

MOOC “Promoting and Protecting Human Rights: a Global Overview”

Report



Angela Melchiorre
Online Programmes Manager

Manuela Pegoraro
E-learning Expert

This MOOC has been a really precious experience for my professional career and my personal education.

MOOC
participant

I'm a person with disabilities and work in the promotion & protection of disability rights. I wish to start an online education platform for people with disabilities in Nepal.

MOOC participant

I'm working in the field of Human Rights investigation in Colombia. This course will be a key tool for my work.

MOOC participant

Summary

Key information

- Type of course:
free MOOC, self-paced
- Dates:
from 15 June (open on a rolling basis)
- Estimated effort:
5+ Hrs/week
- Access on edX platform:
<https://edx.gchumanrights.org/pphr>
- Presentation on GC website:
<http://www.gchumanrights.org/mooc-pphr>, including promotional [video](#) and social media campaign ([media toolkit](#))
- Features:
10 experts from 7 regions; 15 video lectures; text-based introductions; readings; multi-media materials
- Engagement & evaluation:
7 quizzes; 3 polls



Statistics*

- Enrolment:
2156 participants (*target: 1000*)
- Age & gender:
all ages, mainly 19-44 (72%)
female (67%), male (31%), other (2%)
- Country of origin:
all GC regions, with 3 out of 7 above target of 10% (see p.4)
- Professional profile:
varied, mainly student/researcher (46%), NGO professionals (19%), educators (8%)
- Surveys:
824 (welcome); 216 (user-experience)
- Certificates issued:
234 (10% of enrolment; *target: 10%*)
- Top viewed videos on:
Introduction to HR, international framework, Arab world



*edx, youtube, surveys

Highlights

- Used by GC Master's programmes (LATMA, APMA, ERMA and EMA) as study material. Also used by the Vienna M.A. in Applied Human Rights
- Unique regional perspectives and diversity of speakers, including witnesses
- 4 main reasons for enrolment: 1) career (incl. CV improvement), 2) further study, 3) useful for work, 4) useful for training design (data from the welcome survey)



Recommendations

- More interactive and shorter videos
- Add presentation or support materials to videos
- Add discussions
- More about Latin America, Arab World
- More quizzes and more varied
- Clarify when data was collected (obsolescence risk)
- Polls are an appreciated feature, add more
- Keep very appreciated free access



A snapshot



Yoursa Abourabi



Bencharat Chua



Veronica Gomez



Felipe Gomez Isa



Frans Viljoen

Some of our experts

Decline of democracy

What indicators are used by our lecturers to describe the decline of democracy in Asia?

- Violations and abuses against human rights defenders
- Stringent cyber security laws
- The rise of religious fundamentalism
- Limited space for civil society's participation

SUBMIT

Quiz questions

Poll

I think that human rights:

Results

- Have already come a long way but success stories need to be highlighted more to inspire further progress **49%**
- Might be fully achieved one day: it is really up to human rights activists to influence politics **27%**
- Cannot be fully achieved: some cultural traditions will always push back **20%**
- Are utopian: I've learned in this MOOC that there are more failures than success stories **3%**
- I don't know, I'm even more confused than before **1%**

