ماعت للسلام والتنمية وحقوق الإنسان

Maat For Peace, Development, and Human Rights

In the service of Peace,Development and Human Rights

About Maat:

Maat for Peace، Development and Human Rights was established in early 2005 as a non-partisan، non-profit civil society organization، registered at the Egyptian Ministry of Social Solidarity under No. 3166 for the year 2008، amended by No. 7829 for the year 2010.

Maat adopted a new strategic framework under which it aims to strengthen its presence at the international and regional levels، build effective relations with international and regional mechanisms to improve the human rights situation at the national and regional levels، apply international humanitarian law in areas of armed conflict، address issues of democracy and good governance، promote sustainable development practices and follow-up the extent of its achievements in the countries of the world.

Maat's Vision

A citizen aware of his rights and duties؛ a nation based on respect for human rights standards and good governance practices؛ and a true global partnership for peace and sustainable development.

Maat's Mission

Maat seeks to employ the human rights-based approach and use its mechanisms and tools to promote the values and practices of social peace، development، democracy and good governance at home، and to operate under international and regional mechanisms and bodies and within a framework of networks and alliances to advocate and mobilize support to enhance the practices and policies of peace، sustainable development، combating all forms of violence، conflict and the absence of justice

Maat's Positions & Achievements

At the International Level:

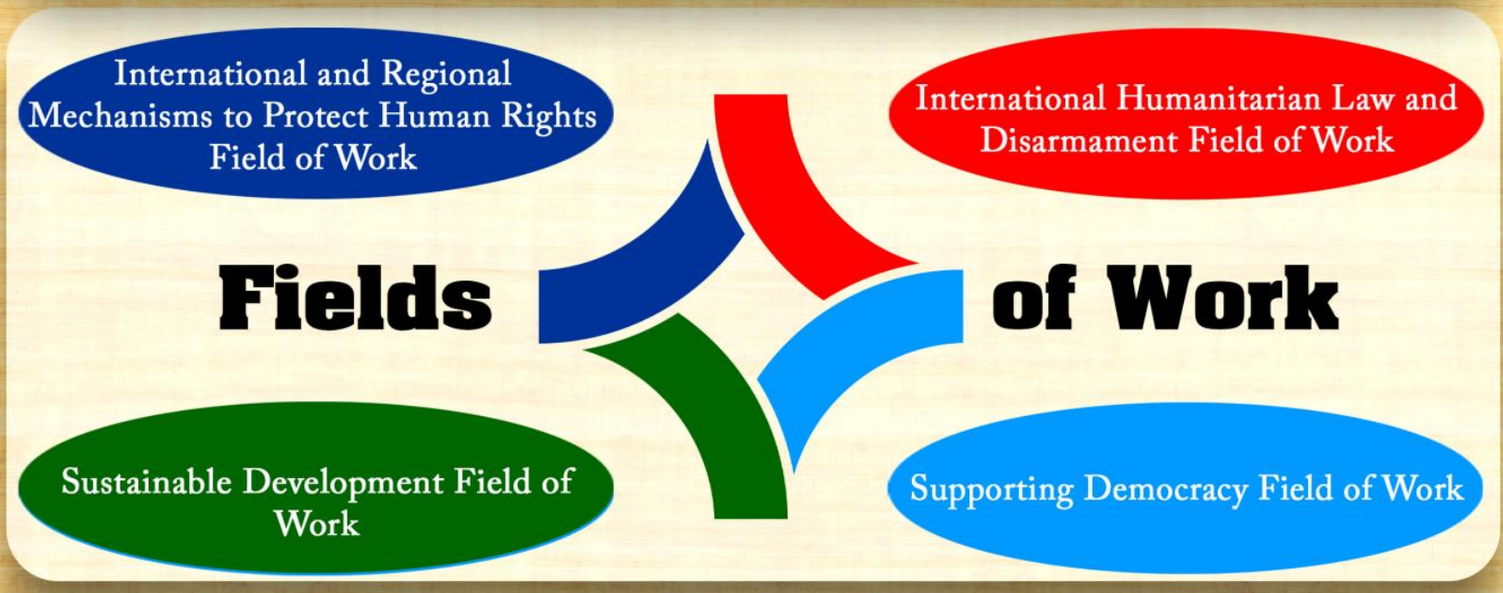
- Consultative Status with the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).
- Northern Africa Coordinator in the NGO Major Group for Africa of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA).
- Member of the Alliance of NGOs on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in Vienna.
- International observer at the United Nations meetings for disarmament affairs.

