

## 2. An analysis of the document

Humanist Manifesto II looks to the future with anticipation and caution. Technology continues to open exciting possibilities for the enhancement of the quality of life, but it also threatens the survival of humanity. Humanism claims a broad range of adherents across many centuries. It presents a set of principles that can serve as a blueprint for a global secular society and enhance human survival and fulfillment.

With regard to religion, Humanist Manifesto II rejects God, gods, revelation, all traditional religions, the soul, salvation, divine providence, survival of death, and traditional morality.

With regard to ethics, Humanist Manifesto II asserts that moral values are autonomous and situational, and are created by mankind. The good life is here and now, and must be secured by reason, not faith.

With regard to the individual, Humanist Manifesto II emphasizes the preciousness and value of each individual, and asserts that the freedom of each individual should be maximized, especially in the area of sexuality, which in its various forms and inclinations and preferences should be regarded as morally neutral.

With regard to democracy, Humanist Manifesto II asserts the need of full civil liberties in all societies, and the recognition of the individual's right to choose the time and mode of his or her death, as well as the extension of participatory democracy to all institutions, including the family. Humanist Manifesto II stresses the complete separation of religion and the state, the adoption of economic systems that provide economic well-being for all, and the elimination of economic, educational, racial, ethnic, and sexual discriminations.

With regard to world community, Humanist Manifesto II urges steps toward a one-world order and a one-world government that transcend national sovereignties. It stresses the peaceful settling of international disputes, the preservation of the natural resources of our planet, the leveling of economic disparities between the developed and the developing nations, freedom from moral restraints on the development of technology, and the elimination of all communication, travel, political, ideological, and moral barriers between nations.

With regard to humanity as a whole, Humanist Manifesto II calls for an end to ideological and economic differences, and an ultimate commitment to the survival of mankind.

## C. A Secular Humanist Declaration

### 1. A consideration of the document itself