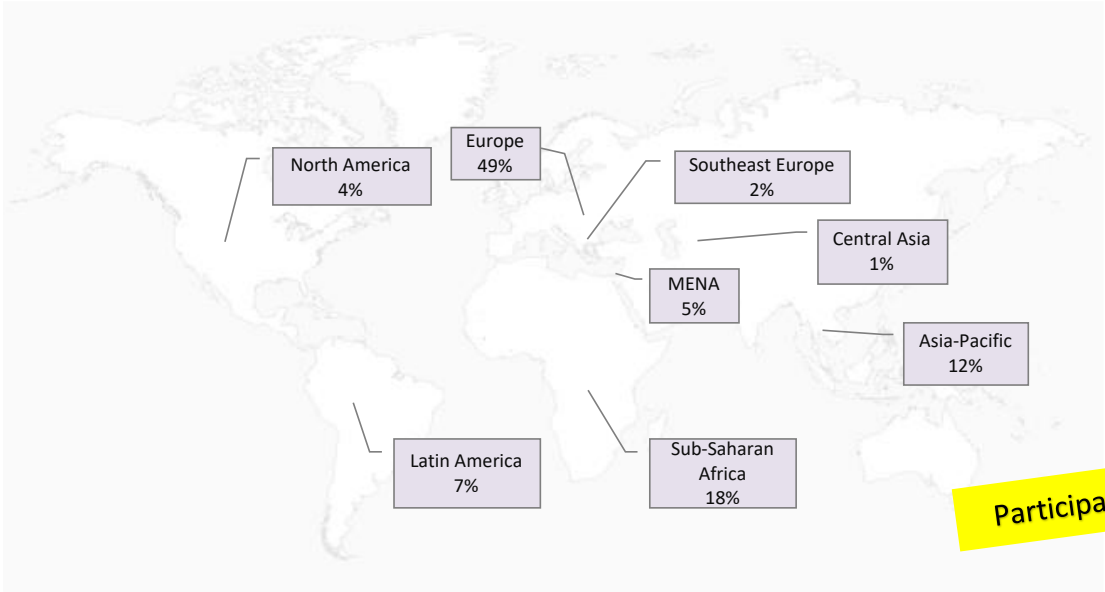
Results gathered from 226 respondents.

