



# MUN UNCOLI 2025

Primera edición del Modelo de  
Naciones Unidas de UNCOLI

## Guía Académica

### UNHCR

Freedom of expression:  
Should everyone be allowed to share their opinions?

## UNHRC: Should everyone be allowed to share their opinions?

### Information about the committee

The Human Rights Council (UNHRC) is an intergovernmental body within the United Nations responsible for promoting and protecting human rights worldwide. In this committee, countries discuss situations involving human rights violations and propose recommendations to improve the conditions of those affected. The Council also holds special emergency meetings, appoints experts to monitor specific issues, and can authorize investigations into serious crimes such as war crimes. (OHCHR, n.d. written with Chat GPT assistance).

### Key concepts:

**Freedom of expression:** Freedom of expression means we can say what we think and share our ideas. It's the right to talk, be listened to, and join in social activities. It also means we can find, receive, and share information in any way, like through books, TV, or the internet. This includes different ways of communicating, like art and music. (*Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, 2024 written with the assistance of Copilot).

**Hate speech:** Expressions that promote or justify violence, discrimination, or prejudice against individuals or groups. Hate speech is “discriminatory” (biased, bigoted or intolerant) or “pejorative” (prejudiced, contemptuous or demeaning) of an individual or group (United Nations, n.d.).

### Context of the problem

With the advent of the internet and social media, communication outlets have spread around the world, facilitating the creation of networks that allow the expression and spread of ideas in different parts of the world. These new possibilities have opened spaces to strengthen social and environmental movements but have also facilitated the spread of hate speech.

According to Amnesty International, Freedom of speech is about having the right to say what you think, share information and demand a better world. You also have the right to agree or disagree with those in power, and to express these opinions in peaceful protests (Amnesty International, 2023).

However, this freedom has often been misinterpreted and actors who spread hate speech have defended their right to express themselves to continue to communicate hatred towards migrants, minority groups, refugees and even women.

Governments have a duty to prohibit hateful, inciteful speech but many abuse their authority to silence peaceful dissent by passing laws criminalizing freedom of expression. This is often done in the name of counterterrorism, national security or religion. More recently, freedom of

expression has come under threat by authorities, since governments use this excuse to silence people who peacefully disagree with them—like reporters, activists, or students. clamping down on activists, NGOs and individuals helping refugees and migrants (Amnesty International, 2023).

Examples of hate speech nowadays are communities of Incels (Involuntary Celibates) who spread hatred against women, British influencer Andrew Tate is an example of this kind of speech. Mass shootings are often a result of hate speech. Additionally, racist speech is also considered to be hate speech.

### **Blocks:**

The committee will be divided in three blocks:

- **Full freedom block:** These delegations believe in full protection of free expression, only limiting it in extreme cases like direct incitement to violence.
- **Conditional freedom block:** These countries support freedom of expression but believe it should be regulated to prevent hate, misinformation, or threats to national security.
- **Restrictive block:** These delegations support strong controls on speech that criticizes the government or religious beliefs to maintain social stability (Open AI., 2025).

### **QARMAS**

What are the dangers of hate speech?

Does the country you represent believe that freedom of speech should be limited? What kind of speech is limited in your country?

Does your county advocate for full freedom of speech? Has this promoted the proliferation of hate speech? How?

Should hate speech be prohibited at a global level? Should social media be held responsible for the spread of hate speech?

### **Bibliografía**

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*What is freedom of expression? - ARTICLE 19.* (2025, January 23). ARTICLE 19. <https://www.article19.org/what-is-freedom-of-expression/>

### **Links de consulta**

United Nations. (n.d.). *What is hate speech?* | United Nations. <https://www.un.org/en/hate-speech/understanding-hate-speech/what-is-hate-speech>

### **Final Note**

Text written with the support of artificial intelligence (ChatGPT, OpenAI, 2025), based on verifiable sources and for educational purposes.

