

# World Development Applied Locally

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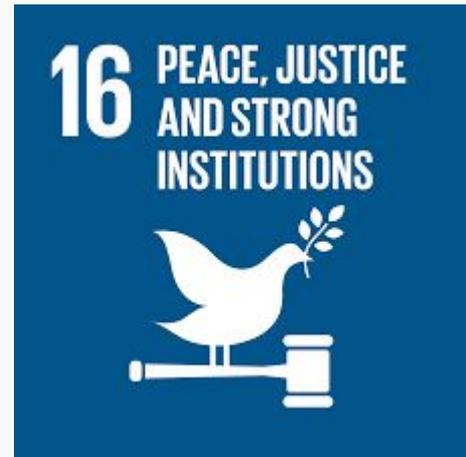


# What is a “Human Rights City”?

- “A Human Rights City is a municipality that refers explicitly to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international human rights standards and/or law in their policies, statements, and programs” ([ushrnetwork.com](http://ushrnetwork.com))
- Becoming a Human Rights City can take a variety of forms from major local legislation pushes to official statements being made by mayors.

# SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

- SDG's or Sustainable Development Goals are outlined within the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
- Adopted by the United Nations Member States in 2015
- Call for global action to address large problems inhibiting the progression of the global community
- SDG 16 works specifically with institutions and ensuring peaceful interactions between citizens and their states.



# SDG 16 applied Locally

While most of the targets outlined in the subsections of SDG 16 are written to apply to states and push them to be the ones to enact these changes, many of the principles can be found at the local level. Taking principles from the targets listed for the SDGs can help make them more applicable and give a better understanding of the role a local community can play in larger issues.

# Connecting SDG 16.1 to Dayton, OH

- Of the 6 international treaties signed by the United States, SDG 16.1 applies to 4 (UDHR, ICCPR, CERD, CRC).
- According to a report by the Dayton Police Department gun violence rose from 448 cases in 2018 to 511 in 2019.
- Challenge: When examining cases of violence on the local level, it is hard to get accurate readings of if violence in general is on an upward or downward trend nationally.
- Benefit: Looking at the local level is easier to see positive efforts being done to address violence daily.



# Connecting SDG 16.2 to Dayton, OH

- Applies to 5 out of 6 signed international treaties signed by the United States.
- Reports from Montgomery County show a small decline in the number of cases of physical/ sexual abuse of children between 2013 and 2014.
- Although number of reports is on a decline, a 2017 study shows a large connection between the presence of violence/ opioid usage in households and children being victims of abuse or neglect in Dayton.
- Challenge: Statistics on child abuse, exploitation and trafficking rely on the cases being reported by others.
- Benefit: Studies of child abuse in Dayton within the last ten years show that efforts to spot early signs of abuse are working.



# Advocacy Campaign

- Support local groups working with communities to address areas of violence (Artemis Center, YWCA, Dayton Human Rights Center)
- Engage with Dayton communities to understand concerns citizens have to make small, impactful changes that allow community members to feel safe and protected.
- Improve relationships between lawmakers/ law enforcement and Dayton citizens.
- Invest in local initiatives that work to support Dayton residents and give necessary resources.

# Reflection

Working on this project has given me a better understanding of how human rights work can fit into our daily lives. Very often we think of human rights or international treaties as something that is above us; we do not directly see how they shape the world around us. Through this project, I have not only learned how these entities play into my life as a student in Dayton, Ohio, but I have also learned how they can be used to mobilize communities through comprehensive advocacy plans. Coming out of this experience, I now see the connection between international work and local efforts and have a better understanding of the role I can play in shaping my community for the better.

# References

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