Results of a poll

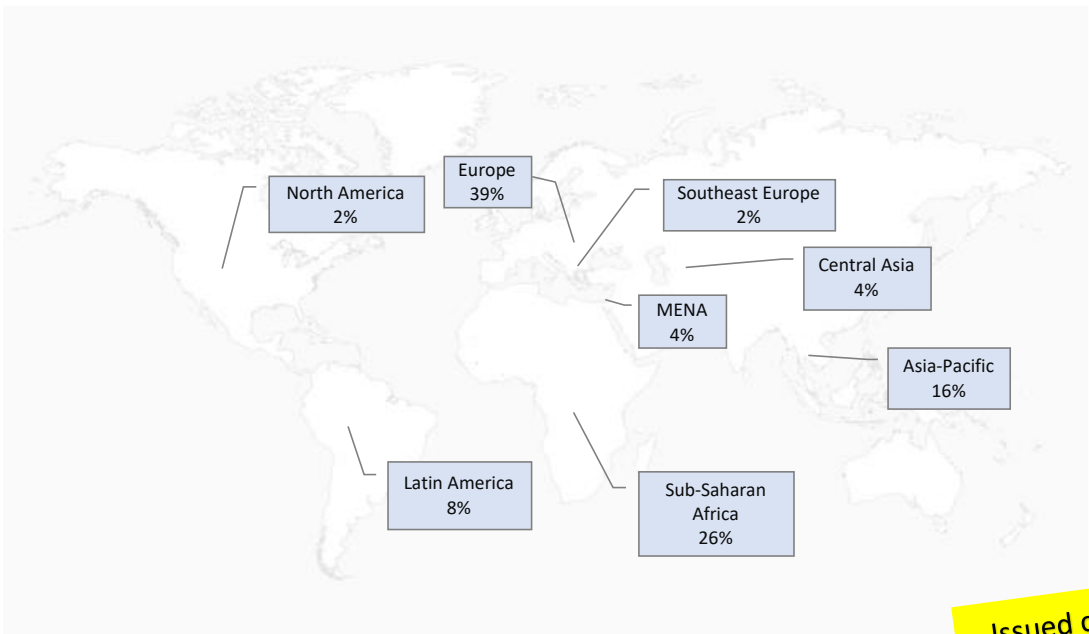


A video lecture: <https://youtu.be/8p0pJzYpmso>

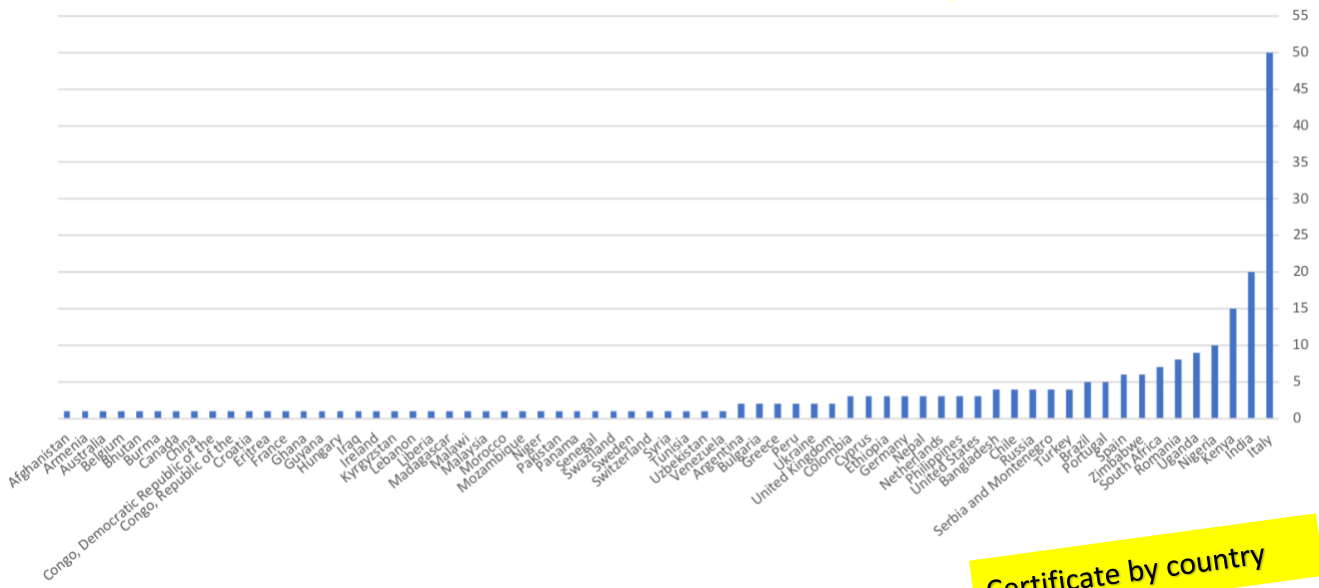
Where our students are



Participants' location



Issued certificates



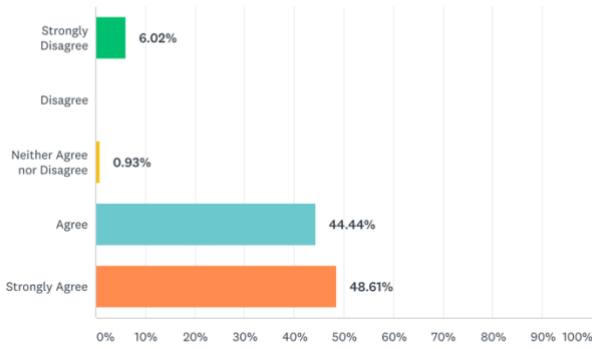
Certificate by country

Deep dive into participants' feedback (216 respondents)

Positive impact of materials: 93% agrees

How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statement: The course materials (lectures, videos, documents) have had a positive impact on my learning experience.

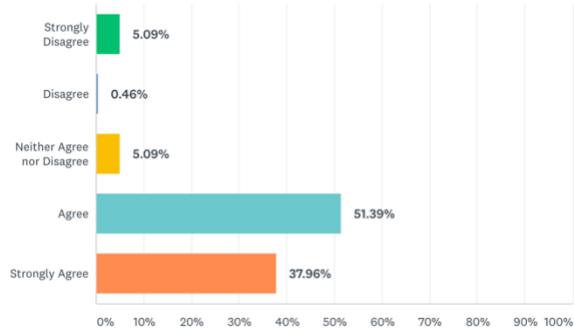
Answered: 216 Skipped: 0



Positive impact of activities: 89% agrees

How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statement: The course activities (discussions, quizzes) have had a positive impact on my learning experience.

