
**UN Human Rights Council
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**Panel discussion
Human rights of older persons in the context of climate change**

Ms. Ruth Moatti
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Madam President,

My name is Ruth Moatti and I am Israel's Youth Delegate to the United Nations. As a young person, I understand the importance of dealing with climate change and tackling the causes and effects it has on all members of society. We all, every generation, together must tackle the climate emergency we all face.

Madam President,

Like COVID-19, climate change has a disproportionate impact on our society's most vulnerable, including elder persons. As temperatures and sea levels rise and extreme weather events, including heatwaves, floods, droughts and hurricanes, occur more often, they carry devastating human right risks for all those affected. However, older persons are the most likely to die in extreme weather and other natural disasters. Climate change can impair the realization of numerous human rights of older persons, including the rights to life, health, food, and housing. Therefore, we must tackle age discrimination and ageism, which are critical factors in elder persons exclusion from policies and programs designed to address the negative impact of climate change.

Madam President,

It is not only essential to nurture, enable and encourage older persons participation in climate action from a human rights perspective; elder persons also possess important knowledge of science, history, tradition and culture that can inspire and support climate actions taken by my and future generations. They have to be involved in ensuring a greener future for all people and our whole planet.

Madam President, I would like to ask the panel,

What in particular can the younger generation do to ensure the promotion and protection of the rights of older persons in the context of climate change?