



# General Assembly

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## Human Rights Council

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Agenda item 3

**Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil,  
political, economic, social and cultural rights,  
including the right to development**

### **Written statement\* submitted by International Institute for Non-Aligned Studies, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status**

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

[15 August 2023]

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\* Issued as received, in the language of submission only.



## **Every Nation Has a Right to Development**

The right to development emerged as a response to global disparities in economic and social development between different countries. It recognizes that certain nations and communities face significant challenges in achieving development due to historical, colonial, and economic factors. By acknowledging the right to development, the international community aims to address these disparities and create a more just and equitable world.

The Declaration on the Right to Development was proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 41/128 adopted on December 4, 1986. Article 1 of the Declaration on the Right to Development states that “the right to development is an inalienable human right by virtue of which every human person and all peoples are entitled to participate in, contribute to, and enjoy economic, social, cultural and political development, in which all human rights and fundamental freedoms can be fully realized”.

The Human Rights Council Resolution on the Right to Development emphasizes that all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development, can only be enjoyed in an inclusive and collaborative framework at the international, regional and national levels. The Resolution also underlines the importance of engaging the United Nations system, including United Nations specialized agencies, funds and programmes, within their respective mandates, relevant international organizations, including financial and trade organizations, and relevant stakeholders, including civil society organizations, development practitioners, human rights experts and the public at all levels, in discussions on the right to development.

So, the Declaration on the Right to Development provides for critical principles of international law and offers a vibrant connective tissue for the interplay between human rights, , and national sovereignty with profound implications on the nature and forms of multilateralism, including multilateral economic governance, that would be consistent and coherent with human rights law.

Every nation is entitled to be a beneficiary of the right to development. This also implies that every nation, no matter how small it is should be included and fully consulted in any development which affects it. It is the responsibility of the international community to ensure that every nation has equal and adequate access to essential resources and that fair development policies and international cooperation is promoted with all nations so that they can tread on the path of development and growth.

One of the challenges towards effective realization of the right to development is inequality among nations. The right to development is the only human right that embodies principles of equality, non-discrimination, participation, transparency, accountability as well as international cooperation in an integrated manner. It also facilitates a holistic approach to the issue of poverty by addressing its systemic and structural causes. The right to development is also vital for the full realization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The right to development has been a subject of ongoing discussion and debate within the international community, as it touches upon issues of sovereignty, resource allocation, and global economic disparities. While the principle is widely accepted, achieving meaningful development for all nations and peoples remains a complex and challenging endeavor. Efforts to promote the right to development continue to be part of international development goals and agendas.

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