



10th anniversary
European Master's Degree
in Human Rights and Democratisation

Scuola Grande di San Rocco
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Speech by

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Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the pleasure to bring to you the salutation of the President of the Region of Veneto, Giancarlo Galan, and to welcome to today's ceremony of awarding of the diplomas of "European Master's in Human Rights and Democratisation".

The presence of high representatives of the United Nations, of the European Union, of the Italian Government, as well as that of all the prestigious E.MA universities, underlines the solemn character of this ceremony, which importance is furthermore witnessed by the beauty and magnificence of the venue hosting us here in Venice, a city which has always been cosmopolitan and a symbol of intercultural dialogue.

The Region of Veneto is perfectly aware of the importance of the European Master's Programme, to which it has dedicated a specific Regional Law, allowing the regional government to offer over the years a concrete and continuous support.

It is moreover twenty years that the Region of Veneto is committed, by means of another regional law, to engage in various initiatives as training, research and awareness-raising on the themes of Human Rights and Culture of Peace.

All this is implemented being deeply convinced that these important themes, are at the foundation of the idea of living in a civilized environment, and are to be nurtured at all levels, from the local to the international.

Ten years of activities are therefore a really important goal for the European Inter-University Centre for Human Rights and Democratisation and for the European Master's Programme, and the Veneto Region is proud of having provided its contribution.

The current geo-political scenario tells us every day how important it is to develop initiatives and specific competences in the field of human rights and democratisation, with the objective to ensure in the most adequate way the fundamental rights of individuals, as well as global security for the planet.

The regional government believes that commitment and active support to human rights and democratisation issues, are to be further intensified, through involvement of all international, national and local governmental institutions as well as research institutes, cultural organisations, non-governmental organisations, and last but not least, by favoring active participation of all citizens.

The educational and research projects promoted by EIUC move in this direction and contribute, in my view, in an essential way to that "humanisation of the international order" which has been the topic discussed during this morning panel.

"Humanisation" means, first of all, to recognize the inbuilt dignity and fundamental rights of each individual as fundamental subject of the juridical order, also internationally: this stems from the correct implementation of "International Human Rights Law" which dissemination is at the basis of all EIUC initiatives.

Being deeply convinced of this, I am particularly happy to address a warm welcome to the Master's professors.

Equally I want to warmly greet the students who are today being awarded their diplomas of Masters in Human Rights and Democratisation, as well as the students that have started to attend the XI edition of E.MA. I wish to both of them to achieve many important personal and professional objectives in their future as human rights defenders.