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Explorations on human rights

Transgressing rights: La Via Campesina's call for food sovereignty / Exploring collaborations: Heterodox economics and an economic social rights framework / Workers in the informal sector: Special challenges for economic human rights

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macroeconomics and numan rights, social movements that strive to protect these

rights, and the different theoretical approaches to incorporating rights into an academic framework. Though each contribution's methodology and focus are different, the composite takes an important step in evaluating this very critical question of economic rights that greatly affects individual lives, social conditions, economic policies, and the study of economics.

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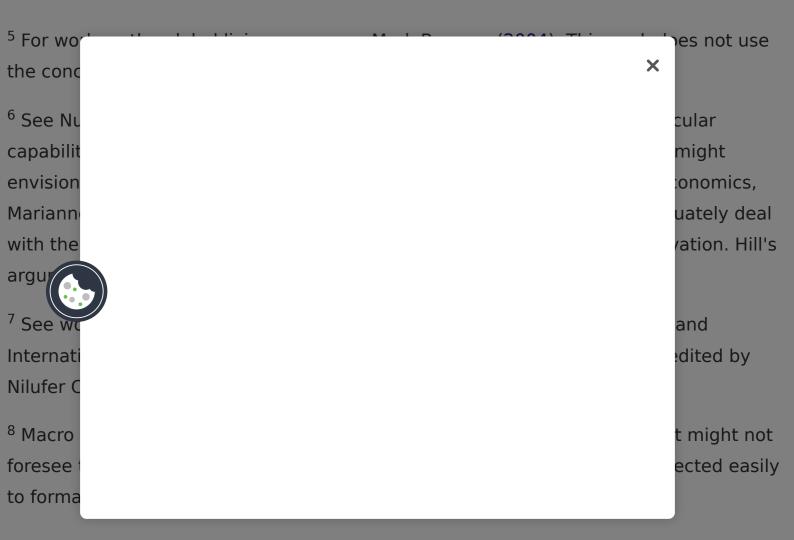
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¹ NGOs cannot, as a result of La Via Campesina's founding constitutional principles, become members of the organization. There are, however, friendly relations between a handful of organizations and La Via Campesina's secretariat. The Foodfirst Information Action Network has launched the Global Campaign for Agrarian Reform, and La Via Campesina representatives sit on the steering committee for that project. Specifically, the Foodfirst Information and Action Network is looking to use the UN General Comment 12 to argue for a robust framework of economic, social, and cultural rights, in addition to civil and political rights for people living in rural areas (UN – Committee on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights [UNCESCR]1999).

- ² Some of the initial ideas in this paper were a result of long conversations with Uma Narayan.
- ³ See the work done by Third World Network (<u>2001</u>) review of Doha WTO Ministerial meeting and the work of the International Forum on Globalization (<u>2000</u>) analysis of Asian Financial crisis.
- ⁴ See International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (<u>www.icftu.org</u>) for discussion of WTO and labor standards discussion. There are many articles that have current analysis of this issue.



- ⁹ The dialogue between these two frameworks has already begun. The Ford Foundation funded an initial meeting; for the report, see Radhika Balakrishnan (2005).
- ¹⁰ Useful discussions and definitions of the informal sector can be found in Alejandro Portes, Manuel Castells, and Lauren A. Benton (1989) and Lourdes Beneria (2003).
- ¹¹ On its website, WIEGO describes itself as "a global research-policy network that seeks to improve the status of the working poor, especially women, in the informal economy through statistics, research, programs and policies and through increased organization and representation of informal workers."
- ¹² Particularly relevant to the rights cited here are Articles 17, 23, and 24.
- ¹³ For an account of the struggles and benefits of organizing a union of domestic workers, see Marina Karides (2002).
- ¹⁴ For information about SEWA see Mirai Chatterjee (2001), Martha Alter Chen (2000), and Ratna M. Sudarshan (2002).
- ¹⁵ Jeanne Kirkpatrick quoted in Joseph Wronka (<u>1995</u>). Morris Abram's, Statement, UN Commission on Human Rights, on Item 8, "The Right to Development," February 1991, quoted in Noam Chomsky (<u>1999</u>).



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