

legal responsibility	the idea that nations want to be seen by other nations as law-abiding
legislative charter of rights	a document that is passed by an act of parliament, which sets out the basic rights to which every human should be entitled
natural law	a philosophy based on the idea that there exist certain 'natural' laws which apply to all humanity and which maintain people's basic dignity
non-government organisation (NGO)	an organisation that works towards a certain cause and operates separately from any government
peace rights	the entitlement of people to have their government maintain peace and eliminate war

political prisoner

a person who is imprisoned because he or she disagrees with the government

political rights

entitlements belonging to all people, that are to do with full participation in government, such as the right to vote

preventative detention

the imprisonment, without charge, of someone who is suspected of being about to engage in a terrorist activity

protocol

a treaty that changes an existing treaty, by adding procedures or provisions

reciprocity

the idea that nations obey international law because they want other nations to do the same

refugees

people who are outside their country of origin and who can prove that they have a fear of persecution if they return to their country of origin

right

something to which a person is entitled

self-determination

the right of peoples to govern themselves and choose their own form of government

separation of powers

the distribution of power between the legislature, the executive and the judiciary

social rights

entitlements that give people security as they live and learn together, such as rights involved in schools and other institutions

sovereignty

the existence within one country or nation-state of a group, person or body with supreme lawmaking authority

suffrage

the right to vote in elections

trade union

an association of wage earners which exists in order to maintain and improve the working conditions of its members

treaty

a formal agreement between two or more nation-states

universality

a characteristic of human rights which means they are to be enjoyed by all individuals regardless of their gender, race or status

universal suffrage

the situation in which all
adults have the right to
vote in elections
