

DUROO

Association for Public Interest Law

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WHO WE ARE



Duroo's Vision is:

With law and legal expertise, we lead social changes.



In Pursuit of this Vision, Duroo's Missions are:

01. We investigate law and policies to diagnose social problems and provide effective solutions.
02. We carry out litigation and advocacy activities to promote human rights and social justice.
03. With solidarity, we work to make changes and spread positive changes.

WHAT WE DO – TOPICS

For Disability Rights:

We advocate the rights and interests of persons with disabilities through litigation, legal advice, and improvement of laws and systems for a world where people live together without discrimination.

For Children's Rights:

We join children and adolescents who are members of our society in solving problems and violations of human rights, and advocates the rights of the child to realize the best interests of the child.

For Social Enterprises and cooperatives:

We support social economy organizations including social enterprises and cooperatives.
We encourage corporates social contribution activities.

For Refugees and Migrants, and international solidarity:

We advocate the rights and interests of migrants and refugees, and promote national level advocacy in response to human rights violations, in solidarity with the international community.

For Public Interests in General:

We support sustainable public interest activities and perform legal advocacy to create a sustainable future together with the Earth and people.

DUROO since 2014

2014 – Duroo – Association for Public Interest Law
– Founded in Seoul, the Republic of Korea

2015 – Response and examination of the ROK's compliance with UN CRPD

2016 – Investigation into the death of abused adoptive child and system improvement activities

2017 – Research on measures for deinstitutionalization of persons with disabilities
– Research on the current states and the rights of children with incarcerated parents

2018 – Secretariat for the South Korean NGO Coalition to response ROK's compliance with UN CERD
– Start of the '1 Lawyer for 1 Social Venture' Matching Program

2019 – Secretariat for the South Korean NGO Coalition to response ROK's compliance with UN CRC
– Translation of the Global Compact for Migration and publication of the guidebook

– Decision on the constitutionality of the Seoul Student Human Rights Ordinance which bans hate speech

2020 – Constitutional Court decision on the provision restricting the eligibility of persons with geriatric disease disabilities to apply for activity support allowances (Nonconforming to the Constitution)
– Amendment of the legislation to protect children involved in sexual exploitation
– Analytical research on framework laws for cooperatives to promote social economy
– Decision on the unconstitutionality of the military guardhouse system

2021 – Funding support program for impact litigation and human rights activities upon Covid-19
– Study on legal career status in public interest for preliminary lawyers
– Research for identification and prevention of sexual exploitation of children

2022 – Secretariat for the South Korean NGO Coalition to response ROK's compliance with UPR and UN CRPD
– Decision on the relief for the public accommodations discrimination
– Won the refugee guidelines disclosure litigation
– Decision on the disclosure of official operational manuals of the refugee status determination procedure, etc.

WHAT WE DO – ACTIVITIES

For Disability Rights

- **We do**
 - Legal support such as impact litigation including discrimination relief litigation, legislative activities to defend the rights and interests of persons with disabilities
 - Studies on system and policy improvement to ensure the rights and interests of persons with disabilities
 - Building cooperative networks with organizations of persons with disabilities and providing legal advice on violations of the rights
- **Main activities**
 - Impact litigations and legal system improvement activities for people with disabilities, ensuring accessibility and de-institutionalization
 - Research on various pending issues, such as responding to infectious diseases, exploitation of labor of persons with disabilities, exclusion of compulsory education for children with disabilities, etc.
 - Responding to the deliberation and implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

For Children's Rights

- **We do**
 - Legal counselling, litigation, and legislative advocacy to prevent and prohibit human rights violations on children, such as child abuse and deprivation of liberty
 - Research on the current status and causes of violation of rights of children in the Korean society
 - Solidarity with other NGOs and experts who are working on the rights of children
- **Main activities**
 - Monitoring and advocacy for implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in South Korea
 - Legislative advocacy to protect and prevent children deprived of liberty (e.g. in institutions or detention facilities, etc.)
 - Legal assistance and advocacy for the child-friendly justice system
 - Legal counselling and assistance to guarantee the human rights of all children, including children with disabilities, migrant children, and adolescents

For Refugees and Migrants and international solidarity

- **We do**
 - Legal counselling, litigation, legislative advocacy to guarantee the rights of migrants and refugees
 - Advocacy to implement international human rights treaties and relevant instruments to set forth legal standards and normative principles
 - International solidarity with other NGOs in response to the global human rights crisis
- **Main activities**
 - Legal assistance to refugees, advocacy for an improvement of the current refugee status determination procedure.
 - Impact litigation and legislative advocacy to improve the immigration detention system in South Korea
 - Policy and law reform activities against racism and discrimination
 - Active participation in review cycles of international human rights treaty bodies

For Social Enterprises and cooperatives

- **We do**
 - Legal support for establishment of social economic organizations such as social enterprises and cooperatives
 - Social finance support including social funding and micro-credit bank
 - Research on measures to improve social economy-related systems and laws
 - Legal support for corporates to fulfil their corporate social responsibilities, and provision of consultation for application of the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights
- **Main activities**
 - Research and legal system improvement activities on cooperative laws
 - Research and legal system improvement activities on spreading social values and activities
 - Social venture matching programs including '1 Lawyer for each Social Venture'

For public interests in general

- Development of various programs to expand the scope of activities of public interest lawyers and activists
- Surveys on and production of manuals for, and provision of education for those who wants to work in the fields
- Legal and policies advocacy in various areas of public interest law, especially for vulnerable people and those whose rights are deprived
- Organisation and participation of the networks supporting law firms' pro bono activities