

## *Seminar Three: Analysis of the International Right to Health*

“Participation and active involvement in the determination of one’s own destiny is the essence of human dignity.” - Mary Robinson

### *Estimated reading time:*

- Set reading tasks 60 minutes
- Video lesson 10 minutes
- Self Check Questions 10 minutes

### *Class Summary*

#### *Post-Pandemic global perspectives on the Right to Health*

It is imperative that better links are drawn between health and human rights. Human rights and public health concerns need to be better integrated in particular when addressing issues of non-discrimination, equality, participation, and racism. It is only by combining these two spheres that we will be able to gain a more informed picture of who is being excluded and why. Answering these questions will enable the international community to work towards closing the gaps and providing those who find themselves excluded, for whatever reason with medical care. Jonathan Mann asserted that health and human rights are natural allies because they work together to ultimately provide the betterment of our globe. It is asserted by Amartya Sen that the most important freedom that a person can have is their freedom from avoidable ill-health.

### *Reading Task & Literature*

Please read the articles below by following the associated link and then answer the self-check questions:

- Challenging Orthodoxies: The Road Ahead for Health and Human Rights
- Pathologies of Power: Rethinking Health and Human Rights
- The Capability Approach: A Critical Review of Its Application in Health Economics

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*Self-Check Questions:*

1. What is meant by a human rights based approach to health?
2. What role does participation play in the accessing the right to health?
3. Explain/define the capabilities approach and how it relates to redefining how we see the right to health.

*Definitions/Key Terminology*

There are several terms that are used when talking about the development of the common law. Please ensure that you familiarise yourself with them:

- Participation
- Human dignity
- Rights based approach
- Capabilities approach
- Functioning

