

- Courseware (/courses/LouvainX/Louv2.01x/1T2014/courseware)
- Course Info (/courses/LouvainX/Louv2.01x/1T2014/info)
- Discussion (/courses/LouvainX/Louv2.01x/1T2014/discussion/forum)
- Wiki (/courses/LouvainX/Louv2.01x/1T2014/course_wiki)
- Progress (/courses/LouvainX/Louv2.01x/1T2014/progress)
- Reading Materials (/courses/LouvainX/Louv2.01x/1T2014/pdfbook/0/)
- Syllabus (/courses/LouvainX/Louv2.01x/1T2014/3517b9300b554b118f11224b8c05eb10/)

Human rights indicators are distinct from development indicators which measure, for instance, life expectancy, literacy rates or school attendance rates, or levels of undernourishment. Indeed :

1. human rights indicators must also address the question of *whether the needs of individuals are guaranteed in the form of rights* that they may claim before independent bodies; and
2. human rights indicators must allow to distinguish poor outcomes that are *attributable to a failure by the State to take certain measures*, and those that are *attributable to adverse circumstances or constraints* faced by the State.

This video briefly outlines how human rights doctrine has addressed both challenges by distinguishing between structural, process and outcome indicators.

ON STRUCTURAL, PROCESS AND OUTCOME INDICATORS

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Of course, one important debate has been about how to measure the progress made by states in the realization of human rights. Which are the indicators that should be used in order to measure such progress? And, in time, a consensus has been gradually developed around the idea that indicators in human rights should fall in three categories, and that we needed three types of measures to measure progress. First, we have what is called structural

Structural indicators try to measure essentially the goodwill of the state, what the state has shown in terms of willingness to make progress, for example, by the adoption of certain legislations, by the ratification of certain international instruments, by accepting some procedures of individual communications before human rights bodies, or by the adoption of a particular action plan that defines the intentions of the state to move towards the fulfillment of human rights. These structural indicators really measure the good intentions

Help

You may also watch this video on YouTube (<http://youtu.be/mkGlFBSntN8>), or download it here (<http://podcast.uclouvain.be/RWV48iICZq>) (captions (/c4x/LouvainX/Louv2.01x/asset/_Captions__Louv201x_-_Human_Rights_Indicators.srt) in .srt format as well as a full transcript (/c4x/LouvainX/Louv2.01x/asset/_Transcript__Louv201x_-_Human_Rights_Indicators.pdf) are also available).



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