



# General Assembly

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## Human Rights Council

### Forty-eighth session

13 September–1 October 2021

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 Iranian Association for United Nations Studies, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status**

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

[22 August 2021]

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



## **The Commemoration of the 35th Anniversary of the Adoption of the Declaration on the Right to Development by the United Nations General Assembly**

The Iranian Association for United Nations Studies, with consultative status with ECOSOC, would like to commemorate 35th anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration on the Right to Development by the UN General Assembly and throw some lights on this important issue.

As rightly recognized in the Declaration, the development is a comprehensive economic, social, cultural, and political process, which aims at the constant improvement of the well-being of the entire population and of all individuals on the basis of their active, free and meaningful participation in development and in the fair distribution of benefits resulting therefrom,

The Association views the Declaration as a turning point in the international community's discussions on all human rights. Due to the importance of the provisions of the Declaration for the development of the people across the globe, especially people in developing countries, the right to development must be exerted in a non-discriminatory and equitable manner, regardless of race, religion, color, sex, or language, so that all people can benefit from their inalienable rights.

It is interesting to note that peace and security create appropriate grounds for the development action plans and, likewise, the development contributes highly to maintain peace and security. In addition, there is a close relationship between disarmament and development and, therefore, allocation of more financial resources at national level from armament to development could create more favorable environment for the realization of development.

There is no doubt that, in this process, education of all people at all ages particularly children, who are the main beneficiary of the development, is essential. The more rapid development of the developing countries could be reached if there will be stronger political will at national, regional and international levels to exercise the right to development. In this line, effective international co-operation and partnership is required in providing the developing countries with appropriate means and facilities to foster their comprehensive national development strategies and plans. It is also worth noting that the removal of the obstacles, such as: poverty, unemployment, illiteracy, malnutrition, diseases, as well as unwarranted economic coercive measures imposed are necessary to pave the way for the achievement of development.

The Association also notes how the global COVID-19 pandemic, with all its devastation and impact, exacerbates the overlapping injustices and inequalities across the world. In fact, the collective experience of this pandemic exposes global injustice closely related to Right to Development. The vaccines against COVID-19 must be a global public good available to all for the health and well-being of the entire world.

The Association is closely following the progress made in the ongoing discussions of the Intergovernmental Open-ended Working Group on the Right to Development and concerned that it has not yet reached an agreement on the draft of an international legally binding instrument on the right to development. The Association hopes that the governments together with the non - governmental organizations and academia would expedite the work of the Working Group so that a more favorable international atmosphere and commitments will be created to support realization of the right to development in all countries.

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