



## Human Rights and the SDGs: the role of parliaments in moving beyond convergence



United Nations **Human Rights**  
Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

# Transformative 2030 Agenda

- ✓ **Universal:** applicable to all countries and all peoples
- ✓ **Indivisible:** civil-political & socio-economic
- ✓ **People-centered focus:** “Leaving no one behind”, inequalities, data disaggregation
- ✓ **Greater policy coherence:** integrated responses by the UN and Member States
- ✓ **Participatory:** potential to open civic space
- ✓ **Accountability** of States to their people
- ✓ **Implementation** in accordance with international law





# THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF Human Rights

**PREAMBLE** Recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world.

**ARTICLE 1** All men are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood.

**ARTICLE 2** Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, birth or other status.

**ARTICLE 3** In the exercise of this right and freedom, no distinction shall be made on the basis of the political, jurisdictional or international status of the country or territory to which a person belongs, whether it be independent, self-governing or under any other limitation of sovereignty.

**ARTICLE 4** No one shall be held in slavery or servitude; slavery and the slave trade shall be prohibited in all their forms.

**ARTICLE 5** No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

**ARTICLE 6** Everyone has the right to recognition everywhere as a person before the law.

**ARTICLE 7** All are equal before the law and are entitled without any discrimination to equal protection of the law. All are entitled to equal protection against any discrimination in violation of this Declaration and against any incitement to such discrimination.

**ARTICLE 8** Everyone has the right to an effective remedy by the competent national tribunals for acts violating the fundamental rights granted by the constitution or by law.

**ARTICLE 9** No one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest, detention or exile.

**ARTICLE 10** Everyone is entitled to full equality to a fair and public hearing by an independent and impartial tribunal, in the determination of his rights and obligations and of any criminal charge against him.

**ARTICLE 11** Everyone charged with a penal offence has the right to be presumed innocent until proved guilty according to law in a public trial at which he has all the guarantees necessary for his defence.

**ARTICLE 12** No one shall be subjected to arbitrary interference with his privacy, family, home or correspondence, nor to attacks upon his honour and reputation. Everyone has the right to the protection of the law against such interference or attacks.

**ARTICLE 13** Everyone has the right to freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each state.

**ARTICLE 14** Everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country.

**ARTICLE 15** Everyone has the right to seek and to enjoy in other countries asylum from persecution.

**ARTICLE 16** Member States have pledged themselves to achieve, in co-operation with the United Nations, the promotion of universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

**ARTICLE 17** Everyone has the right to own property, either individually or in association with others.

**ARTICLE 18** Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion; this right includes freedom to change his religion or belief, and freedom either alone or in community with others, in public or private, to manifest his religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship and observance.

**ARTICLE 19** Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.

**ARTICLE 20** Everyone has the right to peaceful assembly and association.

**ARTICLE 21** Everyone has the right to take part in the government of his country, directly or through freely chosen representatives.

**ARTICLE 22** Everyone has the right of equal access to public service in his country.

**ARTICLE 23** The will of the people shall be the basis of the authority of government; this will shall be expressed in periodic and genuine elections which shall be by universal and equal suffrage and shall be held by secret vote or by equivalent free voting procedures.

**ARTICLE 24** Everyone has the right to rest and leisure, to reasonable limitation of working hours and periodic holidays with pay, and to other favourable working conditions.

**ARTICLE 25** Everyone has the right to a just and favourable remuneration ensuring for himself and his family an existence worthy of human dignity and supplemented, if necessary, by other means of social protection.

**ARTICLE 26** Everyone has the right to education. Education shall be free, at least in the elementary and fundamental stages. Elementary education shall be compulsory. Technical and professional education shall be made generally available and higher education shall be equally accessible to all on the basis of merit.

**ARTICLE 27** Education shall be directed to the full development of the human personality and to the strengthening of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. It shall promote understanding, tolerance and friendship among nations, racial or religious groups, and shall further the objectives of the United Nations for the maintenance of peace.

**ARTICLE 28** Parents have a prior right to choose the kind of education that shall be given to their children.

**ARTICLE 29** Everyone has the duty to exercise his rights and freedoms in a way that does not harm to the rights and freedoms of others.

**ARTICLE 30** Nothing in this Declaration may be interpreted as authorizing any state, group or individual to engage in any activity or to perform any act aimed at the destruction of any of the rights and freedoms set forth herein.

