

DEMOCRACY



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Department for the Promotion of Peace
Secretariat for Strengthening Democracy
Organization of American States

DEMOCRACY

Organization of American States. Secretariat for Strengthening Democracy.
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In Commemoration of the 20th Anniversary of the
Inter-American Democratic Charter

Luis Almagro, Secretary General
Organization of American States

Francisco Guerrero, Secretary
Secretariat for Strengthening Democracy

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What is DEMOCRACY?
Asks a youth.

Allow me to respond
and unmask the truth.



Says the wise old owl in
his voice so smooth.



Sit down and listen as I explain
the importance and value
of this word in your brain.

A long time ago, our ancestors agreed we should live our lives by a certain decree.



They listed the rules for both leaders and followers and made sure that everybody was equally responsible.



The list is short
and the message clear.
Democracy is summed up
by the thoughts written here:

Vote and participate, express your views.
Elect your leaders so they can represent you!
Who wins more votes will be the one to lead.
This is how democracy plants its first seed!



ELECTIONS

FREEDOM OF

Decide for yourself, don't let anyone meddle.
Your choice is sacred, your voice respected.



EXPRESSION

ACCESS TO PUBLIC INFORMATION

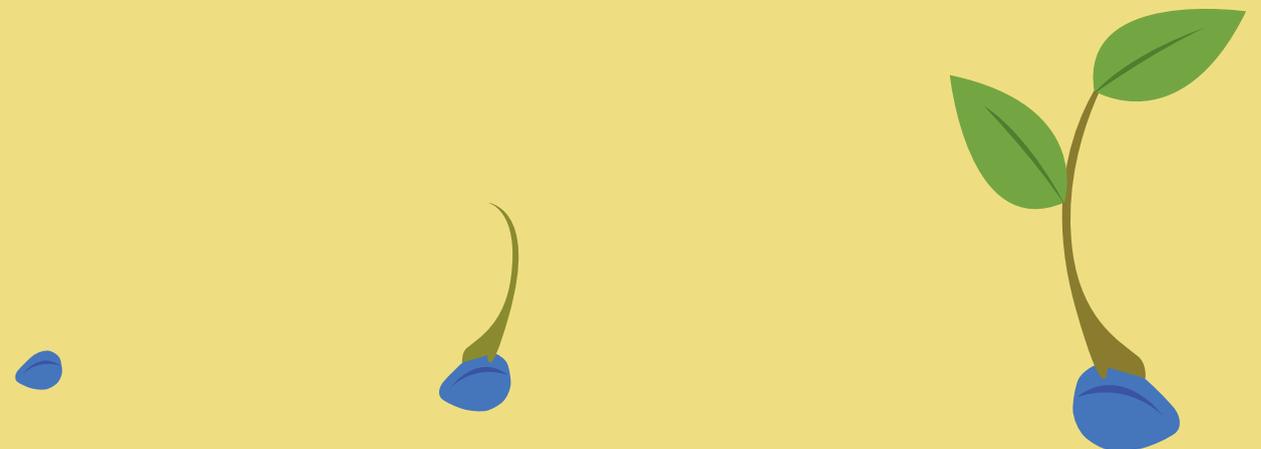
Be curious, ask questions,
you have the right to know
how our leaders are running
the political show.



TRUTH



Remember especially
as you listen and speak
that truths are facts
and facts are truths.



JUSTICE

There is no way around it
so make sure you know
who you listen to and what you share
because you reap what you sow.



The tree of democracy
has three branches:
the executive, the judicial
and the legislative.



I N D E P E N D E N C E

SEPARATION OF POWERS

All are equal and all work hard to ensure that the other doesn't exceed its power.



RIGHT TO PROTEST



When mistakes are made
we cannot stay silent.
When mistakes are made
we have the right to protest.

We place our trust on those we elect.
When they do a good job
we say perfect!

But when leaders don't do
what they are chosen to do
we make sure
that they have a lot of explaining to do.



