

**Forum:** Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Committee (SOCHUM)

**Issue #1:** Addressing the causes and consequences of statelessness and denied citizenship.

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## Introduction

The issue of addressing the causes and consequences of statelessness and denied citizenship is multifaceted and complex. Statelessness, defined as the condition of being unrecognized as a formal citizen by any state under explicit legal frameworks, stems from omnidirectional discrimination based on an individual's identity, ethnicity, gender, or religion, and expanding to nationality law gaps disrupting birth registration, among stateless individuals worldwide. The reprecussory effects of being defined as "stateless" introduce perpetuating exclusions, where marginalized individuals often face intangible barriers to daily assets such as education, healthcare, employment, ownership, forced migration, and freedom of movement, exploitation, legal marriage,

and illicit detention. Furthermore, these individuals increasingly face vulnerabilities to trafficking, prosecutions, or even genocides, a concern greatly observed by the Social, Cultural, and Humanitarian Committee (SOCHUM), incentivizing immediate action. Statelessness and denied citizenship impede human rights under the 15th Article of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and involve a total of approximately 4.4 million recorded stateless individuals internationally, with this number potentially being higher due to errors in measurement.

### Definition of Key Terms

**Statelessness:** The condition of not being legally recognized as a citizen by any country under the operation of its law. According to UNHCR, stateless people are not considered nationals by any state. This leaves many of them without full access to rights and legal protection ("About Statelessness | UNHCR").

**Denied Citizenship:** The act of refusing, restricting, or preventing individuals from gaining, keeping, or passing on nationality. Denied citizenship can happen because of discrimination, gaps in nationality laws, conflict, displacement, or administrative barriers. This can leave people excluded from society and at risk of statelessness. (OHCHR)

**Nationality:** The legal bond between an individual and a state. ("Definition of NATIONALITY"). Nationality is important because it often determines whether a person can access protection, documentation, political participation, and other basic rights. Without nationality, individuals may struggle to fully belong under the law. (OHCHR)

**Citizenship Law/Nationality Law:** The laws a country uses to decide who can acquire, lose, or keep citizenship. If these laws are unequal or discriminatory, they can create stateless populations or deny people legal identity. These laws are one of the main causes of statelessness in many countries. (OHCHR)

**Legal Identity:** The official recognition of a person before the law, often supported by registration systems and identity documents. The UN legal identity framework connects this issue to SDG 16.9, which aims for legal identity for all, including birth registration by 2030. ("Home — UN Legal Identity Agenda")

**Birth Registration:** The official recording of a child's birth by the government. Birth registration does not always guarantee citizenship, but it is often essential in providing a place and proof of birth, parentage, and legal identity. Without it, children may face a higher risk of exclusion and statelessness. (SDG Indicator Metadata (Harmonized Metadata Template -Format Version 1.1))

**Discrimination:** The unfair treatment of individuals or groups on the basis of race, ethnicity, religion, language, gender, or other identity factors. OHCHR and UNHCR emphasize discrimination as one of the leading causes of statelessness, especially when minorities are excluded from nationality rights. (Background Non-Paper on Equality and Non-Discrimination in Nationality Matters to End Statelessness, Prepared in Support of OHCHR/UNHCR Virtual Roundtable on Equality and Non-Discrimination in Nationality Matters to End Statelessness 21 October 2021 I. Context)

**Displacement:** The forced movement of people from their homes due to conflict, violence, persecution, or disasters. (Migration Data Portal) Displacement can increase the risk of statelessness when people lose documents, cross borders, or are no longer recognized by a state. (Statelessness and Displacement: A Humanitarian Challenge)

**State Succession:** The replacement of one state by another in responsibility for a territory, such as after independence, separation, or territorial change. When borders of governments change, some populations may lose nationality or fail to gain recognition in the new state, which can create statelessness. ("Five Things to Know about Statelessness | UNHCR")

**Minority group:** A group within a country that is different from the majority population in terms of ethnicity, religion, language, or culture. Minority groups are often more vulnerable to discrimination in citizenship laws and policies, which is why they are frequently affected by statelessness. ("Minority Group - an Overview | ScienceDirect Topics")

**Naturalization:** The legal process through which a person acquires citizenship in a

country where they were not originally a citizen. In some cases, barriers to naturalization can make it harder for long-term residents or displaced people to gain nationality and legal security. ("Naturalization | Definition & Facts")

