

1. Who is "human" in the concept of modern human rights?

- Coming from perspective of environmental justice I believe that "human" is every creature that live and breathe which includes human beings, animals, the nature.

2. How is carried out of the protection of a right which is not regulated in the Constitution in your legal system? What kind of balancing is done when a right uncouncted in the Constitution is conflicted with a constitutional right?

- There is no constitution in my country (Israel) there are 2 major "basic law" that protect **some** human rights. In cases where a right is not regulated in the basic law, the Supreme Court might provide protection, depending on the type of right and issue.

- The kind of balancing is horizontal. The protected constitutional right usually over comes the not protected constitutional right.

3. Do International Human Rights Documents applied in your country represent minimum standards that are already provided or the must-reach aims? Are there any regulations in your legal system above international human rights standards? If there are, would you please explain?

- No I don't think so, I believe international treaties regard larger scope of rights.

- No there are not.

4. In your legal system, is the jurisdiction an actor itself to move forward human rights standards? If it is, would you please explain?

- Since until 1992 there were no basic rights, the Judiciary system was indeed a leading actor in implementing human rights standards such as freedom of speech, freedom of religion, freedom of movement and most importantly equality.

5. Are there values and issues in your country that are not covered by human rights documents but need to be protected under the concept of human rights? If your answer is yes, would you please explain?

- Can't really think of anything.

6. Are there such human right regulations in the legal system of your country that is protected by the constitution but contradicts social reality and justice?

- Recently the nation basic law was enacted which contradicts the equality value and due to that other human rights values such as freedom to live where every person seeks to.

7. Are there any social realities contradicting international human rights concept based on individualism?

- I guess all the existing of the state contradicts human rights based on individualism. This is a Jewish nation state that is committed to the wellbeing of the collective and of its tenants.

8. In your legal system, are there legal mechanisms to protect human rights if fundamental rights are violated by private persons? Are these mechanisms effective?

- Only within private law: mainly tort law. There is a antidiscrimination law that provides some protection of discrimination of individuals by private associations.

9. Are there groups in your country who have their own national, ethnical, religious and linguistic identities? Could you please give some information about them (especially if you feel yourself one of them)?

- I am part of the largest ethnic minority in Israel: the Palestinian – Arab minority. There are some sort of education rights and linguistic and mainly religious rights as all religious groups in Israel are autonomous.

10. What is the definition of the notion “minority” according to your constitutional system? What is your opinion on this concept? Do you think that minority rights should be protected broadly by the constitutional level? Do you think that constitutional regulations that would broaden the rights of minorities will solve the conflicts between majorities and minorities?

- There is no definition of a minority in the constitution (there is no constitution).

- I do believe that minority rights should be protected under the constitution but together with other liberal rights of individuals within the minority. There should be a balance in the protection of groups and individual rights.

11. What do you think on the notion and the concept of minority rights in international law? Could the international regulations/treatments be a response to the reality and problems of the peoples in your country? In other words, do they cover the reality in your country from the view of the state and the view of peoples?

- I guess they provide basic protection of mainly acknowledging the existing of the right. However, each country should find the balance appropriate for it and its social, economic, demographic, geographic reality.

12. What you think is the most current human rights problem in your country?

- De legitimization of the existence of the minority groups as equal citizens and as indigenous group