

TRANSLATION -----

Guiding Questions for Defining the Normative Content of the Issues Examined at the Tenth Working Session of the Open-ended Working Group: Education, Training, Life-long Learning and Capacity-building

Definition

1. What are the definitions of the rights of older persons to education, training, life-long learning and capacity-building in the national legislation in your country? Or how should such a right be defined, considering existing national, regional and international legal framework?

The right of older persons to education, training, life-long learning and capacity-building is defined in the Inter-American Convention on Protecting the Human Rights of Older Persons, ratified by Argentina, as the right granted to older persons to receive education, on an equal basis and without discrimination.

Scope of the right

2. What are the key normative elements of the rights of older persons to education, training, life-long learning and capacity-building, including such elements as availability, accessibility, acceptability and adaptability? Please provide references to existing standards where applicable.

The right to education is enshrined in Article 14 bis of the Argentine Constitution, which provides for the right to teach and learn. In Argentina, there are no age limits for entry into the education system.

The right of older persons to education is also established in international regulations in force, ratified by Argentine legislation: the Inter-American Convention on Protecting the Human Rights of Older Persons -ratified by Argentine Law No. 27360-, which in Article 20 provides that "older persons have the right to education, on an equal basis with other sectors of the population and without discrimination, in the modalities determined by each State Party; to participate in existing educational programs at all levels; and to share their knowledge and experience with all generations".

State obligations

3. What are the measures that should be undertaken by the State to respect, protect and fulfill the rights of older persons to education, training, life-long learning and capacity-building, regarding the normative elements as provided above?

The measures that the State should undertake to respect, protect and fulfill the rights of older persons to education must be aimed at facilitating access to appropriate educational and training programmes (such as the different levels of the education cycle, literacy and post-literacy programmes, technical and professional training); and at promoting the development of education formats that are accessible to older persons, paying special attention to training them in the use of new information and communication technologies (ICT) in order to narrow the digital and generation gap.

Special considerations

4. What special measures and specific considerations should be considered in developing the normative content of the rights of older persons to education, training, life-long learning and capacity-building?

The needs and preferences of older persons should be considered in developing the normative content of their rights, respecting their identity and their right to enjoy a full, independent and autonomous life, with health, safety, integration and active participation in the economic, social, cultural and political spheres of society.

5. How should the responsibilities of non-State parties such as private sector be defined in the context of the rights of older persons to education, training, life-long learning and capacity-building? -

As part of its educational offer, the private sector should include specific proposals that are appropriate for older persons.

Implementation

6. What are the best practices and main challenges faced by your country in the adoption and implementation of the normative framework on education, training, life-long learning and capacity-building for older persons?

In Argentina, The National Institute of Social Services for Retirees and Pensioners (INSSJP-PAMI), the entity specialized in providing services to older persons at the national level, implements the **University Programme for Senior Citizens UPAMI (Universities for Integrated Senior Citizens)**, which offers a university environment for older persons in order to promote their personal growth, improve their quality of life and offer a place for meeting and training. No specific education level is required to take the courses, which are taught by university teachers and offered quarterly in universities all over the country throughout the academic

year. The courses cover topics such as new technologies, languages, history, artistic expression and psychology, among others.

In addition, the National Directorate of Policies for the Elderly (DINAPAM), under the National Secretariat for Childhood, Adolescence and Family, which is within the scope of the Argentine Ministry of Social Development and Health, implements different lines of action to promote the rights of older persons to education, training and access to culture. Among them the following should be noted: the **Education, Culture and Community Communication Programme** (approved by Resolution 593/2013), which is aimed at supporting community education projects, facilitating the transmission of traditional crafts and knowledge from older adults to younger generations, and designing sociocultural projects in which the elderly play a leading role, among others. Another programme implemented within the framework of DINAPAM is the **National Programme for Digital Inclusion and Access to New Technologies for the Elderly** (approved by Resolution 374/2016), aimed at facilitating access to the use of computers and new technologies for the elderly all over the country.

Along these lines, the National Communications Agency (ENACOM) has implemented the **National Programme for Access to Information and Communication Technologies for the Elderly** (Resolution 3248/2017), whose purpose is to provide access for older persons to equipment that may contribute to their social insertion, integration and development through the use of information and communication technologies. The aim is to promote the social participation and integration of older adults, extend and increase their scope of activities, while fostering their social relationships, to facilitate their inclusion into the social media platforms that have been developed through new technologies and to democratize access to new information and communication technologies.

Public and private institutions also offer educational training opportunities for older persons.