

# Universal Human Rights and Inclusivity: The American Way



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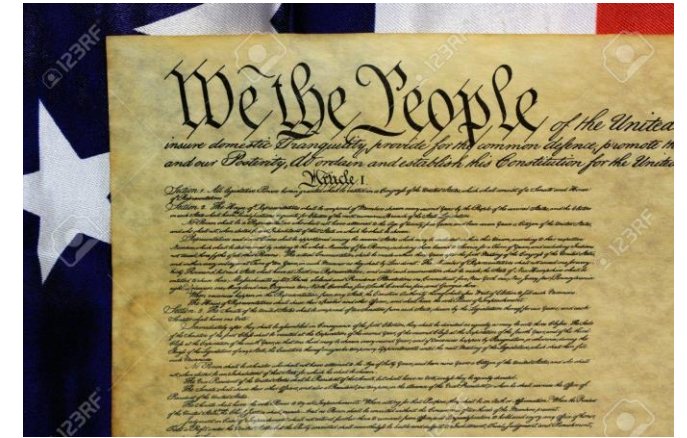


*All views are personal*

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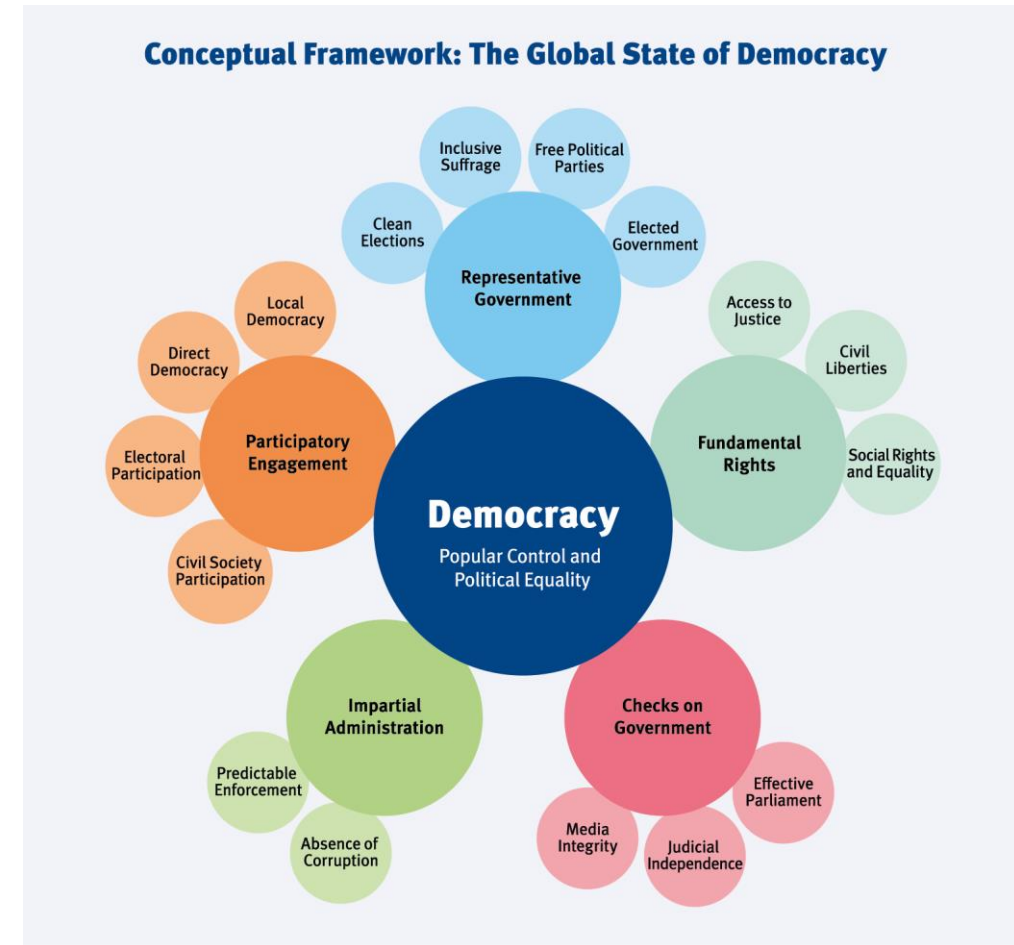
# AGENDA

