



World Conference on Educational Sciences 2009

Workshop proposal

Instructional design process in the context of human rights and democracy

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**Abstract**

The theme will primarily be treated in terms of “Human Rights and Democracy”, and

- a) Universal Agreements and Human Rights in War,
- b) Illegal Immigrants and Refugee Rights,
- c) Women Rights

sub-headings will be analyzed and evaluated.

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Keywords: Human Rights, Democracy, Illegal Immigrants, Refugee Rights, Woman Rigths, Workshop, Design Process

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**1. Introduction**

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- f) Women Rights

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Human Rights is a system of rights that has developed paralel with the democratization reached by humanity though social struggle processes, and that organizes the most natural fundamental rights which provides man’s physical and moral developments. Human rights, also considered as public freedom, exists as a dynamic process that is contemporary with the public development and that goes through different stages according to the periods ( Ekinçi, 2004, Tezcan, 2004).

Phylosophical bases of the Human Rights have also been dicussed for a few hundred years. Rationale of the basic rights to be “basic” is because their protection is essential in order to draw benefit from other rights. Respect to basic rights that aims to provide a suitable environment for humans to live as “humans” means humans showing respect toward themselves in the first place.

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In the Universal Declaration of Human Rights: Human Rights depend on the belief that all humans are born equal and free in terms of right and respect. Human Rights provide every person independent selection and freedom in developing their own skills. These freedoms are balanced with respect in others' rights and obligation of not overriding these rights. In other words, there is responsibility along with many rights (<http://tr.wikipedia.org/w/index.php.titleinsanhaklari>).

Longing for living in such world has caused the fact that the the values this era reached found their expression in the United Nation Human Rights Declaration, and became concrete in the European Convention on Human Rights ( Tezcan, Erdem, Sancaktar, 2004).

Today's human rights criteria is all of the basic rights that have been attained in the societies that modern democracy has been carried out fully. Democracy is a polity that formed as societies went through enlightenment in their historical evolution. It can also be called the process of humans becoming humans. In recent years, many societies gained today's modern democracy that is pluralist, participatory, respectful to human rights and devoted to the rule of law after a long lasting wars and struggles. Criteria of competent democracy in our era are values reflected by western governments to a certain extent, and anticipated by developed industrial societies. When democracy is in discussion, the most developed democratic laws of this era should be taken as base. Perception of democracy not as a static and rigid concept, but instead as a continuously developing and advancing process would be more pertinent for its essence. It is natural to perceive and define democracy differently in every stage of societal development. Human kind will struggle for a new democracy perspective at every stage ( Ekinci, 2004).

### **Identification and Discussion of the Problem:**

Human Rights violations is experienced in many climates in the world. In the climates of armed conflicts and war, limits of "War Rules" are complied with, accepted rules and procedures are violated during the conflicts, and civilians are badly treated. Crimes such as mass murders and genocide are war crimes as well as they are accepted as crimes against humanity in the frame of international and humanitarian laws. Attacking humanitarian aid or peace missions as well as buildings and vehicles belonging to Red Cross and Red Crescent, medical units, historical monuments and hospitals, buildings religion, education, art and science; and using banned war strategies and weapons are all war crimes. However, in the wars taking place in Iraqe, Middle East, Bosnia Herzegovina and Africa, war crimes are being committed. In the regions of war, mostly journalists are forced to do their jobs without any respect to human rights. Prisoners of war are kept in poor conditions and with the violation of Universal Human Rights Declaration. Because of the multi-dimensional problems experienced by countries, mass migrations occur and illegal immigrants problem arise, and refugee rights can not be protected in every condition. Apart from these, women's rights are not used and violations are experienced not only in underdeveloped countries, but also in developed countries.

While conditions of war are different in Vietnam and Middle East, the problem of civilians being affected by war is still being ignored. Along with this, embedded reporters working under contract and attached to fighting armies have appeared. Yet, role of reporters in Vietnam was more effective and as powerful to change the views of the public.

According to the figures of International Press Institute (IPI) and Comittee for Protecting Journalists in New York, 700 journalists were killed between 1987 and 2000. For example, 60 people, the majority of whom were Algerian, lost their lives in the fightings between FIS guerillas and government forces in Algeria. 28 journalists were killed in Bosnia War; 86 journalists were killed and many were injured during the bombing of Serbia and Kosovo by NATO according to UBE. More than 60 journalists were beaten and wounded in the year 2000 after El-Aksa rebellion started. It can be realized how different kind of a journalism it is when one considers the killing of more than 20 journalists in the Iraqe war.

