Selected Resources

Education and Human Rights

Human rights in German development policy

BMZ Strategy and Guidelines on human rights in German development policy

The cross-sectoral strategy affirms the central role of human rights in German development policy and contains binding requirements for the implementing agencies; the Guidelines provide guidance on the incorporation of human rights standards and principles, including gender, in programme proposals.

- BMZ Strategy (2011):
  http://www.bmz.de/en/publications/type_of_publication/strategies/Strategiepapier305_04_2011.pdf
- BMZ Guidelines (2013), see in particular Annex pp. x-xi:
  http://www.bmz.de/en/zentrales_downloadarchiv/themen_und_schwerpunkte/menschenrechte/Leitfaden_PV_2013_en.pdf

BMZ (2010), Human rights in practice – Fact sheets on a human rights-based approach in development cooperation

Collection of 2-page fact sheets that explain what the human rights-based approach in development cooperation means in general and for all priority sectors of German development cooperation. The fact sheet on education can be found on pages 6-7.

- http://www.bmz.de/en/publications/topics/human_rights/BMZ_Information_Brochure_7_2010e.pdf

The BMZ website also draws the link between human rights and education:

- http://www.bmz.de/en/what_we_do/issues/Education/hintergrund/index.html

United Nations reference documents and resources on the right to education

International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), Article 13, the right to education, and Article 14 on compulsory free primary education

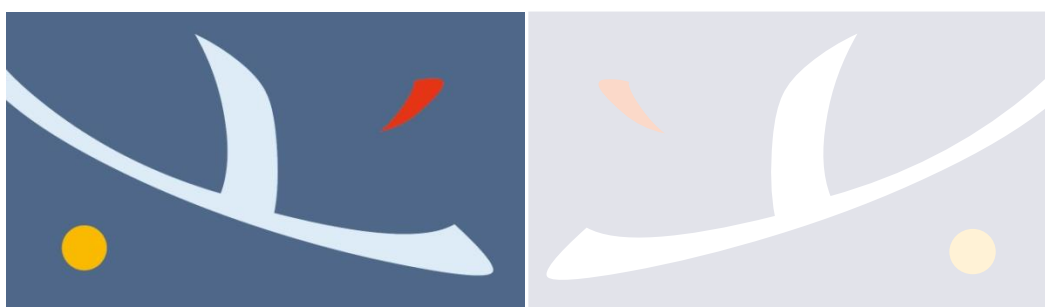- http://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/CESCR.aspx

UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR), General Comment No. 13 on ICESCR Article 13: the right to education (E/C.12/1999/10, 1999)

The treaty bodies, committees of independent experts established under the UN human rights treaties, issue "General Comments", authoritative interpretations of the provisions of the treaty. The CESCR, through General Comment No. 13, has interpreted Article 13 with respect to the right to education, defining the following core elements of the right: availability, accessibility, acceptability and adaptability.

- http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=E%2fC.12%2f1999%2f10&Lang=en

All states parties are obliged to submit regular reports to the CESCR on the steps taken to implement the rights stipulated by the Covenant. The Committee examines each report and addresses its concerns and recommendations to the state party in the form of "Concluding Observations".

- http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/TreatyBodyExternal/SessionsList.aspx?Treaty=CESCR

UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), Articles 28, 29 and 30

- http://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/CRC.aspx

Committee on the Rights of the Child, General Comment No. 1 on CRC Article 29: The aims of education (CRC/GC/2001/1, 2001)

- http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CRC%2fGC%2f2001%2f1&Lang=en

For CRC "Concluding Observations" on countries reviewed, see:

- http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/TreatyBodyExternal/SessionsList.aspx?Treaty=CRC

Special Rapporteur on the right to education

The UN Special Rapporteur on the right to education – currently Mr. Kinshore Singh – is mandated to analyse specific issues related to the right to education, and to come forward with suggestions to tackle these. He carries out country visits and issues annual reports, which focus on specific issues related to the right to education, such as the right to education of girls or education in emergency situations.

- Website: http://www2.ohchr.org/english/issues/education/rapporteur/index.htm
- Annual reports, i.e. on the post-2015 education agenda, on financing education or on the justiciability of the right to education: http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Education/SREducation/Pages/AnnualReports.aspx

UN Human Rights Council, Resolution on the right to education (A/HRC/RES/8/4, 2008)

- http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/E/HRC/resolutions/A_HRC_RES_8_4.pdf

More on the right to education

UNESCO (2008), The right to education

This four-page brochure gives a short overview and guidance on the substance of the right to education: relevant UN conventions, their implementation and monitoring, as well as current key challenges regarding inequalities, the teaching profession, free primary education, national legislation, financing education and upholding education as a public good.

- http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0016/001612/161200E.pdf

UNESCO, Right to education website

This website provides additional information on the right to education, including news, case studies as well as information on the monitoring mechanisms.

