**Comments on UNESCO’s Articles on Identity, diversity and pluralism**

**Article 1**

In my old school that I went to before, we divided the year into quarters, and in each quarter, we focus on different important topics such as equality, solidarity, diversity etc. So instead of walking around, having these thoughts in the back of your head, the teachers and principal put posters with important messages according to the topic we have at that time. For example, during the second quarter, we had diversity as the topic, and the teaches gathered us for an assembly and had a presentation about diversity and what to think about when you are in a school and meeting new people. These things create a very good foundation for people who does not often talk about these essential topics in their daily life, these topics and assemblies where they talk about these type of things is a very crucial thing for other people and how they mature and move forward in life.

The Article describes how all of humanity share the same heritage but with time the same common heritage has separated into different and unique cultural and societal identities. And although these identities may be different, they all make up the whole of humanity. The article states that the way biodiversity in nature greatly benefits the ecosystem and diversity in mankind also benefits our society.

In the article there is a quote that perfectly describes the article;

“the identities of the groups and societies making up humankind. /.../ cultural diversity is as necessary for humankind as biodiversity is for nature. In this sense, it is the common heritage of humanity and should be recognized and affirmed for the benefit of present and future generations.”

**Article 2**

By now in Sweden, we have a very big variation of cultural groups. This has led to divides in society. This is because some people want to conserve the old culture and some people are for change. Immigrants come to Sweden and bring their culture with them and don’t want to respect the culture we have here. Some people here don’t respect their cultures eighter, which may lead to conflicts.

To avoid these conflicts, we need to respect and accept that everybody is different and has different a different view on life. Even though people never will have the same opinions or perspective on life, people should in first hand focus on their self.

**Article 3**

In our society we have all kinds of culture and different people with different values and opinions. People that are part of other cultures will generally have different values and a different way of living. Interacting and being exposed to other cultures develops us to not judgmental and helps us understand that everyone has their own different opinion. Everyone has different thoughts and thinks in different ways and opens to discussion and change for the better. We get a look at different perspective.

Meeting people from other cultures will also help with future work opportunities abroad. If we find ourselves in the situation where we are the ’outsiders’ we will have an easier time adapting and being accepted, for we have learnt tolerance and respect to others.

We can also get inspiration from the thoughts of other cultures. All cultures have benefits and flaws and the best way to get the best outcome possible is to work together, take inspiration and being open to change. No cultures is perfect and therefore interacting and learning from each other and discussing is the best way forward so that everyone can get accepted and integrated into society.

Society is complex and there are many different people living together. If society is one sided towards a specific majority group of people, we will see the development of bias and prejudice towards minorities and other cultures. In a cultural diverse society prejudice is less common and we learn to have respect for other cultures. All humans are equal and cultural diversity helps proving that.

**Article 4**

Our thoughts on human rights are that it is very important, and everyone need to do something to protect that. We have family and friends that are a part of the minorities, so we have an extra obligation to do something to protect their rights. It can be very hard for them to stand up for them self because people will not take them seriously. So, if we all do something together, people will start to see the truth and stand by them. Minorities should be protected, and it can't be discriminated, and every effort should grant their rights.

We have seen a lot going on in the world for the past few years. For example, BLM (black lives matter), the conflict between Israel and Palestine, the civil war in Ethiopia, the war in Ukraine and a lot more. Their human rights have been threatened. They all have something in common and that is that they are minority groups. What is happening to them right now is so dangerous for the future and the next generation. No one is talking about their rights but if we start to do that, they will be protected and they will be equal to the rest of us.

There is another subject that have been very shocking to the world, and it is the abortion law. After a lot of discussion, it has come to the stage that the majority of USA want to ban abortion.  It is devastating and its threatening women’s right to do whatever they want to do to with their own body. We are going back instead of going forward.