- American Democracy
- What are “Human Rights”
- What is “Inclusivity”
- Women’s Rights = Human Rights
- NIST Mission & Vision
- Q&A



# American Democracy

- *Demos + kratos* (GR) – Rule of the people
- American Democracy is *not* just electoral – it includes freedoms, rights, and civic duties
- Article I of the U.S. Constitution: Legislative Powers (Article II is Executive Powers)
- Democracies are not perfect, but they are the best system because of freedoms and rights (that were fought for)
- The First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution (1791):  
*“Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances”*
- *Invitation to Struggle + Checks and Balances* between the 3 branches of government: the Legislative, Executive, and Judicial



# What are “Human Rights”?

## UN Definition:

“Human rights are rights inherent to all human beings, regardless of race, sex, nationality, ethnicity, language, religion, or any other status. Human rights include the right to life and liberty, freedom from slavery and torture, freedom of opinion and expression, the right to work and education, and many more. Everyone is entitled to these rights, without discrimination.” [<https://www.un.org/en/global-issues/human-rights>]

## HR Laws:

“The foundations of this body of law are the **Charter of the United Nations** and the **Universal Declaration of Human Rights**, adopted by the General Assembly in **1945** and **1948**, respectively. Since then, the United Nations has gradually expanded human rights law to encompass specific standards for women, children, persons with disabilities, minorities and other vulnerable groups, who now possess rights that protect them from discrimination that had long been common in many societies.”

The United States has promoted universal human rights in foreign policies for centuries, including in current times –

- Examples: U.S. condemnations of the Uighur Genocide (China); condemnation of the Rohingya Genocide (Myanmar)
- This is stated in the **U.S. Department of State’s Policy on Human Rights**:

*“The protection of fundamental human rights was a foundation stone in the establishment of the United States over 200 years ago. Since then, a central goal of U.S. foreign policy has been the promotion of respect for human rights, as embodied in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Supporting democracy not only promotes such fundamental American values as religious freedom and worker rights, but also helps create a more secure, stable, and prosperous global arena in which the United States can advance its national interests. In addition, democracy is the one national interest that helps to secure all the others. Democratically governed nations are more likely to secure the peace, deter aggression, expand open markets, promote economic development, protect American citizens, combat international terrorism and crime, uphold human and worker rights, avoid humanitarian crises and refugee flows, improve the global environment, and protect human health.”* [<https://www.state.gov/policy-issues/human-rights-and-democracy/#:~:text=The%20protection%20of%20fundamental%20human,Universal%20Declaration%20of%20Human%20Rights>]



# What is “Inclusivity”?

**“The fact of including all types of people, things, or ideas, and treating them all fairly and equally”**

[<https://dictionary.cambridge.org/us/dictionary/english/inclusivity>]

## Why is inclusivity important?

- Prevent discrimination
- Accept/accommodate people's identities
- Uphold human rights
- Consistent with democratic ideals and principles



# Women's Rights = Human Rights

*“The effort to secure equal rights for women and to remove gender discrimination from laws, institutions, and behavioral patterns.”* [<https://legal-dictionary.thefreedictionary.com/Women%27s+Rights>]

Feminism does not seek to achieve higher power or status over men; it seeks to achieve gender equality – to eliminate gender discrimination.

*All humans have rights.*

WOMEN'S  
RIGHTS  
ARE HUMAN  
RIGHTS



# NIST Mission & Vision

<https://www.nist.gov/about-nist>

## Mission

To promote U.S. innovation and industrial competitiveness by advancing measurement science, standards, and technology in **ways that enhance economic security** and **improve our *quality of life***.

## Vision

NIST will be the world's leader in creating critical measurement solutions and promoting **equitable standards**. Our efforts stimulate innovation, foster industrial competitiveness, and **improve the *quality of life***.



*Thank you for listening!*



ANY  
QUESTIONS?

