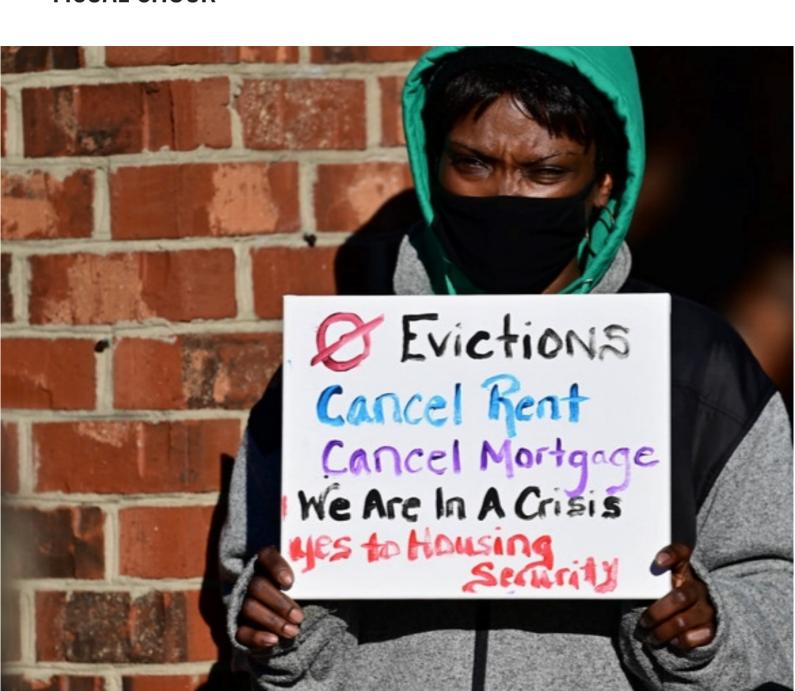


# **HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL**

EFFECTS OF FOREIGN DEBT AND INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS OF STATES ON THE FULL ENJOYMENT OF ALL HUMAN RIGHTS — AVOIDING A POST-PANDEMIC AUSTERITY FISCAL SHOCK



#### 1. Welcoming letter from the chairpersons

Distinguished delegates,

It is our great delight to welcome you to the 2022 edition of TEIMUN and to the United Nations Human Rights Council, as it is our utmost pleasure to assist you through what will be one of the most exquisite experiences of your Model United Nations career!

The topics at hand are indeed broad and complex but, dare we say, also extremely compelling, and we expect that they will ignite high-quality debates. The background paper is meant to be solely a starting point for your research, so keep in mind that you should try to accumulate as much valuable and relevant information to make use of during the debates.

Trust that your evolution will be assessed objectively and that we will make it our top priority to give you constructive feedback. What is more, feel free to ask us any questions that you may have at any point during the conference, as we wish to help you with truly understanding everything and anything and clarifying any misunderstandings and uncertainties.

Granted, the MUN format is structured to ensure a fair share of entertainment and bonding with the amazing people from the community. Thus, there will be no shortage of social interactions, parties and excursions, and we encourage you to indulge in them as long as you keep a clear distinction between formal sessions and networking.

I, Finley, am very excited to see a fruitful debate and delve into all aspects surrounding this question. I have been doing MUN for several years now and am eager to get back into doing them physically. My bachelor in law helps me stay objective and find the important information when it comes to research and I will apply this to your debate so that it is as constructive as possible.

Just as well, I, Diana have been doing MUN for the past 5 years and, despite my specialization not being directly related to politics and international relations, I have always had a keen interest in everything related to the field. There truly is nothing I love more than a heated debate, but at the same time I adore meeting people and having (much calmer) talks about anything really - although book TBRs, tennis and planning trips are certainly my favourite subjects.

And I, Sandra, am also really excited to see you at the conference. For me, MUN has changed the way I perceive social issues and has improved my public speaking and diplomacy skills. I have participated in MUNs as either chair or delegate since 2019. I hope that you can also enjoy TEIMUN, enrich your knowledge from research, sharpen your negotiation skills, and not to forget to have fun and make as many friends as you can.

