

PAIRED PASSAGE SOCIAL STUDIES (ACT)

Passage A is adapted from a speech by Robert Monague at the Washington International Trade Association Panel Discussion: "Global Supply Chains and Social Responsibility." Passage B is adapted from the article "Protecting Human Rights" on the USAID website.

Passage A by Robert Monague

In the next few minutes I would like to offer perspectives from the State Department on due diligence and supply chain management* in the context of our corporate social responsibility and business and human rights agendas. I would also like to give you some concrete examples on ways the United States government is supporting multi-stakeholder partnerships and related efforts to foster economic growth and sustainable development through responsible supply chain management.

There is a strong nexus between economic prosperity through sustainable and socially responsible development, respect for human rights, and good governance. The State Department provides guidance and support for U.S. companies to undertake and enhance their efforts to promote these objectives, including through our engagement with business, international organizations, trade unions, and other members of civil society. This engagement includes fostering public-private partnerships to achieve common objectives.

How businesses manage their supply chains has become a core issue in the ongoing dialogue among governments, multilateral organizations, businesses, and civil society regarding the impact of corporate activities on human rights.

As we know, human rights law generally imposes obligations on states to protect human rights. However, companies have an important role to play in the context of the exercise and enjoyment of human rights. The need for governments, business, and civil society to cooperate in addressing human rights concerns through supply chain management is grounded in the facts of our increasingly integrated world, where more

than one-third of the 100 largest economic actors today are private companies, not countries.

45 The United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UN Guiding Principles), and the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises (OECD Guidelines), which contain a human rights chapter that draws upon the UN Guiding Principles, are internationally recognized tools to help businesses put in place integrated policies and procedures to ensure their operations conform to international best practices regarding respect for human rights.

55 Using the Three Pillar "Protect, Respect and Remedy" framework, the UN Guiding Principles, which are also reflected in the OECD Guidelines, provide guidance to governments, business, and stakeholders on understanding their respective roles regarding due diligence and supply chain management while respecting human rights.

60 In the context of business, this means respecting human rights is an integral component of practicing corporate social responsibility. Under the UN Guiding Principles, this responsibility exists independently of a state's abilities or willingness to fulfill its duties to protect the human rights of its people.

Passage B by USAID

Protecting human rights is closely linked to advancing long-term, sustainable development. Rights are both part of the goal of development and instrumental in attaining other goals such as economic growth and democracy.

The links between rights and development are many and complex:

- 80 • Lack of rights leads to exclusion and marginalization of citizens, which lies at the root of much poverty, even in resource-rich environments.
- Lack of rights exacerbates conflict and leads to cycles of violence.
- 85 • Having rights means that people participate in making choices about their own lives, unleashing their own creative energies and strengthening social unity.

- 90 • Living within a rights-protecting culture allows people to develop to the maximum of their capabilities.

USAID’s human-rights programming is based on the following:

- 95 • Protection of rights - actions or programming aimed at preventing or avoiding rights violations by the state, such as:
- 100 ○ Protection of human rights defenders
- 100 ○ Increasing the capacity of vulnerable populations (including victims of torture or war trauma, people with disabilities, indigenous or tribal peoples, LGBT individuals, labor activists, detainees, women, and children) to defend their rights and advocate for themselves
- 105 ○ Atrocity prevention, aimed at preventing attacks on vulnerable or marginalized populations.
- 110 ○ Efforts to stop human trafficking and protect its victims.
- Promotion of rights - actions or programming aimed at advancing rights, empowering communities and rights advocates, and advancing awareness, including:
- 115 ○ Legislation and regulations aimed at preserving human rights in national law.
- 120 ○ Human-rights education and awareness, especially among particularly vulnerable or

- 125 ○ marginalized populations.
- 125 ○ Transitional justice or support for the different ways in which societies come to terms with a legacy of past human-rights violations and/or war crimes.
- 130 • Principles - a way of working and thinking that imbues all our development work—a cross-cutting issue with applicability to everything we do:
- 135 ○ Individuals have rights; our goal is to help them realize those rights
- 135 ○ Governments have duties; our goal is to help them carry out those duties.
- 140 ○ “Do no harm”; our programming should not inadvertently lead to rights violations, including forced displacement or systematic discrimination of people.

