

**THE RIGHT TO ADEQUATE
HOUSING BETWEEN
INTERNATIONAL AND STATE
STRATEGIES:**

**A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF SPAIN, SOUTH
AFRICA AND FRANCE**

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“The guiding goal; a true economic and social democracy.”

Stéphane Hessel, *Indignez-vous!*

“A simple vote, without food, shelter and health care is to use first generation rights as a smokescreen to obscure the deep underlying forces which dehumanize people. It is to create an appearance of equality and justice, while by implication socioeconomic inequality is entrenched. We do not want freedom without bread, nor do we want bread without freedom. We must provide for all the fundamental rights and freedoms associated with a democratic society.”

Nelson Mandela

Abstract

This paper aims to study the current situation of the Right to Adequate Housing (RAH) and to find out which are the better strategies that have been put into practice for its realization. This has been done through a comparative study of Spain, South Africa and France, as three paradigmatic cases that have incorporated this right in different levels and combinations both at international and state level. An analysis of the standard setting, monitoring and justiciability mechanisms will be made in order to answer the following question; 'Which of these states' approaches has been more effective for the realization of the RAH?'. Finally, an assessment will be given of today's normative challenges and opportunities for the RAH realization.

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