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Introduction to Gender Rights Courses

Developed by Apolitical and the International Center
for Research on Women

Supported by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

UPCOMING COURSE DATES

Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR)

Next Course Dates: **11 Oct 2021–26 Nov 2021** (7 weeks)
Registration Deadline: **24 Sept 2021**

Gender-Based Violence (GBV)

Next Course Dates: **18 Oct 2021–3 Dec 2021** (7 weeks)
Registration Deadline: **1 Oct 2021**

Economic Justice and Rights (EJR)

Next Course Dates: **25 Oct 2021 –10 Dec 2021** (7 weeks)
Registration Deadline by: **8 Oct 2021**

COURSE STRUCTURE

- 14-16 hours delivered over 7 weeks, including reading weeks
- 3-4 written modules, delivered via participants' inboxes and Apolitical's interactive platform
- Accompanied by a workbook with practical activities designed to complement course theory
- Learners connected via an online forum
- Includes two virtual live expert led sessions
- Digital certificate available upon completion

ELIGIBILITY

- Only open to public servants and multilateral representatives
- We will prioritise current or future leaders working on or interested in gender from around the world
- For SRHR, we'll prioritise Argentina, Burkina Faso, Denmark and France
- For GBV, we'll prioritise Iceland, Kenya, UK and Uruguay
- For EJR, we'll prioritise Germany, Mexico, South Africa, Spain and Sweden

FEES

600 free places for eligible public servants and multilateral representatives.

TEACHING PEDAGOGY

- **Continuous bite-sized learning.** We embed small, regular interactions into busy policymakers' workdays, allowing people to start learning immediately and avoid the challenge of having to put 1-3 whole days aside to be in a classroom.
- **Informed by behavioural science.** Uses email nudges as an extension of the platform content, so learners can always stay on track.
- **Social and peer-led.** Learners see who their 'classmates' are and interact with them through online convenings and mediated emails makes learning more memorable and inspiring.
- **Practical.** We break up the learning with practical activities designed to help the learner apply the theory to their own context.
- **A flipped classroom.** Learners read content at their own pace, using scheduled time to engage with others.



ABOUT GENDER RIGHTS RELATED COURSES

Even with the best political will, governments can fall short in making and/or implementing policies and programs that can bring about transformational change towards gender equality. This can be due to lack of access to subject matter expertise, specific policies that have worked in other contexts, research to guide decision-making, peers to learn and collaborate with, and skills for effective implementation.

With these factors in mind, Apolitical has partnered with policy experts at the International Centre for Research and Women and regional experts like Sonke Justice and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to develop three specialised courses for policymakers on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights, Gender-Based Violence and Economic Justice and Rights.



[APPLY HERE](#)

SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS COURSE

ABOUT THIS COURSE

Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) can greatly improve young peoples' quality of life. In this course, you'll get to grips with Comprehensive Sexual Education (CSE), Sexual Reproductive Health (SRH) and decision making for women and girls. You'll find out why these points are so important, barriers you may face in your work, and how to overcome them.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- Understand the evidence-based policies and practices that can protect and support SRHR for women, adolescent girls, and youth in all their diversity in your country.
- Identify and prepare to overcome local policy challenges and obstacles by applying best practices learned from SRHR case studies in other countries.
- Inform key stakeholders about core SRHR issues and their relevance to a diverse range of essential policies and services.
- Build a network of professional connections with other SRHR advocates across the world to share solutions for proposing, drafting, and implementing Generation Equality commitments worldwide.



COURSE SYLLABUS OUTLINE

I. Introduction to Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">A. What is sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) and bodily autonomy?B. SRHR in the human rights contextC. Constraints to delivering on SRHR and bodily autonomy	People need to be able to have a responsible, satisfying, and safe sex life and that they have the capability to reproduce and the freedom to decide if, when, and how often to do so. In this section, you will gain an understanding of key concepts underpinning SRHR and how it relates to the broader human rights context.
II. Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">A. What is Comprehensive Sexuality Education?B. Why should we prioritise CSE?C. Tactics for CSE advocacyD. Common obstacles for CSE	Young people need access to Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) inside and outside of school; it needs to be age-appropriate, and the information must be reliable. In this section, you'll delve into the importance of CSE, what you can do to make a difference in the area, and what might hold you back.
III. Access to Comprehensive Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none">A. What are comprehensive SRH services?B. Rationale for prioritising access to comprehensive SRH servicesC. Common obstacles when advocating for access to comprehensive SRH servicesD. Tactics for advocacy	Without access to SRH services, a young person's quality of life can be seriously harmed. In this section, you'll learn about the 10 pillars of SRH. You'll find out why the promotion of SRH is so important, the key tactics to achieve shifts in policy, and what some of the common constraints to making progress are.
IV. Decision-Making for Women and Girls	<ul style="list-style-type: none">A. What is decision-making?B. Rationale for decision making as a key part of bodily autonomy and SRHRC. Common obstacles for decision-making for women and girlsD. Tactics for advocacyE. Case study – transforming gender roles to promote positive SRHR in Zimbabwe	Women and girls must feel empowered to make decisions about their own bodies if we are to see a shift in SRHR. In this section, you'll explore how you can help to make bodily autonomy a reality for more women and girls, the barriers that you may face, and how to overcome them.

GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE COURSE

ABOUT THIS COURSE

In this course, you'll get to grips with the key policies surrounding gender-based violence prevention and response. By the end of this course, you will know what part you can play in helping to mitigate and prevent GBV.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- Evaluate the key terminology and discourse around GBV and its prevention.
- Develop resources on the challenges of GBV prevention and response strategies.
- Construct materials on policies for prevention and mitigation of GBV.



COURSE SYLLABUS OUTLINE

I. Introduction to Gender-Based Violence	<ul style="list-style-type: none">A. Gender-based violenceB. The importance of ending gender-based violenceC. The legal and political landscapeD. Explore your GBV context	This section introduces key GBV terminology and gives a contextual overview of the circumstances surrounding GBV. You'll gain an understanding of the key arguments for eliminating GBV and are able to evaluate a case study. You will then be introduced to important conventions relating to GBV prevention and response before researching GBV policies in their own area.
II. Challenges to Prevention, Mitigation, and Response to GBV	<ul style="list-style-type: none">A. Introduction to key challengesB. A closer look at the key challenges – part 1C. A closer look at the key challenges – part 2D. Asking for funding	In this section, you will be introduced to the key challenges of GBV prevention.
III. Looking Forward	<ul style="list-style-type: none">A. Multi-sector changeB. Funding for evidence-driven prevention strategiesC. Survivor centred and accessible servicesD. Accountability and leadership	In this final section, you'll gain a deeper understanding of best practice GBV prevention strategies. Learners will evaluate these strategies before creating their own documentation.

ECONOMIC JUSTICE AND RIGHTS COURSE

ABOUT THIS COURSE

In this course, you'll learn about the key areas surrounding economic justice and rights (EJR). On completion of the course, you'll know what the biggest barriers to the advancement of EJR are and how you can help to overcome these barriers.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- Analyse the legal and political landscape of EJR.
- Investigate barriers to EJR.
- Compose a report on the advancement of EJR in your region.



COURSE SYLLABUS OUTLINE

I. Introduction to Economic Justice and Rights	<ul style="list-style-type: none">A. Economic justice and rightsB. Why are economic justice and rights important?C. A snapshot of economic justice and rights	In this section, you'll be introduced to the key EJR terminology, important arguments for advancing EJR and will look at laws and policies in your area.
II. Barriers to Economic Justice and Rights	<ul style="list-style-type: none">A. Common misconceptionsB. Current constraints relating to economic justice and rightsC. COVID-19 case studiesD. A call for action	In this section, you'll investigate the various barriers to EJR.
III. Advancing Economic Justice and Rights	<ul style="list-style-type: none">A. Taking actionB. Monitoring progressC. Closing the digital divideD. Areas for improvement	In this final section, learners will gain an understanding of the Action Coalition plans, how to monitor progress and report on EJR in their own area.

ABOUT ICRW

The International Center for Research on Women (ICRW) is a global research institute with offices located in Washington, D.C.; New Delhi, India; Nairobi, Kenya; and Kampala, Uganda. Their research evidence identifies women's contributions as well as the obstacles that prevent them from being economically strong and able

to fully participate in society. ICRW translates these insights into a path of action that honors women's human rights, ensures gender equality and creates the conditions in which all women can thrive. ICRW comprises social scientists, economists, public health specialists and demographers, all of whom are experts in gender.

SPECIAL COURSE CONTRIBUTORS



**WORKING TOGETHER FOR
WOMEN'S RIGHTS AND
GENDER TRANSFORMATION**

Sonke Justice

Founded in 2006, Sonke Gender Justice (Sonke) is a women's rights organisation that is committed to feminist principles, using a rights-based and gender-transformative approach to achieve human rights and gender justice. Sonke has established itself as a forward-thinking, high impact civil society organisation, has been profiled by numerous UN organisations as an example of international best practice in violence and HIV prevention, and was

most recently named one of the 33 high-scoring organisations active in the global health space in the Global Health 50/50 2021 annual review on gender equality. Widely recognised as innovative and effective, Sonke has been the recipient of several awards, including the *Mail and Guardian Investing in the Future and Drivers of Change Health Award* for its work in prison reform, and the *Overall Human Rights Award* from the Foundation for Human Rights. Sonke's **mission** is to strengthen the capacity of governments, civil society, and citizens to advance gender justice and human rights, prevent gender-based violence (GBV) and reduce the spread of HIV and the impact of AIDS, and in this way contribute to social justice and the elimination of poverty.

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ABOUT APOLITICAL

Apolitical is a global learning platform for government. Our mission is to make government work better for people and the planet. We equip policymakers with the knowledge, skills and community they need to solve the world's hardest challenges. Our platform is used by more than 120,000 public servants and policymakers in 170 countries, with members ranging from mayors, ministers, and heads of civil services to millennials pioneering digital innovations. 83% of our members say that Apolitical makes them better at their jobs and 95% of course participants say that they would recommend the courses to their colleagues.

“*Apolitical are experts in online pedagogy for public servants. With them, we turned our classroom based “Introduction to Sustainable Finance” course into a scalable online experience which 95% public servants would recommend to a colleague.*”

Dr Ben Caldecott
Oxford Sustainable Finance Programme

“*The quality content and streamlined platform plus networks of people at your fingertips...enables people like me to better serve the public.*”

Public servant
Independent Broad-based
Anti-corruption Commission (IBAC),
Australia

“*...the best training I have ever had at ESDC. I think this should be open to all ESDC employees on a permanent basis*”

Public servant
Employment & Social Development,
Canada