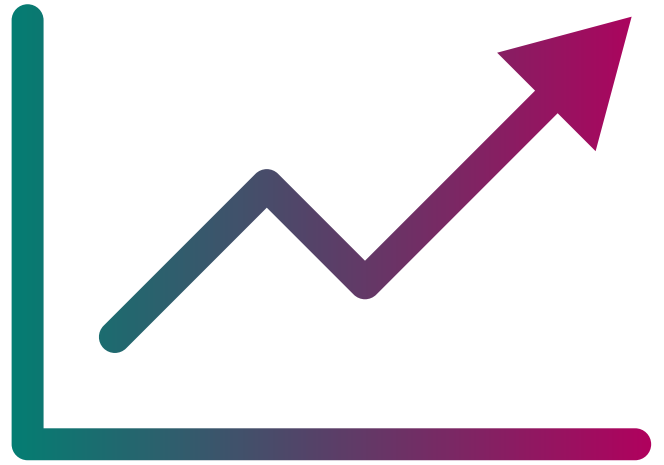


# How we should talk about POPULATION DYNAMICS

## Are there too many people?

According to the latest UN projections, population growth has slowed significantly to less than 1% by 2020.

The world population will reach the 10 billion mark in the 2080s, after which population growth will stop.



Most of the projected increase in the world population by 2050 is due to past population growth, i.e. a large population of reproductive age, rather than to fertility levels.

Global life expectancy has increased and now stands at 72.8 years. People are living longer, which also contributes to population growth.

## Or too little?

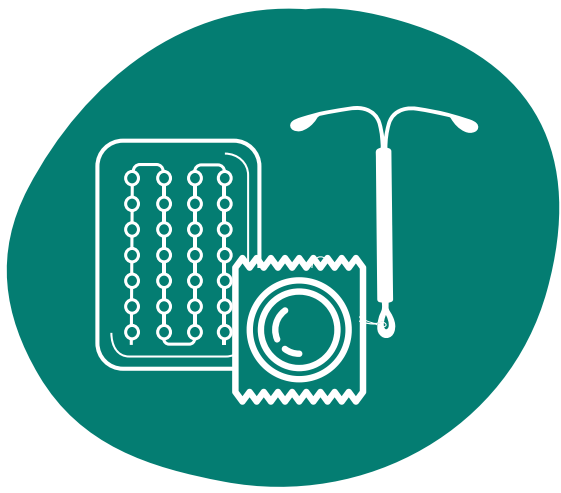
2/3 of the world's people live in places where the birth rate is below the replacement rate. For example, Europe's population is expected to decline between 2022 and 2050.

In the 1970s, fertility rates in many countries fell below the replacement rate. However, because of immigration, their populations did not decline.



Fertility rates have fallen globally and are still falling. In the 1950s fertility was around 5, today it is 2.3 and in 2050 it will be 2.1.

Ageing of population is the result of increasing life expectancy and declining fertility. Populations are ageing everywhere, and soon in Africa too.



## Sexual rights are not realised

Only 56% of women are able to decide for themselves about their sexual and reproductive health and rights.

Only 65% of countries guarantee access to comprehensive sexuality education.

## Everyone has the right to decide on their reproduction

At the heart of the population debate should be the right of every person to decide about their own body and life. Whether, how many and when to have children.

This right is enshrined in international treaties.



## Population policy should not be coercive

In the 1970s, the policy of demobilisation led to the forced sterilisation of up to 8 million people in India.

In China, the one-child policy can still be seen affecting the number of children in families, although the policy was officially abandoned in 2015.

## What you can do?

Finland has long supported sexual rights in international fora and in its development cooperation. As an MP, you can help ensure that this work continues.

You can help ensure that everyone's right to their own body is realised. Women's bodies must not be harnessed as political tools.

Speak up for sexual rights whenever you have the chance - both in Finland and in international forums.



Ensure that the promotion of SRHR remains a priority for development policy and receives funding.

Ensure that legislation and international agreements reflect human rights and respect people's right to self-determination and equality.

Human rights do not happen by themselves. The movement against sexual rights is loud and organised - we should be too.



## More

Eduskunnan seksuaalioikeudet- ja kehitysryhmän puheenjohtaja **Saara Hyrkkö**

✉ saara.hyrkko@eduskunta.fi

sihteeri **Elina Korhonen**

✉ elina.korhonen@vaestoliitto.fi

☎ 050 514 8827



**EDUSKUNNAN  
SEKSUAALIOIKEUDET-  
JA KEHITYSRYHMÄ**

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