

The Terms and Definitions

Human Security

Economic security —requires an assured basic income for individuals, usually from productive and remunerative work or, as a last resort, from a publicly financed safety net. In this sense, only about a quarter of the world's people are presently economically secure.**Food security** —

Food security requires that all people at all times have both physical and economic access to basic food. According to the United Nations, the overall availability of food is not a problem, rather the problem often is the poor distribution of food and a lack of purchasing power.**Health security** — aims to guarantee a minimum **protection from diseases and unhealthy lifestyles.** In **developing countries**, the major causes of death are **infectious and parasitic diseases**, which kill **17 million** people annually. In **industrialized countries**, the major killers are **diseases of the circulatory system**, killing **5.5 million** every year.

Environmental security — Environmental security aims to **protect people from the short- and long-term ravages of nature**, man-made threats in nature, and deterioration of the natural environment. In developing countries, **lack of access to clean water** resources is one of the greatest environmental threats. In industrial countries, one of the major threats is **air pollution.** **Global warming, caused by the emission of greenhouse gases**, is another environmental security issue.

Personal security — Personal security aims to protect people from **physical violence**, whether from the state or external states, **from violent individuals and sub-state actors**, from **domestic abuse**, or from predatory adults. For many people, the **greatest source of anxiety is crime**, particularly **violent crime.**

Community security —aims to protect people from the **loss of traditional relationships and values and from sectarian and ethnic violence.** Traditional communities, particularly minority ethnic groups are often threatened.

Civil Society

Totality of voluntary civic and social organizations and institutions that form the basis of a functioning society **as opposed** to the force-backed structures **of a state** (regardless of that state's political system) **and commercial institutions**

Civil society refers to the **ARENA** of **uncoerced collective action** around shared interests, purposes and values (LSE)

Civil society commonly embraces a **diversity of spaces, actors and institutional forms**, varying in their **degree of formality, autonomy and power**

Civil society use to **be built up by** organizations suchlike: *charities, *development non-governmental organizations, *community groups, *women's organizations, *faith-based organizations, *professional associations, *trade unions, *self-help groups, *social movements, *business associations, *coalitions and advocacy *groups ***AND INDIVIDUALS OFF COURSE**

The simplest way to see civil society is as a **"third sector," distinct from government and business** An **inclusive associational ecosystem matched by a strong and democratic state**, in which a multiplicity of independent public spheres enables equal participation in setting the rules of the game

Constituency of the people and organizations (actors) doing for the **"common good"** A key terrain of strategic action to construct **'an alternative social and world order.'**

Civil society refers essentially to the so-called **"intermediary institutions"** such as professional associations, religious groups, labor unions, citizen advocacy organizations, that **give voice** to various sectors of society and enrich public participation in democracies

Core characteristic of civil society is its composition of autonomous self-organized associations **limited by a framework of law**

Civil society as a **social base** of the **democratic order** It is **counterbalance to state power and the political field**

A concept of legal transparent activity **consisted of a work of secondary groups** (not connected by primary ties such as family and kinship) that operate in public sphere in **transparent - publicly accountable manner**

A **complex and dynamic assemblage of legally protected** non-governmental institutions that tend to be non-violent, self organized, self-reflexive and permanently in tension with each other and with the state institutions that "frame", constrict and enable their activities

A widest spectrum of activities that cannot be framed by a single definition

Democracy

"Democracy is a **competitive political system** in which competing leaders and organizations define the alternatives of public policy in such a way that the public can participate in the decision-making process.

"A **democratic regime** is one ". . . in which *the peaceful rivalry for the exercise of power exists constitutionally.*"

"**Government by the people**, where **liberty, equality and fraternity** are secured to the greatest possible degree and in which human capacities are developed to the utmost, *by means including free and full discussion of common problems and interests.*

"A 'democratic regime' is **first and foremost a set of procedural rules for arriving at collective decisions** in a way which *accommodates and facilitates the fullest possible participation of interested parties.*"

"Modern political democracy is a **system of governance in which rulers are held accountable for their actions in the public realm by citizens, acting indirectly through the competition and cooperation of their elected representatives.**" Democracy is "a state where political decisions are taken by and with the consent, or the active participation even, of the majority of the People. . . ."

"Democracy provides opportunities for

1) effective participation, 2) equality in voting, 3) gaining enlightened understanding, 4) exercising final control [by the people] over the agenda, and 5) inclusion of adults. The **political institutions that are necessary to pursue these goals** are: 1) elected officials, 2) free, fair and frequent elections, 3) freedom of expression, 4) alternative sources of information, 5) associational autonomy, and 6) inclusive citizenship."

"The fundamental idea of democratic, political legitimacy is that the **authorization to exercise state power must arise from the *collective decisions of the equal members of a society who are governed by that power.*** Its main characteristic is choice – *without active political choices being made by the citizens living in a democracy, a democracy does not really exist*

Conditions for democracy imply a new conception of citizenship: economic, political, social and cultural as follows:

- **political citizenship** involves new political structures and the return to the classical conception of politics (direct democracy).
- **economic citizenship** involves new economic structures of demotic ownership and control of economic resources (economic democracy).
- **social citizenship** involves self-management structures at the workplace, democracy in the household and new welfare structures where all basic needs (to be democratically determined) are met.
- **cultural citizenship** involves new democratic structures of dissemination and control of information and culture (mass media, art, etc.), which allow every member of the demos to take part in the process and at the same time develop his/her intellectual and cultural potential.

Democracy can only be successful if the largest part of a country's population and its leaders believe that it is more desirable than any of the other non-democratic alternative options available.