

**SUBMISSION FOR THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW OF CUBA
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Association of University Councils (ÜKD)



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1. The Association of University Councils takes it as an honour to give its ideas about the development in human rights especially for educational area in Cuba.
2. Cuba, from the 1959 revolution on has undertaken a number of measures to improve the life standards of her people. Since then lots of proposals have been implemented and very clear outcome has shown to the whole world. Brilliant generations are created with the statistics such as school enrolment in different forms in the 0-5 age group in 2007/08 was 99.5 per cent. Enrolment for 6 to 11-year-olds was 99.7 per cent and for 6 to 14-year-olds 99.2 per cent. Nearly 70 per cent of young Cubans aged between 18 and 23 are at university. Cuba has one teacher for every 30 inhabitants. One hundred per cent of children with special educational needs receive appropriate attention in special schools.
3. All basic human rights and freedoms are recognized and guaranteed by the Constitution of the Republic of Cuba. Article 51 of the Constitution recognizes every citizen's right to education through free and widespread system of schools; Article 52 ensures that everyone has the right to physical education, sports and recreation.
4. Cuba contributed to UNESCO Science Report 2010. Cuban state is an active party to many international treaties like UNESCO Convention against Discrimination in Education.
5. In 2011, Cuba submitted the Combined 14th to 18th Reports to the Committee on Elimination of Racial Discrimination. She also submitted a 7th and 8th Combined Periodic Report relating to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (2010), an Initial Report relating to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Participation of Children in Armed Conflict (2011) and an Initial Report relating to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2012).
6. Education is constantly being improved. The projects undertaken include: teaching of computing from primary level on; educational technology such as television and video in every classroom; creation of two educational television channels; establishment of special programs for university education for older adults; creation of university-level units in every municipality in Cuba in order to provide universal access to that level of education. The Social Workers Program has enabled thousands of young people to advance up to university level and perform socially useful work.
7. Tertiary education in Cuba today comprises 65 centers of higher education, spread across more than 3500 campuses at the municipal level. First-year enrollment in higher education more than doubled between 2004/2005 and 2007/2008, from 361 845 to 743 979.

8. Between 1961 and the 2007/08 school year, over 52,000 young people from 132 countries and five overseas territories graduated from Cuban universities, including more than 34,000 from Africa.
9. In education, methods developed by Cuban experts, such as “Yo si puedo” (“Sure I can”) and “Yo si puedo seguir” (“I can go further”), have proved of great value in making millions of people literate, notably indigenous and Afro-descendant populations and women in rural areas. As at 14 October, more than 3.4 million people in 24 countries have been made literate with these methods. More than 30,000 young people from 124 countries and five overseas territories are studying in Cuba, nearly 24,000 of them studying medicine.