

## Indicator diagram

Below is an 'indicator diagram' intended to provide researchers and staff with a concrete tool to 'screen' potential partners and activities. In particular, it points to a number of scenarios in which special vigilance is necessary.

The key questions of the human rights assessment are the following:

Is a partner within the cooperation involved in serious and/or systematic violations of human rights? Serious violations relate to the nature of the violations (e.g. serious attacks on the physical and psychological integrity of individuals and groups); systematic violations are violations that occur recurrently, which means that they can no longer be regarded as occasional, but can reasonably be assumed to be inherent in a partner's established practice or policy.

Yes  No

Will the activities in the context of the cooperation contribute to human rights violations?

Yes  No

Certain types of partners, activities and contexts may call for heightened vigilance:

### 1. Partners

1.1. One of the partners in the project is not an academic institution, but an actor who, by its nature, may have possible involvement in human rights violations. Examples in this regard may include:  
- (elements of) the police, army or other (public and private) security services, and other public services whose operations may give rise to human rights violations;  
- companies in sectors where large-scale violations of workers' or residents' rights occur on a regular basis (mining sector, clothing industry, large-scale plantations, infrastructure and utilities (e.g. a dam)).

Yes  No

1.2. One of the partners is a government agency (other than a public university) in a country with a poor reputation for human rights violations. E.g. a country marked as 'not free' in the 'Freedom in the world' index (Freedom House, <https://freedomhouse.org/report-types/freedom-world>).

Yes  No

1.3. One of the partners in the project is an academic institution very closely associated with an actor mentioned in 1.1. or 1.2.

Yes  No

### 2. Activities

2.1. Due to the nature of the activities and the context, there is a risk that messages are disseminated within the project (e.g. in training or education) which may give rise to human rights violations (this may also include problematic requirements of donors, e.g. a formal requirement not to speak about family planning in medical programmes).

Yes  No

2.2. There is a risk that knowledge, equipment or results acquired in the course of the cooperation may be used/misused to violate human rights.

Yes  No

There is a risk of human rights being violated in the margins of the project ('collateral damage') or prior to the project (e.g. in order to create a testbed, people may be expelled from their country). Yes

Yes  No

### 3.Context

3.1. The project is (partly) carried out in a country/region where serious human rights violations occur, where it is reasonable to suspect that this may also affect the cooperation (activities and/or partner) (e.g. large-scale discrimination against a certain ethnic group, systematic censorship, etc.).

Yes  No

3.2. The project is (partly) carried out in a country/region where academic institutions are instrumentalised by the government in a policy of human rights violations (e.g. cooperation in prosecuting dissidents or legitimising human rights violations).

Yes  No