ACCOUNTABILITY

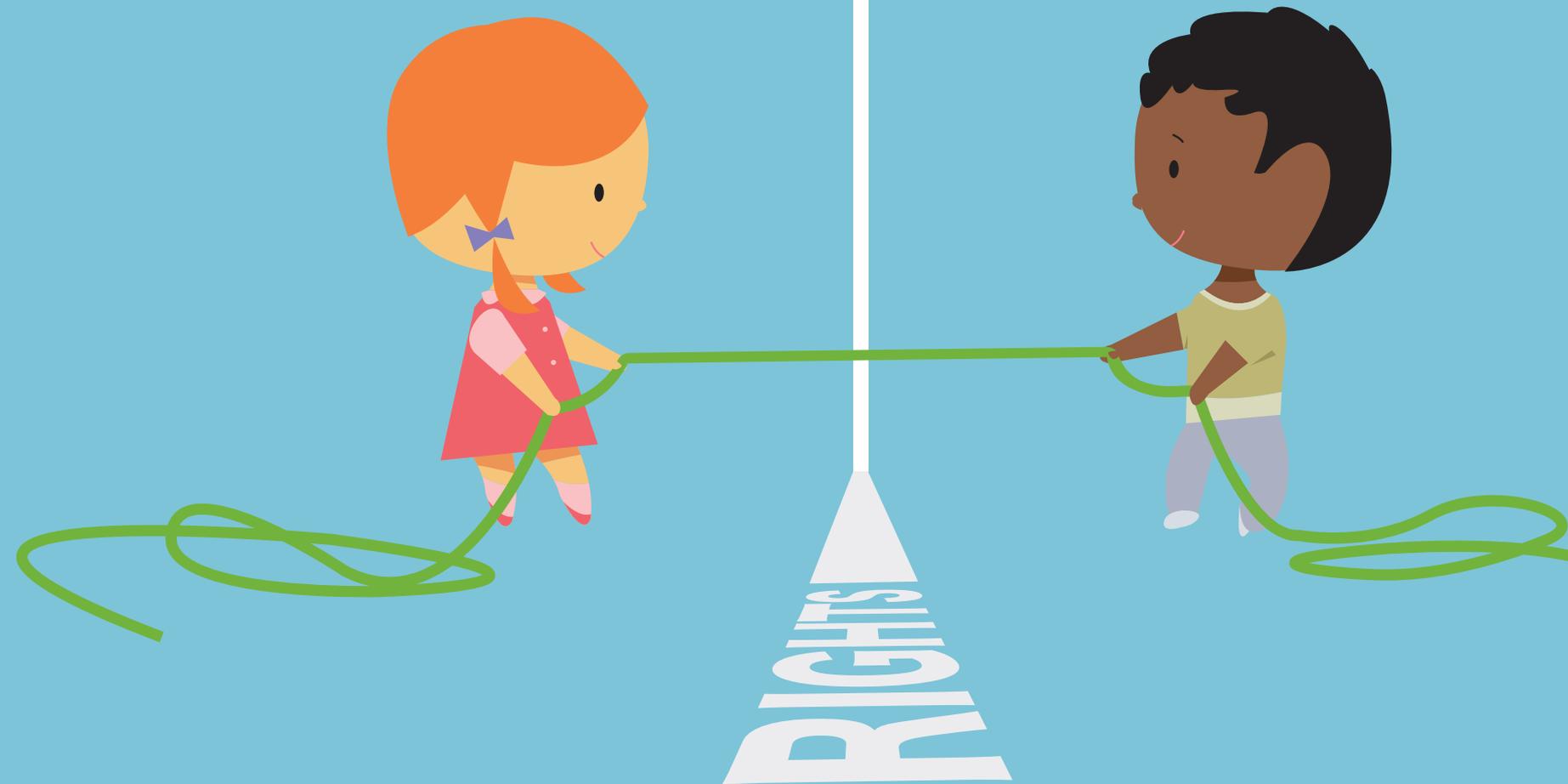
INCLUSION & DIVERSITY



No matter what we look like,
no matter where we live,
no matter who we trust,
no matter what we think,
we all have the right
to live in sync.

RESPECT

My rights end
where yours begin.
Treat me as you would
your favorite thing.





Our differences are our strength,
our colors our beauty,
our needs the same,
we have a right to security.

EQUAL RIGHTS

SOLIDARITY

Sometimes not all of us
have the same opportunities.
In those cases solidarity
must be our business,
because the opposite of love
is not hate
but indifference.





Girls and boys
are equally talented.

