

**20.06.2018**

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**gLAWcal**  
**COMMENT #265**

**THE FOUR FREEDOMS MEANS ACCESS TO FOOD IS A HUMAN RIGHT**

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*Based on*

**Carolina Palma “Multilevel governance in food security regulation - with the example of Costa Rican rice”**



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A gLAWcal comment on Carolina Palma “Multilevel governance in food security regulation - with the example of Costa Rican rice” in Antonio Segura Serrano (Ed.) “The Reform of International Economic Governance”.

regulation for the quality and availability of food to be limited to the corporate and state-level responders, there is in fact no guarantee that nations who cannot sustain themselves would have ready access to what is needed. In fact, WTO not ensuring these go against Roosevelt’s Four Freedoms, and must be rectified in due haste.

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As the author notes, the right to food as a human right stems from a twentieth century speech from the United States President Roosevelt in an address to Congress. The Four Freedoms included speech and expression, worship, from want, and from fear. In that, the freedom from want spelled out clearly how this should extended into a freedom to access food. This is borne out in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Article 11. While these documents are decades old, they still are held in great esteem. Yet surprisingly, the World Trade Organization does not specifically mention the regulation of food, and it is in fact one of the most heavily traded goods across the globe. The WTO must readily become adept at producing fundamental change that can in effect allow the regulation of these foodstuffs to not be a hindrance to the Article 11 from the ICESR. If the



Cite as: gLAWcal Comment #265 "The Four Freedoms Means Access to Food is a Human Right" (2018) based on Carolina Palma "Multilevel governance in food security regulation - with the example of Costa Rican rice" in Antonio Seguro Serrano (Ed.) "The Reform of International Economic Governance", gLAWcal Book Series, Routledge Publishing (New-York/London), 2017, ISBN 9781315553603.

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To collaborate with Government, Civil society and business community to balance the excess of globalization with Non Trade Concerns.

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To influence policymakers, to raise awareness over Non Trade Concerns, to encourage stakeholder participation, and to disseminate gLAWcal's publication results.



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