



Human Rights Council 55th Session
ID with SR in the field of cultural rights
The Right to Science as a Cultural Right
Oral Statement

MMM thanks the Special Rapporteur for her excellent report. We fully support an approach to science based on human rights and the principles of universality, equality, and respect for diversity. We welcome the fact that this report points to the low representation of women in the field.

However, we regret that, among the listed obstacles to participation in science, there is no mention of education – whether formal, informal or non-formal - and its link to access to science.

Firstly, it is crucial to raise parents' awareness of the importance of sciences. Scientific curiosity should be cultivated from a very early age, just like the spoken word – and parents can help - mothers in particular - who often remain the main educators within families.

Secondly, participation in science requires developing a correct approach to and understanding of the fundamentals of the subject, mainly done at school, in particular, during the secondary years. Member States should therefore guarantee free secondary schooling for every child, without discrimination.

Science plays an increasingly important role in our societies. It is a shared public good. Better participation will be achieved with the help of parents, and also through the learning of its fundamentals which must be independent of the financial capabilities of a family.

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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).