



An Australian Government Initiative

Grant for ACHRE activities

08 December 2017

The Australian Council for Human Rights education has secured a grant under the Grants to Australian Organisations Program (GAOP) to provide educational material on human rights and humanitarian law to school students, community organisations and the general public.

ACHRE will use the Grant for the following three activities:

Activity 1 – Update of ACHRE website

ACHRE runs a free-access website which provides human rights education materials for primary and secondary school students, community organisations and the general public. The website provides updates on human rights activities, conferences, seminars and public meetings and publishes commentary on domestic and international human rights issues. The website also serves as an educational tool for teachers and legal education practitioners. The Grant will be used to upgrade the software, structure and content of the website.

Activity 2 – Broadening of the Citizen for Humanity Program

The Citizen for Humanity Program is an educational program run by ACHRE in secondary schools across Australia. The program's primary goals are:

- to promote knowledge about human rights, as set out in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and related international instruments
- to encourage an understanding of the relevance of respect for human rights to the maintenance of Australia's democratic political institutions and inclusive multicultural society based on the rule of law
- to create awareness of the value of strengthening the culture of human rights, and
- to develop the capacity of all Australian citizens to take action to protect and promote their own human rights and the rights of others in their community, as well as in the world at large.

The program encourages students to explore why human rights matter to the promotion and respect for cultural diversity and justice in a democratic society. At the end of the program, participating students are presented with a Citizen for Humanity award. ACHRE will use the Grant to broaden the reach of the program across Australian schools.

Activity 3– Humanitarian Law Seminars

ACHRE is also to organise humanitarian law seminars at universities in Melbourne, Perth and Sydney to increase awareness of humanitarian law and its current and

potential future applications in Australia. This will be done in the context of ACHRE co-organising the 9th International Human Rights Education Conference in November 2018.