**Documentation:** Official papers that prove a person's identity or legal status, such as birth certificates, passports, or national ID cards. A lack of documentation can make it difficult for people to prove who they are, where they were born, or whether they qualify for citizenship. ("Identity Document: Understanding Its Legal Definition | US Legal Forms")

## General Overview

Statelessness happens when a person is not legally recognized as a citizen by any country. Denied citizenship refers to situations where people are prevented from gaining or keeping nationality because of discrimination on the basis of race, ethnicity, religion, language, or gender, gaps in nationality laws, conflict, displacement, or administrative barriers ("About Statelessness | UNHCR"). According to UNHCR, stateless people are often denied a nationality and, because of that, may be blocked from going to school, getting healthcare, working legally, opening a bank account, voting or even moving freely. According to the UNHCR, there were 4.4 million stateless people at the end of June 2025 ("Stateless People | UNHCR"). This issue matters because nationality is the legal link between a person and a state, and it often determines whether individuals can fully access rights and protection. According to UNCT guidelines, the UN legal identity framework connects this issue directly to SDG 16.9 "legal identity for all, including birth registration, by 2030." This is because weak registration and documentation systems can increase the risk of statelessness. The UN Statistics Division reports that around 166 million children under the age of 5 are not registered at birth, while 237 million children do not have a birth certificate (Nations).

Statelessness can be caused by several factors, including discrimination, nationality laws that do not protect all groups equally, state succession or territorial change, lack of birth registration, and forced displacement ("About Statelessness | UNHCR"). Both the OHCHR and UNHCR both emphasize that discrimination is one of the most important

drivers of statelessness. Additionally, the OHNCR notes that unequal nationality laws can especially harm minorities and women (Background Non-Paper on Equality and Non-Discrimination in Nationality Matters to End Statelessness, Prepared in Support of OHCHR/UNHCR Virtual Roundtable on Equality and Non-Discrimination in Nationality Matters to End Statelessness, 21 October 2021, I. Context). Statelessness can lead to severe consequences; individuals without a nationality struggle to access education, healthcare, jobs, property rights, marriage registration, political participation, or legal protection. Statelessness often leads to individuals being invisible to the state and vulnerable to poverty, detention, exploitation, and exclusion across generations.

## Major Parties Involved and Their Views

### United States

While not involved in parties to either the 1954 or 1961 UN statelessness conventions, the United States of America hosts an estimated 218,000 individuals, predominantly being undocumented migrants, Native American tribes previously denied citizenship under the 1954 convention, and children of stateless parents under fixed *jus sanguinis law*: a child's citizenship is directly determined from parents' citizenship regardless of where the child is born. The US State Department consistently engages through *#IBelonging*, funding UNHCR - The UN Refugee Agency -, and issuing reports criticizing allies such as Kuwait and Myanmar. However, domestic efforts are lacking. There is no federal statelessness determination procedure, relying on TPS (Temporarily Protected Status), upholding barriers like the Child Citizen Act of 2000, which excludes stepchildren. The USA views prioritize fixed, strict border enforcement. Recently, during Biden's presidency, policies expanded protections for Afghans and Ukrainians; however, however critics show the US's hypocrisy, given the US's historical record for advocating for global reforms

### Russia

Russia, with a population of approximately 143.4 million, faces significant repercussions of statelessness. Obtaining legacies from the Soviet Union breakup, Russia's statelessness impacts 100,000-500,000 people in transnational areas such as Crimea and Ukraine, facing displacement since 2022. Russia joined the 1961 Convention; however, it was not

present in the 1954 Convention. During these efforts, Russia eased citizenship for the Commonwealth Independent States (CIS) citizens under the original 2020 laws. Conversely, during the war, Russia continuously discriminated against stateless peoples of Georgia and Ukraine in Donbas, as seen in UNHCR 2024 reports noting capricious citizen withdrawals during wartime. Russia, however, sees this as a protective mechanism for “compatriots” and is completely dismissive of impending Western criticism, engaging in the allocation of people through Putin's orders, however limiting full citizenship rights.

### **China**

China, whilst being a non-party to statelessness conventions, deals with over 1M stateless, which massively includes displaced 1950s Russians, 1977 Hong Kong migrants denied jus soli, and Asian boat people descendants who “settled” in China, though have no explicit citizenship. Uyghurs - One of China's ethnic minorities -often face citizen loss through surveillance-linked ID revocations. The Hukou (household registration system in China) links rights to birthplace registration, which leads many rural migrant children to have no state status, despite the 2023 easing of citizenship. China focuses on social harmony and blocks UNCHR access, therefore claiming statelessness to be “foreign meddling”, a concern greatly impacting stateless rates in the country.

