ADVANCING HUMAN RIGHTS

What is the Advancing Human Rights research and why is it important?

Launched in 2010, *Advancing Human Rights* tracks the evolving state of global human rights philanthropy. Led by Candid and Human Rights Funders Network, in collaboration with Ariadne – European Funders for Social Change and Human Rights, and Prospera – International Network of Women's Funds, this research is the single most comprehensive analysis of where philanthropic money goes for human rights around the world.

Where Do Human Rights Grants Go?

How do we define human rights grantmaking?

Guided by human rights funders and activists, we define human rights grantmaking as funding in pursuit of structural change to ensure the protection and enjoyment of the rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and subsequent rights treaties. We include any grant that meets our definition, regardless of whether the funder considers their work to be human rights focused. We assign each grant to one of 27 human rights categories, grouped into 13 overarching issues.

Because marginalized groups often face additional barriers to accessing their rights, we track funding for nine populations to offer insights on funding trends for those communities. We also look at the strategies funders support to achieve systemic change, like grassroots organizing and litigation, to gain a more nuanced understanding of funding approaches.

How are funders using the research?

Grantmakers are not only learning from the research but applying the data to their decision-making. Funders who have used the research say it has helped them to:[1]

- Increase their knowledge of the funding landscape (91%)
- Build their awareness about emerging or underfunded human rights issues (72%)
- Identify other funders working on their regions, issues, populations, or strategies (66%)
- Inform the strategic direction of their project, program, or organization (50%)
- Identify funding gaps and increase funding to those areas (42%)
- Find new partners or grantees in the field (41%)

Where can I learn more?

- Use our research hub to explore funding over time by regions, issues, populations, and strategies.
- Dive into the grants database and mapping platform to see grant-level details and find peers.
- Follow our blog series where we showcase diverse perspectives to contextualize the numbers.
- Learn from our additional reports and analyses of the field of human rights funding.

How can I contribute grants data?

Foundations can submit grants data using this template and should anonymize any identifying details that are too sensitive to be made public and could place grantees or communities at risk. If you use software from any of these providers to manage your grants, you can simply export your data to the template. Please email your most recent fiscal year or calendar year grant details by June 30 each year.

To share data, provide feedback, or discuss how to apply this research in your work, please contact HRFN (AHR@hrfn.org), Ariadne (info@ariadne-network.eu), or Prospera (info@prospera-inwf.org).

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1   These findings are from an evaluation of the *Advancing Human Rights* research.

How do my grants fit into the human rights funding landscape?

Below are the human rights issues, funding strategies, and populations we track in the research. To explore funding by category, or see definitions, visit our research hub at humanrightsfunding.org.

ISSUES

- Access to Justice/ Equality Before the Law
- Civic and Political Participation
- Economic and Labor Rights
- Education, Religion and Culture
- Environmental and Resource Rights
- Equality Rights and Freedom from Discrimination
- Expression and Information Rights
- Freedom from Violence
- Health and Well-being Rights
- Human Rights— General
- Migration and Displacement
- Sexual and Reproductive Rights
- Transitional Justice and Peacebuilding

STRATEGIES

- Advocacy, Systems Reform and Implementation
- Arts and Culture
- Capacity-building and Technical Assistance
- Coalition-building and Collaboration
- Grassroots Organizing
- Litigation and Legal Aid
- Media and Technology
- Research and Documentation
- Scholarships and Travel
- Security and Resilience

POPULATIONS

- Children and Youth
- Ethnic and Racial Groups
- Human Rights Defenders
- Indigenous Peoples
- LGBTQI
- Migrants and Refugees
- People with Disabilities
- Sex Workers
- Women and Girls

Human Rights Funders Network

Candid.

ARIADNE
European Funders for Social Change and Human Rights

Prospera
INTERNATIONAL NETWORK OF WOMEN'S FUNDS