations have used rights for advocacy
- Input from special guests, including Charlie Macmillan, Director of the Human Rights Consortium Scotland
- Opportunities to connect and share with like-minded organisations.

Our aim is for you to come away from this session confident in invoking human rights as part of your advocacy work and inspired to collaborate with other organisations based on shared goals.

About **Third Sector Human Rights and Equalities** – THRE: THRE is a partnership of GCVS and HTSI dedicated to developing resources, training and events that support third-sector organisations towards taking a human rights and equalities first approach to their organisational development and delivery.

Registration: Please register [here](#).



RIGHTS IN COLOUR: Voices, Art and Human Rights in Scotland
BEMIS

Exhibition / Music / Poetry



Glad Cafe,
1006A Pollokshaws Road,
Glasgow, G42 2HG

Thursday 10th December, 11:00 - 13:00

What do human rights look, sound and feel like to ethnic minority communities in Scotland?

RIGHTS IN COLOUR brings human rights to life through the creativity and voices from Scotland's ethnic minority communities. Through visual art, music, dance, spoken word, storytelling and other creative expressions, the event explores freedom, dignity, justice, identity, belonging and equality.

Moving beyond traditional conversations about human rights, young people take centre stage as artists, storytellers and advocates, sharing their lived experiences and perspectives on racism, discrimination and participation. The event invites audiences to see human rights through a different lens: not simply as principles written in law, but as everyday experiences that shape how we live, belong and participate in society.

Registration: Please register [here](#).



**MIN Voices present: *Paper Human Rights*
*Maryhill Integration Network Voices***

Interactive Art / Poetry

 **Maryhill Community
Centre, 35 Avenuepark St,
Glasgow G20 8TS**

Thursday 10th December, 17:00 - 19:00

MIN Voices invites audiences into an interactive art space exploring what human rights mean in the lived experiences of people seeking asylum, refugees and migrants in Scotland.

Each essential human right will be represented through an artwork reflecting how that right is experienced by people new to Scotland and diaspora communities. Each artwork will be accompanied by community members sharing stories as an interactive bookcase for audiences to interact with. From the effective ban on the right to work, when people seeking asylum can be left for years in limbo without access to employment, to the right to family life amid the suspension on refugee family reunification, the artwork and community members reveal the real human impact of harsh policies and systems.

Through poetry, storytelling and conversation, MIN Voices members will share experiences of campaigning and fighting for their rights. Members of the public may interact with the artwork, collecting which impact them most and piece them together into a "paper quilt", revealing how interconnected, yet fragile, our rights are.

Registration: Please register [here](#).





**A Movement Still In Motion – Disabled
People's Rights in Action**
Inclusion Scotland

Film Screening / Discussion



Kinning Park Complex
42 Cornwall St,
Glasgow, G41 1BA

Friday 11th December, 14:00

Join Inclusion Scotland for a screening of A Movement Still In Motion, followed by an open discussion exploring disability rights as human rights.

The film reflects on the journey of Scotland's Disabled People's Movement - recognising the people and activism that have driven change, and looking at the barriers that disabled people continue to face.

Following the screening, we'll invite everyone to take part in an open and informal discussion about the issues raised by the film and what needs to happen next to advance disabled people's rights in Scotland.

Guided by the principle of "Nothing About Us Without Us", we'll explore the importance of disabled people having genuine choice, voice and control over their lives and being actively involved in decisions that affect them.

Connecting with the Human Rights Day theme of Freedom, Dignity and Justice, the event is open to everyone – whether you have lived experience of disability, work in this area, are interested in human rights, or simply want to learn more and join the conversation. (The venue is located next to Kinning Park Underground and free street parking is available).

Registration: Please register [here](#).





