

PhD defence: Sepideh Yousefzadeh
Date and time: 11 June, 10:00 AM
Location: Maastricht University
Minderbroedersberg 4 - 6, 6211 LK - Maastricht

'My PhD dissertation examines monetary and non-monetary dimensions of child poverty in Iran between 1984 and 2009. I define children as all persons below the age of 18 and apply a constructivist perspective in defining childhoods. The theoretical framework of the study brings in three different concepts: deprivation from basic needs, social exclusion, and cultural-political construction of childhood. The Convention on the Rights of the Child is referred to as a guide in order to define different poverty dimensions. Accordingly, the following dimensions are examined in my study: education, housing, water and sanitation, child labour, information, leisure (under basic needs); parents' employment, parents' literacy, income, mobility, access to reliable sources of energy, single parenthood (social exclusion); legal protection, and child marriage (cultural and political construction). Ultimately, this dissertation aims to address the following questions: Who are the poorest of the poor? Where are disparities and how do they change over time? Is it possible to identify patterns of poverty in specific social categories (e.g. girls and ethnic groups)? What are the differences and similarities between certain groups of children?'