# Human Rights and the SDGs






<b>1 NO POVERTY</b> 	<b>2 ZERO HUNGER</b> 	<b>3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING</b> 	<b>4 QUALITY EDUCATION</b> 	<b>5 GENDER EQUALITY</b> 	<b>6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION</b> 
<b>7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY</b> 	<b>8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH</b> 	<b>9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE</b> 	<b>10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES</b> 	<b>11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES</b> 	<b>12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION</b> 
<b>13 CLIMATE ACTION</b> 	<b>14 LIFE BELOW WATER</b> 	<b>15 LIFE ON LAND</b> 	<b>16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</b> 	<b>17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS</b> 	<b>SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS</b> 





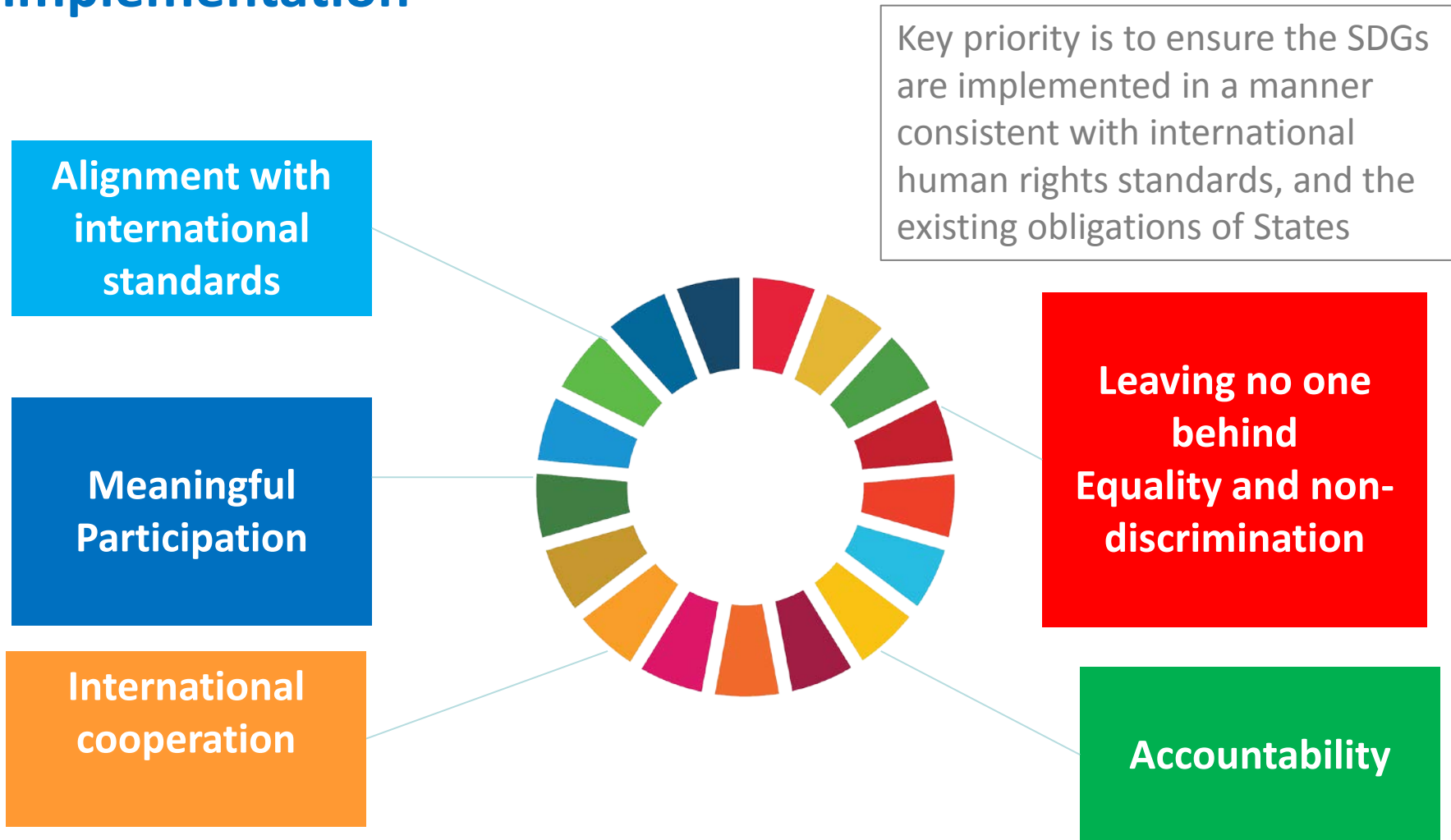


# Mapping linkages between Human rights and the SDGs

<p><b>4</b> QUALITY EDUCATION</p> 	<p><b>Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote life-long learning opportunities for all</b></p> <p>Targets include universal access to free, quality pre-primary, primary and secondary education; improving vocational skills; equal access to education; expanding education facilities, scholarships, and training of teachers.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Right to education</b> [UDHR art. 26; ICESCR art. 13], particularly in relation to children [CRC arts. 28, 29]; persons with disabilities [CRC art. 23(3), CRPD art. 24]; and indigenous peoples [UNDRIP art. 14]</li> <li>• <b>Equal rights of women and girls in the field of education</b> [CEDAW art. 10]</li> <li>• <b>Right to work, including technical and vocational training</b> [ICESCR art. 6]</li> <li>• <b>International cooperation</b> [UDHR art. 28; DRTD arts. 3-4], particularly in relation to children [CRC arts. 23(4), 28(3)], persons with disabilities [CRPD art. 32], and indigenous peoples [UNDRIP art. 39]</li> </ul>
<p><b>5</b> GENDER EQUALITY</p> 	<p><b>Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls</b></p> <p>Targets include eliminating discrimination and violence against women and girls; valuing unpaid care and domestic work; ensuring the full participation of women; access to reproductive health care; and equal access of women to economic resources.