



WIKI n°10: The gradual refocusing on the individual.

While states remain the primary actors in global politics, they are no longer the exclusive subjects of international policymaking. Historically, the focus on individuals within these policies gained significant momentum with the development of the human rights framework after the Second World War.

Although governance practices often fall short of the rhetoric surrounding universal values, certain political innovations have amplified individual voices on the international stage. The global "My World" survey, conducted as part of the process to identify the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), exemplifies this.

More broadly, the increasing scope of public consultations and civil society involvement in negotiation processes has played a pivotal role in reshaping the traditional inter-state framework. Non-governmental organizations (NGOs), in particular, continue to serve as key intermediaries between governments and the public.

The emphasis on individuals within global public policies remains a relatively recent development. As an emerging norm, it is still subject to challenges posed by the enduring principle of state sovereignty. From a broader perspective, the individualization of the international domain reflects the influence of liberal values within the global order³³.

This trend also stems from the human rights ethos that permeates the activities of most international institutions, such as the United Nations (UN), one of whose core missions—along with peace and development—is to support human development and human security agendas. These combined elements have fostered a closer relationship between the UN and NGOs, promoting a "people-centered" approach in global policies³⁴.

Beyond human rights and security, various recent conventions and declarations have sought to address the needs of vulnerable groups, including women, indigenous peoples, and persons with disabilities. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank are increasingly focusing on poverty reduction. Multilateral negotiations

³³ Forsythe

³⁴ Pouliot

on climate change are increasingly concerned with environmental refugees, while the Global Compact for Migration has drawn attention to migrants' rights.

Despite facing significant resistance, the persistence and growing influence of these policies suggest that calls for the humanization of global policies will likely exert an increasing impact on global governance.