

Violations of the rights of the elderly and impoverishment of the quality of life in Cuba

Older people are 21.3% ●

and are estimated to constitute a third of the population by 2050 ●

Cuban society is one of the oldest in the region, but one of the least prepared to face this challenge. ●



CHALLENGES

Five rights that face a clear setback and require urgent attention

Economic insecurity and unsustainability of social security

The pensions are barely enough to buy a kilogram of powdered milk and a packet of pasta. Increase of the deficit to 33.6% in 2020.

Food insecurity

Products subsidized through the ration book have been gradually reduced and their prices have multiplied between five and twenty times.

Deterioration of the right to health

Access and availability of basic medicines is deficient. (45.94% of persons aged 50 years and over perceived health care as fair, and 9.24% as poor).

Care crisis

The state supply presents difficulties in coverage, quality, and deficit of material and human resources. It has increased prices and less occupation of services.

Violation of independence and autonomy

Sale or assignment of wheelchairs and other essential devices for the mobility and care of the elderly is deficient and the demand is greater.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE FOURTH CYCLE OF THE UPR

- Creation of a specific legal framework to protect older people from situations of abuse and violation of rights.
- Create a social safety net that extends assistance focused on the elderly and develop an Emergency Plan focused on vulnerable groups.
- Legalize and facilitate the participation of transnational Cuban society in the shipment of humanitarian aid for the delivery of medicines, food, prostheses, and mobility devices.
- Design and implement a Law on Associations for the free participation of independent civil society organizations in care for the elderly and humanitarian assistance.
- Promote the "silver economy", removing obstacles for private entrepreneurs and facilitating the expansion of social organizations focused on older adults.
- Expand and improve statistical information on older people.