

*Objective: To advance the vital voice and constructive impact of civil society for the Universal Periodic Review of the United States of America at the UN Human Rights Council in 2015*

## UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW CONSULTATION INITIATIVE

The Universal Periodic Review (UPR) is a new UN Human Rights Council mechanism which reviews the human rights records of all UN members on a four-year cycle. Since its inception in 2006, the UPR has received 100% participation from UN members. Although reviews are conducted by UN member-states, civil society and grassroots advocates play a key role in the process by submitting observations and specific recommendations regarding each country's human rights record.

*NOW IS YOUR CHANCE TO IMPACT THE UN HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL*



In January 2015, the United States will undergo a “Universal Periodic Review” of its human rights record at the UN Human Rights Council—the UN’s top human rights organ. While formative action is being taken to advance human rights in the U.S., more work remains to be done. As such, 2014 offers a key opportunity to directly contribute to the UPR. This includes:

- ✓ Engaging in dialogues on core human rights issues in forums reflecting a broad and vibrant cross-section of U.S. civil society.
- ✓ Inviting UNA-USA members, rights advocates, and others to share their individual perspectives on key U.S. human rights issues.
- ✓ Submitting constructive observations and recommendations from these consultations directly to the United Nations and U.S. Government through a “Shadow Report.”
- ✓ Participating in the UPR of the U.S. in 2015 by disseminating the results of grassroots discussions, tracking recommendations made to the U.S. during the UPR, and finally, assessing implementation.