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Commercio

PG DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND RESEARCH

16 PEACE, JUSTICE
AND STRONG
INSTITUTIONS



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Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.



EDITORIAL



The current Issue of 'The Commercio' focusses on UN's Sustainable Development Goal No. 16 which is officially worded as "Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels". Being one of the most challenging goals laid out by the UN, understandably, its realisation has seen little progress so far in the wake of the current global trends that drive nations towards war, violence and civilian casualties that scuttle the very goal itself.

To compound problems, challenges and crises in the form of climate change, biodiversity loss, desertification and land degradation, environmental degradation and pollution, learning crisis, economic slowdown, rising debt vulnerability, growing poverty and inequality including gender inequality, food insecurity and malnutrition, step back in access to health, energy insecurity and volatility in energy markets, global supply chain disruptions, and disasters are threatening the long-term livelihoods and wellbeing of millions thereby hindering progress in achieving the SDGs by 2030. While there have been some successes, there is still a long way to go to fully achieve the targets set out in SDG 16. It's a complex issue with many facets, and progress can vary greatly depending on the specific target and region. These challenges require a concerted effort from all stakeholders and there has, of late, been a spurt in events and initiatives to bring out palpable changes in the areas of concern SDG 16 embodies.

It is contextually note-worthy that the Nobel Peace Prize 2023 has been awarded to the sentence-serving Iranian activist Narges Mohammadi in recognition of her fight against oppression of women in Iran and her efforts to promote human rights and freedom for all. She has been arrested thirteen times, convicted five times, and sentenced to a total of 31 years in prison. Her unwavering boldness and integrity to cause are shining examples of untiring and relentless drive against gender inequality.

The current issue of 'The Commercio' is brought out by the Third Semester Bcom (Self Financing) batch and the efforts behind the publication are sincerely appreciated.

-Dr. Nisha Leela Jose

GRATITUDE

"The commercio hankers to thank the faculty, student coordinators and editorial team who aided to create this newsletter. To improve is to change; to be perfect is to change often. The flaws if any can be commented upon so that it can be corrected in the next volume. We are looking forward to your support in the future as well."



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PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS?

Peace, justice , and strong institutions is one of the 17 sustainable development goals established by the United Nations. It is goal 16 and aims to promote peaceful and inclusive societies, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels. This goal is an integral part of the broader 2030 Agenda for sustainable development.

SDG 16 has ten outcome targets: Reduce violence; protect children from abuse, exploitation, trafficking and violence; promote the rule of law and ensure equal access to justice; combat organized crime and illicit financial and arms flows, substantially reduce corruption and bribery; develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions; ensure responsive, inclusive and representative decision-making; strengthen the participation in global governance; provide universal legal identity; ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms. There are also two means of implementation targets[2]: Strengthen national institutions to prevent violence and combat crime and terrorism; promote and enforce non-discriminatory laws and policies.





"PHASES OF PEACE, JUSTICE & STRONG INSTITUTIONS"

The achievement of peace, justice, and strong institutions often involves multiple phases and interconnected efforts. Here are the key phases in working toward this goal:

Prevention: The first phase is prevention. This involves efforts to prevent conflicts and disputes from escalating into violence. This can be done through diplomacy, conflict resolution, and addressing the root causes of conflicts, such as inequality and discrimination.

Conflict Resolution: When conflicts do arise, the next phase is conflict resolution. This includes negotiations, peace talks, and diplomatic efforts to bring conflicting parties to the table to find peaceful solutions.

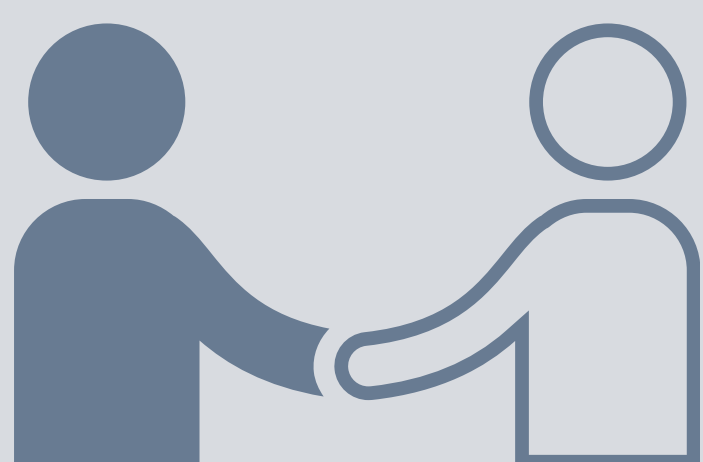
Access to Justice: Ensuring access to justice is a fundamental component of achieving justice. This phase involves creating a legal framework that ensures equal access to legal remedies and the protection of human rights. It also includes efforts to strengthen the rule of law and combat corruption.