DOVIRA

The Architecture of Persecution: Freedom, Dignity, and the Right to Belong

DOVIRA

Musical Theatre



The Boardwalk,
105 Brunswick St,
Glasgow, G11TF

Friday 12th December, 18:00

Glasgow-based Ukrainian organisation DOVIRA will present a special musical theatre performance dedicated to Ukrainian prisoners of war and the families who continue to wait for their loved ones to return home.

The performance will bring together live music, contemporary dance, lighting and visual art. Through music and movement, it will explore the human experience of losing one's freedom — the uncertainty, the waiting, the hope and the strength of those who continue to wait.

At the heart of the performance will not be a political debate, but a human story. Audiences will be invited to reflect on what freedom, dignity and justice mean when they are no longer abstract concepts, but become part of the lives of real people and their families.

The performance will feature string musicians and a dancer. Visual elements will incorporate lighting and projection, creating an emotional space where music, movement and imagery can tell a story without the need for many words.

"We want to talk about human rights not only through facts and documents, but through art. Sometimes music, movement and silence can say more about human dignity than words can," says Olha Maslova, Project Coordinator at DOVIRA.

Registration: Details for registration TBC.



University of
Strathclyde
Glasgow

Rights at the Musicals *University of Strathclyde*

Cabaret

Boardwalk Studio Theatre,
The Boardwalk, 105
Brunswick St,
Glasgow G1 1TF

Friday 11th December, 19:00 (doors at 18:30)

What has musical theatre got to do with human rights? More than you might think.

Rights at the Musicals is a special cabaret night paying tribute to a range of human rights through the unique power of musical theatre. The event spotlights stories of dignity, equality, freedom and justice, spanning a range of human rights, from life and liberty to health and housing, from musical theatre shows, old and new. The performance will blend classic hits and contemporary favourites with new Scottish musical theatre writing. So what's musical theatre got to do with it? Join us and find out in this relaxed, thought-provoking and uplifting night of song and solidarity.

Ticket proceeds will support the charities Impact Arts, Scotland, and The Freedom Theatre, Palestine.

The event lasts approximately 1hr40 including an interval (with bar available).

Registration: Please register [here](#).



AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL



WRITE FOR RIGHTS
Amnesty International

Writing Workshop



Hillhead
Library, Byres
Road,
Glasgow

Saturday 12th December, 10:00 - 17:00

Write for Rights is Amnesty International's biggest annual human rights campaign. Every winter, people across the world write letters, send cards and sign petitions for individuals whose rights are under attack. Their words go to those in power, demanding justice, and to the people themselves, as messages of hope. Since it began in 2001, more than 50 million actions have been taken, and over 100 featured people have seen positive change: prisoners freed, death sentences commuted, justice secured. Last year, nearly four million actions came from at least 200 countries and territories. Words change lives. Add yours.

Amnesty International is going to have a series of initiatives across Scotland (Glasgow, Edinburgh, Dundee, Perth). Details on the other locations will be shared in due course.

Registration: No pre registration required.



The Shape of Dignity: Art, Conversation & Open Mic

Art of Birdie Studio / UBelong

Art / Conversation / Open Mic



MILK, 378 Cathcart
Road, Govanhill,
Glasgow, G42 7DF

Saturday 12th December, 13:00 - 17:30

What does dignity look like? In this relaxed, participatory afternoon, Art of Birdie Studio and UBelong invite you to explore freedom, dignity and justice through creativity and conversation. We'll begin with a gentle, guided art workshop, using drawing, collage, colour and visual storytelling to reflect on moments when you felt seen, safe or free, or when that was taken away. No artistic experience is needed, and you choose how much you share. This will be followed by a short panel conversation on dignity, belonging and justice in everyday life. We'll close with an open mic, where anyone is welcome to share poetry, song, music, dance, spoken word or simply a thought. All materials are provided, and everyone is welcome.

Registration: Please register [here](#).



