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Claim and Reality of the Constitution

RIGHTS OF THE WOMAN AND THE GIRL CHILD



CLAIM AND REALITY OF THE CONSTITUTION

With regards to Nepal, experts and the common people agree: the country has one of the best and most inclusive constitutions in the world on paper, but there is still work to be

gap between the ideal claims of the constitution and reality. There are also gaps in the process of coming to terms with the civil war era: impunity is a major problem, as not a single crime has been brought to justice to date. The sad legacy of grave human rights violations and war crimes remains largely unaddressed. The political will is lacking in the country to bring the perpetrators to justice.

The forces that could bring about positive change have their own problems to contend with in this situation: Several human rights experts speak of a worrying shrinking space for media and civil society. There is an indirect censorship for the media. While the number of radio stations and online media is exploding, it is very difficult to find truly independent media. Civil society is also partisan to a large extent. In addition, there is a strong political influence on the courts. Human rights defenders are at risk personally and in their free and independent work. International attention to the situation in Nepal, international solidarity and genuine support for human rights defenders are the order of the day to save the constitution and to open up stable prospects for Nepal's future.

One of the major unresolved issues after the civil war turmoil and the numerous expropriations in the country concerns land rights. Against this background, the ISHR in Nepal works together with the [Community Self Reliance Centre \(CSRC\)](#) and is represented by it in the country as the National Section. The organization, which was founded in March 1993, has been campaigning for comprehensive agrarian reform and the land rights of working farmers and cultivators for more than a quarter of a century. The CSRC has a presence in more than two-thirds of Nepal's districts in all parts of the country, where it maintains working relationships with communities and local governments. Based on a deep conviction that social inclusion and participatory democracy must be strengthened at the grassroots level of society, CSRC activities are guided by the goals of a people-friendly system of land management and sustainable, organic and environmentally friendly agricultural practices.

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