

The Contribution of Space Law in the Progressive and Full Realization of the Human Right to Food

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Professor Irmgard Marboe

Department of European, International and Comparative Law, University of Vienna

Space Law and Human Rights Law

- Both contain obligations of states for the benefit of humankind
- Space activities shall be carried out in conformity with international law, including human rights law (see Article III Outer Space Treaty)
- Interaction of human rights law and space law can contribute to the full realization of the human right to food

The international “Bill of Human Rights”

- The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948) – **UDHR**
- The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (1966/1976) – **ICCPR**
- The International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (1966/1976) – **ICESCR**

The human right to food

- **Universal Declaration of Human Rights**

“Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, **including food**, clothing, housing (...).” (Article 25)

- **ICESCR**

“the right of everyone to an adequate standard of living for himself and his family, **including adequate food**, clothing and housing (...)” (Article 11/1)

“the fundamental right of everyone **to be free from hunger**” (Article 11/2)

State Parties to Human Rights Treaties

- International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (1966/1976) – **ICESCR**
 - 171 State Parties
- Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights – **OpProt**
 - Providing for “Individual communications procedure” and “Inquiry procedure”
 - 26 State Parties
- See Status of Ratification at the **Interactive Dashboard** of the OHCHR:
<https://indicators.ohchr.org/>

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Bolivia (Plurinational State of)
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Select a treaty

International Covenant on Economic, Social and

[Description](#)

[Last Updated: 18 Jun 2021]

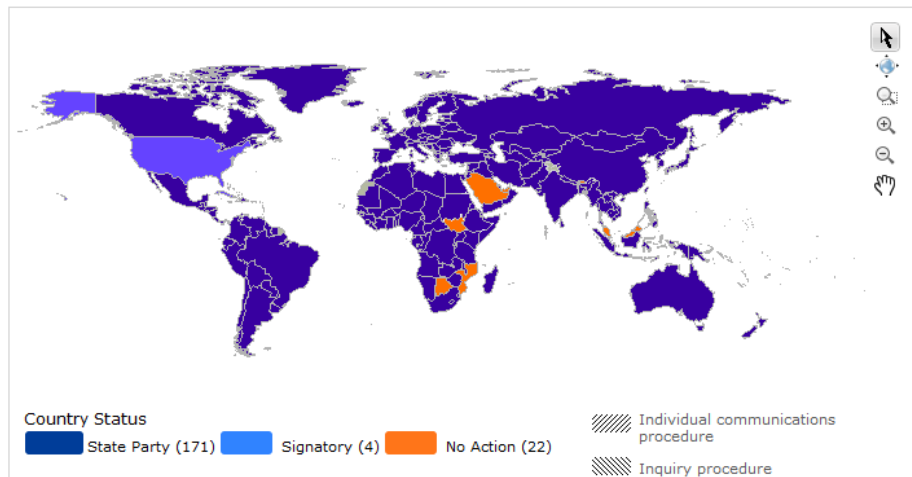


Treaty



Metadata

International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights



[Underlying Data](#)

Note: Click [HERE](#) for the application of the treaty to overseas, non-self-governing, and other territories.
Click [HERE](#) for the list of international human rights treaties and optional protocols.

Note: The boundaries and the names shown and the designations used on these maps do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. Final boundary between the Republic of Sudan and the Republic of South Sudan has not yet been determined. Dotted line represents approximately the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir agreed upon by India and Pakistan. The final status of Jammu and Kashmir has not yet been agreed upon by the parties.

OpProt ICESCR



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Select a treaty

Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on

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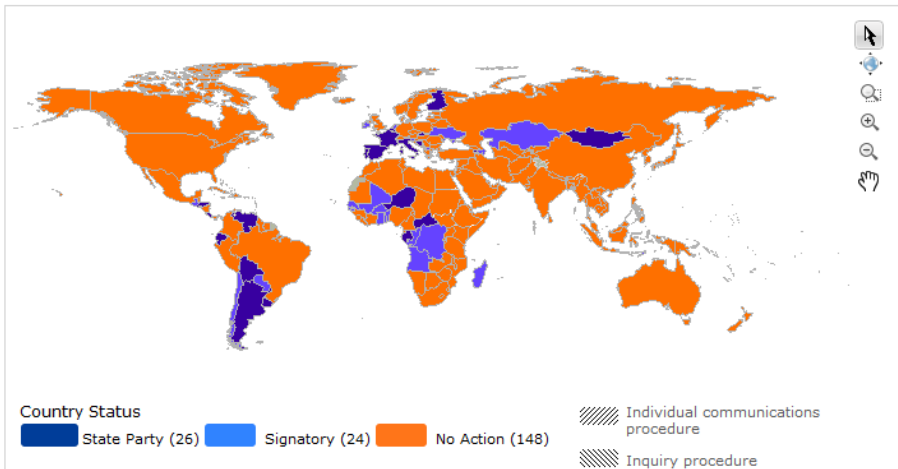


Treaty



Metadata

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Underlying Data

Human Rights Indicators Work

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International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

