

Can hunger be eradicated by 2030?

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World hunger is growing at an alarming rate, with prolonged conflicts, climate change, and COVID-19 exacerbating the problem. In 2022, the World Food Programme helped a record 158 million people. On this trajectory, the United Nations' goal to eradicate hunger by 2030 appears increasingly unattainable. New research at McGill University shines the

spotlight on a significant piece of the puzzle: international food assistance.

With no [global treaty](#) in place, food aid is guided by a patchwork of international agreements and institutions.

Using the concept of a "regime complex," a study [published](#) in the *Journal of International Trade Law and Policy* examines those rules and the systems that shape them. Rather than create a new entity to solve the problem, the findings point to a [paradigm shift](#) in the existing systems. Rethinking the dominant discourse among institutions is crucial to working towards zero hunger, posits author Clarisse Delaville, a second-year doctoral student at McGill's Faculty of Law.

"There are two main regimes that govern global food assistance—the trade regime and the food security regime. I encourage a stronger commitment from both regimes to implement a human-rights-based approach in order to question the prominent discourse on food trade regimes, which paints food assistance as a distortion in a trade that ought to be minimized," says Delaville.

More information: Clarisse Delaville, A regime complex for food assistance: international law regulating international food assistance, *Journal of International Trade Law and Policy* (2023). [DOI: 10.1108/JITLP-06-2023-0032](#)

Provided by McGill University

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