There are journalists killed as chosen targets, and there are also the ones who lost their lives by Iraqe cannonade while moving attached to USA troops. In the Iraqe war, Palestine Hotel was attacked by tanks despite the fact that journalists, were known to stay there. Two employee of the Reuter TV and a Spanish journalist were killed there. The same day, Al Jazeera television office by the river Tigris was targeted and hit by a missile and a reporter was killed. Palestanian cameraman Mazen Dana lost his life by USA army's tank attack while filming in open field during the occupation. It is believed that targets were chosen purposefully (Çubukçu, 2005).

All these issues in world agenda are going to be treated with visual designs during the workshop.

### **Illegal Migration**

Illegal migration to EU countries from countries where poverty and political oppressions exist and from countries where chronic wars continue is taking place. Today, the problems that illegal migrants experience are expulsions and arrests. On the other hand, refugee camps established for migrants are in very poor conditions. Some countries apply inhumane treatment to those immigrants. The new directive of the EU interior ministry that defines procedures for the return of illegal migrants did not get

support from the non-governmental organizations such as Council on Refugees and German Immigration Organization (ASYL). Organizations have the opinion that the Directive has not improve the conditions of the immigrants ([www.euractive.com.tr](http://www.euractive.com.tr)).

Possible solution is the preparation of a new five-year program in the European Council in 2009. Basis of this program would be increasing the coordination of the EU countries in immigration issue, strengthen the migration management, and support international relationships.

### **Women's Right**

Women's Right can be described as all of the socio-economic, politic and legal remedies that women has equally with men within the integrity of Human Rights. In democratic countries, although women are not equal in social and economic areas, principle of equity is accepted as a general principle disclaiming language, religion, race, sex discrimination. However, application of this general principle has many problems in terms of cultural, regional and belief systems. Main problems women have are:

- Negative discrimination against women in work and business life.
- Negative discrimination against women in the law of decedent's estate and in common law of many countries.
- Existence of physical violence and psychological pressure even in the most contemporary countries.
- Exclusion of women from education rights in many countries.
- Acceptance of women as a second – class citizen in social life especially in muslim middle east and eastern countries.

In spite of all these negatives, a very hopeful change has taken place with CEDAW Convention. CEDAW stands for Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women. This title shows that the Convention already accepts the discrimination against women. The aim of the Convention is to eliminate the negative discrimination in all of the world.

### **Aim of the workshop:**

“Human Rights and Democracy” main title and other mentioned topics will be discussed with the target group in its theoretical frame. Consciousness will be constituted by creating concepts towards original designs in the context of visual design principles. Convergent and divergent thinking, imagery construction and abstracting will be made through forming indirect and direct and connotative meanings related to considered topic.

### **Educational Gains:**

Help people think about issues mentioned, create awareness, improve creativity by involving in an artful activity. Solve art and design issues by associating them with a social topic. Help people create irony and metaphor, and comprehend use of metamorphosis, analogy and stream of consciousness methods in a design. Help them be courageous in opening up the subject in public and discuss about solution propositions.

### **Presentation of Topics:**

Researched documents, newspaper and journal news, documentary films and CD-ROMs will be read and watched, and they will be discussed with the participants. Experienced and publicly owned events will be dealt with, humanity conditions will be examined with sebsitivity.

### **Conclusion:**

Multi-dimensional wars and issues being experienced in the world and in special regions cause dissapointment in human ideals in the last quarter of 21st century we are living in. These issues should be revisited by peace organizations, non-governmental organizations, aid organizations, women organizations, fighting governments and societies and international organizations, and possible solutions should be discussed in international meetings. In spite of the presence of Geneva Conventions, groups to be protected and guarded are being charged off. Although a considerable distance has been covered, women are stil experiencing exploitation in family relationships, in society and in working life. Preventing these requires much more thinking. Laws mentioned in the proposal will be brought up in an academic meeting and findings obtained will be visualized, resulting works will be exhibited.

*Quota of the workshop:* 20 participants.

*Working Technique:* Visual applications and typography. Poster and storyboard design.

*Material:* Photographs from newspapers and journals, visual and written documents from web. For every participant; scissors, glues, rullers, and 30 opaque white cardboard of 300g. with dimensions 50cm x 70cm.

*Time:* Start: 4 February 2009, 2 hours

*Study of End:* 5 – 6 February 2009, everyday 2 hours

*The End of Workshop* and Exhibition: 6 February 2009, Exhibition

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