At the Regional Level:

- Member of the General Assembly of the African Union Economic، Social and Cultural Council (ECOSOCC).
- Observer at the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights.
- Member of the sub-committee of the Arab League for the stakeholders to support the achievement of the sustainable development goals in the affected countries in Conflict areas.

At the Local Level:

- Member of the Board of Trustees of the Egyptian Network of the Anna Lindh Euro-Mediterranean Foundation for Intercultural Dialogue and the President thereof from 2013 to 2016.
- Coordinator of the Egyptian National Chapter of the African ECOSOCC.



International and Regional Mechanisms to Protect Human Rights Field of Work

Maat participates in the work of international and regional mechanisms to protect human rights as follows:

United Nations Human Rights Council:

Maat participates in the activities of the Human Rights, in its regular and special sessions with oral and written interventions, organizes side events and contributes to the Human Rights Council's decision-making process by actively participating in informal consultations, organizing stand-ins, participation in the organizational sessions and meetings with the presidency of the Council. Maat also attends the council's advisory committee meetings and annual forums.

Special Procedures:

Maat communicates with the Special Procedures as independent experts appointed by the Human Rights Council on specific human rights issues or countries that require special attention and intervention by the mechanisms of the Human Rights Council. Maat participates in the work of the Special Rapporteurs by submitting written statements that are included by the Special Rapporteurs in their annual thematic reports to the Human Rights Council and the General Assembly and exerting pressure for conducting country visits after government approval as well as submitting complaints and communications regarding human rights violations against certain countries.

Universal Periodic Review (UPR) Mechanism:

Maat actively participates in the universal periodic review mechanism by submitting written reports, raising the capacity of local and international civil society organizations to participate in national dialogues and the mechanism as a whole, submitting oral interventions during the adoption of the results of the review and organizing information meetings and preparatory sessions with diplomatic missions in Geneva.

Treaty Bodies:

Maat participates in the activities of the Treaty Bodies, and monitors the states parties' commitment and implementation of the agreement or treaty periodically, every four to six years, according to the approach of each committee. Maat participates in the work of treaty committees by providing alternative reports on the submission of state parties to review, submitting oral interventions in closed sessions dedicated to civil society, supporting the participation of local and international civil society organizations and raising their capacities..

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC):

Maat participates in the activities of the Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) at the United Nations Headquarters in Vienna and follow-up the countries' implementation of agreements on combating transnational organized crime, terrorism, drugs and corruption, through submitting oral and written statements, participating in the work of the Alliance of NGOs on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the closed meetings with the heads of the Commission and the Vienna Office, and it can organize side events on the sidelines of the Commission's work, either individually or in cooperation with the Alliance.

Maat is the only Arab association that has effective cooperation with the office, its committees, and the coalition of NGOs, as it has become a point of contact between the Organizations Office in Vienna and Arab civil society organizations.

African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights:

Maat participates in the cycles of the regular and special committees as a member of the Commission and submits oral and written interventions in the panel discussion. It also communicates with the commissioners in the committee and holds side events that seek to enhance and implement the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights.

