Responsibility towards future generations is at the heart of Future Justice

The World Future Council methodology for Future Just Lawmaking offers a new approach to policy analysis, providing a coherent, participatory and comprehensive tool for best policy practice in sustainable development.

Further resources, position papers, legal studies and links can be found at www.worldfuturecouncil.org/library.html

Please contact us to assist your work towards intergenerational justice:

World Future Council
130 Pall Mall
London SW1Y 5NQ, UK
info@worldfuturecouncil.org
London SW1Y 5NQ, UK

References and Further Information

The World Future Council consists of 50 eminent global change-makers from governments, parliaments, civil society, academia, the arts and business. We work to pass on a healthy planet and just societies to our children and grandchildren with a focus on identifying and spreading effective, future-just policy solutions. The World Future Council was launched in 2007 by Jakob von Uexkull, Founder of the ‘Alternative Nobel Prize’. It operates as an independent foundation under German law and finances its activities from donations.

The Future Policy Award celebrates policies that create better living conditions for current and future societies. The Future Policy Award is the first award that future-just policy solutions. The World Future Council was launched in 2007 by Jakob von Uexkull, Founder of the ‘Alternative Nobel Prize’. It operates as an independent foundation under German law and finances its activities from donations.

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Our forests, minerals, oil, land and water are not limitless. Nor is the capacity of our world to absorb pollution. Overuse of natural resources and over-borrowing of future opportunities is becoming an increasing problem and will make life even more challenging for current and future generations. In order to evaluate whether this principle is being respected the following questions should be asked: Will the law allow sustainable use of natural resources? Will the law support easing of the global challenge facing all humanity, such as climate change, health, biodiversity, water and biodiversity loss? Will the law mandate respect for nature and encourage citizens to act as stewards? Will the law require that decisions be made in the public interest, not to benefit private interests? Will the law prohibit corruption and abuse of power undermining trust in institutions and authorities and promote corruption in society at large? Will the law require that all decision-making processes be transparent and that the public be able to participate? Will the law require that the government prepare and update a national environmental policy every five years? Will the law require that the country, its cities, and its national and international authority be actively committed to the sustainable use of natural resources?

In order to evaluate whether the principle is being respected the following questions should be asked: Will the law state that decisions should be made in the public interest and for the public good? Will the law require public consultation on all public decision-making processes? Will the law require that the government prepare and update a national environmental policy every five years? Will the law require that the country, its cities, and its national and international authority be actively committed to the sustainable use of natural resources? When addressing global challenges, it is clear that different societies, regions and communities are starting from different situations. While international policy-making has demonstrated the will to set common goals to address the biggest challenges, different nations should assume differing levels of responsibility for bringing the goals to life, depending on their capacities. The same may apply within nations. If we realize that wealthy partners can contribute more, especially if they profited from harmful activities.

In order to evaluate whether this principle is being respected the following questions should be asked: Will the law take into account historical inequalities when imposing obligations? Will the law reflect the local reality as regards technology, resources, values and traditions? Will the law protect children and women from abuse, especially in the face of gender-based violence? Will the law take into account historical inequalities in access to information and justice? Will the law protect children and women from abuse, especially in the face of gender-based violence? When a precautionary approach is adopted, the threat of serious irreversible harm can be reduced, and technology and the accidents are guided to respect human wellbeing and nature. The precautionary approach is a principle that saves money and saves lives.

In order to evaluate whether this principle is being respected the following questions should be asked: Will the law promote prevention and precaution in the face of scientific uncertainty? Will the law provide an acceptable level of risk? Will the law give people a voice in setting the economic operator to demonstrate precaution in the face of scientific uncertainty? Will the law promote prevention and precaution in the face of scientific uncertainty? Will the law protect children and women from abuse, especially in the face of gender-based violence? Will the law place the burden of proof on the economic operator to demonstrate precaution in the face of scientific uncertainty? Will the law mandate respect for nature and encourage citizens to act as stewards? Will the law require that decisions be made in the public interest, not to benefit private interests? Will the law prohibit corruption and abuse of power undermining trust in institutions and authorities and promote corruption in society at large? Will the law require that all decision-making processes be transparent and that the public be able to participate? Will the law state that decisions should be made in the public interest and for the public good? Will the law require public consultation on all public decision-making processes? Will the law require that the government prepare and update a national environmental policy every five years? Will the law require that the country, its cities, and its national and international authority be actively committed to the sustainable use of natural resources?