

Human Rights in Everyday Life – An SDG Puzzle

Duration: 15–20 minutes

Learning objectives

Students:

- recognize that human rights are inseparably linked to the SDGs.
- identify specific human rights in different everyday situations.
- engage with the relevance of human rights for their own lives.

Materials

- Large-format printouts or a digital presentation of the 17 SDGs (with symbols and short descriptions).
- Cards with different everyday scenarios (see below).
- Pens and small moderation cards or note slips.

Procedure

1) Warm-up (3 minutes)

The teacher welcomes the class and asks: “What comes to mind when you hear the term ‘human rights’?” (brief brainstorming; collect ideas on the board).

Short introduction to the 17 SDGs as global goals for a sustainable future: “These goals are closely linked to human rights. Today we’ll find out how.”

2) Individual / small-group work – The SDG scenario puzzle (10 minutes)

Each student or small groups of 2–3 students receive a card with an everyday scenario.

Example scenarios:

- “You see a child being excluded and bullied in the schoolyard.”
- “Your family has no access to clean drinking water in your apartment.”
- “In your city, there are no barrier-free entrances for people with disabilities.”
- “You hear on the news about children who have to work in a factory under dangerous conditions.”

- “A friend of yours is not allowed to participate in a school event because of their religion.”
- “In your neighborhood, a playground is being torn down to build another shopping center, without asking local residents.”

Task: “Read your scenario carefully. Which human rights might be affected here? And, even more importantly: which of the 17 SDGs fits this scenario best? Briefly explain why.” Students write their ideas on moderation cards or note slips.

3) Whole-class sharing & reflection (5–7 minutes)

Each student/group briefly presents their scenario, the SDG they matched it with, and the human rights involved.

Discussion questions:

- “Was it easy to find a matching SDG? Why/why not?”
- “Which human rights keep coming up, even across different SDGs?”
- “How does this exercise show that human rights aren’t only ‘big’ global issues, but affect all of us in everyday life?”