

Right to Health;

The Application of International Laws in the Islamic Republic of Iran

1. Poverty is one of the important determinants of health in Iran. Laws and policies to improve people's enjoyment of the right to health should be part of a comprehensive plan to advance the population's welfare.
2. Redirecting the financial resources of health system from excessive spending on advanced health services to health protection is necessary in Iran.
3. Current economic sanctions against Iran have contributed to limiting the population's access to the necessities of an adequate standard of living, including food, healthcare and medicine.
4. During international economic sanctions, the priorities of resource allocation should be changed to protect the vulnerable groups of population from the adverse humanitarian effects of economic decline.
5. Some parts of the recent population policies of Iran may jeopardize individual and public health. This country should immediately revoke these policies and progressively improve people's enjoyment of their right to sexual and reproductive health.
6. Barriers to the equal access of vulnerable groups of Iran's children to health services in law and practice should be eliminated, and immediate measures should be adopted to identify disadvantaged children and improve their access to health care.
7. Families without adequate means to provide a standard of living for their children, and married, parent and divorced children should be supported by the government. In addition, improving the mental health of children should be considered a priority in the future health plans of this country.

8. Women's rights to healthcare and social security should be guaranteed regardless of their marital status. Women are fully capable adults, and able to make autonomous decisions about their lives.
9. Defining the rights in the Constitution or legislation is not enough for the protection of rights; they should be translated into practice. The establishment of a data system concerning the health situation of population and a monitoring system to control the implementation of related laws is necessary in Iran. It is crucial to provide appropriate means for ensuring governmental transparency and accountability and to provide remedies and redress for every individual or group whose rights are not realized.
10. A considerable number of the rights guaranteed by international human rights treaties are respected by Sharia. A general opposition to international human rights hampers the realization of people's rights defined by Sharia.

Fatemeh Kokabisaghi, 2019