Title of the Essay:

Has the Universal Declaration made an impact in the United States? How is the push for rights around the world connected to the push for better access to rights in your community (however you define community)?

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"We will not enjoy security without development, we will not enjoy development without security, and we will not enjoy either without respect for human rights." — these wise words of the former UN Secretary-General, Kofi Annan, speak for themselves.¹ The human rights were acknowledged as one of the three pillars of the UN system, along with development, peace, and security. It is more obvious than ever that if one of these pillars fails, the entire edifice would become unstable. And in this context, I'm delighted to give my thoughts on how this proclamation has impacted the US and the rest of the globe. It is a testament to the rising understanding of the critical role that human rights play in securing peace and development as well as the growing significance of the Human Rights Council as the primary international body responsible for promoting and safeguarding human rights.¹

The Second World War's experience led to the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) by the UN General Assembly on December 10, 1948. Once that struggle concluded and the United Nations was established, the international community promised that atrocities like those of that conflict would never again be tolerated. The UN Charter will now have a road map to ensure that everyone's rights are protected everywhere, according to decision made by world leaders. In 1946, the General Assembly's first session was held, and it was here that they discussed the draft that would eventually become the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.² It marked an important turning point in the history of human rights by recognizing the inherent worth and equal rights of every person. The United States is only one of the nations that have been significantly impacted by the announcement. The impact of the declaration on the United States will be examined in this essay, as well as the relationship between the struggle for human rights around the world and the struggle for improved access to rights in my community.

The UDHR has shaped policy and provided a framework for activity and advocacy in the United States. The Civil Rights Act of 1964, which outlawed discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, or national origin, included the principles of the UDHR as part of its legal and policy framework.³ In court issues involving freedom of speech or due process, for example, the UDHR has also been cited as evidence in favor of the protection of individual rights.

Throughout the fight for civil rights in the United States, the UDHR has played a significant role. Fighting for equal legal protection and the abolition of discrimination has benefited from the document's emphasis on preserving individual liberties and rights. The UDHR's guiding principles have served as a foundation for community activity and advocacy, giving groups like the civil rights movement, the women's rights movement, and the LGBTQ rights movement a voice and a direction.⁴

The worldwide movement for rights and the effects it has on other communities for better access to rights are inextricably linked. Human rights violations are pervasive and frequently go unnoticed in many nations. Minority groups, especially racial and religious ones, frequently experience marginalization and discrimination. Girls and women face
considerable obstacles in their pursuit of an education, a job, and political engagement. LGBTQ people frequently experience violence and persecution. These human rights abuses are frequently connected to more significant social, political, and economic injustices.

The campaign for increased access to rights in my community is linked in several ways to the global campaign for rights. First, the fights for social justice and human rights transcend national boundaries. The problems that marginalized groups in my country deal with are the same problems that marginalized groups deal with in other regions of the world. Global cooperation and support are necessary for the struggle for social justice and human rights.

Second, the battles of those battling for their rights and freedoms around the world frequently serve as an inspiration and source of strength for advocacy organizations and activists in my community. Activists who fight against injustice and inequality have found inspiration in movements like Black Lives Matter in the United States or the Me-Too movement. The UDHR's guiding principles have served as the foundation for lobbying and activism in my community, offering a vocabulary and strategy for the pursuit of social justice and human rights.

Finally, support for advocacy and activism comes from international human rights organizations. Human rights watch and Amnesty International are two examples of organizations that aim to raise awareness of human rights violations all over the world and aid local groups and activists who work to advance social justice and human rights.

A framework for lobbying and activity has been established by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which has had a substantial influence on American politics. The fight for rights around the world and the fight for better access to rights within my community are related in important ways because both are based on the principle that everyone should be treated with respect and dignity and have access to fundamental human rights. Together, advocates and activists can advance an understanding of human rights that is all-encompassing, indivisible, and interconnected and seek to create a world in which everyone may live with respect and freedom.

The UN celebrated its 75th anniversary in 2020, which coincides with a challenging and chaotic period. If we are to uphold our promises to future generations and build a society where everyone may live in peace, dignity, and equality on a healthy planet, we must shift into high gear in the upcoming year. We require an open, interconnected, and effective multilateral system. Member nations have identified twelve areas of action that can only be addressed through revived multilateralism. This will require us to think extensively. Group action needs to be guided by fundamental and guiding concepts that need to be updated.
References:

3) https://www.eeoc.gov/statutes/title-vii-civil-rights-act-1964