To conclude, we wish you the best of luck, and we are eager to hear you speak your mind and do your best to improve yourself during the conference!

Faithfully yours,

Diana Velea, Finley Quinn and Sandra Novita

#### 2. Introduction to the United Nations Human Rights Council

The UN Human Rights Council was created as a subsidiary body of the UN General Assembly, comprising 47 Member States of the UN responsible for promoting and protecting human rights worldwide. It has the ability to discuss all thematic human rights issues and situations that require its attention throughout the year. It meets at the UN Office at Geneva. (OHCHR)

To this end, the UNHRC has the mandate to address and make recommendations in regards to human rights violations wherever found and to discuss all human rights issues and situations that require its attention throughout the year. Some of these situations include, but are not limited to violence against women and children, sexual violence in conflict, genocide, or human trafficking.

The Human Rights Council operates based on an "institution-building package" that guides its work and establishes the main mechanisms and procedures. Some of these include:

- universal periodic review mechanism, by which the human rights records of each Member State are assessed; (OHCHR)
- the Advisory Committee, which is the council's "think thank" for advice on thematic human rights issues; (OHCHR)
- the complaint procedure, through which individuals and civil-society organizations can bring human rights violations to the attention of the council.

As part of its work, UNHRC collaborates with special rapporteurs, special representatives, independent experts, and working groups that monitor, examine, advise, and report publicly on human rights issues and on particular human rights situations in specific countries.



#### 3. Introduction to the topic

Austerity measures represent the economic policies introduced by governments so as to cut down government spending in order to reduce public debt and to shrink the budget deficit.

Nonetheless, despite their seemingly well-intended nature, austerity measures lead to deepening inequalities - they weaken social security nets and jeopardize the ability of states to react and respond to immediate minimum core human rights obligations. In particular, the most vulnerable are affected by public spending cuts on the programs that primarily benefit the least fortunate.

What is more, while austerity politics usually occur in a period of stagnant economic growth, or even more likely during economic recessions, financial obligations undertaken by States from international organizations can also play an important part. In order to fulfil their obligations, States could decide to further their austerity measures, often at the detriment of the citizens, that become more vulnerable to their rights being infringed (OXFAM, 2013). In other cases, the conditions imposed by international organizations on States did not necessarily meet the approval of the governments, or of the population. Even the fact that the population of a country is regarded as a whole paves the way for worsening conditions of life for individuals and, eventually, even violations of human rights.

In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, a premature and severe shock may be imposed on the States' populations, as governments are trying to manage the high levels of expenditure needed to cope with the pandemic. The pandemic period was, of course, characterized by a return of the "welfare state", with governments trying to support both individuals and businesses or organizations. However, in most countries, this period of receiving additional benefits from governments, or at least more lenient policies seems to have come to an end. At the same time, national budgets have been expanded beyond their limits and a period of economic hardship is shaping up. More often than not in these cases, instead of providing support for the people and the economy, States resort to fiscal austerity and a reduction of social welfare, sometimes even bordering infringements of human rights.

Therefore, as foreign debt and financial obligations of countries have increased dramatically for the last period of time, and austerity seems to be looming as a preferred solution, it is essential to reassess the relationship between austerity policies and human rights protection.

#### 4. Problem specification and defining key terms

As Bailey and Shibata argue, we live in a "so-called age of austerity" (pp.683–709, 2007) that has been made even more evident in the aftermath of the 2008 financial crisis. Ever since, the majority of the industrial democracies, the European Union countries and the United Kingdom included, have engaged in a process of reducing public debt through austerity-favourable policies, despite there being recommendations from economists for different pathways (Stamm, 2017). As such, austerity measures have come to represent a common practice used by countries over the past years to overcome economic deficits.

Concurrently, a decrease in the exercise of social rights has been noted, with socio-economic welfare being reduced to a minimum in certain cases due to conditions imposed both by governments and international agencies (Stamm, 2017).