### **France**

France is a party to both conventions, fostering dedicated determination through procedure since 2012 via OFPRA (Office Français de Protection des Réfugiés et Apatrides). Ultimately, France has naturalized an estimated 30,000 stateless, reforming a 1993 nationality code for gender equality. Macron's 2024 pledge accelerates processing through the European Union Pact on Migration. Therefore, France acts multilaterally, viewing it as an EU human rights Imperative, and taking consistent action towards decreasing stateless rates, transcending the country's borders.

### **United Kingdom**

UK, a standing party of both the 1954 and 1961 conventions processes via the Home Office, and has granted 3,000+ statelessness reports post-brexite. The 2021 Nationality and Borders Act addressed Windrush Scandal lessons, where Caribbean migrants who

helped rebuild the United Kingdom after World War II, were detained and deported because of lacked Papers. However, critics comment that the government still revokes citizenship too easily on fraud claims. Approximately 30,000 people are affected by statelessness in the UK, and even though post-Brexit eased rights on neighboring nations, British national passport holders face gaps in protection. Ultimately, though the United Kingdom balances human rights and national security, it still requires joint efforts to eradicate statelessness.

### **India**

India, home to 2 million stateless, has not signed either of the statelessness conventions, being a non-party. The Citizenship Act of 1955 was amended in 2019 through the Citizenship Amendment Act, which excludes muslims from citizenship, though speeding up refugee citizenship allocation, therefore leading to India's views on these policies necessary to control illegal immigration across its borders. The National Register of Citizens in Assam excluded around 1.9 million people in 2019, leaving them at high risk of detention and/or deportation. There have been various Supreme Court hearings in India, but they have never reached a concrete resolution.

### **Kuwait**

Kuwait faces a major statelessness crisis, with 93,000-120,000 biddon (without nationality), who have lived there for generations, but were labelled as illegal infiltrators since Kuwait's independence in 1959. This led to denied citizenship, unemployment, and political rights, despite generational roots in the country. In 2012, the Kuwait government decrees gave individuals extremely limited residency permits, though no right to full citizenship. Kuwait has not joined either of the UN statelessness conventions, standing as a non-party, and Kuwait believes that those without nationality are a security threat, and efforts to achieve gradual integration are halted.

### **Lybia**

After the 2012 revolution that toppled Gaddafi, Libya's statelessness problem exploded. This conflict displaced over 200,000 indigenous minorities into a

non-functioning civil registry, or birth record system. Libya is not a party to either statelessness convention. Libya is amid ongoing civil wars between rival governments, and the issue ranks low in their institutional priorities, compared to fighting for basic stability and country security. No further action has been taken, even though the issue is of great concern.

### **Iraq**

Iraq struggles with approximately 55,000 stateless people, left undocumented, as a consequence of Saddam Hussein's era of persecution. Government reforms in 2023 finally naturalized around 5,000 of them, but a substantial number of individuals are still left undocumented. Iraq, though, has not ratified either UN statelessness convention, and the nation's focus is on protecting Yazidi survivors post-defeating ISIS, rather than statelessness solutions.

### **Myanmar**

Myanmar has a strict citizenship law adopted in 1982, and denies citizenship to approximately 1 million Rohingya Muslims, which labels them Bengali intruders rather than natives. This issue led to a 2017 military government that forced 700,000 individuals - citizens and non-citizens - to flee the country. Myanmar has not signed any of the statelessness conventions, and the military government openly rejects its claims to nationality.

### **Timeline of Events, Relevant Resolutions, Treaties, and Events**

| <b>Date</b> | <b>Description of Event</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|-------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1919-1923   | Post-WWI: redrawing borders in Europe and Asia creates first mass statelessness, affecting millions from the Russian revolution and the Austro-Hungarian or Turkish Empire's dissolutions. The League of Nations these years, registered approx 800,000 stateless persons (Nansen) reports. |
| 1930        | The Hague Conference convenes on certain questions relating                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |

to conflicts of nationality laws and establishes 3 protocols that recognize the abolition of statelessness as an international ideal, thus limiting multiple nationality.