'This Home, This Voice' Film Screening
Maryhill Integration Network /
Helen McCrorie
Film Screening

Maryhill Burgh Halls, 24
Gairbraid Ave, Glasgow,
G20 8YE

Saturday 12th December, 17:30 - 20:00

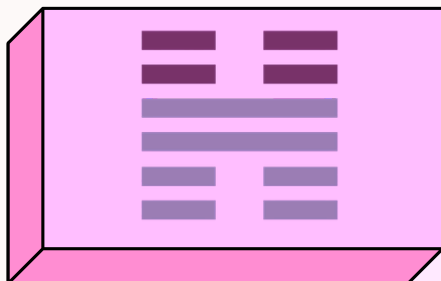
As part of Scotland's Human Rights Festival 2026, MIN presents a screening of *This Home, This Voice*, a behind-the-scenes portrait of the vital work of community-building in Glasgow, by artist Helen McCrorie with members of MIN.

MIN works alongside refugees, migrants, and people seeking asylum, with a focus on campaigning, wellbeing, and creativity. Helen McCrorie has a passion for documenting community groups and social activities and celebrating grassroots activism. The film evolved through mutual learning and exchange.

MIN's key principles of providing community connection are vital to achieving a society rooted in human rights for all, where equal participation and representation take part to ensure justice and dignity for all. Human rights are not just found in the law, they are found in how we treat our neighbours and one another.

Registration: Please register [here](#).





Stand Up Comedy with Headliner Susie McCabe
Human Rights Consortium Scotland

Stand Up Comedy

 The Stand Comedy Club,
420 Great Western Road,
Glasgow, G4 9HZ

Sunday 13th December, 16:00 - 18:00

We are the civil society network to defend and promote human rights in Scotland. Our members are from across Scotland. They include groups of many different identities, sizes and who campaign on different issues. We work together to be a strong collective civil society voice on human rights for all in Scotland.

Join us for an evening of laughs at The Stand Comedy Club with host Billy Kirkwood, Daniel Petrie, Mick McNeill, Ruaridh Miller and headliner Susie McCabe!

All proceeds minus booking fees (capped at £5) will go directly to supporting Human Rights Consortium Scotland.

Registration: Please register [here](#).



**The Architecture of Persecution: Freedom,
Dignity, and the Right to Belong**
International Human Rights Desk

Film / Roundtable / Dinner / Music



Baitur Rahman
Mosque,
8 Haugh Road,
Glasgow, G3 8TR

Date and time TBC.

This event explores how human rights violations become visible in the physical spaces around us. Hosted in an Ahmadi mosque in Glasgow, it will use the persecution of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community in Pakistan to examine how restrictions on freedom of religion or belief can extend beyond laws and courtrooms into mosques, cemeteries and the wider built environment.

The setting is central to the discussion. In Scotland, an Ahmadi mosque can serve openly as a place of worship and community life. In Pakistan, mosques belonging to the same religious community have been demolished, sealed and physically altered, while graves have been desecrated and religious inscriptions removed.

This contrast speaks directly to the themes of Freedom, Dignity and Justice: the freedom to worship and express one's identity, the dignity of belonging and being remembered, and the right to protection and accountability when those freedoms are violated.

Registration: Details for registration TBC.



STIRLING



Peace, Conflict and the Future of Human Rights: A
Conversation between Academics, Advocates and Artists
University of Stirling

Conference / Panel Discussion

 University of
Stirling / Online

Thursday 10th December, 10:00 - 16:00

This one-day event marks International Human Rights Day by asking what peace, rights and justice demand of us in an age of enduring and re-emerging conflict. Bringing together academics, advocates and artists across law, politics, media and the arts, the programme traces conflict's reach into everyday life and dignity. Panels examine women's security in conflict, the environmental cost of war, the vulnerability of children in Gaza and Ukraine, and how misinformation shapes and distorts conflict. Running through the day is a programme of live music, spoken word and a visual art exhibition, closing with a conversation on why creative work matters for human rights. Free and open to all, in person and online.

Registration: Please register [here](#).



