**Questionnaire**

**A consultancy study on the contribution of development to the enjoyment of human rights**

**(A/HRC/RES/41/19, para. 13)**

**1. Please share your views on the contribution of development in promoting and protecting human rights, including its context, concept, specific aspects and means of implementation.**

Contribution of development to:

1. Civil and political rights.

Liberal democracies are currently under threat. Negative trends have appeared, which result in shrinking space for civic rights, disengagement and disinterest of the population, lower confidence in institutions, lower political participation and marginalization of different groups (older generations, youth, minorities, vulnerable). The current pandemic has just reinforced trends ongoing for many years.

OHCHR has a specific role to play in this regard. Over the last years, a consolidated and coherent strategy was missing. OHCHR should be more accessible for civil society organizations. Also, concrete steps must be taken, with for instance implementation of projects, specific support to initiatives and targeted campaigning on specific topic.

1. Economic, social and cultural rights.

Efforts need to be done. I see there 3 pillars:

* Gender balance/ gender equality;
* Fight against inequalities;
* Support to minorities, marginalized and underrepresented groups

1. The right to peace, the right to development, environmental rights, and digital rights.

My thoughts are the following:

* Youth need to be systematically engaged in peace and security efforts. They are agents of change that need to be taken seriously and coherently involved.
* The same is true for environmental issues.
* Information about current legislation, about challenges, risks and opportunities regarding digital tools has to be displayed among the population.

**2. How to ensure that development contributes to promoting and protecting human rights?** (The principles, strategies, policies and laws, action plans and programmes of development, what contents are important and what responsibilities should be taken into account)

(1) At the international level.

- Reinforce/restore multilateralism;

- UN and OHCHR has to offer a space for discussions on cross-cutting challenges and issues.

(2) At the national level.

UN and OHCHR should better explain their roles and be visible within national populations

UN and OHCHR should convince governments, civil societies and institutions of their roles and importance

(3) Through global and regional partnerships, civic space and engagement.

Reinforce regional partnerships

**3. Please share any concrete examples of best practices of contribution of development to the enjoyment of human rights.** Challenges, obstacles, lessons learned and experience with regard to principles, strategies, law and policies, action plans and programmes, the role of communities, organizations, and individuals and/or other stakeholders.

Dissemination of information through support to national campaigning

Information workshops in schools

Collaboration with leading organizations in this field (for instance Amnesty International)

Support to local conferences

Invite local leaders to attend the Human Rights Council and provide them with speaking time

Target the youth: Youth Rep are national youth representatives within UN; imagine a similar program but intern to the UN and OHCHR

Organize side-events outside the standard institutional framework. Human Rights Council takes place in Geneva, but I think it would make sense to organize side-events in other city of Switzerland and Europe

**4. Are there any other aspects relating to the contribution of development to the enjoyment of all human rights for all that you would recommend for the study to focus on?**

We have really few information about it, since we are currently experiencing it but: research, data collection and publicatoins on the effect of the pandemic on specific aspects of Human Rights need to be forecasted.

Again, collaboration with leading organizations of this field should be explored.

**5. If you have differing views on the contribution of development to the enjoyment of all human rights for all, please explain and provide examples if possible.**

I do not have different views, I just need that human rights need to be coherently implemented. Discussions are urgently requested to tackle issues such as climate change, digitalization, environmental rights and community living.

\* \* \* \* \*