# 4.1 Austerity and austerity politics

In further pursuing this research topic, it is evident that the concept of austerity plays a pivotal role in understanding violations of human rights. From an economic perspective, the term "austerity" is used to *imply the strenuous economic circumstances created by government policies focused on cutting public spending* (Lea et al., n.d.). As such, "austerity measures" refer to those economic policies which are implemented by a government so as to reduce public-sector debt, by means of curtailing government spending (Stuckler et al., 2017). In general, the path towards austerity is chosen in times of very weak economic growth, or during periods of recession. Among austerity measures, there could be increases in taxes, cutbacks on government programs, or reductions in the salaries and wages of government employees. Furthermore, depending on how these policies are implemented, the life of citizens could become increasingly more difficult, as fewer social services and less disposable income are available (Campbell, 2012).

#### 4.2 The field of human rights

Notwithstanding the path towards the infringement of rights being more sinuous, it is central to define "human rights" as the basic rights and freedoms that belong to every person in the world, from birth until death (United Nations, 1948). Multiple categories of human rights have been defined, including but not limited to civil, cultural, political, economic and social rights.

Violations of human rights have been documented in countries such as Greece or Spain (Kubrin et al., 2022), with a strong correlation between a country's level of indebtedness and human rights abuses being noted by Eriksen and de Soysa (2009). Nevertheless, these violations of socio-economic rights have seldom been given attention in both public discourse and research work (Stamm, 2017), which leads to a worrisome knowledge gap. Such a lack of information is perilous, as it is the core responsibility of any state to protect its people's rights, a difficult objective given the information vacuum created.

While the overall impact and efficiency of austerity measures have been discussed at large in economic literature, a full assessment of their impact on governments' ability to protect human rights is yet to be undertaken. As Salomon (2015) notes, this field is only now becoming well-documented, although austerity has had "devastating effects on the exercise of human rights in Europe".

## 4.3 Austerity and the COVID-19 pandemic

The pandemic, best known as the COVID-19 pandemic, has greatly affected the entire globe. It has impacted 524 million people and has resulted in over 6.3 million deaths. It has left and will leave an everlasting impact on the international community in more ways than one. One

of these impacts is the debt which countries now find themselves in, and where they consequently are unable to carry out their basic human rights obligations. This is a main concern for many underdeveloped countries as they do not have the resources to improve upon their current situation after being devastated by the pandemic.

COVID-19 has an impact on gaps in human rights protection in regard to their civil and political rights as well as their economic and social rights. These violations are especially prominent in minority groups and less developed countries. The International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights protects the universal human right of being able to attain physical and mental health. However, in order to achieve this in the current pandemic, it has required the State to exert a lot of its resources and to cooperate with other States and organizations. The pandemic showed that there were issues providing for some of these human rights in wealthier States and that it was even more difficult, and nearly impossible, to provide this guarantee in nations with less fiscal richness.

Just as well, COVID-19 has impacted States globally in many different aspects; one of which is fiscally. Due to States needing to increase expenditure while their inflow stays the same has resulted in large debts piling up - especially for developing countries. This debt hinders their ability to provide basic services.

#### 5. Austerity politics and human rights - assessing different sectors

#### 5.1 Healthcare

Healthcare constitutes one of the sectors in which austerity measures have contributed to increasingly greater divides among people and overall issues in the protection of this fundamental human right. In particular, for the most vulnerable categories of the population, exercising the right to health has become expensive both due to high costs and to impoverishment caused by unavoidable health expenses. As part of a broader austerity package, governments pursue cutbacks in social spending so as to meet certain fiscal deficit targets and, in turn, end up limiting the access and affordability of healthcare (Kentikelenis and Stubbs, 2016).

Due to a lack of resources and decaying living conditions, people can no longer afford to treat themselves for otherwise curable conditions, therefore they reach hospitals and sanitary institutions at the latest possible moment. At that point in time, securing treatment and curing their diseases becomes increasingly difficult and highly expensive. Despite this, people most affected by the consequences of government cutbacks prefer to resort to self-medication or even no treatment at all. At the same time, reports show that declines in government spending have led to reductions in the number of hospital beds, fewer healthcare staff and increased waiting times, all of which could impede the right of citizens to adequate healthcare (United Nations, 2016).

