

Human Rights and Older Adults: Ensuring Justice and Security in Later Years

Deadline: January 13, 2017

The world's population is aging rapidly. By 2050 the global population of people 65 and older will triple to 1.5 billion, outnumbering children under the age of 5. This aging population presents many new social challenges in both developed and developing countries in the spheres of income security, health, retirement, and family. All of these challenges demand a rubric of social policies to address them and basic to these policies must be the common recognition of the rights of older adults for security and dignity. Unfortunately, such rights are often ignored as people age with the most vulnerable also most at risk of having such rights denied. This vulnerability is most profound among those with symptoms of dementia whose autonomy and decision-making are frequently disregarded, even by those working in their best interest.

In 2002, Madrid International Plan of Action on Aging, signed by 159 countries, committed member states to pursue policies aiming toward the full participation of older person in their societies with full rights and the assurance of security and dignity. This special journal issue explores the extent to which such rights are being realized and the roles of social workers in working for these rights.

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The main aims of the Special Issue are:

- To raise an international debate about the current policies impacting older adults and the ways in which they reflect and support their human rights.
- To introduce papers that will explore and discuss how social work can contribute to creating a rights-based society and service delivery system for older adults
- To provide contributions which highlight the experiences of those working with older adults and the challenges they face in assuring their rights are supported and protected, especially the most vulnerable groups

Key themes are:

- Evaluating civil, political and socio-cultural rights for older adults and their link to social policies focused on older adults
- Threats to economic well-being and diminished employment as a violation of human rights.
- The intersection of health and mental health, including dementia and long-term care and the international covenant on economic, social and cultural rights.
- Age-based discrimination and exclusion as a violation of human rights.

We welcome in particular papers that:

- Offer original perspectives
- Authors from across the globe, both policy-makers and practitioners
- Models of aging rights-based policies

Guidelines for manuscript submission:

Manuscripts **not exceeding 8000 words** in length should be **no later than January 13, 2017** on our online system in Editorial Manager located at <https://www.editorialmanager.com/jhrw/default.aspx>. Any queries can be emailed to Dr. Carole Cox (ccox@fordham.edu) or to Dr. Manoj Pardasani (mpardasani@fordham.edu)

Please ensure that you include your full name and email contact details.