

FROM THE EDITOR

NEU Journal of Social Sciences starts its publication life with this issue published on March 2008. NEU Journal of Social Sciences is a refereed journal

which will be published twice a year, March and September, by the Near East University. The Journal aims to promote dissemination of high quality academic publication in the field of social sciences, motivate researches and surveys related to universal issues, and present the problems and solutions to the academic world and wider public opinion within an objective perspective.

The pages of the Journal will be open to original works (theoretical analyses,

field studies, case studies) in different field of interests (history, political science, public administration, international relations, economy, business administration, law, sociology, communication, anthropology, psychology etc.)

placed under the umbrella of social sciences, and naturally the studies undertaken with an interdisciplinary approach, and the studies exploring the relationship between theory and its philosophical foundations.

NEU Journal of Social Sciences begins its publication life at the 61st Anniversary of the announcement of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights by the General Assembly of the United Nations in its meeting held in Paris, on December 10, 1948. General Assembly of the United Nations proclaimed this Universal Declaration of Human Rights “**as a common standard of achievement for all peoples and all nations, to the end that every individual and every organ of society, keeping this Declaration constantly in mind, shall strive by teaching and education to promote respect for these rights and freedoms and by progressive measures, national and international, to secure their universal and effective recognition and observance, both among the peoples of Member States themselves and among the peoples of territories under their jurisdiction**”.

The content of the Declaration can be defined as principles which will provide human being to live with self, the precepts which make a human a human being and live like a human being. A careful study of the conditions prevailing in contemporary societies, clearly indicate that the efforts shown and

measures taken during the last 60 years is not sufficient to insure, a human to live like a human being. Such concepts as equality and freedom, virtually have

been reduced to terminological level and deprived of their historical foundations, have lost their meanings substantially as the result of fierce

competition in production relations, technology advancing with an enormous rapidity has become a means and help sovereigns to strengthen their sovereignty, but did not help to the solutions of problems related to human rights. Unfortunately, this situation facilitates the acceleration of the injection of the policy towards excluding 'value's to science.

An important portion of world population is unemployed and has to live at subsistence level, and is not able to benefit properly from the services and goods provided by the contemporary civilization for the use of humanity.

According to the statistics: Each year, more than 8 million people around the

world die because they are too poor to stay alive; Over one billion people live

in extreme poverty, defined as living on less than 1 US Dollar a day; More than 800 million go hungry each day; Over 100 million primary school-age children can not go to school.

Political conflicts and double standard practices of power holders, for strengthening their positions, is preventing the protection of human rights at national and international levels. The number of applications registered to the European Court of Human Rights has multiplied by six in eight years, and is now running at around 40.000 per year. "In 2006, 39.000 new applications were registered with a view to judicial decision. In 2007 the corresponding number rose to 41.000" (Speech given by the President of the Court, on the occasion of the opening of the judicial year, 25 January 2008). According to the figures given by the Court, out of 8179 applications registered and disposed

of by a decision or judgment between the years 1999-2007, the number of judgments finding at least one violation is 6749. This figure is thoughtprovoking

and clearly indicates that the measures taken for the protection of human rights are not sufficient even in the developed nations of the world.

Under the light of the above evaluations, NEU Journal of Social Sciences places the Universal Declaration of Human Rights amongst its pages for the purpose of refreshing the memories of intellectuals and scholars, and kindly reminds that there is need for studies focusing on human rights and their

protection. On the verge of publication, we would like to pronounce our desire

of 21st Century being an era in which rights and freedom are effectively recognized and practiced, and again our wish and determination of NEU Journal of Social Sciences being a forum open to all scholars and intellectuals.

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