
DECLARATION OF SEVILLE

On the Right to Food in Africa, Latin
America and the Caribbean, and Spain

4 December, 2024

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We, professors and researchers from universities in Latin America and the Caribbean, Africa and Europe, members of the Right to Food Observatory (ODA-LAC and ODA-E), and academic networks in Africa, gathered in the framework of the 'Exchange Workshop on Public Food Policies and the Right to Food', held at the University of Seville, express our concern about the persistence of hunger and food insecurity at the global level, and specifically in our regions, where we declare that:

- We highlight the diversity of intercontinental realities around food insecurity and malnutrition in all its forms, and understand that each region faces particular challenges - with the African region being the most vulnerable - marked by specific historical, economic and social contexts, as well as conflicts and displacement. However, beyond the differences, we share a common and urgent commitment: to eradicate hunger and malnutrition in all its forms and to ensure the universal right to adequate food.
- We note that this issue is intertwined with relevant challenges such as rising food prices, the obsolescence of agri-food systems, climate change, micronutrient deficiencies, threats to agricultural biodiversity, loss of seed variety, lack of access to nutritious diets, food dependence on net food importing countries, among others.
- We recognise that the current landscape makes evident the delay in achieving Sustainable Development Goal 2 (zero hunger), compounded by insufficient mobilisation of human, financial and material resources, lack of effective political will and lack of innovative approaches to address the food crisis in a comprehensive manner.
- We reaffirm that the right to adequate food constitutes the basis for guaranteeing food and nutritional security for all people and food sovereignty for all peoples. Its consolidation requires strengthening institutional and jurisdictional mechanisms at all levels, ensuring its full implementation as a fundamental human right.

- We urge recognition of the central role of academia in articulating knowledge and strengthening policy, facilitating its development, implementation and monitoring. When science is integrated into policy design, the gap between knowledge generation and its practical application is reduced, ensuring an effective science-policy interface to address global food challenges.
- We understand that the academy plays an irreplaceable role in:
 - a. Interdisciplinary and cross-cutting training and teaching that integrates the human right to adequate food at all levels of education. This training should be specific in related areas, such as agri-food sciences, food and nutrition sciences, economics and sociology, agrarian sciences, human rights, biology-biochemistry, or public policy and social sciences. The creation of specialised Master's programmes and postgraduate studies should also be encouraged, with the aim of training highly qualified professionals in food security, food law and sustainable agri-food systems.
 - b. The development of scientific research that promotes innovative knowledge and offers concrete solutions to food problems, addressing both structural causes and immediate impacts of food insecurity and malnutrition. This research is a source of knowledge for the development of more sustainable agrifood systems, the strengthening of agrobiodiversity, the mitigation of the effects of climate change on food production, and the creation of economic and social models that favour inclusion and equity in access to resources.
 - c. Knowledge transfer, connecting directly with civil society organisations and key partners. This approach ensures meaningful participation in the processes of building inclusive and sustainable solutions.
- We reinforce our academic commitment to international cooperation as a tool to address the food crisis. Strategic partnerships between universities, multilateral agencies and parliaments are fundamental to accelerate the implementation of

best practices in food security and nutrition, integrating efforts and resources to address this global challenge.

- In this sense, we celebrate how the Right to Food Observatories for Latin America and the Caribbean, and Spain, have been consolidated as platforms for collaborative work between academia and parliaments. Through the alliance with the Parliamentary Fronts against Hunger for Latin America and the Caribbean (FPH-ALC) and the Ibero-American and Caribbean Parliamentary Alliance for Food Security for All (formed by the FPH-ALC, the Spanish Parliamentary Alliance for the Right to Food of the Cortes Generales and the Portuguese Parliamentary Alliance for Food Security of the Portuguese Assembly) these observatories have promoted the creation of legislation, promoting common research and public awareness, as well as international organisations dedicated to food and nutrition, such as UN agencies (FAO, UNICEF, WFP, WHO, IFAD), the SUN Movement, civil society, parliamentarians, the private sector, sub-regional and regional organisations, donors, including the European Union, and all those who invest resources in nutrition.
- We appreciate the need to expand this model to new geographies and contexts, with this Workshop marking a milestone to strengthen partnerships with the continent of Africa and the future development of a Right to Food Observatory in Africa.
- We underline the value of strategic collaboration with organisations such as FAO, through the 'Hunger-Free Latin America and the Caribbean Initiative' project and the Right to Food team, funded by the Spanish Agency for Development Cooperation (AECID), the 'Mesoamerica without Hunger' project funded by the Mexican Agency for Development Cooperation (AMEXCID), the International and Ibero-American Foundation for Public Administration and Policies (FIIAPP), the European Union, and the Ibero-American General Secretariat (SEGIB) for the strengthening of the academic role.
- We recognise that our contextual differences enrich, but do not divide, our common purpose: to eradicate hunger in all its forms and ensure the universal right to adequate food. This collective commitment transcends borders and continents, calling us to promote knowledge sharing, build strong partnerships between communities and strengthen global action. We pledge to advance this cause, reflecting our shared responsibility for a more just, equitable and dignified future for all.

Entities subscribing to this declaration:

- Movimiento SUN
- Observatorio del Derecho a la Alimentación de América Latina y Caribe
- Observatorio del Derecho a la Alimentación España
- Réseau africain pour le Droit à l'alimentation
- Réseau des Scientifiques pour la Nutrition au Tchad
- UNIVERSIDAD DE SEVILLA
- UNIVERSITE DJIBO HAMANI DE TAHOUA
- UNIVERSITE ABDOU MOUMOUNI DE NIAMEY
- UNIVERSITE CHEIKH ANTA DIOP DE DAKAR
- UNIVERSITE AMADOU MAHTAR MBOW
- UNIVERSITE THOMAS SANKARA
- UNIVERSITE POLYTECHNIQUE DE BOBO-DIOULASSO
- UNIVERSITE DES SCIENCES JURIDIQUES ET POLITIQUES DE BAMAKO
- INSTITUT POLYTECHNIQUE RURAL DE FORMATION ET DE RECHERCHE APPLIQUE
- EXPERTISE FRANCE
- FIIAPP

ORGANISED BY:



NEEMA: Capacity Building in Higher Education through the development of a Food and Nutritional Resilience curricula adapted to the European Green Deal, Farm to Fork Strategy and to the needs of West Africa.

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