

Feminist Economics >
Volume 13, 2007 - Issue 1

1,268 43

Views

CrossRef citations to date

3

Altmetric

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

Contributors: Rajeev Patel, Radhika Balakrishnan & Uma Narayan

Pages 87-116 | Published online: 07 Nov 2008

Cite this article <https://doi.org/10.1080/13545700601086838>

Sample our
Social Sciences
Journals



>> **Sign in here** to start your access
to the latest two volumes for 14 days

Full Article

Figures & data

References

Citations

Metrics

Reprint

We Care About Your Privacy

We and our 845 partners store and/or access information on a device, such as unique IDs in cookies to process personal data. You may accept or manage your choices by clicking below, including your right to object where legitimate interest is used, or at any time in the privacy policy page. These choices will be signaled to our partners and will not affect browsing data. [Privacy Policy](#)

We and our partners process data to provide:

Use precise geolocation data. Actively scan device characteristics for identification. Store and/or access information on a device. Personalised advertising and content, advertising and content measurement, audience research and services development.

[List of Partners \(vendors\)](#)

I Accept

Essential Only

Show Purpose



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.

Keywords: Human rightsresistancedevelopmentthe informal sectorglobalizationjustice

JEL Codes: J83, J8, J

Acknowledgments

Rajeev Patel is very grateful to Radhika Balakrishnan, Anita Nayar, Daria Roithmayr, four anonymous reviewers, and the discussants at the 2003 IAFFE Conference workshop at which a version of this paper was first presented, supported by the Ford Foundation. The usual disclaimers apply.

Radhika Balakrishnan would like to thank Uma Narayan for early input into this work and David Gillcrist and Mehlika Hoodbhoy for helping structure the argument in this paper. She would especially like to thank the referees from the journal for their invaluable comments and input.

Uma Narayan's work on issues relating to the informal sector began in Fall 2003 with the support of a Rockefeller Fellowship on the theme of "Confronting Global Capital, Finding Human Security: A Gendered Critique" organized by the National Council for Research on the City. She would like to thank the other fellows and the reviewers for their helpful comments.

Notes

¹ NGOs and social movements have become a central part of the 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 ([2001](#)) review of Doha WTO Ministerial meeting and the work of the International Forum on Globalization ([2000](#)) analysis of Asian Financial crisis.

⁴ See International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (www.icftu.org) for discussion of WTO and labor standards discussion. There are many articles that have current analysis of this issue.

⁵ For work on the global living wage, see Mark Brenner ([2004](#)). This work does not use the concept of a universal minimum core content.

⁶ See Nussbaum's article ([2003](#)) for an argument on why the listing of particular capabilities is better at addressing the conception of the kind of person we might envision when we talk about human rights. In the same issue of Feminist Economics, Marianne T. Hill ([2003](#)) argues that the capabilities approach does not adequately deal with the structural of power within the economic system that creates deprivation. Hill's argument

⁷ See work by the International Labor Office and edited by Nilufer C.

⁸ Ma

⁹ The dia

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 ([1995](#)). Morris Abram's, Statement, UN Commission on Human Rights, on Item 8, “The Right to Development,” February 1991, quoted in Noam Chomsky ([1999](#)).

¹⁶ European Commission, Communication Sur le Travail Non Declaree, Brussels 1998. Cited in Anne Renaut ([2002](#)).

¹⁷ Jeffrey Sachs (2003), UN special adviser on the Millenium Goals, states that the amount of assistance needed to meet the Goals is US\$175 billion a year, but only about US\$50 billion is currently available.





Relat

Intern

so

S

Gove

Sourc

Capa

Sourc

PEAS

Farm Movement

ent

nan

and

Source: Informa UK Limited

Peasants Make Their Own History, But Not Just as They Please . . .

Source: Wiley

(Relative) autonomism, policy currents and the politics of mobilisation for food sovereignty in the United States: the case of Occupy the Farm*

Source: Informa UK Limited

Food sovereignty as decolonization: some contributions from Indigenous movements to food system and development politics

Source: Springer Science and Business Media LLC

Deconstructing homegardens: food security and sovereignty in northern Nicaragua

Source: Springer Science and Business Media LLC

What does food sovereignty look like

Source: Informa UK Limited

Land Reform, Rural Social Relations and the Peasantry

Source: Wiley

'Smart' Farming Techniques as Political Ontology: Access, Sovereignty and the Performance of Neoliberal and Not-So-Neoliberal Worlds

Source: Wiley

Relationalities and convergences in food security narratives: towards a place-based approach

Source: Wiley

Struggling for food sovereignty in the World March of Women

Source: Informa UK Limited

Gender Justice, Human Rights, and Neo-Liberal Economic Policies

Source: Oxford University Press

No hay ganancia en la milpa: the agrarian question, food sovereignty, and the on-farm consequences

Source

Linkin



Re

Information for

Authors

R&D professionals

Editors

Librarians

Societies

Opportunities

Reprints and e-prints

Advertising solutions

Accelerated publication

Corporate access solutions

Open access

Overview

Open journals

Open Select

Dove Medical Press

F1000Research

Help and information

Help and contact

Newsroom

All journals

Books

Keep up to date

Register to receive personalised research and resources by email



Sign me up



Copyright © 2024 Informa UK Limited [Privacy policy](#) [Cookies](#) [Terms & conditions](#)



Taylor & Francis Group
an informa business

Accessibility



Registered
5 Howick Place