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Elimination of all forms of discrimination against women</b> [CEDAW arts. 1-5] and girls [CRC art. 2], particularly in legislation, political and public life (art. 7), economic and social life (arts. 11, 13), and family relations (art. 16)]</li> <li>• <b>Right to decide the number and spacing of children</b> [CEDAW arts. 12, 16(1)(e); CRC art. 24(2)(f)]</li> <li>• <b>Special protection for mothers and children</b> [ICESCR art. 10]</li> <li>• <b>Elimination of violence against women and girls</b> [CEDAW arts. 1- 6; DEVAW arts. 1-4; CRC arts. 24(3), 35]</li> <li>• <b>Right to just and favourable conditions of work</b> [ICESCR art. 7; CEDAW art. 11]</li> </ul>
<p><b>6</b> CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION</p> 	<p><b>Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all</b></p> <p>Targets include ensuring universal and equitable access to safe, affordable drinking water, sanitation and hygiene for all; reducing pollution; increasing water-use efficiency; and promoting participatory management of water and sanitation services.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Right to safe drinking water and sanitation</b> [ICESCR art. 11]</li> <li>• <b>Right to health</b> [UDHR art. 25; ICESCR art. 12]</li> <li>• <b>Equal access to water and sanitation for rural women</b> [CEDAW art. 14(2)(h)]</li> </ul>



# Strategic priorities for Integrating HR in SDG implementation



# Human rights based SDGs implementation

- ✓ Implementation of the 2030 Agenda should be fully aligned with international human rights norms and standards
- ✓ Recommendations from international human rights mechanisms should inform implementation of the SDGs
- ✓ Implementation should be guided by key HR principles of: equality and non-discrimination ('Leave no one behind'), participation and accountability
- ✓ SDG reporting should include and link to human rights reporting – this will improve follow-up and reduce reporting burden
- ✓ An integrated, non-selective approach to SDG implementation; indivisibility of rights throughout the process





# Role of parliaments in addressing the accountability gap

2030 Agenda recognized the critical role of parliaments:

- Enactment of legislation
- Adoption of budgets
- Ensuring accountability and oversight



# Role of Parliaments in linking human rights and SDG implementation

- The HR-SDG mapping shows the convergence of human rights and SDGs agendas
- Use parliamentary oversight power to bring together national bodies responsible for:
  - HR monitoring and reporting (e.g. NMRF)
  - SDG monitoring and reporting
- Encourage integration of HR issues in SDG monitoring at national, regional and global levels
  - Helps to strengthen alignment of SDGs with HR
  - Helps States to strengthen policy coherence
- Ensure true ‘national ownership’