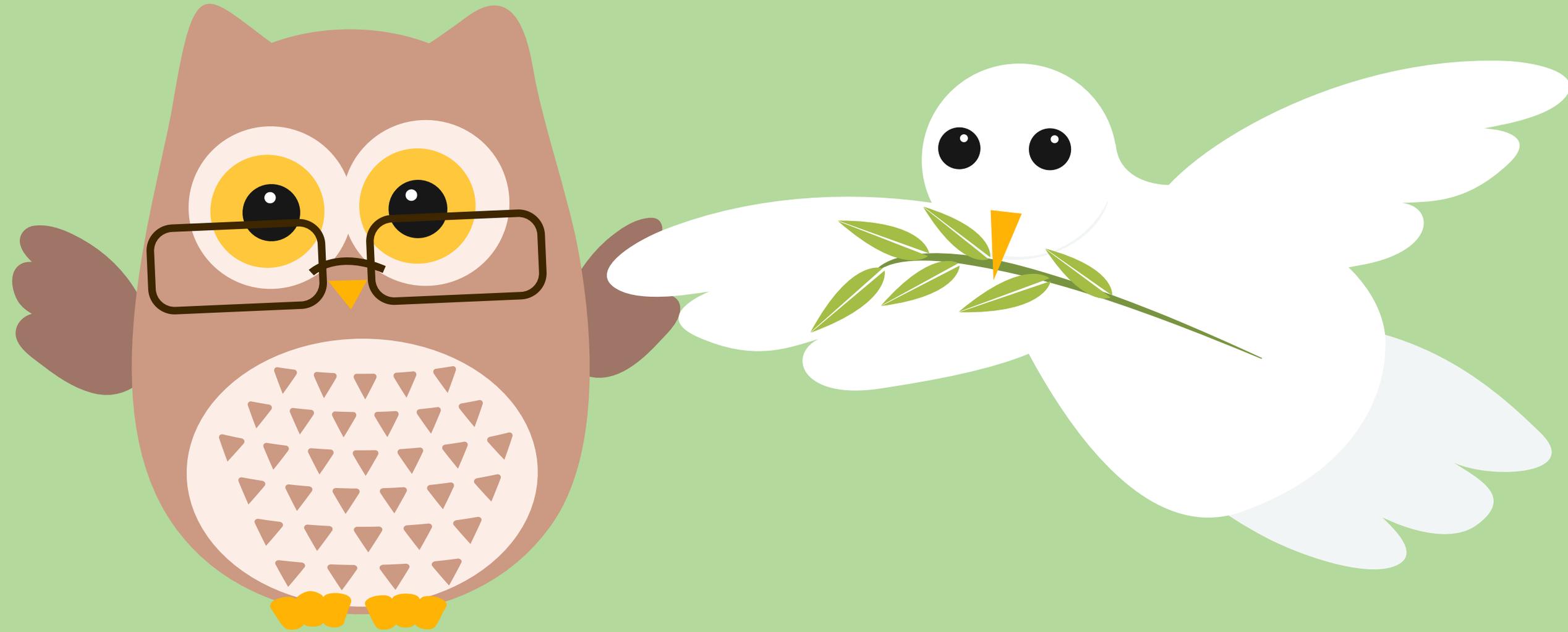
They should empower each other
rather than work single-handedly.

GENDER EQUALITY

FREEDOM & LIBERTY

Freedom and liberty
are big words that matter.
We can do what we want
as long as rules are not broken.





PEACE

Peace and democracy go hand in hand.
We can't have one without the other,
together they stand.

I hope you now know what democracy is.
We choose and we fight
for what we believe.
Our leaders protect us and guide us too.
We both play a role in democracy's rule.

RIGHTS & OBLIGATIONS



EMPATHY



Allow me to end
with some advice my dear friend.
Be kind, be good.
Please promote brotherhood!



A cartoon illustration of a boy with brown hair, wearing a light green shirt and blue pants, walking on a green hill. In the background, there are several green trees and pink and white tulips. A brown owl with large yellow eyes and black-rimmed glasses is perched on a tree branch. A white speech bubble with a tail pointing to the owl contains text.

And finally remember
as we go our own ways
that mother nature
is calling us to her defense.

Because all that we hope for
and all that we dream
can vanish in seconds
if we don't use common sense.

PROTECT THE
ENVIRONMENT



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