- 1933      The Montevideo Convention on Rights and Duties of International States affirms nationalities as a state's exclusive domain, and urges nations to avoid the increase of statelessness rates.
- 1945      Post WWII, statelessness surges once again. The UN charter was established as a measure.
- 1948      Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) Article 15 proclaims the right to a nationality and the prohibition of conspicuous deprivation or denial of citizenship, if an individual is eligible.
- 1949      Geneva Diplomatic Conference creates a foundation for refugee/stateless protection.
- 1954      Convention Relating to the Status of Stateless Persons, adopted on September 28th, 1954, and entered into force on June 6th, 1960, defined the term "stateless person" and granted rights (non-discrimination, identity papers, grant of identification, employment, and education).
- 1959      UN convenes once again regarding the elimination and reduction of future statelessness protocols. Convenes in Geneva and in New York.
- 1961      The Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness was adopted, and forced into entry in 1975. Targets the causes through safeguards against deprivation, jus sanguinis soli gaps, and state succession, to reduce rising statelessness rates internationally. Held in New York on August 30th 1961.

- 1974 UNHGA Resolution 3274, expended UNHR's mandate on statelessness. Adopted on the 10th of December 1974, by the UN General Assembly. Designated UNHCR as the primary body to which a person claiming statelessness can refer for examination and assistance in presenting said claims to authorities. This convention extended UNHCR's role from refugees to stateless persons, laying the groundwork for UNHCR's comprehension and expansion.
- 2014-2024 UNHCR launches #IBelong campaign, aiming to end statelessness with a 2014-2024 global action plan including 10 actions, rooted in the idea that no child is born stateless, gender equality is established, stateless situations are resolved etc... #IBelong resolved over 500,000 cases, and colcluded in 2024, thus launching the Global Alliance to end Statelessness. EU pact on migration/asylum, continuously supervises statelessness.

## United Nations Involvement

### The Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons, 1954

The Convention Relating to the Status of Stateless Persons was the first major international treaty, specifically focused on the protection of stateless individuals. This treaty established the legal definition of a stateless person and set the minimum standards for the rights they should receive, including access to identity papers, education, employment, housing, and freedom of movement. Its purpose was not to solve statelessness itself, but to make sure that stateless people were recognized and protected under international law. This convention remains as one of the most important foundations of UN ction on statelessness today ("The 1954 Convention Relating to the Status of Stateless Persons | UNHCR").

### The Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness, 1961

The 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness was adopted to go further, by addressing how statelessness can be prevented and reduced overtime. It outlines measures that states should take in areas such as acquisition, loss, renunciation, and deprivation of nationality, especially to prevent children from being born stateless or people from becoming stateless later in life. In this way, the convention shifts UN involvement from only protecting stateless people to also preventing new cases from happening ("The 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness | UNHCR"). This convention is considered the key international treaty for reducing statelessness (UNHCR).

### **UNHCR'S #IBelong Campaigning and the Global Action Plan to End Statelessness, 2014-2024**

In 2014, UNHCR launched the #IBelong Campaign to End Statelessness, a ten-year global initiative aimed at ending statelessness ("#IBelong Campaign to End Statelessness | UNHCR"). To support this campaign, the UNHCR introduced the Global Action Plan to End Statelessness: 2014-2024, which proposed 10 actions for states and other actors to take, such as resolving major existing situations of statelessness, ensuring no child is born stateless, removing gender discrimination from nationality laws, and improving birth registration systems (Global Action Plan to End Statelessness). According to UNHCR, the campaign helped drive major progress, including strengthening laws and helping hundreds of thousands of people gain nationality. In 2024, UNHCR updates this framework into the Global Alliance to End Statelessness, demonstrating that the organization continues to treat statelessness as an urgent global issue ("#IBelong Campaign to End Statelessness | UNHCR").

### United Nations Legal Identity Agenda and SDG 16.9

#### **Evaluation of Previous Attempts to Resolve the Issue**

Previous international efforts to address statelessness, powered by the UN, have achieved partial success across nations through legal frameworks and ongoing campaigns. However, remaining obstructed because of low ratification, political resistance, and implementation gaps regarding the issue. This is an ongoing concern as it leaves millions unprotected by state boundaries.