Strong Institutions: Building strong institutions is an ongoing process. This phase involves reforming and strengthening government institutions, law enforcement, the judiciary, and other public bodies. It also includes efforts to enhance transparency, accountability, and effectiveness.



Sustainable Development: Ultimately, the goal is to integrate peace, justice, and strong institutions into the broader framework of sustainable development. This means ensuring that these elements are not only achieved but also sustained over the long term to promote economic and social well-being.

These phases are interconnected and often require international cooperation, local leadership, and a commitment to the principles of human rights, democracy, and the rule of law to be successful. They are essential for creating a more just and peaceful world as envisioned by Sustainable Development Goal 16.



These phases are often interdependent and require collaborative efforts from governments, international organizations, civil society, and local communities to achieve lasting peace, justice, and strong institutions.

It involve creating a society where everyone is treated fairly, has access to a fair legal system, and where institutions are accountable and transparent. It's about building a world where peace and justice prevail, and where institutions work effectively to ensure the well-being of all individuals. It's an important goal for a better future!





HOW DOES THIS APPLY TO WHERE WE LIVE?

Goal 16 aligns with the broader human rights framework by promoting societies that respect and uphold individual rights, as well as the right to privacy, freedom of expression, and access to information.

Peace is a fundamental precondition for social and economic development. Without peace, societies are often plagued by conflict, violence, and instability, which can hinder progress and result in the loss of lives and resources.

Equal access to justice is essential for protecting the rights of individuals, resolving disputes, and ensuring that vulnerable populations are not marginalized or mistreated.

Crimes threatening peaceful societies, including homicides, trafficking and other organized crimes, as well as discriminatory laws or practices, affect all countries.



WHAT IF WE DON'T TAKE ACTION?

Armed violence and insecurity have a destructive impact on a country's development, affecting economic growth and often resulting in long-standing grievances among communities.

Violence also affects children's health, development and well-being, and their ability to thrive. It causes trauma and weakens social inclusion.

Lack of access to justice means that conflicts remain unresolved and people cannot obtain protection and redress. Institutions that do not function according to legitimate laws are prone to arbitrariness and abuse of power, and less capable of delivering public service to everyone.

To exclude and to discriminate not only violates human rights, but also causes resentment and animosity, and could give rise to violence.



SDG 16; TARGETS AND INDICATORS

Target 16.1: Reduce violence everywhere



Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere.

- This target has four indicators:
- Indicator 16.1.1: Number of victims of intentional homicide per 100,000 population, by sex and age.
- Indicator 16.1.2: Conflict-related deaths per 100,000 population, by sex, age and cause.
- Indicator 16.1.3: Proportion of population subjected to (a) physical violence, (b) psychological violence and (c) sexual violence in the previous 12 months.
- Indicator 16.1.4: Proportion of population that feel safe walking alone around the area they live.

Target 16.2: Protect children from abuse, exploitation, trafficking and violence



End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children.

This target has three indicators:

Indicator 16.2.1: Proportion of children aged 1–17 years who experienced any physical punishment and/or psychological aggression by caregivers in the past month.

- Indicator 16.2.2: Number of victims of human trafficking per 100,000 population, by sex, age and form of exploitation.
- Indicator 16.2.3: Proportion of young women and men aged 18–29 years who experienced sexual violence by age 18.

Target 16.3: Equal access to justice



Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all.

This target has three indicators:

- Indicator 16.3.1: Proportion of victims of violence in the previous 12 months who reported their victimization to competent authorities or other officially recognized conflict resolution mechanisms.
- Indicator 16.3.2: Unsentenced detainees as a proportion of overall prison population.
- Indicator 16.3.3: Proportion of the population who have experienced a dispute in the past two years and who accessed a formal or informal dispute resolution mechanism, by type of mechanism.

Target 16.4: Combat organized crime and illicit financial and arms flows



By 2030, significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flows, strengthen the recovery and return of stolen assets and combat all forms of organized crime.

The target has two indicators:

- Indicator 16.4.1: Total value of inward and outward illicit financial flows (in current United States dollars).
- Indicator 16.4.2: Proportion of seized, found or surrendered arms whose illicit origin or context has been traced or established by a competent authority in line with international instruments.

