

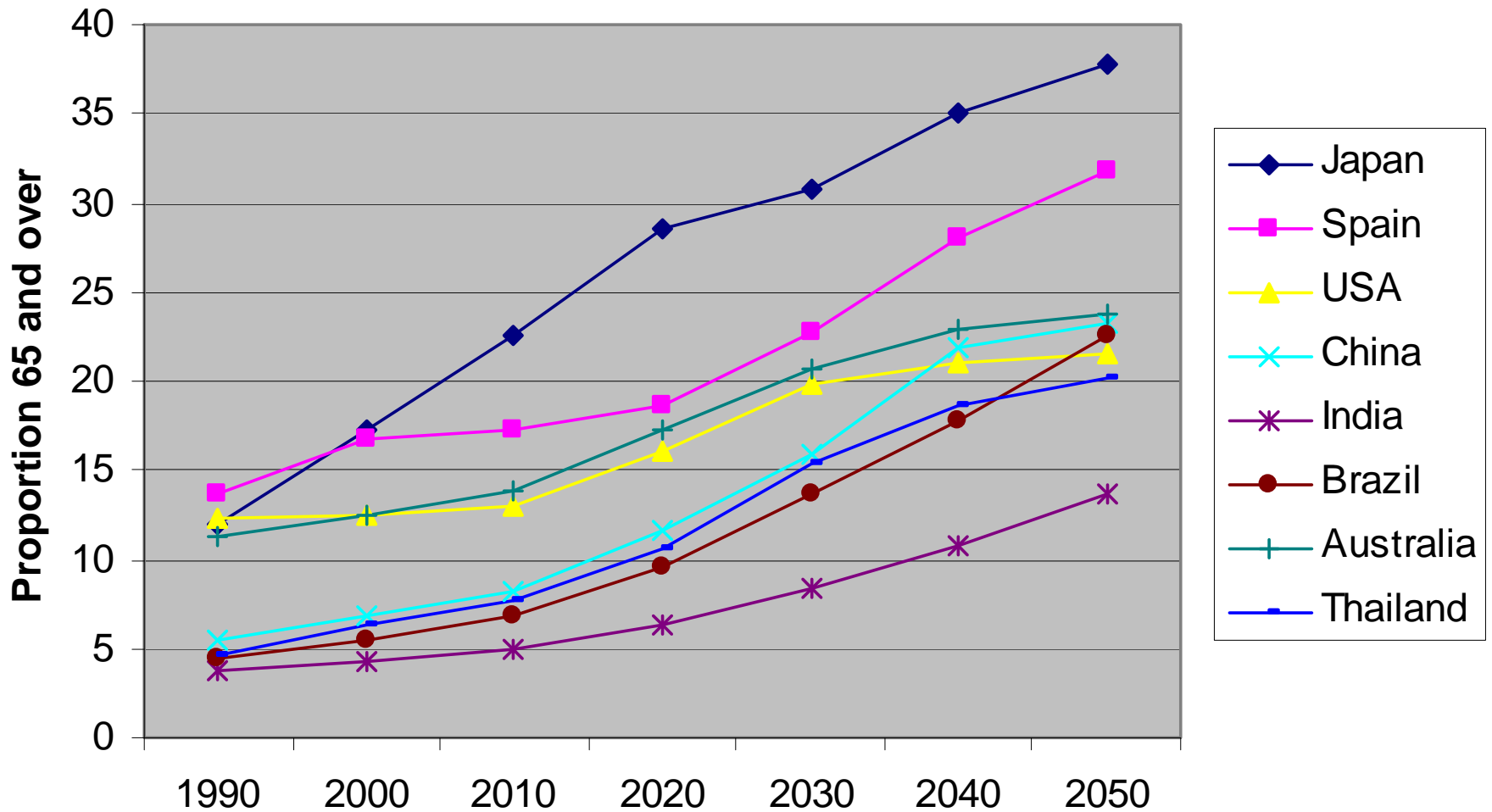
Human Rights and the Health of Older People

