



Human Rights Council 55th Session
Panel - Challenges and good practices to
realize the right to social security and to
provide quality public services
Oral Statement

We welcome this important discussion. To echo the theme of the Annual Day of the Rights of the Child, we call on governments to take a long-term approach with a particular focus on the realisation of child rights when **investing** in social security and quality public services.

Children account for almost one third of the world's population, and they are among the most marginalised and vulnerable members of society.

Realising their human rights, in particular during early childhood, and ensuring that every child thrives and develops to their full potential, would contribute to building strong and well-educated communities and inclusive and productive societies. In the long term, it would also reduce poverty and inequalities, and drive economic development. This would in turn expand much needed fiscal space to enhance social security and improve public services - thus triggering a virtuous circle.

Realising children's rights is deeply linked to recognising and supporting the key role of parents and other caregivers, in particular mothers.

We therefore call on member states to prioritise and invest in recognising, redistributing and supporting the unpaid or underpaid work of caring. Realising the right to social security and providing accessible and quality public services should be part of a broader cross-sectoral national Care policy – and a shift towards a much-needed society and economy centred on care.

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Make Mothers Matter believes in the power of mothers to make the world a better place, advocating for their recognition and support as changemakers. Created in 1947, MMM is an international NGO with no political or religious affiliations, transparently voicing the concerns of mothers at the highest level: the European Union, UNESCO and the United Nations (general consultative status).