

# The General Assembly: Topic D Primary Sources

## Managing Population Growth to Prevent Social & Ecological Crises

*Here are primary sources that your moderator or legal chair thought would be helpful in gaining an understanding of the topic. These are by no means all of the sources available, just sources we wanted to highlight.*

### **Source 1: International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) Programme of Action**

This document, adopted in Cairo in 1994, represents a paradigm shift in how the international community views population growth. Instead of focusing purely on demographic targets, it emphasizes the importance of individual rights and the empowerment of women as the primary drivers of sustainable population dynamics.

[https://www.un.org/development/desa/pd/sites/www.un.org.development.desa.pd/files/files/documents/2020/Jan/un\\_1995\\_programme\\_of\\_action\\_adopted\\_at\\_the\\_international\\_conference\\_on\\_population\\_and\\_development\\_cairo\\_5-13\\_sept.\\_1994.pdf](https://www.un.org/development/desa/pd/sites/www.un.org.development.desa.pd/files/files/documents/2020/Jan/un_1995_programme_of_action_adopted_at_the_international_conference_on_population_and_development_cairo_5-13_sept._1994.pdf)

### **Source 2: IPCC Sixth Assessment Report (AR6) – Chapter 2: Emissions Trends and Drivers**

This chapter from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) analyzes the primary drivers of greenhouse gas emissions, specifically looking at the relationship between population growth, GDP, and energy efficiency. It provides the scientific "teeth" for arguments regarding the ecological impact of human population.

<https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/wg3/chapter/chapter-2/>

### **Source 3: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**

This landmark resolution, adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015, outlines the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It serves as the modern blueprint for balancing economic growth with social inclusion and environmental protection. It provides specific targets (such as Target 3.7 on universal access to reproductive health) that countries use to measure their progress in stabilizing population growth and protecting the planet.

<https://sdgs.un.org/2030agenda>

### **Source 4: UN Women – Progress on the Sustainable Development Goals: The Gender Snapshot 2025**

This annual report, produced by UN Women and UN DESA, provides the most recent data on how gender inequality affects global development. It highlights the direct link between women's empowerment and the stabilization of population trends. This source is vital for delegates focusing on the "Social Stability" aspect of the topic. It proves that investing in women—specifically in education and digital inclusion—is a "smart growth strategy" that can lift millions out of poverty and naturally lead to more sustainable population growth patterns.

<https://www.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/publications/2025/09/progress-on-the-sustainable-development-goals-the-gender-snapshot-2025>