145 Protecting human rights strengthens resiliency by helping states and communities address underlying grievances that cause instability and conflict.

*“Supply chain management” refers to the systems that companies use to efficiently source goods and supplies to make products.

Source: Passage A - <http://www.state.gov/e/eb/rls/topic/csr/219281.htm>.

Source: Passage B - <http://www.usaid.gov/what-we-do/democracy-human-rights-and-governance/protecting-human-rights>

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1. The main purpose of the third and fourth paragraphs (lines 26-44) is to:
- A) criticize the lack of action by private companies to eliminate human rights abuses.
- B) stress the importance of human rights law in the private, as opposed to public, sector.
- C) suggest a permanent partnership between the United Nations and private companies.
- D) highlight recent global changes in the way that private companies are regulated.

2. In line 21, the “*engagement with*” likely means:
- A) interlocking of.
- B) interactions with.
- C) betrothal to.
- D) conflict with.
3. It can be reasonably inferred that the author of Passage A believes that private businesses:
- A) have the same responsibilities as a government.
- B) will profit more by diversifying supply chains.
- C) should encourage the UN to take more action on human rights.
- D) have social obligations.

4. According to Passage B, all of the following are part of USAID's mission EXCEPT:

- A) defending those who advocate for human rights.
- B) conducting criminal trials involving human rights violators.
- C) supporting governments and the role they play in promoting human rights.
- D) educational initiatives to inform marginalized populations.

5. According to the author of Passage B, what is the connection between human rights and violence?

- A) Force is required to convince nations to promote human rights legislation.
- B) Violent societies do not value human rights.
- C) All violence must be eliminated before human rights initiatives can be introduced.
- D) When human rights are compromised, there is an increased potential for violence.

6. Based on the statement in lines 139-143 of Passage B, it can be reasonably inferred that:

- A) USAID has had issues with causing discrimination in the past.
- B) the displacement of a group of people is a necessary consequence of human rights programs.
- C) human rights programs have the potential to marginalize groups if care is not taken.
- D) USAID only works in communities where discrimination does not already exist.

7. According to Passage B, one means by which individuals can maximize their capabilities is:

- A) a government overthrow.
- B) a decrease in population diversity.
- C) a higher working wage.
- D) human rights protections.

8. With which of the following statements would the authors of Passage A and Passage B most likely agree?

- A) Criminal justice initiatives are the most powerful way to improve human rights.
- B) A country with human rights issues can benefit from the influence of an outside organization.
- C) Without increased funding, human rights improvements are only temporary.
- D) A country in turmoil must seek help from neighboring countries.

9. Which of the following statements from Passage B suggests that USAID likely values the United States' "efforts to foster economic growth and sustainable development through responsible supply chain management" (lines 9-12)?

- A) "Rights are both part of the goal of development and instrumental in attaining other goals such as economic growth or democracy" (lines 74-77).
- B) "Living within a rights-protecting culture allows people to develop to the maximum of their capabilities" (lines 90-92).
- C) "Transitional justice or support for the different ways in which societies come to terms with a legacy of past human-rights violations and/or war crimes" (lines 125-129).
- D) "Protecting human rights strengthens resiliency by helping states and communities address underlying grievances that cause instability and conflict" (lines 144-147).

10. All of the following themes relate to both Passage A and Passage B EXCEPT:

- A) Human rights are valuable and should be defended.
- B) A community is most prosperous when human rights are respected.
- C) Supporting or creating human rights violations is a sign of irresponsibility.
- D) Respect for human rights can only be promoted by the highest government official in a country.