

EVENT KIT

Human Rights Workshops & Edit-a-thon



General information

When carrying out activities/projects related to the editing content on Human Rights, we suggest to split the organization and development of the event in three different phases.

These phases are interconnected and allow us to identify the participating allies, organizations and people, while also identify the themes and partners that we will take into account in each particular context.



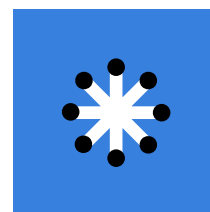
We generally organize workshops & edit-a-thons on this subject **one month and a half in advance**. Since we need to communicate with different Human Rights organizations on mostly sensitive issues, it is necessary to agree on the dissemination process and the particulars of the event.



For the workshops & edit-a-thons we suggest the design for less than **40 people**.



Regarding the physical space for the event, it is important to use **venues in which participants from Human Rights organizations feel a sense of belonging**. In cases in which such articulation and agreement exist, another option could be the use of academic/ university venues.



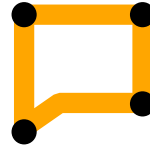
Workshops & edit-a-thons are carried out by the **Program's coordinators**. When possible, it is important to get help from **volunteer editors** that have previously worked on the subject.

Before the event

01

Defining the organizations with which the workshop/edit-a-thon will be carried out

- We find that it is important to forge an alliance in the Human Rights field that engages different organizations and institutions so activities and alliances can be sustainable in the long term.
- Identifying ahead of time whether these organizations/institutions will invite the presence of survivors and/or victims.
- Organizing a meeting with the participating organizations, in which details can be specified: the venue for the event, general themes proposed for edition, defining which themes will not be edited, defining and agreeing on details together.
- When possible, incorporating a group of experts on the themes to be edited as allies for the event.



02

Defining themes and articles to be edited

- Defining a specific general theme helps create focus. It can be a determined historical context or central theme. For instance: Trials for Truth, Protection Mechanisms of the Universal System, History of the LGBT+ Community (according to each country).
- Together with the organizations, working on a preliminary list of specific articles and themes that can be edited on Wikipedia.
- Specifically in the case of a first-time initiative, we suggest to include articles to be improved and updated, not to be created.
- If there is a specific theme for new articles, we suggest previously working together on establishing the notability of the article.
- We usually don't work on the creation of biographies, since it can be complex to account for the content and the references. We suggest editing content on processes of Justice, History, symbolic organizations, etc.
- Primary and secondary sources are identified to have them as support for editors.
- The list of articles should be more than the number of participants. In this case, if the maximum of participants is 40 people, we suggest that 40 articles are improved and updated.



03

Registration and dissemination

- Since these activities concern very sensitive subjects and deal with victims, survivors or well known Human Rights advocates, you will have to develop a registration strategy with the participating organizations and each specific context will determine how open the registration will be.
- Consider requiring pre-registration subject to confirmation by the event organizers.
- Depending on the context, the address and place of the event will be included in the communication material. If it is best to keep this information private, details will be informed upon confirmation of the registration. This decision depends on the context and on the specific organizers and participants involved.
- Make sure that communication materials promote the general theme defined for the content edition.
- In general, when working with Human Rights themes, organizations will have a mailing list and their own contacts so invitations can be sent directly, not just using social networks.



During the event

Workshop & edit-a-thon dynamics

We typically divide Human Rights-themed editing sessions into two encounters. Depending on the venue, they can be organized in two consecutive days or a week apart.

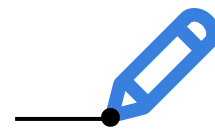
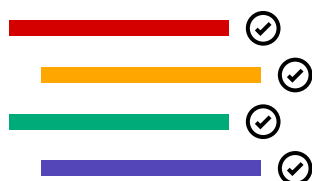
01 Firstly, we organize an **edition workshop** with members of our allied organizations and experts on the subject called by these organizations. During the workshop, we work together to identify content to be edited, we go through the basic editing tools and define which articles will be edited, considering the organizations and experts' contributions.

🕒 This workshop ideally lasts 2 hours.

02 Secondly, we organize a workshop for those who participated in the first workshop and those registered in the edit-a-thon. This allows us to have a team of trained experts and referents of the subject to join the Wikimedia staff during the edit-a-thon.

🕒 The duration of the edit-a-thon is between 4 and 6 hours.

- The edit-a-thon begins with a first hour, in which the theme is presented and we promote the importance of Wikipedia as a digital territory in which to work with a Human Rights perspective, fostering the protection and promotion of Human Rights. During the edit-a-thon, it is essential to create and convey a caring atmosphere that gives participants a sense of safety, that is why allied organizations are key, since it is our partners who normally legitimize trust in the activities that deal with issues that are very sensitive for the society.
- If edit-a-thons/workshops are organized in other countries or destinations, it is important to count with local liaisons that are recognized by local Human Rights organizations or movements.



Editing dynamics

- We suggest to always previously share the list of articles to be edited to the confirmed registered participants, so they arrive at the edit-a-thon knowing the suggested articles. When they receive the list of articles, they are asked to select those in which they are interested or to let us know their field of work/research.
- During the Edit-a-thon, we divide participants into themed groups, according to their interests for editing. Groups are formed by no more than 3 people and each group will be joined by a Wikimedia mentor and someone from the Human Rights organizations (someone who participated in the previous workshop).
- The day closes with the presentation of the articles on which participants worked. Groups share their experience at editing and identify themes that could be further elaborated in the future.

What we suggest not to do during a Human Rights Edit-a-thon or Workshop

- We suggest not to edit with real usernames or institutional usernames. It is important to always maintain anonymity. If it's necessary, evaluate the use of NPV to avoid political persecution.
- We suggest not to edit profiles about current political characters, as well as current social conflicts that can put in danger the participants and also the local organizations that can be hosting the event.
- Depend on the context where the event will be organised, it's important to define which kind of communication strategy will be developed. We suggest no to expose the event in a massive way, if the topics to be edited can be controversial for any of the local participating organizations. In these cases, it is preferable to maintain a strictly targeted communication.
- We suggest to explain at the beginning of the event the friendly space policy, and to identify who will be the person in charge of receiving any possible complaint.



After the event

What to do after the event

- Participants and organizers receive a quality survey about the experience.
- Follow-up of the edited articles and the questions that participants might have to continue improving and creating content.
- Establishing a network of Human Rights organizers that are always allied in the development of these activities.



Friendly space policy with a Human Rights Approach

For the Human Rights in Digital Environments Conference, we specifically designed a Friendly Space Policy for this kind of events.

We also elaborated a policy for taking photographs of participants, that highly depends on the type of participants of the activities.



Do you have any questions?

Send us an e-mail to educacion@wikimedia.org.ar