Just as well, the deregulation of the health system has led to an exacerbation of local institutional weakness, concurrently undermining the citizen's right to health (Stubbs and

Kentikelenis, 2017). With plenty of private healthcare facilities, less support from the national level for the public system and local governance problems comes the inability of people to maintain a proper health state.

# 5.2 Labour rights

Shifting the perspective toward labour rights, a study on 123 countries has found a negative correlation between structural adjustment programs and collective labour rights, especially in relation to workers' freedom of association and their right to collective bargaining both in law and in practice (Blanton et al, 2015). More often than not, the introduction of austerity measures has been correlated with a decreasing capacity to form labour associations that are vital for militating and ensuring that the workers' rights are respected. The right to decent working conditions has also been continually curtailed through an expansion of the informal sector, layoffs incorporated in adjustment programs and a weakening of the bargaining power of workers (Vreeland, 2002).

Just as well, it is important to consider the deregulation of labour markets. While from an economic point of view, firms are more likely to invest when markets are flexible, this type of measure neglects the implications on human rights of reducing labour market rigidities. Stubbs and Kentikelenis (2017) conclude that such policies come at odds with international human rights obligations, primarily by eroding labour rights.

#### 5.3 Housing market

Equally poignant in the field of civil rights is also the situation of housing. All over Europe throughout the past years, there has been a housing crisis that has constantly exacerbated. Hundreds of house owners are being evicted over a background of contractual abuse (Barbero, 2015). These people no longer have the means to continue paying their mortgages, as secure employment is becoming increasingly difficult. Of course, this may also represent a repercussion of austerity measures. With austerity policies in effect, it is often that homeowners can no longer rely on the contractual safety nets either, leaving them vulnerable to evictions and loss of proper housing.

#### 5.4 Political rights

At the level of political rights – the right to vote, freedom of speech and the right to not be discriminated against – a shift of power from governments to markets can weaken the ability of states to protect the rights of their citizens, as this requires government expenditure on properly trained judges, police and military (Stubbs and Kentikelenis, 2017). The decrease in implication from national governments was also linked to a deteriorating level of respect for women's rights, as there is a decrease in willingness to protect such rights (Detraz and Peksen, 2016).

What is more, the violations of health and labour rights caused by austerity could generate a rise in social protest and instability. This could, in turn, be followed by violent repressions of

the social unrest by the ruling government, which equals infringements of civil and political rights (Stubbs and Kentikelenis, 2017).

#### 6. Questions a Resolution Must Answer (QARMAs)

# 6.1 QARMA 1: How can States ensure the protection of the human rights of citizens in times of austerity?

## a. Background of the problem

COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic by the World Health Organization (WHO) in March 2020. This has led to States using a lot of its resources in order to help curb the issue and provide the best possible solutions. The measures that needed to be taken in order to help remedy the pandemic led the world into an economic recession. These measures were taken in haste and were coordinated with other States. However, this pandemic uprooted some structural issues with the economic and financial systems that are currently present especially in regard to human rights. Therefore, it is important that States cooperate once more in order to protect human rights to the best of their ability.

To best ensure the protection of human rights there need to be sufficient measures in place on the national level, and similarly the international level. The national level requires national human rights structures (NHRSs) that protect human rights for all people. Although all people are covered by these structures, they are significantly more important for vulnerable groups who cannot as easily enforce their own rights by providing them with easy access to getting the required help. It is important that States are able to detect emerging issues in order to create the best possible policy to combat it. States become aware of such issues through a complaints procedure.

