

What political choice to ensure a right of food?

Meeting : What political choice to ensure a right of food ?

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Partners

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I- BACKGROUND OF PROBLEMATIC

Based on its mission to consolidate the role of the associative actor in the promotion of Economic, social and cultural rights, and monitoring The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Espace Associatif in partnership with The FNSA-UMT and The Arab NGO Network for Development (ANND) organizes a meeting: " What political choice to ensure a right of food"? .

Feeding is a fundamental condition for life, not only to stay alive, but also to develop a physically healthy and mentally creative existence that can offer every human being an active life in the socio-economic environment in which he develops. Recognized for the first time in 1948 during the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the right to food has never been taken to its right dimension for the development of food policies of national governments. Although "human rights" are indisputable and irrefutable, they are still seen as elusive in the order of state obligations.

Apart from the right axis, the food debate was certainly one of the most discussed topics internationally, but its acceptance has always been analyzed from a different angle, the components of which differ from one period to another. other, depending on the context and the problem. After the Second World War, the focus is first on the supply factor to ensure self-sufficiency. Then under the Structural Adjustment Programs (SAP), the Access component was a basic factor in achieving food security. On the way and in an international context marked by the globalization of markets, the food question arose in terms of comparative advantages. A multidimensional concept, the notion begins to take a new multisectoral and multi-social approach; it is no longer just a question of agriculture but also of health, environment, erosion, desertification, access to water, rural marginalization, urban expansion, price control, and ability to access income. As a result of the 2007-2008 food crisis and the high price volatility recorded in international markets for all staple foods, food sovereignty has become a priority for developed countries and places at least one equivalent, the search for political independence, which tends to give the latter a more political significance. Presented for the first time by "Via Campesina" at the Food Summit organized by FAO in Rome in 1996, the concept refers to a "right of populations, their states or Unions to define their agricultural and food policy, without dumping. vis-à-vis third countries ".

As a result of a slow maturation of the concept, the most commonly accepted definition is that supported by the World Food Summit: "Food security exists when all people, at all times, have physical and economic access to sufficient food. , healthy and nutritious, allowing them to cover their nutritional needs and satisfy their dietary preferences in order to ensure a healthy and active life. However, this definition gives full weight to the multidimensional aspect of the concept, which is available quantitatively and qualitatively according to four aspects: food availability, access to food, food stability and safety. Following its conceptual evolution, it turns out that international organizations (the IMF, the WB FAO) have certainly brought new elements to the construction of a sense of food

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security, but they could not respond in an integrated way to the questions they had raised. Since its creation and its implementation (October 16, 1945), the intervention of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) has always been designed as that of an actor mediator of the unblocking rather than as a player in the prevention and stabilization of countries facing food and famine difficulties. Its role was limited to defining vertical policies that were not adapted to the reality of people's food needs and lacking an integral approach to the realities and conditions in the context of countries affected by food insecurity and malnutrition.

All the debates developed at the international level around food, malnutrition and famine (the World Food Conference and the World Food Council, the Millennium Development Goals etc), referred to the human food issue in terms of insecurity and never in terms of law. All of the strategic orientations were aimed solely at consolidating a self-reliant development policy when everything related to land, production and distribution had been neglected; the policies implemented failed to distinguish between sufficient production and food access, even though the 1974 conference insisted on the rule of law.

In short, if today we speak of food security as an objective, the concept is much more restrictive if it is understood in terms of law, including the right to food. On the other hand, if we were talking about food insecurity, it is to refer to a policy supposed to be developed to reverse this situation. Both of these approaches highlight the responsibility of governments in developing and implementing ad hoc policies and programs to ensure nutrition. What about the case of Morocco?

Despite the continuing interest in self-sufficiency policies during the 1970-1980 period and in food security in the mid-1990s, Morocco is only partially covering its basic food needs. : Cereals, Milk, Oils, Meat and Sugar. Various structural and cyclical causes are generally put forward to explain this degradation: climatic variations, low use of technology, growing demand, limited water and land resources, population growth, food preferences, low incomes, etc.). Beyond these constraints, the food question arises in terms of the political choice. It is no longer a simple technical or economic process, but rather a political and institutional issue. Ensuring a right to food depends largely on the public will and the efficiency of the political choice. The realization of these two conditions inevitably passes by a progressive independence of the political choice to reach a food sovereignty.