Human Rights - a common meeting place?
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This year is the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. When it was drafted the Declaration offered much hope and promise in a world still finding its feet after the destruction and devastation of WWII.

One of the amazing things about the Universal Declaration of Human Rights is that every country which belongs to the United Nations has signed up to it. Regardless of history, religion or culture, the Declaration stands as a common meeting place for all the nations of the world.

No doubt there are differing ideas about where human rights originate, and what they actually look like on the ground, but they do provide a commonly held starting point for dialogue and action to bring about a better world. In this sense the Declaration offers a valuable ‘meeting place’ for interfaith and intercultural dialogue.

People of faith will find many resonances in the ideals presented in the Declaration. For Catholics, a reading of the Declaration will readily call to mind many of the principles of Catholic Social Teaching, and the Gospel values upon which they’re based.

The university’s focus on community engagement is directed towards the transformation of persons, communities and cultures so that human dignity is recognised and respected, for all humanity.