- http://www.unesco.org/new/en/education/themes/leading-the-international-agenda/right-to-education/

For example on the link between education and the post-2015 process:

- http://en.unesco.org/gem-report/post-2015/#sthash.57IVnu0Q.dpbs

Right to education project – Promoting mobilisation and legal accountability website

This website offers a wide range of information and resources on the right to education: legal documents, including a case law database, an extensive country database as well as a vast repository of tools on excluded groups, social mobilisation and other topics.

- http://www.right-to-education.org/

UNESCO, Education for all global monitoring reports

The annual reports track progress towards the global goal of universal primary education for all (EFA). The reports focus on different issues and challenges every year, see the themes of the most recent years below:

- on overcoming inequality (2009): http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0017/001776/177683e.pdf
- on reaching the marginalised (2010): http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0018/001865/186525E.pdf
- on armed conflict and education (2011): http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0019/001907/190743e.pdf
- on youth and skills (2012): http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0021/002180/218003e.pdf
- on teaching and learning (quality of education) (2013/14): http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0022/002256/225660e.pdf
- on achievements and challenges 2000-2015 (2015): http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0023/002322/232205e.pdf

UNICEF/UNESCO (2007), A human rights-based approach to education for all: A framework for the realisation of children's right to education and rights within education

- A crucial reference, discussing current thinking and practice as well as key challenges of rights-based approaches to education. It also provides tools for policy and programme development across local, national and international levels: www2.unicef.org/publications/files/A_Human_Rights_Based_Approach_to_Education_for_All.pdf

ActionAid International (2007), Education rights: A guide for practitioners and activists

- This very comprehensive guide presents methods and a number of very practice-oriented ideas for a human rights-based approach in the education sector. It also provides concrete guidance, such as indicators of quality education, strategies to work with excluded groups or measures for awareness raising: http://www.actionaid.org/sites/files/actionaid/1._education_rights_-_a_guide_for_practitioners_and_activists.pdf

UNESCO Asia and Pacific Regional Bureau for Education (2004), Manual on rights-based education

In spite of its age, this manual is a useful reference tool for those who would like to gain a deeper understanding of how the technical concepts presented in international human rights law relate to education. It is structured along the states duties ("4 As") to make education available, accessible, acceptable and adaptable.

- http://www.unescobkk.org/fileadmin/user_upload/appeal/human_rights/Manual_on_rights-based_education.pdf

UN Practitioners' Portal on HRBA to programming – Resources on education

A growing collection of resources on applying a human rights-based approach in the education sector.

- http://hrbaportal.org/?page_id=3182

Human rights education

UN World Programme on Human Rights Education (2005–ongoing)

The World Programme on Human Rights Education, consisting of three phases, seeks to promote a common understanding of basic principles and methodologies of human rights education. The website refers to the General Assembly's resolution proclaiming the World Programme for Human Rights Education, and includes the links to the plans of action of all three programme phases (2005-2009, 2010-2014, and 2015-2019).

- http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Education/Training/Pages/Programme.aspx
- Third phase (2015-2019), focusing on strengthening the implementation of the first two phases and promoting human rights training for media professionals and journalists: http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Education/Training/WPHRE/ThirdPhase/Pages/ThirdPhaseIndex.aspx

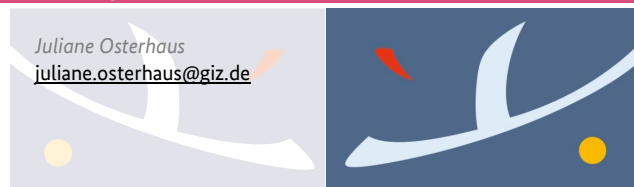**UN Declaration on Human Rights Education and Training (2011)**

- http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Education/Training/Pages/UNDHREducationTraining.aspx
- Documentation of the drafting process of the Declaration by the corresponding Open-ended Working Group: http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/AdvisoryCommittee/Education/Pages/OEWGEducationSession1.aspx

Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) internet portal on human rights education and training

This website contains a section on education and training, and links to the OHCHR database on human rights education and training, to the resource collection on human rights education and training, and to the relevant OHCHR publications and resources.

- http://www2.ohchr.org/english/issues/education/training/

OHCHR/UNESCO (2012), Human rights education in primary and secondary school systems: A self-assessment guide for governments

This publication aims to assist, through practical guidance, national decision-makers in integrating human rights education into primary and secondary school curricula. In particular, it intends to facilitate the assessment of the status quo, progress achieved and persisting implementation gaps in the respective country.

■ http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Publications/SelfAssessmentGuideforGovernments.pdf

German Institute for Human Rights (DIMR) internet portal on human rights education

The German Institute for Human Rights shares on its website a wide range of information on human rights education, and on related projects and activities. Particularly useful are its teaching materials and the DIMR publications section.

■ http://www.institut-fuer-menschenrechte.de/en/human-rights-education/