Similarly, States must be in constant cooperation with other States and other NHRSs in order to uphold the protectional standard of human rights granted in times where austerity is not an issue. Cooperation ensures that all the relevant parties are always the most up to date with knowledge surrounding human rights. This will allow for better policies to be formed and consequently the correct corresponding action. This cooperation will also ensure that vulnerable groups are not overlooked and are awarded with extra policies to ensure their rights are also protected.

#### b. Recent developments

COVID-19 has impacted States differently all across the world. Developing countries are especially affected by the pandemic because of the little resources they have. For many people washing their hands was not even an option, let alone any of the other measures that people were told to follow in order to stay safe. States have now adopted different measures in order to try and combat COVID-19 and these inefficiencies. Countries had to protect their people by ensuring their economic and social rights - the countries which did this have been more effective in guaranteeing human rights in times of austerity. Examples of measures taken in response to COVID-19 that are guided by human rights include providing

emergency water, creating plans for housing evictions, making more lenient rules regarding sick leave from work, creating more housing for the homeless and more (Tamale, 2021). Measures such as these give people time to get back on their feet and not feel as overwhelmed, because the whole world is going through the same pandemic and many opportunities and choices were taken away from people in the process.

#### c. Important institutions / actors

States and their governments are the main actors because they are the ones who implement policies that therefore affect their people. During the COVID-19 pandemic they had implemented many measures to help lessen the burden placed on the people due to the restrictions that came with battling the pandemic. However, with COVID-19 slowly going away the States have abruptly taken away those measures which leads to shocking burdens for the people, especially the ones relying on the help that was taken away. Even though COVID-19 affected all States around the world, they each handled it differently. This is why it is important to analyse the actions taken by different States when choosing how they can effectively ensure human rights after the pandemic.

**International Organizations** have also been actively working to try and aid in minimizing the burden of the pandemic. This had led to a stretch in their resources and daily operations. With COVID-19 waning, it means that International Organizations (IOs) then also reduce the help they offer and go back to 'normal' day to day operations. They also have an important role when it comes to ensuring the trust of the public, especially in scenarios such as the pandemic (OECD, 2020). IOs also allow for some transparency and insurance that the law is followed because of the people's belief in it. It is therefore important to analyse their significance and impact.

#### d. Past international action

Although there may not have been a previous situation that is similar to the current circumstances, it could be relevant to look into the different human rights mechanisms that are present. Universal Periodic Review is a human rights mechanism that creates communication between national and international spheres in order to get the most effective national human rights protection system. It has helped to integrate recommendations regarding human rights into mechanisms. Similarly, there are special procedures which allow for violations to be brought to light, therefore allowing action to be taken. These special procedures have developed the human rights standards that are present today and create a lot of public awareness due to the overwhelming number of cases that are seen. These special procedures look into the alleged human rights violation and assess it on the basis of the measures that are present in that State - such as the institution, legal framework, policy and de facto conditions. Another factor that can be looked into is treaty bodies safeguarding human rights. The OHCHR supports many human rights treaties and creates many follow up actions to ensure the recommendations of the UN human rights mechanisms are upheld and that its knowledge is distributed equally among all States.

6.2 QARMA 2: What mechanisms can be installed so as to ensure that States uphold their financial obligations to international organizations and their commitment to protecting human rights?

#### a. Background of the problem

International Financial Institutions (IFIs) play an important role in the social and economic development programs of nations with developing or transitional economies. This role consists of providing advice for said projects, funding, but also assistance to their implementation. At their core, IFIs operate independently, although they are characterized by both ratings and having a broad membership. Despite this, their main goals and objectives are similar and are achieved through loans, credits and grants to national governments. Multilateral financing is delivered to a national government for the implementation of a project or a program (Trade Commissioner Government of Canada, 2020.

In most cases, conditionalities are imposed by IFIs on the countries seeking assistance, mostly because of the usual circumstances in which these States find themselves in. These conditionalities are not always negotiated with the borrowing countries, and of course, not with the populations of these States. The general population is not involved in any related consultations, nor in discussions or negotiations. Furthermore, the main scope of conditionalities has been continuously expanded over the past years, which makes the case for the pervasiveness and omnipresence of IFIs in key sovereign businesses (UN. Secretary-General Juan Pablo Bohoslavsky, 2019).

