

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Conference:
**Addressing the Rule of Law and Welfare in the
Sustainable Development Goals**

Dates: November 8-9, 2021

Location: University of Southern Denmark, Odense, Denmark



Around the world, millions of people engage in activities related to the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through projects that aim to fight poverty, improve health and education, reduce inequalities, and build strong institutions to facilitate access to justice and welfare for all. This conference aims to bring together perspectives and experiences to discuss the conditions that shape the translation of the SDGs from paper into practice.

The conference approaches the SDGs from the perspectives of the rule of law and welfare. Focus will be on the interplay between SDG 16 which concerns the building of effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions, and the welfare-related SDGs (such as SDGs 1, 3, 5, 8, and 10) by asking: Which social, legal, and political institutions are critical to ensure equal access to welfare services, and how can they be strengthened?

By providing an avenue for knowledge-sharing, mutual learning, and networking, the conference offers an opportunity for researchers and practitioners across continents and disciplines to connect, share ideas, and establish collaborations. The conference will be structured around roundtable discussions as well as workshop sessions with participant presentations on topical issues.

We invite researchers and practitioners working with the SDGs to submit short abstracts (200-500 words) presenting ongoing project work, research papers, or lessons from past activities to justsociety@sam.sdu.dk. Please indicate in your abstract how your work relates to SDG 16 and provide a brief outline of your presentation. Deadline for submission of abstracts is **August 15, 2021**.

The conference is organized by [JUST SOCIETY](#), University of Southern Denmark, in collaboration with [Centre for Social Development in Africa](#), University of Johannesburg, and [Access to Justice Europe](#). The conference will take place at University of Southern Denmark, Odense, but will be organized in a hybrid format allowing for online participation. Conference attendance is free of charge. The organizers are unfortunately not able to cover expenses for travel or accommodation.



Tentative programme

Monday 8 November 2021	
Opening remarks	<p>Associate Professor Marianne S. Ulriksen JUST SOCIETY, University of Southern Denmark</p> <p>Professor Lauren Graham Center for Social Development in Africa, University of Johannesburg</p> <p>Professor Bettina Lemann Kristiansen Access to Justice Europe</p>
Keynotes and roundtable discussion	
<i>The SDGs in development policy</i>	Flemming Møller Mortensen (TBC) Danish Minister for Development Cooperation
<i>A rights-based approach to development</i>	Christian Friis Bach Adjunct Professor, Department of Law, University of Southern Denmark, and former Danish Minister for Development Cooperation
<i>SDG implementation challenges</i>	TBD (representative from NGO who works globally with SDG-related topics)
Workshop sessions	Participants follow separate tracks (TBD based on grouping of abstracts)
Round-off reception (tapas & drinks)	
Tuesday 9 November 2021	
Keynotes and roundtable discussion	
<i>The Parliamentary Ombudsman's international work and SDG 16</i>	Klavs Kinnerup Hede Director of International Relations, PhD, The Danish Parliamentary Ombudsman
<i>The impact of SDGs on access to justice for vulnerable groups</i>	TBD (one practitioner and one researcher working globally with similar SDG-related issues)
Workshop sessions	Tracks continue
Plenary session	Sharing of learning outcomes and suggestions for problem-solving mechanisms

Students are invited to participate in the plenary sessions from 9.30-12.00 (Day 1) and 9.30-11.00 (Day 2).