

A picture speaks louder than words



The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities



Understanding and knowing about your rights is one thing. But what does this have to do with the global goals? We need to take it from the beginning to make it understandable.

The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities was adopted by the UN General Assembly on December 13, 2006. Two years later, Sweden ratified the Convention and it came into force in January 2009. Ratifying means that a state legally commits itself to an international agreement. Which this convention is.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development with 17 global goals is the most ambitious sustainable development agenda the world countries have ever adopted. The goals are to achieve four things by 2030: 1. Eliminating extreme poverty. 2. To reduce inequalities and injustices in the world. 3. To promote peace and justice. 4. To solve the climate crisis.

But to solve this in ten years - it's not possible, say some. Well, maybe not. But if we don't start now - then it will probably be too late.

All 17 global goals are important. All 50 articles of the convention are important. But in order to understand and work to achieve the global goals at individual, group and societal levels, we also need to understand our rights.

Hence, the disability movement in Sweden has selected nine goals that have direct bearing on people with disabilities, in Sweden and the world. And DHR has picked thirteen articles from the convention and illustrated them. Assisted by the agency that has illustrated the global goals, we used the same style for what we now call the Human Rights Icons. This is to make it easier for all of us to understand what the goals have to do with me - in Sweden and elsewhere. And that human rights are necessary to achieve our goals. The Human Rights Icons can be downloaded from <https://globalarattigheter.dhr.se>

Briefly on the goals we have chosen

Goal 1. NO POVERTY

Poverty encompasses more dimensions than economics. Poverty includes, among other things, a lack of freedom, power, influence, health, education and physical safety. It is usually called multidimensional poverty. Today, 1.3 billion people live in multidimensional poverty, half of whom are under 18. Women and girls are particularly at risk.

Goal 3. GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Good health is fundamental to enabling people to achieve their full potential and contribute to the development of society. Investments in health, for example through health care systems, are a reinvestment in the development of society as a whole. In addition, achieving optimal health, including access to necessary healthcare, food, water, clean air, sanitation, hygiene and medicines, is a fundamental right.

Goal 4. QUALITY EDUCATION

Education is a fundamental human right. Even so, it is estimated that 250 million children still cannot read or write when they begin grade four. Some 774 million people around the world are illiterate, two thirds of whom are women. Research shows that inclusive quality education for all is one of the most important cornerstones of prosperity, health and gender equality in every society.

Goal 5. GENDER EQUALITY

Gender equality is a goal in itself and a prerequisite for sustainable and peaceful development. Gender equality is achieved when women, men, girls and boys have equal rights, conditions and opportunities, and the power to shape their own lives and contribute to the development of society. It is a matter of equitable distribution of power, influence and resources in society. The generally subordinate position of power of women and girls compared with men and boys must end.

Goal 8. DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

More than half of the world's workers are in insecure jobs, often caught in a vicious circle of low-productive occupations with poor pay, and limited access to both education and social insurance. This applies more to women than to men. In addition, over the next 20 years, the global workforce is expected to increase by 800 million people, which means that major efforts will be needed to create new jobs. Promoting macroeconomic stability, a positive investment climate, employment and decent work are important factors for sustainable development.

Goal 10. REDUCED INEQUALITY

Economic development can lead to reduced poverty for the individual and for society. We must act to ensure that access to resources and the opportunity to participate and influence developments in society are fair, both within countries and among countries. Even if many countries have experienced positive economic development and reduced poverty, gaps between individuals and groups, based on gender, age, ethnicity, and economic and social status, etc. have widened.

Goal 11. SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

Urbanisation is extensive and transformational around the world. Over half of the world's population live in urban areas. By 2050, this proportion is expected to have risen to 70 per cent. Cities often take the lead when it comes to development, and are a hub of innovation and new ideas. The rapid and large-scale move to cities places new demands that must be met in an ecologically, economically and socially sustainable manner.

Goal 16. PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

Peaceful societies and freedom from violence are both a goal and a means of sustainable development. No permanent progress can be achieved in a context marked by violence, conflict and the threat of violence.

An effective state administration with responsible institutions, transparency and the rule of law all have an intrinsic value of their own. They constitute the basis of good governance including anti-corruption measures and are important driving forces for development.