Target 16.5: Substantially reduce corruption and bribery



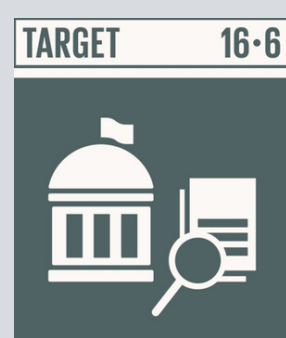
Target 16.5: Substantially reduce corruption and bribery

The target has two indicators:

- Indicator 16.5.1: Proportion of persons who had at least one contact with a public official and who paid a bribe to a public official, or were asked for a bribe by those public officials, during the previous 12 months.

- Indicator 16.5.2: Proportion of businesses that had at least one contact with a public official and that paid a bribe to a public official, or were asked for a bribe by those public officials during the previous 12 months.

Target 16.6: Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions



Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels.

The target has two indicators:

- Indicator 16.6.1: Primary government expenditures as a proportion of original approved budget, by sector (or by budget codes or similar).
- Indicator 16.6.2: Proportion of population satisfied with their last experience of public services.

Target 16.7: Ensure responsive, inclusive and representative decision-making



Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision making at all levels.

The target has two indicators:

- Indicator 16.7.1: Proportions of positions in national and local institutions, including (a) the legislatures; (b) the public service; and (c) the judiciary, compared to national distributions, by sex, age, persons with disabilities and population groups.

- Indicator 16.7.2: Proportion of population who believe decision-making is inclusive and responsive, by sex, age, disability and population group.

Target 16.8: Strengthen the participation in global governance



Broaden and strengthen the participation of developing countries in the institutions of global governance. The target has a single indicator.

- Indicator 16.8.1 is the "Proportion of members and voting rights of developing countries in international organizations".

Target 16.9: Provide universal legal identity



By 2030, provide legal identity for all, including birth registration. It has one indicator:

- Indicator 16.9.1 is the Proportion of children under 5 years of age whose births have been registered with a civil authority, by age

Target 16.10: Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms

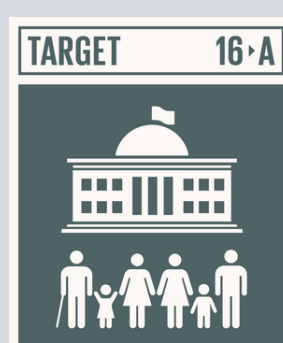


Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements.

The target has two indicators:

- Indicator 16.10.1 Number of verified cases of killing, kidnapping, enforced disappearance, arbitrary detention and torture of journalists, associated media personnel, trade unionists and human rights advocates in the previous 12 months.
- Indicator 16.10.2 Number of countries that adopt and implement constitutional, statutory and/or policy guarantees for public access to information.

Target 16.a: Strengthen national institutions to prevent violence and combat crime and terrorism



Strengthen relevant national institutions, including through international cooperation, for building capacity at all levels, in particular in developing countries, to prevent violence and combat terrorism and crime. It has one indicator.

- Indicator 16.a.1 is the Existence of independent national human rights institutions in compliance with the Paris Principles

Target 16.b: Promote and enforce non-discriminatory laws and policies



Promote and enforce non-discriminatory laws and policies for sustainable development. It has one indicator.

- Indicator 16.b.1 is the "Proportion of population reporting having personally felt discriminated against or harassed in the previous 12 months on the basis of a ground of discrimination prohibited under international human rights law.

REASONS WHY PEACE, JUSTICE & STRONG INSTITUTIONS ARE IMPORTANT?



1. Peace promotes stability and harmony, allowing societies to thrive and individuals to live without fear and conflict.

2. Justice ensures fairness and equality, protecting the rights of individuals and providing a framework for resolving disputes.

3. Strong institutions uphold the rule of law, maintain order, and provide essential services to communities.

4. They foster trust and confidence in the system, encouraging economic growth, investment, and development.

5. They contribute to social progress, human rights, and the overall well-being of individuals and communities.

In short, peace, justice, and strong institutions are the pillars of a prosperous and inclusive society.



THE NOBEL PEACE PRIZE SHINES ON NARGES MOHAMMADI



The 2023 Nobel Peace Prize was awarded to the Iranian activist Narges Mohammadi (born 1972) "for her fight against the oppression of women in Iran and her fight to promote human rights and freedom for all." She is the second Nobel laureate from Iran after Shirin Ebadi won in 2003. As of the announcement of the prize, Mohammadi is still in prison in Iran.

Her brave struggle has come with tremendous personal costs. Altogether, the regime has arrested her 13 times, convicted her five times, and sentenced her to a total of 31 years in prison and 154 lashes. Ms Mohammadi is still in prison as I speak.