**Article 5**

Everyone has the right to express themselves the way they like. They have the right to speak their own language and have the right to be taught their mother tongue. On the way to school or other things you hear lots of different languages on the bus as well as the subway. I know a lot of people with different backgrounds and their mother tongue is not Swedish, therefore many of those goes to lessons to be able to speak their mother tongue. In some cultures, different kinds of food are forbidden, and they can therefore not always eat the food that is served. But as it is their right to conduct their cultural practices the school serves alternatives for them, so that they don’t have to be hungry. Sometimes you come across people who prays or exercise their religion in different ways but it´s not as common as the other two things mentioned.

**Article 6**

Every country had their own say of living and different people have their own way of complete their day.

We can take Sweden for an example. We keep us to our selves and this shows when we are Risby the locka train. There is a unspoken rule that you shouldn’t take a set beside someone else when there is emtpty spots, and you should never communicate with the Other passengers. In Other contries a simple tving as sitting next to another one is fully normal.

This, as well as, the so called ”jantelagen” is a part of swedish culture and our unspoken rules. Jantelagen is a rule that menas that you should boy talk about yourself in a good way, that makes you appear better than others. In Sweden it is tabu to talk good about yourself.

Apart from Swedish meatballs, these things that we have mentioned is a big part of swedish culture. Unspoken rules is very common in our sociaety. By reading this you might think that swedes is Rude but we are actually very nice when you get to know us.

**Article 7**

One way that our creativity gets affected by the culture heritage is when we learn in school about different cultural heritages from all over the world and different times which gives us more perspective about other peoples lives which can make us get a wider perspective to life and how we can live our lives differently that then leads to more creativity among us youths.

In our present world we live in a so-called multicultural world which helps us get more creative like for example we have a larger variety of food and music from different cultural around the world which expands our view of music and food. Which leads to us having more creativity to make new music and food from other cultures or mixing them together.

**Article 8**

The text is about cultural things. And the cultural things is important. For example we have statues in our school.  Me and Tilda thinks the cultural things in our society is very important. The cultural things is very important for our society because we need to conserve those things even if the technology have taken over.

**Article 9**

We had paragraph 9 that has the title cultural policies as catalysts of creativity, in the paragraph they write about what countries should do to create conditions conducive to the production and dissemination of cultural goods and services. That basically means that the government of different countries should promote art.

A specific example is in the metro, when I use the metro, I come across cultural creations, on each train station there is a different art piece made, you can often read about the art on a little sign, as a little description about the thoughts why, how and if there's a meaning behind the work.

I find it encouraging to creativity and art overall. To think outside the box and to make thoughts shine through physical art is beautiful and a very special way of communicating different things such as history, emotions and thoughts.

We know that the government puts a lot of money into cultural attention and the diversified production of cultural goods and services to preserve it and encouraging it among the people, and that’s why we come across it in our daily life, such as in the metro.

**Article 10**

To strengthen the cultural bond between different countries, we have celebrated Swedish traditions with foreigners. For example, Aurora has celebrated Easter with her family in Italy and shared what is typical in Sweden. They did the traditional egg-hunting which was completely new for the Italians and a look into Swedish culture. Olivia has shared a typical Swedish Christmas and New Year’s Eve with a few American basketball players, even though they usually celebrate these two traditions, they got to do it in a Swedish way. We ate a lot of Swedish dishes, for example skagentoast and herring and we watched Kalle Anka at 3 o’clock, although it was challenging for them to understand the language, it seemed liked they enjoyed it!

**Article 11**

According to UNESCO market forces alone cannot guarantee the preservation and promotion of cultural diversity, which is the key to sustainable human development. Bromma Gymnasium has come up with an action in the right direction to preserve and promote cultural diversity. It´s clearly a divide between SFI and the rest of the students here witch they have tried to reduce by making events where everyone is included. They have started a chess club because it seems to be a common interest between the students where they can socialize and get to know more people outside their circle of friends.

To make this possible, people outside the school with knowledge within chess had to volunteer, witch plainly is what requires for it to take action.