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World Health
Organization

21st Century Challenges: Ageing



From Burden to Boon

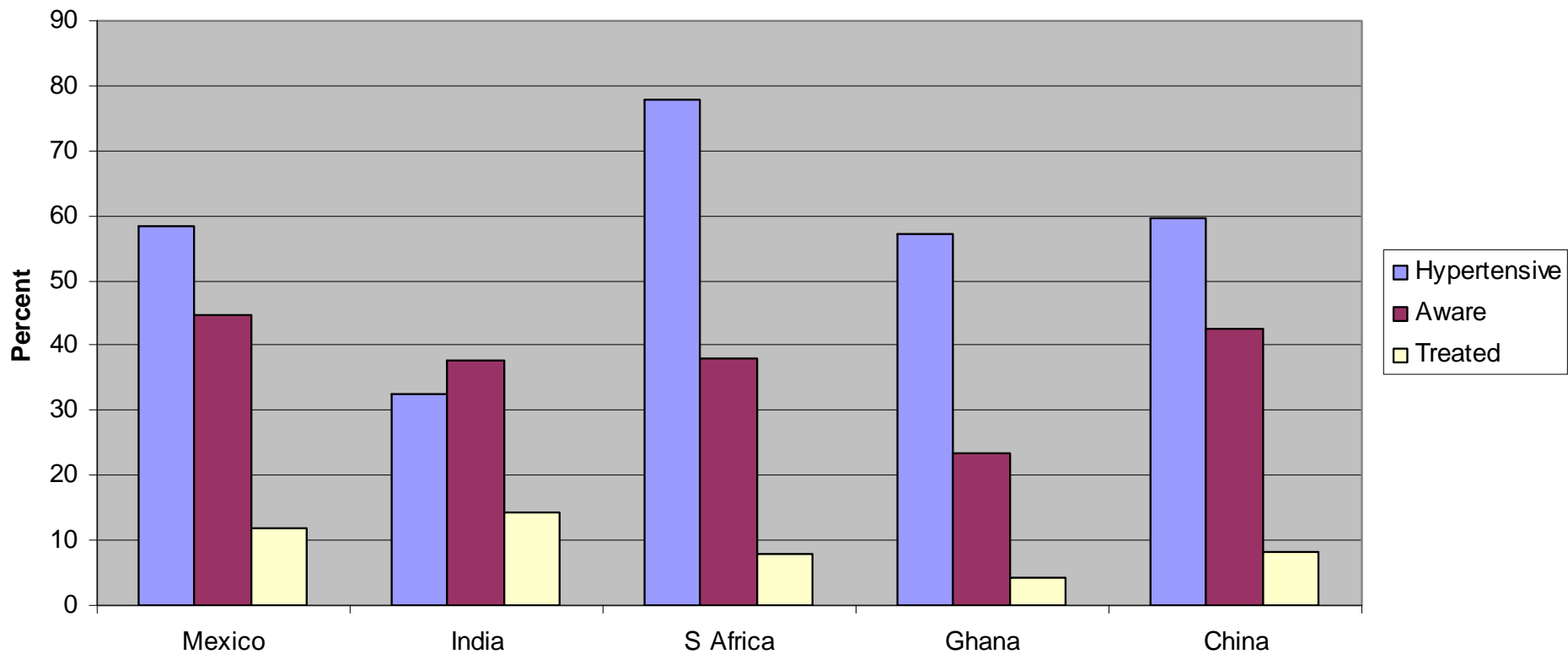
- Health promotion across the life course – the importance of HEALTH
- Access to age-friendly primary health care
 - Screening, early detection and amelioration of chronic disease
 - Access to medications
 - LONG TERM CARE (home and institutional)
- Creating environments that foster engagement
 - Economic
 - Social
 - Physical





The Right to Care 1

Hypertension Prevalence and Treatment





LATIN AMERICA: RIGHTS PROTECTED UNDER NATIONAL LEGISLATION ON OLDER PERSONS, 2010

Country	Right to equality and non-discrimination	Right to life and to die with dignity	Right to physical, mental and emotional integrity and dignified treatment	Right to participate in the social, cultural and political life of the community	Right to an adequate standard of living and to social services	Right to physical and mental health
Brazil	X	X	X	X	X	X
Colombia	X	X	X	X	X	
Costa Rica			X	X	X	X
Ecuador					X	X
El Salvador	X		X	X		X
Guatemala				X	X	X
Honduras	X		X	X		X
Mexico	X		X	X	X	X
Nicaragua	X		X	X	X	X
Paraguay	X				X	X
Peru	X	X	X	X	X	X
Dominican Republic	X	X	X	X	X	X
Venezuela (Bolivarian Rep. of)	X			X	X	X

