



## The Concise Oxford Dictionary of Politics and International Relations (4 ed.)

Edited by Garrett Brown, Iain McLean, and Alistair McMillan

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## SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals)

Sustainable Development Goals were adopted by resolution within the United Nations on 25 September 2015. SDGs act as the successor to the underperforming Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and were originally known as ‘the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development’. The SDGs are made up of seventeen development goals with 169 associated targets. These goals are time-bound for delivery by 2030. The goals, like the MDGs, are meant to stimulate coordinated response to key development challenges, such as health and poverty. Unlike the MDGs, the formulation of the SDGs was done under extensive United Nations consultations and input from stakeholders. As a result, many advocates see the SDGs as representing a more legitimate and promising range of development interests. However, critics of the SDGs argue that many of the governance problems that plagued the MDGs remain unaddressed and that the addition of more goals and targets in the SGDs will equate to greater opportunities for underperformance.

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