



Selected Resources

Social Security 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. xii-xiii:
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 health can be found on pages 8-9.

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

BMZ (2009), Sector strategy on social protection, highlighting the strong link to, and the relevance of, human rights in this sector

- http://www.bmz.de/en/publications/type_of_publication/strategies/konzept190.pdf

BMZ web portal “Healthy DEvelopments – Germany’s commitment to health and social protection”

- <http://health.bmz.de/>

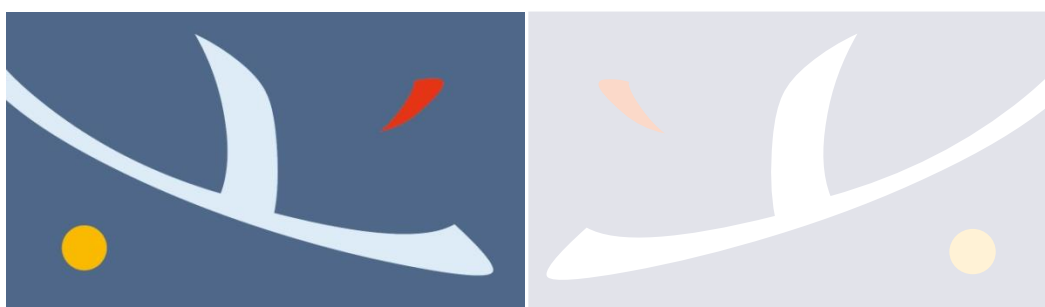
United Nations reference documents and resources on the right to social security

International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), Article 9, the right to social security, including social insurance

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

UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR), General Comment No. 19 on ICESCR Article 9: the right to social security (E/C.12/GC/19, 2008)

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. 19, has interpreted Article 9, and has detailed the respective state obligations and the core content of the right to social security.



- http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=E%2fC.12%2fGC%2f19&Lang=en

Further human rights treaties in the context of social security

International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (CERD), Article 5(e)(iv), the prohibition of racial discrimination in all its forms and the right to social security.

- <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/CERD.aspx>

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), Article 11 (1)(e), the elimination of discrimination against women in the field of employment in order to ensure, amongst others, the right to social security; and Article 14 (2)(c), the right of rural women to social security.

- <http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/text/econvention.htm>

Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), Article 26, the right of the child to social security.

- <http://www.ohchr.org/en/professionalinterest/pages/crc.aspx>

International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (CMW), Articles 27 and 61, the rights of migrant workers and of members of their families to social security.

- <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/CMW.aspx>

UN Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights

The mandate on extreme poverty was first established in 1998 by the then UN Commission on Human Rights (replaced in 2006 by the Human Rights Council). The Special Rapporteur (currently Philip Alston) focuses on the integration of a human rights perspective into international, regional and national efforts to reduce poverty.

- Website: <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Poverty/Pages/SRExtremePovertyIndex.aspx>
- Annual Reports, e.g. on the implementation of the right to social protection (A/69/297, 2014), on the importance of social protection measures in achieving the Millennium Development Goals (A/65/259, 2010), on social protection and old age poverty (A/HRC/14/31, 2010), and on the social protection system and the financial and economic crises (A/64/279, 2009): <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Poverty/Pages/AnnualReports.aspx>

International Labour Organization

The International Labour Organization (ILO) is mandated to promote rights at work, encourage decent employment opportunities and enhance social protection. The ILO develops labour standards (legally binding upon ratification by the state), monitors their application and provides technical assistance.