Right to education and culture	Right to housing and a healthy environment	Right to work	Right to social security	Fundamental rights and freedoms of institutionalized persons	Rights of older persons during detention or imprisonment
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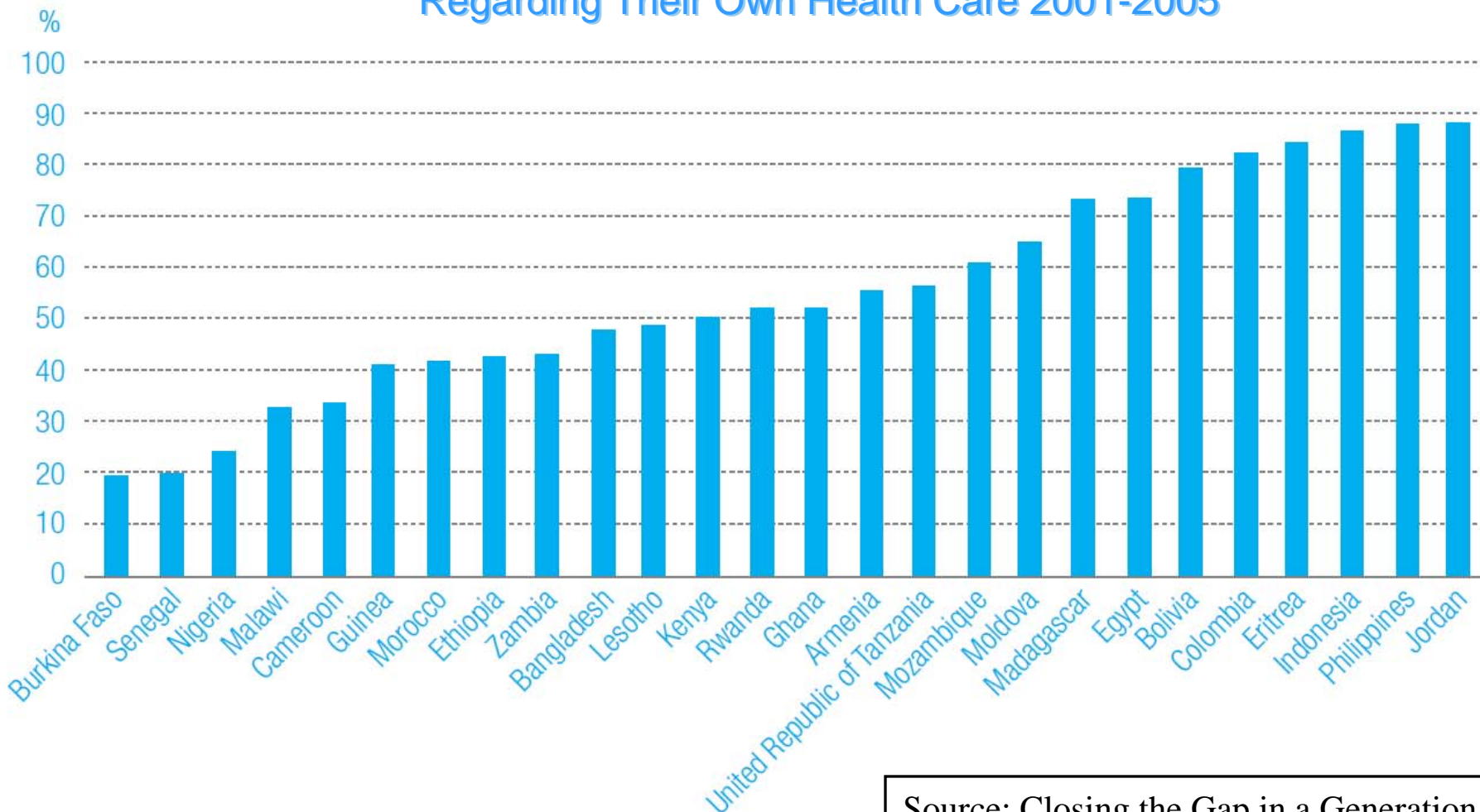
OBLIGATIONS ASSUMED BY STATES PARTIES WITH REGARD TO HUMAN RIGHTS

- The obligation to respect human rights: States parties must refrain from interfering with the enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights enshrined in human rights instruments.
- The obligation to protect human rights: States parties must prevent third parties from infringing economic, social and cultural rights by, for example, promoting environmental protection by businesses and punishing discrimination in private institutions.
- The obligation to promote human rights: States parties must take affirmative action to ensure the genuine exercise of rights. This obligation entails the organization of the entire governmental apparatus in such a way as to ensure that it is capable of providing legal guarantees for the free and full exercise of human rights (Inter-American Court of Human Rights, Velásquez Rodríguez case, 29 July 1988).

Source: Sandra Huenchuan and Alejandro Morlachetti, “Derechos sociales y envejecimiento: modalidades y perspectivas de respeto y garantía en América Latina”, *Notas de población* No. 85 (LC/G.2346-P), Santiago, Chile, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), 2007. United Nations publication, Sales No. S.07.II.G.105.

The Right to Care 2

Percentage of Women who Have Final Say in Decision-making Regarding Their Own Health Care 2001-2005



Source: Closing the Gap in a Generation



Human rights and the health of older people

- Social protection floor
- Discrimination Due to Age
 - Employment
 - Insurance
 - Rationing
 - Emergency response
- Access
- Health promotion across the life course
- Long term and palliative care