### **UN Conventions (1954 and 1961)**

The Convention Relating to the Status of Stateless Persons was adopted by the UN in 1954, establishing a definition for the term “stateless” and implementing minimum rights: non-discrimination, access to education, and employment. This convention influenced 99 states’ laws, despite there only being 97 participating states. The convention enabled protection akin to refugees, though it lacked UNCHR supervision and appropriate complaint mechanisms, limiting its enforcement. The Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness, adopted by the UN in 1961, targeted the root causes: *jus soli*, safeguards against deprivation. 78 participating states granted naturalization to approximately 250,000 cases since 2011; however, their optional clauses and exclusions for security allowed for persistent discrimination. Critiques among states have highlighted low accession amongst absent states such as the US, China, and India, as well as state sovereignty dominance, thus urging a mandate for regulation.

### **UNCHR’s Mandate and Early Efforts (1974-2013)**

The UNGA Resolution 3274, adopted by the United Nations on December 10, 1974, marked a pivoting expansion of UNHCR’s role during the 29th UN General Assembly session. The Session responded to Article 11 of the 1961 convention, as it designated the UNCHR as the primary body for stateless individuals to submit claims. Receive examinations of said claims and obtain sustainable assistance when approaching national authorities. This transformed UNHCR from just a refugee-focused agency into a comprehensive statelessness protector, which adopted treaties, legal aid, and advocated for statelessness prevention worldwide. This enables sufficient intervention, such as the *Nansen* passports legacy, utilizing post-colonial mappings to link every individual to an origin. In addition, the UNHCR established a 10-point sanction plan on statelessness, which was constructed and adopted from 2006 to 2010 through various global consultations. By 2011, the UNHCR was able to identify 3.9 million stateless individuals and launched targeted operations for assistance.

Key successes included Thailand’s 2008 Masterplan, which was supported by UNHCR after the 1974 mandate. It regularized citizenship for over 400,000 stateless hill tribe members, who were previously excluded from proper documentation. This benevolent

action enabled individuals to access education and healthcare services. Similarly, Côte d'Ivoire's 2013 nationality law was aided through UNHCR technical assistance and granted citizenship to 8,000 Yocouba (indigenous minority) descendants of Burkina Faso migrants, thus resolving decade-old discrimination issues rooted in colonial borders. There have been many extended efforts by the UNCHR, such as the Sri Lankan Estate Tamils, Ukrainian Crimean returnees, and Latvia's post-Soviet reforms, ultimately demonstrating how the UNHCR has adopted its role as a statelessness protector.

Despite these efforts, limitations before 2014 were unavoidable. Bureaucratic silos continue reprimanding refugees and omitting operations. In most cases, despite further efforts, 21 Statelessness Determination Procedures were unresolved because of decolonization and discriminatory conflicts.

### **#IBelong Campaign and Global Action Plan (2014-2024)**

The #IBelong Campaign launched in September 2014 at the UN General Assembly, aimed to end statelessness, spurred 95 countries around a 10-year Global Action Plan directed by the UNCHR, founded within 10 concrete commitments: 1) resolve 10 major stateless situations 2) ensure that no child is born stateless, 3) Eliminate gender discrimination in all nationality laws, 4) Prevent nationality gaps at birth, 5) eradicate statelessness via naturalization, 6) Protect via SDP's (Sport for Development and Peace), 7) improve and transparentize data, 8) enhance civil registration, 9) acquiesce to both the 1954 and 1961 conventions, 10) strengthen partnerships. Concluded in 2024, the initiative was able to solve over 500,000 cases. 90 national action plans derived from the campaigns, and accessions to conventions 1954 and 12961 doubled to 99 and 78, respectively. Despite the global COVID pandemic halting registrations in 2020, the Initiative was able to successfully resolve cases and promote global impact. However, due to ongoing conflicts amongst nations and disputable tensions, chronic funding gaps are being experienced, thus creating a concerning number of uprising cases.

### **Regional Initiatives**

The Brazil Declaration, adopted in December 2014, by 33 states at a UNCHR regional conference in Brazil, rooted commitment to eradicate statelessness by 2024 through statelessness determination procedures, including birth registration campaigns and law

reforms amongst included nations. Mexico and Costa Rica pursued efforts and operationalized SDPs, which resolved over 10,000 cases for undocumented Haitian and Cuban migrants. In addition, the AU Kampala Declaration of 2017 served as an incentive for the stateless to find employment. It urged African Union states to rectify stateless conventions. There were notable successes in the African region. Furthermore, European efforts through the Europe convention on Nationality led in 1977 and later revised, harmonized *jus soli* and *jus sanguinis* rules across the Council of European States. Asian models, such as Thailand, portray success in the statelessness intervention as Thailand's 2008 plan for regulating, which aided over 400,000 major cases and 10,000 minority cases.