In September 2022 a young Kurdish woman, Mahsa Jina Amini, was killed while in the custody of the Iranian morality police. Her killing triggered the largest political demonstrations against Iran's theocratic regime since it came to power in 1979. Under the slogan "Woman – Life – Freedom", hundreds of thousands of Iranians took part in peaceful protests against the authorities' brutality and oppression of women. The regime cracked down hard on the protests: more than 500 demonstrators were killed. Thousands were injured, including many who were blinded by rubber bullets fired by the police. At least 20 000 people were arrested and held in regime custody. The motto adopted by the demonstrators – "woman – life – Freedom" – suitably express the dedication and work of Narges Mohammadi.

Woman : She fights for women against systematic discrimination and oppression.

Life: She supports women's struggle for the right to live full and dignified lives. This struggle across Iran has been met with persecution, imprisonment, torture and even death.

Freedom : She fights for freedom of expression and the right of independence, and against rules requiring women to remain out of sight and to cover their bodies. The freedom demands expressed by demonstrators apply not only to women, but to the entire population.



LEARNING FROM PEACE EFFORTS

Afghan – Taliban War

The United States' moment of greatest leverage with the Taliban was in late 2001, when the regime was militarily defeated and ousted from power. From 2001 through 2004, dozens of senior Taliban offered various forms of surrender and reconciliation in exchange for amnesty. The United States rejected these, excluded the Taliban from the new political order, and barred Afghan interim leader and later President Hamid Karzai from talking with the Taliban. We will never know whether greater openness to such offers might have averted two decades of war.

Later, as the Taliban insurgency emerged and grew, the United States increased its military presence, which peaked in 2011 with roughly 100,000 U.S. and 30,000 NATO troops in the country. Despite Taliban willingness to talk, U.S. leaders were highly skeptical about the prospects for a negotiated settlement. Military commanders sought to capitalize on the troop surge to strengthen the U.S. position in advance of any talks, and overestimated President Obama's willingness to maintain the larger military presence. Some officials also feared that negotiations would undermine the war effort by forcing the military to enter into a cease-fire or reduce violence against the Taliban.

The Taliban made steady gains as the foreign troop presence declined over the next decade. By the time the United States came to the negotiating table in 2018, in desperation to end the "forever war," it did so from a position of weakness. The tragedy is that, in the February 2020 U.S.-Taliban agreement, the United States acquiesced to Taliban demands that it never would have considered earlier in the war but might have been able to resist or counter when it was stronger. The deal secured for the United States only the safe withdrawal of its troops, which in turn fatally undermined the Afghan Republic government in its negotiations with the Taliban — and later precipitated the collapse of Afghan security forces and the government that the United States had supported for 20 years.

Ukraine - Russia war

There have been several rounds of peace talks to halt Russia's 2022 invasion in Ukraine and end the Russo-Ukrainian War in an armistice. The first meeting was held four days after the start of the invasion, on 28 February 2022, in Belarus. It concluded without result, with delegations from both sides returning to their capitals for consultations. A second and third round of talks took place on 3 and 7 March 2022, on the Belarus-Ukraine border, in an undisclosed location in the Gomel region of Belarus. A fourth and fifth round of talks were respectively held on 10 and 14 March in Antalya, Turkey.

Peace talks and the stability of international borders were further discussed in the Ukrainian parliament during the week of 9 May. Following the 2022 Ukrainian eastern counteroffensive, Russia renewed calls for peace talks. Ukrainian leaders refused to reopen dialogue, claiming that the Russian government was not truly committed to peace and was simply stalling for time while its forces regrouped.

Israel - Palestine war

Intermittent discussions are held by various parties and proposals put forward in an attempt to resolve the ongoing Israeli-Palestinian conflict through a peace process. Since the 1970s, there has been a parallel effort made to find terms upon which peace can be agreed to in both the Arab-Israeli conflict and in the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. Some countries have signed peace treaties, such as the Egypt-Israel (1979) and Jordan-Israel (1994) treaties, whereas some have not yet found a mutual basis to do so.

Israel continues to respond to Hamas' unprecedented attack on its people, bombarding Gaza and preparing for a ground offensive. Humanitarian groups and some foreign leaders are calling for a cease-fire. But what are the prospects for long-term peace? The two-state solution calls for establishing an independent state for Palestines alongside that of Israel. And U.S. support for it is nothing new: For decades, it has been the primary proposed framework for resolving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

But failed peace talks, logistical questions, expanded Israeli settlements, Palestinian attacks and recurring clashes have kept it from becoming a reality. The two-state solution has seen dwindling support from both Palestinians and Israelis over the years. And its prospects now seem dimmer than ever, in light of Hamas' attack on Israel and Israel's response.