Sustainable Development Field of Work

Maat for Peace supports the achievement of the SDGs based on the UN Agenda 2030، and AU Agenda 2063، among other national development agendas، particularly international or regional sustainable development mechanisms such as the UN High-Level Political Forum. This program also operates within various mechanisms، including the follow-up، development and implementation of activities related to relevant mechanisms such as the League of Arab States، African Union mechanisms such as the African ECOSOC، its national Chapter، and Nile for Peace Initiative، among other relevant mechanisms. This field covers many files:

Development and promotion of the situation of marginalized groups، particularly refugees، migrants and child workers:

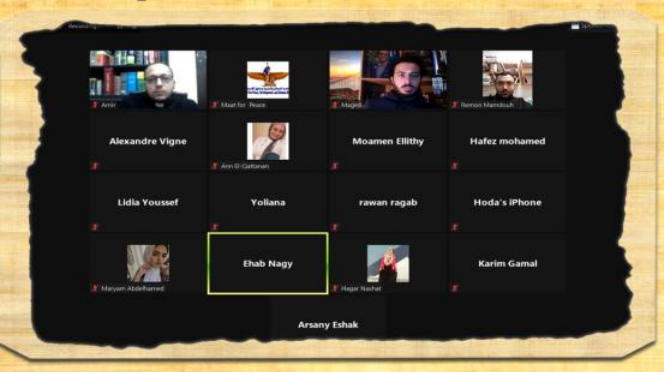
Maat for Peace works closely with marginalized groups through launching programs directed to them، such as awareness programs and capacity-raising، as well as mobilizing and supporting the improvement and development of their conditions، and communication with official and non-official bodies to support their rights and overcome the obstacles.

Building peace، promoting security and combating extremism and hate speech:

In this file، Maat for Peace monitors and observes the escalation of terrorist operations worldwide، the increase in extremist and violent right-wing movements and the spread of hate speech، as opposed to the growing voices of peace، human solidarity and acceptance of others، and tries to strengthen international cooperation frameworks between governments، international organizations، civil society and individuals in building societies that enjoy sustainable peace and security، through advocacy and launching campaigns promoting peace، organizing local، regional and international events and conferences to emphasize the importance of solidarity، concerted and coordinated international efforts in this field، training courses and workshops.

Capacity-building on climate change and environmental protection:

Maat for Peace is fully aware of the impact of climate change on Egypt، Africa and the whole world، and its threats to all aspects of sustainable development. Maat believes that SDG 13، 14 and 5 of the 2030 Agenda about the environmental dimension، is closely linked to the rest of the SDGs. Therefore، Maat for Peace seeks to build the capacity of all stakeholders to promote environmental proximity in the implementation of development projects and organizes several workshops and training camps on protecting the environment as well as mitigating and adapting to climate change and its consequences.



Spreading awareness and gaining advocacy on artificial intelligence (AI) and its effects on development

Maat for Peace expects more reliance on AI-based technologies and believes in the necessity of exploiting the current opportunities to further enable AI applications to achieve environmental، social، economic and political sustainability. Therefore، Maat for Peace is interested in conducting further studies، as well as activities and events on how to seize every opportunity and face challenges.

Mobilization، support and raising awareness on the need to reach water security rates:

Maat for Peace believes that water security has become a threat to entire peoples، and after a few years the world's attention will be directed towards maintaining "Blue Peace" rather than Peace in its traditional concept. Maat for Peace participates in regional alliances and mobilizes the efforts of its partners in order to achieve this peace at the present time to avoid future wars.

Promote Gender Equality

Maat for Peace always stresses that gender equality is not just meaningless mottos or a luxury. Maat carries out many activities related to this matter and participates in the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women. It also presents written and oral interventions organizes side events and participates in decision-making consultations، to advocate and gain support at all levels.

International Humanitarian Law and Disarmament Field of Work

Maat for Peace works in this field to spread international humanitarian law at the local، regional and international levels. Maat urges for compliance and enforcement of these basic legal standards before، during and after armed conflict، and strives to create an environment in which humanitarian standards and principles defined by the four Geneva Conventions of 1949 and the Additional Protocols of 1977 can be recognized، to curb the brutalities of wars and protect persons who do not participate in hostilities (civilians، health workers، aid workers) and those no longer participating in hostilities (wounded، sick، shipwrecked soldiers، prisoners of war).

