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Lunds Universitet
Statsvetenskapliga institutionen



University of Lund
Department of Political Science

TELEFAX

Datum

Date 1991 -10- 04

Till

To Albie Sachs

Från

From Anders Troedsson

Ärende

Subject

Antal sidor (exklusive denna)

Number of pages (to follow) 6

Om Ni inte mottagit alla sidor, var vänlig ring omgående!

If you do not receive all pages, please phone immediately!

(Tel. 046-108951, phone +46-46108951)

Meddelande

Message

LUNDS UNIVERSITET
STATSVETENSKAPLIGA INSTITUTIONEN
Postadress: Box 52
221 00 LUND
Besöksadress: Paradisgatan 5
Telefon 046-107000 (vx)
Telefax 046-104617

UNIVERSITY OF LUND
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
Postal address: Box 52
S-221 00 Lund, Sweden
Visitors: Paradisgatan 5
Telephone+46-46107000
Telefax +46-46104617

B+OH

Albie Sachs

22 26 26

FAX: 009 - 27 - 21 - ~~22 26 26~~

Dear Albie Sachs:

I was a student in your class "Human Rights and Development in Africa" in the spring of 1989 at Columbia University in New York. I wrote a paper which somewhat crudely compared the perceptions of Human Rights in Mozambique and Sweden, a paper which however also contained a model of Human Rights which you found "very useful indeed," as you wrote in your comments on the front of the paper. (I am enclosing a copy of that model.)


Well, I have continued to study the politics, philosophy and psychology of Human Rights, now as a PhD-candidate at the department of Political Science at the University of Lund, Sweden. And I am still interested in comparing different perceptions of Human Rights, particularly along the North-South dimension. This will as a matter of fact be the theme of my dissertation.

Enclosed you will find a translated copy of my application to the Scandinavian Institute of African Studies (Address: Box 1703, 751 47 Uppsala, Sweden. Phone: 46 - 18 - 15 54 80. Fax: 46 - 18 - 69 56 29.) for funding for a field trip to the OAU in Addis Abeba next year. My question to you is: Would you be willing and able to write a letter of recommendation for me to support the application? I would appreciate it very much indeed!

At the same time I understand if you are too busy, or if the memory of me is too distant as to make possible a fair evaluation. I hope the enclosed translated copy of the application and the model will show useful to compensate for the latter, however. The deadline for the letter of application is already October 11th, which is another reason for that I understand if you decline to write the letter. But I hope for the best, and know that a letter from someone in the field as prominent as you would do much to promote my possibilities for funding at the Scandinavian Institute of African Studies.

If you would have any comments on the research idea, or names of persons in the African, in academia or elsewhere, with whom it would be useful to connect on this issue, I would of course also highly appreciate it.

With Best Regards



Anders Troedsson
Department of Political Science
University of Lund
Box 52
221 00 Lund
Sweden
Phone: 46 - 46 - 10 89 30
Fax: 46 - 46 - 10 46 17

Application for travel grant 1991
Scandinavian Institute of African Studies
Box 1703
751 47 Uppsala
Tel: 46-18-155480
Fax: 46-18-695692

*Title of Project: HUMAN RIGHTS IN A NORTH-SOUTH PERSPECTIVE

*Summary of the project:

The project aims to comparatively study perceptions of and the place in policy for Human Rights in the North and South, and takes as its theoretical point of departure a certain model of Human Rights. The organizations OAU and EC are the two primary empirical foci, and the research methods consist of interviews, administration of questionnaires, document studies and observation of sessions. The work will hopefully illustrate the usefulness of the constructed model when conducting a comparative study of Human Rights, and is hoped to result in a ideological-analytical guidance for decision-makers active in a politically charged intersection between North-South relations and Human Rights.

*The total budget of the project:

3.5 years (August 1990 - December 1993) to a yearly total cost of about SEK 100 000 = SEK 350 000 (about \$ 60 000).

*The time of the field research : June 92 - September 92

*Amount applied for in this application to cover expenses for the field research: SEK 40 000
(about \$ 6 500)

*Funds received from other foundations and institutions to cover the whole period 1990-93:

Lund University	SEK 12 000 (= \$ 2 000)
Swedish Foreign Ministry	SEK 100 000 (= \$ 17 000)

*FACTS ABOUT THE APPLICANT

From September 1988 to August 1989 I studied at Columbia University, New York, on a scholarship from the Fulbright Commission. The studies focused on International Law and Human Rights. Papers concerned e.g. models of Human Rights developed from psychological theory, the question of the Right to Development and other themes from the so called third generation of Human Rights.

In the spring and summer of 1990 I worked in New York as a freelance journalist for Swedish magazines, and gained training in interviewing, and made many contacts at the United Nations HQ (also during the course "UN reporting" taken at Columbia School of Journalism in the fall of 1989).

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Since September 1990 I am a PhD-candidate at the Department of Political Science at the University of Lund, Sweden. Until now, work has concentrated on courses and on the refinement of the model of Human Rights. The model was put forward at this year's conference of International Society of Political Psychology, and will hopefully be published shortly in the Journal of Political Psychology.

-Academic record in short:

September 88 - December 89. Master of International Affairs;
School of International and Public
Affairs, Columbia University, New
York, NY, USA.

