

## Human Rights, Culture, and the European Union's Development Assistance Programs

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This Article discusses human rights and culture from the perspective of the initiatives of the Member States of the European Union (EU) through their development assistance programs. The main question posed is if there is a conflict or convergence between the ideal norms of human rights espoused by the EU and their development assistance programs.

The EU's policy on human rights is embodied in their development policy and the EU's consensus on development. This is juxtaposed by the Author against general norms and ideas of human development.

Finally, the Author examines the particular effects of culture on human rights by situating human rights within culture, culture within human rights, human rights versus culture, and human rights and culture side by side.

The Author recommends several approaches of reconciling human rights with culture in order for human rights to be enforced.