## b. Recent developments

At a national level, before applying for loans from IFIs, country representatives usually negotiate a national programme. However, increasingly more during the past decades, a number of "preconditions" are imposed on States and they represent an essential part of the lending process, creating even more obligations. With regard to their coercive nature, while not considered to be binding per se, such preconditions nevertheless play a powerful role in domestic policies (UN. Secretary-General Juan Pablo Bohoslavsky, 2019).

As such, it is evident that in collaborating with IFIs, States are required to accept a wide array of conditions, with their negotiation power being reduced by the fact that the need for loans is absolutely imminent. From the very beginning of the process of acquiring financial support and until the loans are (possibly) returned, a full set of lax contractual measures and numerous conditionalities mean that States need to adjust their national political agendas to meet the obligations they have under IFIs. In turn, austerity measures are introduced at a domestic level, imposing hardships on the population.

#### c. Important institutions/actors

World Bank is one of the world's largest lenders of funds to States in order to reduce poverty and promote the improvement of economies and standards of living. However, it has often been argued that the World Bank favours the creation of an environment in which high levels of lending are considered to be not only acceptable, but also good. Just as well, there have been reports of insufficient evaluation of projects, but also of forcing countries to adopt structural adjustment programs for their economies (Abbasi, 1999).

**International Monetary Fund**, being one of the prime international financial institutions of our time, wields plenty of power in managing situations of States borrowing money and requiring financial aid. In general, the relationship between the IMF and borrower States appears to be an asymmetrical one, which is further accentuated by the fact that IMF is "effectively a lender of last resort", when other global mechanisms fail to respond to national debt crises.

According to the IMF guidelines on conditionalities, the arrangements that are made are not considered to be actual "agreements" and, as such, contractual language is avoided. This only goes to highlight the unilateral nature of the IMF Board in situations in which States require urgent financial assistance. What is more, the social impact of such measures is rarely considered and consultations with and participation of the affected populations in the negotiation processes is limited (UN. Secretary-General Juan Pablo Bohoslavsky, 2019).

#### d. Past international action

At an international level, there are a number of mechanisms aimed at protecting countries and their citizens from IFIs, although in certain cases, and especially in the field of human rights protection these measures may be bleak.

Firstly, in terms of the judicial system, international law standards allow for the call to order of IFIs and them being held accountable for complicity in the imposition of economic reforms that end up violating human rights. The causal link between the assistance provided (in the form of loans, surveillance and technical assistance, and attached conditionalities) in the commitment of an internationally wrongful act (complicity) and the harm done (human rights violations) is evident and well documented.

Just as well, the following conventions and declarations aim to protect human rights, although it is important to note that there are grey areas in their actual application.

- UN Charter
- International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
- Convention on the Rights of the Child
- Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
- Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action
- Millennium Declaration
- Declaration on the Right to Development ('OHCHR | International Standards', n.d.)

# 6.3 QARMA 3: Are there any better solutions for economic recovery especially for the developing countries other than austerity?

### a. Background of the problem

Austerity has its advantages and disadvantages in tackling economic recessions. In the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic, all countries of the world are struggling to recover from the economic hardships imposed. In this case, austerity appears to be a good solution to reduce debt. In the long term, austerity measures can create a more fiscally responsible society, increasing market confidence in the economy and giving more power to the wealthy, however it would also reduce the public spending that will lead to the increase of unemployment which will cause the government to spend more on welfare state and increasing taxes. In developing countries, the effects of social spending being cut makes the poorer households pay more for everyday goods. With numerous sectors of the economy becoming increasingly more privatized, national debts continue to increase. With decreasing budgets allocated for public services, it is evident that the population receives less help. With a growing population in most developing countries, more people require social services, however the number of people who are providing these services has been reducing or, at the very least, remained the same. For instance, the quality of learning free school in Africa is declining as there has been a reduction in free public schooling, while education is the core pillar of developing a sustainable population. What is more, the introduction of austerity measures appears to have an impact on the mental health of people as well.