BREAK THE CHAIN OF INJUSTICE

Hundreds of people clad in black clothes came together on Sunday for “Break the Chain of Injustice”, a peaceful gathering against the atrocities committed against women in Manipur, and demanded the protection of their rights. The event which was organised by the Women’s Commission and the Archdiocese of Bangalore was attended by women leaders, activists, and speakers who expressed solidarity with the victims of the violence, particularly the Kuki women who were paraded naked on the streets of Manipur on May 4.

The humanitarian crisis in Manipur has divided the State like never before. Though there was no significant record of any conflict between the two communities—Meiteis and Kukis—in the past, the ethnic violence that erupted in May 2023 has claimed the lives of over 180 people and displaced.

All cultures and traditions have grappled with questions of justice although they may have interpreted the concept in different ways. The right for people to claim linear justice is being seized. All human beings are prone to serious injustice. The power to break the chain of injustice can only be yielded by us.



ENRICHING AUSPICIOUS MOMENTS WITH SUSTAINABILITY

Tourism is not just a journey to new places; it's an exploration of cultures, traditions, and history. India, a land of diverse landscapes and ancient heritage, invites travelers from around the world to experience its beauty and vibrancy. In a country as diverse and culturally rich as India, weddings have always been grand and extravagant affairs. However, with the global call for sustainability and responsible consumption, it's crucial that we adapt our traditions to align with the Sustainable Development. India's weddings truly showcase a fascinating kaleidoscope of traditions and rituals, reflecting the incredible diversity across states.

As a part of tourism day 2023, the commerce department of vimala organised "REISE '23" with a unique theme of sustainable weddings in india. PG students of the department took us through an exciting journey that transported us to the sun-kissed beaches, the vibrant culture, and the laid-back charm of the pearl of the Indian Ocean, Goa. And they did so in the most sustainable yet vibrant way which definitely deserves an appreciation.



They were given a token of appreciation by the department of commerce for perfectly encapsulating and executing the program right on theme .



WHERE ARE THEY?



Word search

r	i	g	h	t	s	m	u	l	h	s	l
g	l	o	b	a	l	g	o	a	l	z	a
w	c	a	s	d	p	x	d	w	w	e	i
s	n	l	r	e	s	p	e	c	t	j	r
w	z	s	u	c	r	u	l	e	s	u	e
u	v	i	r	i	p	e	a	c	e	s	o
b	y	x	n	s	m	l	e	o	g	t	x
a	q	t	b	l	g	y	q	j	s	i	p
e	l	e	l	o	r	s	u	u	r	c	q
u	f	e	t	n	u	s	a	g	i	e	t
x	z	n	k	s	b	d	l	o	z	h	a
f	a	i	r	n	e	s	s	p	g	s	n



- Peace
- Justice
- Rights
- Law
- Respect
- Global
- Rules
- Goal sixteen
- Equal

"Instructions: The words in puzzle may be hidden horizontally, vertically, diagonally, forward, or backward. Circle discovered words with different colors, and cross them off the list when you've found them. When all of the words are found, you will know many important terms related to peace, justice and strong institutions."



Peace, Justice & Strong Institutions

TRIVIA

1. Which US president has ended slavery?

- Abraham Lincoln
- George Washington
- Theodore Roosevelt

2. If we look at our everyday consumption, how many slaves work for each of us?

- 3
- 27
- 60

3. In which country have child workers organized themselves in a trade union?

- Tansania
- Bolivia
- Indonesia

4. In which product there is no exploitative child labour?

- Smartphone
- Chocolate
- Exercise books

5. What are sweatshops? Factories where

- Cheap manpower is exploited
- Tropical temperatures prevail
- Exclusively sweatshirts are produced

6. How much profit is estimated to be made by criminal gangs trafficking in human beings worldwide each year?

- 6 billion US dollars
- 18 billion US dollars
- 32 billion US dollars

7. How many of the world's child workers are under 12 years old?

- 11 percent
- 34 percent
- 48 percent

8. What are the names of the UN peacekeeping forces?

- blue helmets
- green helmets
- white helmets

9. Which confederation has guaranteed peace for more than 70 years?

- the European Union
- the United States of America
- African Union

10. On which continent do most children have to slave under exploitative conditions?

- Africa
- Asia
- Latin America

Thank
You