This field covers many files

Maat is the Secretary-General of the Global Coalition for Limitation of Armaments

Maat for Peace launched the Coalition along with civil society organizations around the world. The Coalition focuses on using best practices، international standards and non-stereotypical solutions to limit the spread of weapons، especially in the Middle East، which is home to many conflicts.

International observer in UN meetings on disarmament

Maat for Peace participates in all sessions and meetings organized by the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs and has submitted many oral and written interventions under the framework of conventional weapons program and the weapons of mass destruction program.

Advisory Organization of the Prosecutor's Office of the International Criminal Court

Maat for Peace organizes regular events and virtual visits with the International Criminal Court in cooperation with Prosecutor Office، and presents advisory reports on some cases relating to international crimes.

Organizing international fact-finding missions on the humanitarian situation in areas of armed conflict

Maat for Peace organizes international fact-finding missions in conflict-affected areas؛ it conducts a number of field visits to different regions، interviews victims and a number of non-governmental and humanitarian organizations، and shares its findings with international human rights and humanitarian law mechanisms.

Capacity-raising and awareness-raising training for law students in different universities around the world

Maat holds joint training in international humanitarian law and international human rights law with government universities around the world and opens the door to raising the capacities of international humanitarian law through specialized training courses on induction، documentation and urges for compliance with and enforcement of basic legal standards before، during and after the armed conflict.

Supporting Democracy Field of Work

Maat for Peace team works continuously and sustainably to promote free and fair elections in line with international norms recognized at the local، regional and international levels. It also seeks to promote the values of dialogue، citizenship، acceptance and democratic practices among Egyptian and Arab citizens، and it contributes to the development of the local administration system in Egypt to conform to the standards of good local governance based on participation، accountability، decentralization and respect for citizens' rights associated with public services.

First: Support and development of electoral systems

Maat believes that elections are not a goal in themselves، but rather a mechanism to ensure the realization of the principle of "the people are the source of power." Therefore، the integrity، freedom، justice and effectiveness of these elections must be ensured. In this regard، Maat is an expert owing to its achievements in forming a number of local and international alliances and networks to follow up on electoral processes.

Maat for Peace seeks to raise citizens' awareness of the correct voting mechanisms and to encourage youth to participate politically، thus increasing the proportion of active participation، influence and representation of citizens in governance structures and decision-making processes. Maat for Peace supports a range of training programs and conducts voter education activities، including awareness-raising campaigns.

Maat monitors the electoral processes at the local، regional and international levels. During the past years، Maat participated in following up the general elections in several Arab countries before and after the Arab Spring. Maat monitored the elections in several countries، including Tunisia، Jordan، Iraq، and Lebanon، in collaboration with several regional and international institutions and networks.

Maat holds community dialogues for members of Parliament، aims to open a dialogue among citizens and parliamentarians، and helps push MPs to use their oversight tools to adopt the issues that emerged from the dialogues held by the project between MPs and citizens.

Second: Supporting decentralization and good governance

Maat for Peace cooperates with a number of local partners and international and regional bodies in raising community awareness of decentralization and creating communication mechanisms between citizens and their representatives in local councils. Maat for Peace is also working to develop programs to include issues such as the responsiveness of local governance to citizens' needs in the context of the development of the local governance system، and the efforts to develop a legislative framework supportive of decentralization and the status of local governance in the Constitution and law.

Maat believes that decentralization is a major component of good governance regimes and one of its most important principles، in addition to being a tool that achieves development processes and pushes institutions and societies towards achieving comprehensive and sustainable development. Maat's team seeks to contribute to the development of the local administration regimes to comply with the standards of good local governance based on accountability، decentralization and respect for citizens' rights related to public services. Gender issues are also a priority for Maat's work in this context، as it holds a series of activities aimed at empowering rural women in the elected local administration mechanisms.

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