DUNDEE



Exhibition on Academic Freedom *Dundee Students for Scholars at Risk*

Exhibition



University of
Dundee, Dalhousie
Building Foyer

Wednesday 9th - Sunday 13th December, 08:00 - 18:00

The exhibition is a visual expression of the right to academic freedom from the perspective of students at the University of Dundee. The students, who are currently postgraduate students, curated the artwork from the University of Dundee's Museum collection through a process of reflection and discussion on what this right means to them in the context of the recent happenings at the University and across the higher education sector in Scotland.

Registration: No prior registration required.





PERTH



Threads and Tales *Worker Support Centre*

Community Art / Storytelling / Music



WASPS Creative
Exchange,
Stormont Street,
Perth, PH1 5NW

★ Friday 11th December, 16:00 - 18:30

Threads and tales will explore themes of dignity, justice, labour and human rights by bringing together migrant social care and agricultural workers with interested participants to co-create a lasting piece of art while sharing food, music, poetry, dance and craft from different cultures. The event will take place at the WASPS Creative Exchange in Perth and will be hosted by the Worker Support Centre, a Scottish charity working in partnership with migrant workers in agriculture and social care on tied and temporary visas to secure their rights, challenge labour exploitation, and drive lasting policy change.

Registration: Please email media@workersupportcentre.org.uk to register.



ABERDEEN



Aberdeen City Human Rights Festival *Aberdeen City Council*

Workshop



Aberdeen

As part of the Human Rights Week celebrations, Aberdeen will deliver four workshops across four days, providing opportunities for participants to explore a range of human rights themes.

Wednesday 9th December, 16:00 - 18:00

Workshop One: Understanding Human Rights

1. What are human rights?
2. Human rights in everyday life
3. Rights and responsibilities
4. Interactive activities and discussions

Thursday 10th December, 16:00 - 18:00

Workshop Two: Lived Experience Event

- Facilitated discussion
- Refugee and migrant experiences
- Discussion around inclusion, dignity and belonging

Friday 11th December, 16:00 - 18:00

Workshop Three: Women Only Lived Experience Event

- Facilitated discussion
- Women's rights and challenges faced in different cultures.
- Refugee and migrant experiences
- Discussion around inclusion, dignity and belonging

Saturday 12th December, 13:00 - 15:00

Workshop Four: Family Fun Session

Fun, engaging activities that provide a better understanding of children's rights.

Family Activities

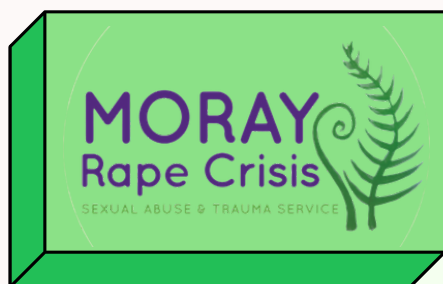
- Children's Rights-themed games (UNCHR)
- Arts and Crafts
- Storytelling and cultural activities
- Community snacks/lunch

Registration: Please contact

ResettlementCLD@aberdeencity.gov.uk to register your place on any of these workshops. Confirmation of the venue will be shared once registered.



ELGIN



**Freedom, Dignity and Justice: Supporting
Survivors of Sexual Violence in Moray**
Moray Rape Crisis

Exhibition



**Outer Art Gallery, UHI Moray,
Moray St, Elgin, IV30 1JJ**

Wednesday 9th - Friday 10th December, 08:00 - 17:00

- This event aims to forefront and amplify the voices of survivors of sexual violence in Moray, and share strength, compassion, and solidarity with survivors across Moray and beyond. We will share survivor stories, artwork, prose and share the importance and value of our work.

We empower survivors, treating them with dignity and compassion, and offer survivors a space to be heard, believed and valued. We help survivors through the justice system and help survivors understand their rights.

This event will honour the power of survivor voices in creating change, both individually and societally.

Registration: No sign-up necessary, the exhibition is free to visit during the hours stated above.