### **Persistent Challenges**

Even though multiple efforts have been pursued, aiming to eradicate statelessness as a whole, persistent discrimination in non-parties and their absence of a binding enforcement court exacerbate conflicts. Refugee surges in non-participant parties overwhelm, and gender disparities in the stateless case overview is a great concern. Despite successes proving the feasibility, SOCHUM must prioritize a universal, collective commitment to both convention frameworks. This means the implementation of mandatory SDPs' substantial annual funding and commitment to resolutions for 2030 SDG-aligned eradications.

### **Possible Solutions**

One of the most effective solutions is reforming nationality laws that create or worsen statelessness. In many countries, people are denied citizenship because laws discriminate based on gender, ethnicity, religion, or family background, or because the law does not include enough safeguards to prevent statelessness at birth ("About Statelessness | UNHCR"). The UNHCR Reforming these laws would help ensure that children can acquire a nationality, that women can pass nationality to their children on an equal basis, and that minority groups are not excluded from citizenship (OHCHR).

Another important solution is improving birth registration and legal identity systems. Many people are at risk of statelessness because they cannot prove where they are born, who their parents are, or whether they qualify for nationality ("Home — UN Legal

Identity Agenda"). According to UNICEF, around 150 million children under the age of 5 (2 in 10 children), are not registered at birth. This lack of documentation can increase the risk of statelessness. Governments can reduce this risk by investing in universal birth registration, accessible civil documentation systems, and identity records that reach rural, displaced, and marginalized populations. This would help prevent future cases of statelessness and make it easier for individuals to claim legal protection and access to basic services.

Countries should also create or expand fair pathways for stateless people to acquire nationality. In many cases, individuals remain stateless for generations because there is no realistic legal process available for them to gain citizenship, even if they were born in the country or have lived there for the majority of their lives. States could establish naturalization programs, nationality confirmation procedures, and documentation campaigns that allow long-term residents and vulnerable groups to gain their status. This would not only reduce statelessness but also improve social inclusion and reduce poverty, insecurity and exclusion (UNHCR, "Ending Statelessness").

## **Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)**

### **SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions**

Statelessness directly undermines SDG through denying legal identity and protections, making individuals especially vulnerable to violence, detention, and exclusion from justice systems. This issue targets SDG 16.1, aiming to reduce violence, as stateless individuals face 4x higher risks for exploitation, trafficking, and prosecutions. Target 16.3, meaning the rule of law is especially targeted, as the jus soli law is a limiting factor to obtaining legal documentation. It is violated through arbitrary nationality deprivation without recourse, which lacks binding courts, lie ICJ in both the 1954 and 1961 conventions. Furthermore, target 16.6 regarding effective institutions sees extensive gaps amongst nations that omit to accede to the conventions' reforms. Finally, Target 16.9, regarding legal identity, is core to this issue, as 4.4 million stateless individuals are blocking registration for 70% of children, multiplying stateless rates worldwide.

### **SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities**

SDG 10, aiming at reducing inequalities within countries, is eroded by the discriminatory

root of statelessness, which enhances ethnic, gender, and migrant divides internationally. Target 10.2, viewing empowerment inclusion fails for populationist minorities, and 70% of statelessness cases are excluded from jobs and/or politics. The stateless earn 50% less wages due to work bans, a concern increasingly urging collective action. Target 10.3 ignores 25+ states' unequal nationality transmission, as women can't pass citizenship, which cultivated even greater nationality gaps, rooted in gender inequality. The 10.7 target, finally, is aimed at the safe migration of individuals. This target collapses as undocumented stateless find themselves in draconian circumstances, such as forced deportation and detention due to illegal allocation, consequent to no legal documentation.

## Appendix

This section of the issue bulletin is dedicated to providing delegates with valuable sources to utilize during their research.

<https://www.unhcr.org/about-unhcr/who-we-protect/stateless-people>

**Source A:** This article provides a strong general understanding of the issues as it explains what statelessness is, why it happens, and how it affects people's daily lives.

<https://www.unhcr.org/sites/default/files/2025-06/global-trends-report-2024.pdf>

**Source B:** This report provides statistics and a broader global picture of the issue, highlighting the scale of statelessness around the world.

<https://www.ohchr.org/en/nationality-and-statelessness/international-standards-relating-nationality-and-statelessness>

**Source C:** This source gathers the main legal standards related to statelessness and nationality in one place,

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