- ILO Conventions and Recommendations; special priority is given to the “core labour standards” freedom of association and collective bargaining, abolition of forced and child labour, and elimination of discrimination in employment and remuneration: <http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=NORMLEXPUB:12000:0::NO::>
- All relevant documents and ratification status by country can be found here: <http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:11003:0::NO>
- **Social Security (Minimum Standards) Convention (1952) No. 102**, covering and setting minimum standards for all nine branches of social security (medical care; sickness benefit; unemployment benefit; old-age benefit; employment injury benefit; family benefit; maternity benefit; invalidity benefit; and survivors' benefit): http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=NORMLEXPUB:12100:0::NO:12100:P12100_INSTRUMENT_ID:312247:NO
- Website on international labour standards on social security with references to further ILO social security instruments and recommendations: <http://www.ilo.org/global/standards/subjects-covered-by-international-labour-standards/social-security/lang--en/index.htm>
- ILO social protection portal: <http://www.ilo.org/global/topics/social-security/lang--en/index.htm>
- Social protection platform, hosting a vast array of resources on social security from a rights-based perspective, including country information, data, indicators, tools and practical guides: <http://www.socialprotection.org/gimi/gess/ShowMainPage.do?ctx=0>

More on the right to social security

The World Bank, Social protection and labor portal

This internet portal provides a wealth of background materials relevant to social protection.

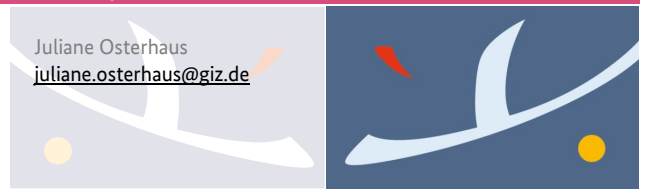
- <http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/TOPICS/EXTSOCIALPROTECTION/0,,contentMDK:23043115~pagePK:210058~piPK:210062~theSitePK:282637,00.html>

GTZ-ILO-WHO-Consortium on social health protection in developing countries

The cooperation of this consortium in the field of social protection in health, sustainable health financing systems and efficient contracting reaches back to 2004. Its website provides background information, as well as relevant courses, trainings and publications.

- <http://www.socialhealthprotection.org/>

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National Economic and Social Rights Initiative (NESRI) (2005), Fact sheet: human right to social security

The fact sheet of the American NESRI initiative summarises the key principles of the human right to social security on two pages.

- [http://www.nesri.org/sites/default/files/Right to Social Security.pdf](http://www.nesri.org/sites/default/files/Right%20to%20Social%20Security.pdf)

Künnemann, Rolf/ Ralf Leonhard (2008), A human rights view of social cash transfers for achieving the millennium development goals

This study deals with the topic of social (cash) transfers (SCT) in the context of the millennium development goals. The authors apply human rights criteria to the analysis of SCT in developing countries. Strengths and weaknesses of the transfers are analysed on the basis of case studies in Brazil, Malawi and Zambia. Special emphasis is placed on the question whether tying conditionalities to SCT is compatible with human rights.

- [http://www.rtfn-watch.org/uploads/media/social cash transfers.pdf](http://www.rtfn-watch.org/uploads/media/social_cash_transfers.pdf)

International Social Security Association (ISSA) website

The International Social Security Association (ISSA) brings together social security agencies and organisations from all over the world. ISSA is a knowledge hub and supports excellence in social security administration. Its website hosts a vast array of resources, yet not all of them pursue a rights perspective.

- <http://www.issa.int/>

For the latest publications see in particular:

- <http://www.issa.int/resources;jsessionid=6B884E366F1E289BC349A69E151EA297>

HelpAge International – A global movement for the rights of older people

HelpAge International is an international NGO advocating and promoting the rights of older people worldwide, including their right to social protection.

- Website: <http://www.helpage.org/what-we-do/rights/>

Besides a variety of up-to-date publications that can be found on the website, HelpAge also published a summary of the 2nd report of the then UN Independent Expert on the question of human rights and extreme poverty on older people's human right to social protection (2010):

- <http://www.helpage.org/silo/files/older-people-human-rights-and-social-protection.pdf>

UN Practitioners' Portal on human rights-based approaches to programming

A growing collection of resources on applying a human rights-based approach, amongst others, in the health sector, also including specific information with regard to disability, poverty reduction, age and other relevant topics.

- <http://hrbportal.org/topics>

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