August 84 - May 86,
August 87 - May 88:

Filosofie Kandidat; Lund University.

The Exam included (20 p = credits
formally amounting to one semester
of study):

60 p Political Science
60 p Psychology
20 p Peace and Conflict Research

Other credits:

57 p Russian
20 p East European and Soviet
Studies
15 p Moral Philosophy

*PLAN OF RESEARCH

HUMAN RIGHTS IN A NORTH-SOUTH PERSPECTIVE

The perception of Human Rights is an important expression of political ideology and culture, and therefore differs sharply in different parts of the world. A number of factors have led to the necessity of comparative studies of perceptions of and the place in policy of Human Rights.

The norms called Human Rights become ever more respected and authoritative in international relations, even if often more in words than action. International legislation in the field is increasingly surrounded by institutionalization and by governments' awareness about the political as well as moral weight of Human Rights. Human Rights often take the center stage of international affairs, particularly in military conflicts as was exemplified by the Gulf crisis. This trend, which long has been present, is also closely connected to the democratization taking place in numerous places throughout the world.

The end to the Cold War and the ever deeper economic rift between the wealthy North and the impoverished South has led to the increasing visibility of the North-South problematique. It is perhaps mostly of an economic-structural nature, but is also characterized by themes of security and ideology, and is not seldom formulated broadly in terms of Human Rights.

The increased weight of Human Rights as well as of North-South

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issues in international affairs is the frame and inspiration of the project, which bears the working title "Human Rights in a North-South perspective." On the basis of a certain model of Human Rights, the project, with the focus on at least two important actors in North-South relations, aims to study and compare views of Human Rights norms as well as the place of these norms in policy. The aim is to study the perception of Human Rights within these organizations, as well as how these perceptions transformed to policy interact on the international level with Human Rights policies of the other organization.

An important goal is to produce an ideological-analytical "roadmap" of North-South relations as concerns Human Rights. The work will be written in English and seeks among its readers decision-makers in the politically charged intersection between Human Rights on one hand and North-South relations on the other.

A basic idea in the project is the importance of considering individual and social psychological aspects. Special interest is therefore directed towards a number of basic psychological themes which are integrated into a Human Rights perspective. A central aim of the study is thus the formulation of a concept apparatus useful in studies of perceptions of Human Rights in different political cultures.

Among the questions to be answered by the project are:

What role do perceptions of Human Rights play in North-South relations? Is a divergence or a convergence taking place between views in the North and South of Human Rights? To what extent are new interpretations of the concept gaining ground?

Which are the main similarities/ differences in perceptions of Human Rights in the North and South? How are individual/ collective/ political/ economic/ religious/ pragmatic/ moral aspects emphasized? How can differences in perceptions be explained?

To what extent do ideological themes such as Human Rights contribute to a security agenda of North-South relations? To what extent do differing views of Human Rights contribute to interstate tension? How is Human Rights connected to the state's image in North-South relations?

To what extent do country representatives formulate and implement their government's views of human needs and Human Rights in international fora? What strategies can be seen in international organizations to affect norms in this field? Is there a pattern for how questions of Human Rights are linked to other issues, for instance security? How are goal-conflicts solved where Human Rights are weighed against other goals of policy, e.g. national security or independence?

Answers on these questions will be sought in within primarily two international organizations, the OAU and the EC, but possibly and secondarily also the UN. The choice of the EC is motivated by that this organization increasingly presents itself as a unified international actor with a common foreign policy agenda, and that it therefore represents an ever bigger part of North's policy towards the South. The likelihood of a Swedish EC membership in the near future makes EC's perceptions and policies in the field highly interesting to a Swedish audience.

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Africa, which historically as well as at present holds a central position in the EC-countries' relation with the South, is chosen as the second empirical focus. OAU is the organization which more than any other on this continent formulates an aggregated African view of international issues. It is therefore, while observing the clear differences between it and the EC, chosen as the object of study in Africa.

The study of the two organizations will make possible the description, interpretation, analysis and comparison of interesting examples of Northern and Southern perceptions and uses of the concept of Human Rights. The UN, being an important forum for discussions of Human Rights, is likely to be included in the empirical work, but only as secondary to the field work done at the OAU and the EC.

A wide range of research methods will be used at the organizations - interviews of key persons in the field of Human Rights, administration of a questionnaire among delegates and officials, document studies, and observation of sessions which deal with issues of Human Rights. In fact, research on the EC has already started through interviews and documentation searches at the EC in Brussels during the past year. A longer stay at the EC is planned to take place during the fall of next year.

3/10/91



Bill of Rights

... FREEDOM FROM:

... FREEDOM OF/TO:

POLITICAL AND CIVIL RIGHTS TO...

PHYSICAL COERCION	LIBERTIES
STRUCTURAL COERCION	SOCIAL SECURITY

ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS TO...

(Fig. 4)

... FREEDOM FROM:

... FREEDOM OF/TO:

COLLECTIVE RIGHTS TO...

MILITARY COERCION	POLITICAL SELF-DETERMINATION
STRUCTURAL COERCION	ECONOMIC SELF-DETERMINATION

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(Fig. 5)