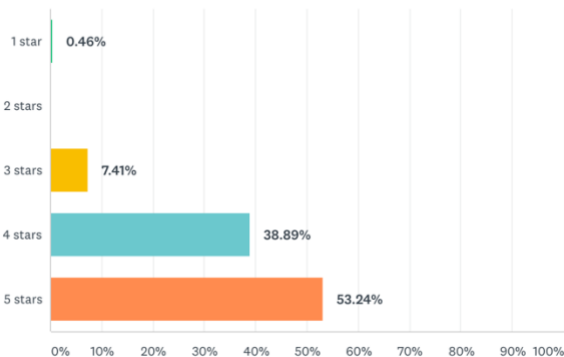
Answered: 216 Skipped: 0



Overall rating: 92% gives 4 - 5

Please give this course an overall rating on a scale of 1 to 5 with 1 being the lowest and 5 being the highest rating

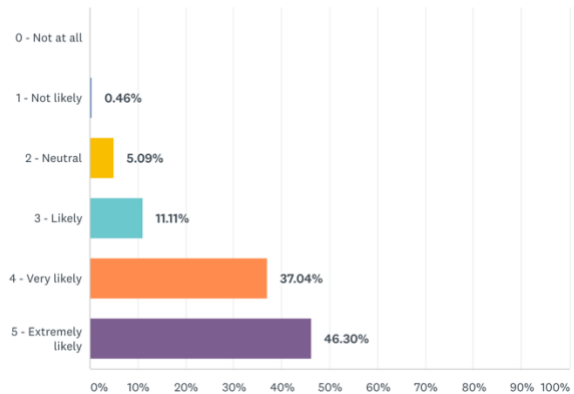
Answered: 216 Skipped: 0



83% would recommend it

How likely are you to recommend this course to a friend?

Answered: 216 Skipped: 0



Comments received in the participant experience survey demonstrate a high level of appreciation of the course by both 'newbies' and students with prior knowledge on human rights. Even participants who recommended change or additions concluded that "it was still a great experience." Complementing videos and materials on standards and mechanism, with witness interviews on focus areas (e.g., memory, reconciliation, sexuality, disability, etc.) and from the different regions, was considered as an added valued. This approach also allowed the Global Campus to give new life to videos created for past MOOCs (currently closed), and therefore take advantage of prior investment for the benefit of an audience that have not had access to those videos. Many participants highlighted how important and new it was to learn about other continents and their human rights traditions, achievements and challenges, in comparison with other education programmes that mainly focus on UN and EU 'narratives' on human rights.

We can conclude that the MOOC "Promoting and Protecting Human Rights: a Global Overview" was not only helpful for students preparing for an MA or PhD in the area of human rights, but also for people already working in the field who lacked a global and comparative perspective.

Comments by participants

GREAT FOR BEGINNERS

... Overall, the course was wonderful. It is the perfect course for beginners.

... I think the content and material selected are of high quality.

PRACTICAL APPROACH

... Additional reading and development materials from experienced professionals in various fields (problems of people with disabilities, migrants, women) were useful for understanding the practical aspects.

POLL (newly added feature)

... Polls are very interesting, they offer statistics of what learners are actually thinking. If possible, add more such polls. Thank you.

Impact

ACTIVISTS/NGOs



... I am hoping to establish an NGO that focuses on women, youth and the environment so understanding the structures and strictures currently in place with regards to human rights was extremely informative! Thank you.

... As a human rights activist I have benefited significantly in understanding the global perspective.

HR DEFENDERS



... As a human rights defender, this course has been so insightful on many of the matters I handle on a daily basis. It has elevated my research in many possible ways and I believe I am now much better than I was at the beginning.

... I'm still very impressed with this course and will definitely recommend it! Before I'd been quite familiar only with European system of promoting and protecting human rights, but now I've learned about other regions' system and have therefore gained so much in terms of my legal knowledge.

STUDENT



... I really thank the Global Campus of Human Rights for offering this course for free. I think it is very important that human rights are promoted in non-discriminatory ways, and financial reasons may be for some people like me, an obstacle to have access to these contents.

VOLUNTEER



... Since I also work with minor migrants in Serbia from Arab world countries, this MOOC helped me with understanding the difficulties they are facing in their home countries.