#### b. Recent developments

For some countries in Asia, such as Singapore, the government can take a decisive step to keep following their respective national priorities and not pursue austerity, despite a global economic recession being imminent. In 2022, Sri Lanka had to stop their foreign debt service in order to preserve cash for food and fuel imports which unfortunately has led to the downgrade of the country's credit rating (Jayasinghe and Do Rosario, 2022). In most African countries, austerity has also become a huge challenge for the people. In 2021, most countries in Africa have been cutting billions of their spending when they actually need to invest massively in public services (Kamande, 2022). Even though it may not be the best solution, it remains as the only solution Africa can take as most countries are trapped in binding agreements for loans and they can ill afford international investors. This situation is exacerbated because 1.1 billion people live with under \$5.50 a day in.

#### c. Past international action

As a body and organization that aims to end extreme poverty and boost shared prosperity, the World Bank and the International Money Fund have shown their effort in helping all the countries to rise from an economic recession. In Africa for example, as more than 40 million people are in extreme poverty, the lost jobs, and income reduce due to the poverty the world

bank took an initiative and stepped-up financial support to the continent. Based on their report, the World Bank committed \$157 billion to fight the impacts of the pandemic, which \$39 billion is for African countries to help them strengthen health systems and services, establish and expand social safety nets, and economic impact of the crises (World Bank, 2021). The impact of the pandemic became much worse with the fact that most social services such as the health care system are poorly funded. The inadequate support amid a fiscal squeeze from the pandemic has also exacerbated the debt situation. Thus, to reduce the fiscal deficit and address the debt burden, the African government is still introducing the austerity measure with the encouragement of the IMF.

Even though they realize it might not be the best option, it is more feasible to apply than any other solutions. While still bearing in mind, building resilience and strong societies is important and should be the priority too so that people can withstand future shocks. The vaccinations should become a priority too as an effort in fighting the pandemic.

#### 7. Useful resources

#### a. Links and articles

- i. <a href="https://publichealthreviews.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/40985-017-0074-3">https://publichealthreviews.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/40985-017-0074-3</a>
- ii. <a href="https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/ie-foreign-debt/int">https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/ie-foreign-debt/int</a> ernational-standards
- iii. <a href="https://www.coe.int/en/web/commissioner/-/national-human-rights-structures-can-help-mitigate-the-effects-of-austerity-measures?inheritRedirect=true">https://www.coe.int/en/web/commissioner/-/national-human-rights-structures-can-help-mitigate-the-effects-of-austerity-measures?inheritRedirect=true</a>
- iv. <a href="https://rm.coe.int/the-impact-of-the-economic-crisis-and-austeri">https://rm.coe.int/the-impact-of-the-economic-crisis-and-austeri</a> ty-measures-on-human-righ/16806f2030
- v. <a href="https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/Documents/Issues/Development/IEDebt/20200414\_IEDebt\_urgent\_appeal\_COVID19\_EN.pdf">https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/Documents/Issues/Development/IEDebt/20200414\_IEDebt\_urgent\_appeal\_COVID19\_EN.pdf</a>
- vi. <a href="https://brill.com/view/journals/iolr/18/3/article-p293">https://brill.com/view/journals/iolr/18/3/article-p293</a> 293.xml
- vii. <a href="https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/3823559">https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/3823559</a>

# b. Important agencies

- i. <a href="https://www.worldbank.org/en/home">https://www.worldbank.org/en/home</a>
- ii. <a href="https://www.imf.org/en/Home">https://www.imf.org/en/Home</a>
- iii. https://www.ohchr.org/en/ohchr homepage

#### c. Videos and documentaries

- i. <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8aKU-e1DyDg">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8aKU-e1DyDg</a>
- ii. <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JW4VvIs9U50">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JW4VvIs9U50</a>
- iii. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vMsLq0b5lNo
- iv. <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V9w0jloyfGY">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V9w0jloyfGY</a>

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