



A WORD FROM THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

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Besides fundamental components such as economic development, social development, environmental protection and security, the concept of sustainable development incorporates culture, as a set of distinctive material, spiritual, intellectual and emotional characteristics that shape and define a society, represents the organizational framework and environment enabling its harmonious sustainable development.

People are entitled to make full use of the right to quality education and training abiding by the principles of cultural identity, without any hindrance in choosing them, as well as accomplishing their own cultural practices substantiated by a respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Cultural rights are unjustly considered the Cinderella of human rights while they should be equally valued, just as civil, political, economic and social rights. Culture undoubtedly contributes to making a society more human since it is an essential component of the European integration process, whereas cultural diversity, in the overall context of the protection of human rights and more specific context of cultural rights, is the subject of relevant and topical debates from the vantage point of: politics, law and foreign policy.

Cultural diversity has become a necessity for humankind, just like biodiversity is essential for nature and thus a component of sustainable development.

Cultural diversity enables all nations to get to know each other better, with the advantage of enhanced mutual support, tolerance and appreciation. Respect for diversity of cultures, tolerance, dialogue and cooperation represent fundamental warranty for peace and security. Cultural diversity embodies more than the shared patrimony of humankind; it is also a crucial asset for sustainable development and international cooperation.

Therefore, promoting cultural diversity is an effective means of fighting terrorism which has recently become a global threat.

Let us not forget that the degree of civilization in a society or of a nation is given precisely by the quality standard of living together among ethnical communities. Likewise, mention should also be made of the role of education in promoting culture, illustrated by educational projects and partnerships which play a significant part in raising awareness and preservation of cultural diversity.