

# Pol-Soc Podcast - Episode 13 – Listen Along Guide

## Ireland, the UN and Human Rights

Listen to the episode here:

Download and engage with lots of additional resources on the 'Episode Notes' page:

### Principle Organs of the United Nation:

1. When was the UDHR signed? \_\_\_\_\_

2. Briefly Name and explain the 'Principle Organs' of the United Nations:

a. General A \_\_\_\_\_ : Explanation \_\_\_\_\_

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b. Security C \_\_\_\_\_ : Explanation \_\_\_\_\_

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c. ECOSOC – E \_\_\_\_\_ C \_\_\_\_\_ O \_\_\_\_\_ S \_\_\_\_\_

O \_\_\_\_\_ C \_\_\_\_\_ : Explanation \_\_\_\_\_

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Other bodies involved in ECOSOC:

d. Trustee Council – Defunct

e. International C \_\_\_\_\_ of J \_\_\_\_\_ : Explanation: \_\_\_\_\_

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f. The S \_\_\_\_\_ : Explanation \_\_\_\_\_

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Headed by: \_\_\_\_\_

3. (4:15) Under which part of the United Nations does the Human Rights Council lie?

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4. Which position oversees Human Rights in the UN? (Name the former Irish President who held this role).

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**Commissioner Dr Lucy Michael**

5. How does Dr Michael describe working on the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission? (5:05)

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6. Do you think that Dr Michael is a well-qualified commissioner? Justify your answer.

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7. Which Key Thinker from the Pol Soc course was recently appointed as a IHREC Commissioner? (6:50)

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8. **UPR** (7:35). At the end of this section, pause the podcast and explain the workings of the Universal Period Review in your own words.

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9. What key concept is at the heart of Human Rights & Equality structures? Explain why this is the case. (9:05)

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10. What benefits come to Ireland from interacting with this human rights system? (9:45)

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11. How does Dr Michael explain the concept of 'Progressive Realisation'? (10:25)

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12. How does the example of Traveller Education programmes and the Equality Authority after the Celtic Tiger illustrate how NOT to deal with the provision of Human Rights?

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13. Explain the difference between 'Progressive' and 'Immediate' realisation of rights.

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**Back to Dr Michael (13:30)**

14. What is CERD? \_\_\_\_\_

15. What kinds of questions does the treaty committee for CERD ask the member state being reviewed? (give 3 examples) \_\_\_\_\_

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16. Name two other groups that submit "Shadow Reports" for the committee to consider in its deliberations:

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

17. What is the benefit for one of the groups in question 16 in 'airing' those complaints in an international setting? Explain your answer. (16:00) \_\_\_\_\_

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18. What name is given to the recommendations made by the UN treaty committees? How can it benefit students to examine these recommendations? (17:15) \_\_\_\_\_

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19. How do the treaty committees view the idea of human rights - not just existing in a convention? (17:15)

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**Quote of the Day**

20. What was the Quote of the Day?(20:45)

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21. Research Frederick Douglass and his role as an abolitionist and former enslaved person and summarize them briefly here: \_\_\_\_\_

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22. Investigate the Douglas-in-Cork week events (see episode notes). How might they be of relevance to an essay on Human Rights or Power and Decision-Making in a Pol Soc essay? \_\_\_\_\_

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**The Students Strike Back (20:20)**

23. How do the students explain and illustrate the following Human Rights concepts?

a. Absolute Rights: \_\_\_\_\_

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b. Limited Rights: \_\_\_\_\_

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c. Qualified Rights: \_\_\_\_\_

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24. Can you improve upon those rights and/or give other examples of those rights?

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**MINDMAP:** How does Dr Michael respond to the following idea from our Subject Specification? *“Political rights can be set aside for a period in order to enable a country to develop so that it can provide for its citizens”* (L.O. 6.2)

**Pros and Cons**

**Examples**

**Key Terms to Recognize and Utilize**

**Your Personal Conclusions**

**MINDMAP:** How does Dr Michael respond to the following idea from our Subject Specification? *“Identify what it means for states to agree to implement economic, social and cultural rights within the framework of international cooperation.”* (L.O. 6.3)

**Pros and Cons**

**Examples**

**Key Terms to Recognize and Utilize**

**Your Personal Conclusions**