Everyone is equal before the law and must have equal access to justice and the opportunity to exert influence and demand accountability from decision-makers. Good governance and the rule of law are fundamental goals and means for development.

Goal 17. PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

The scope and ambition of the new Agenda require revitalising the global partnership to ensure implementation of the Agenda. Robust global engagement will be needed to support implementation of the Agenda. The Agenda is characterised by a multi-stakeholder perspective, which will also be necessary during its implementation. Governments, the private sector, civil society as a whole, the UN system and other actors must work together to accomplish what we set out to achieve through the 2030 Agenda.

Briefly on the rights we have chosen

(In parentheses is the article's name in the convention, where we changed it.)

Article 5. EVERYONE'S EQUAL VALUE AND RIGHTS

(Equality and non-discrimination)

The article says, among other things, that all people should be treated equally and receive the same protection by the laws. All discrimination on the grounds of disability must be banned and states should ensure that as much as possible is adapted for people with disabilities so that they can live like others and not suffer discrimination.

Article 6. EQUAL FREEDOM AND RIGHTS OF WOMEN WITH DISABILITIES

(Women with disabilities)

The article says, among other things, that the states say no to discrimination against women and girls with disabilities. States must ensure that women can develop themselves, allowing opportunities to do more themselves, so that they can enjoy the rights according to the convention.

Article 9. EQUAL ACCESS TO SUBSTANTIAL FUNCTIONS OF SOCIETY (Accessibility)

The article says, among other things, that states must ensure that people with disabilities have access to the same conditions as others, for example, the physical environment, transport, information and communication in cities and rural areas.

Article 12. EQUAL RECOGNITION BEFORE THE LAW

The article says, among other things, that the states agree that all laws should apply to people with disabilities in the same way as others. People with disabilities should receive the support they need in a court of law and the courts must show respect for human rights.

Article 17. EQUAL RIGHT TO PERSONAL INTEGRITY (Protecting the integrity of the person)

The article says, among other things, that all persons with disabilities have the right to be respected for their physical and mental integrity on equal terms as others.

Article 19. EQUAL RIGHT TO CHOICE OF OPPORTUNITY AND PARTICIPATION IN SOCIETY

(Living independently and being included in the community)

The article says, among other things, that the states must ensure that people with disabilities can choose to live in the society as others. This means, among other things, that people with disabilities should have the right to choose where and with whom they want to live.

Article 20. EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONAL MOVEMENT (Personal mobility)

The article says, among other things, that the states should ensure that everyone can move as much as possible in the way they can and want. There should be the means, the support and service, at a price that people can pay.

Article 24. EQUAL ACCESS TO EDUCATION (Education)

Among other things, the article says that states should insure that people with disabilities receive education in the same way as others. There should be all kinds of education for both children and adults, and no one should be discriminated against. It should not be possible to say no to education because a person has a disability.

Article 25. EQUAL ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE (Health)

The article says, among other things, that the states must ensure that people with disabilities receive the same health care as others, including care in order to have children. People with disabilities should have access to information and care provided by the states in the same way as others.

Article 27. EQUAL ACCESS TO WORK (Work and employment)

Among other things, the article says that the states should recognize the right to work for people with disabilities on equal terms with others. They must have a salary that enables them to be self-sufficient. They should be able to work in workplaces where others work, and which are accessible to people with disabilities.

Article 28. EQUAL RIGHT TO SECURITY AND VALUE STANDARD OF LIVING (Adequate standard of living and social protection)

The article says, among other things, that people with disabilities and their families have the right to a good life. That means enough food, clothes and a good home. The states should ensure that people with disabilities have the same right as others to go forward without discrimination.

Article 32. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Among other things, the article says that the states should cooperate with other states within the convention. They should also collaborate with organizations in other countries, especially organizations boosting people with disabilities.

Article 33. NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING

Each state should elect some of the government to work with this convention. The states should ensure that an authority checks that everyone complies with this convention. Persons with disabilities and their organizations should be involved in the work of monitoring the convention.



The Human Rights Icons can be downloaded from <https://globalarattigheter.dhr.se>

If you have any questions please email janna.olzon@dhr.se