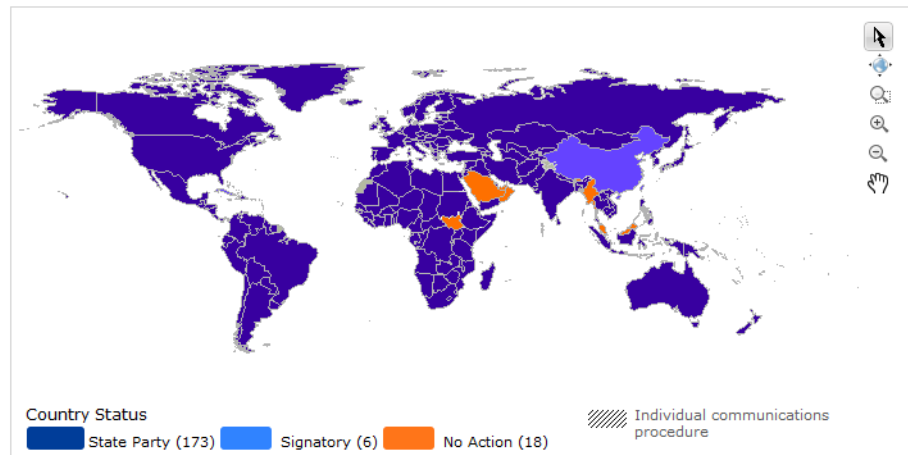
Description

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Treaty

Metadata

International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights



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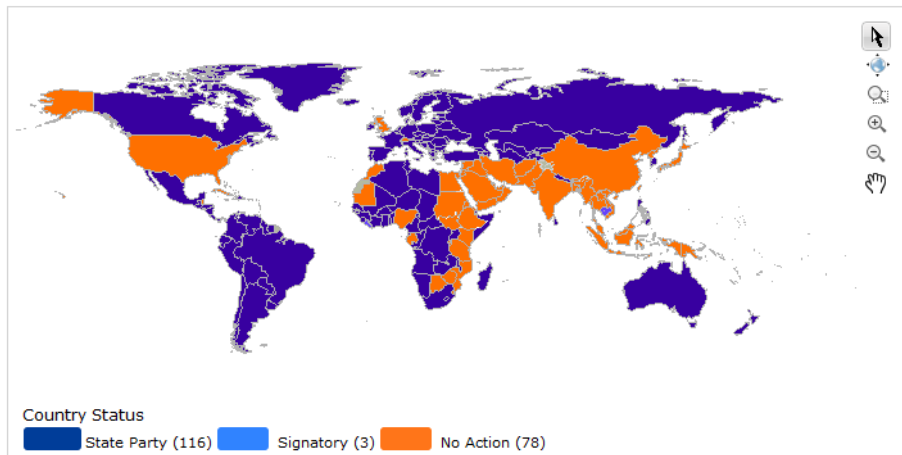


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Human Rights Indicators Work

Progressive realization of the right to food

Each State Party

“undertakes to take steps, individually and through **international assistance and co-operation**, especially economic and technical, to the maximum of its available resources, with a view to **achieving progressively the full realization** of the rights recognized in the present Covenant by all appropriate means, including particularly the adoption of legislative measures.”

(Article 2 ICESCR)

International cooperation with respect to the right to food

State Parties:

“take, individually and through **international cooperation**, the measures, including specific programmes, which are needed:

(a) To improve methods of production, conservation and **distribution of food by making full use of technical and scientific knowledge (...)**”

(Article 11/2 ICESCR)

Space for the benefit of humankind

Outer Space Treaty

- Common interest **of all mankind** in the exploration and use of outer (Preamble)
- Space activities should be carried out for the **benefit of all peoples** irrespective of the degree of their economic and scientific development (Preamble, Article I)
- The exploration and use of outer space is the **province of all mankind** (Article I)

Space law and international cooperation

- States Parties shall be guided by the **principle of co-operation and mutual assistance** (Article IX Outer Space Treaty)
- To promote international cooperation, States Parties **inform about the results** of their space activities (Article XI Outer Space Treaty)
- Particular account should be taken of the **needs of developing countries** (Space Benefits Declaration 1996)
- National and international agencies, research institutions, organizations for development aid, and developed and developing countries alike should consider the appropriate **use of space applications** and the potential of international cooperation for **reaching their development goals** (Space Benefits Declaration 1996)

International cooperation in outer space and the realization of the right to food

Space applications

- deliver important information on **climate and weather conditions**
 - enable **communication** and **data exchange**
 - may assist **in efficient use** of seeds, fertilizers, plant protection products, and water
 - can be used to help **food distribution** and **supply**
- **Crucial technology** for the **progressive and full realization** of the **human right to food**
- **Compliance with space law and international human rights law**

Thank you very much for your attention!

Prof. Dr. Irmgard Marboe
Department of European, International and Comparative Law
Section for International Relations
Faculty of Law
University of Vienna
Schottenbastei 10-16, 1010 Vienna
irmgard.marboe@univie.ac.at
<https://eur-int-comp-law.univie.ac.at/team/marboe-irmgard/>