

# Global Rights Connection

equitas



## INFORMATION DOCUMENT

***FIRST EDITION:***

***OCTOBER 4TH TO DECEMBER 10TH, 2021***

educate. empower. change.

The 10-week *Global Rights Connection* training program is no ordinary online course. It's a collaborative community wherein participants connect with human rights defenders from around the world, and leave with a unique certification in human rights education!

**First Edition:  
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**A new 100% online training program, a rich and exciting opportunity for connection!**

*Global Rights Connection* is a training program aimed at strengthening the capacity of organizations to implement human rights education activities (training sessions, advocacy or awareness campaigns, etc.) in order to contribute to the development of a global culture of human rights.



*Global Rights Connection* provides participants with considerations, methodologies and transformative approaches to human rights education and the challenges faced by organizations, particularly in the context of COVID-19 and the use of new technologies. It also guides participants in developing an action plan to ensure that their learning is reflected in the activities they implement following the program. A series of fun and original activities, as well as plenary sessions with special guests, complement the content delivered in the various modules while promoting networking and collaboration among participants.



## Program Learning Objectives

By the end of *Global Rights Connection*, participants should be able to:

- Discuss the importance of promoting human rights values such as inclusion, non-discrimination and participation as an integral part of human rights education (HRE) work
- Integrate a participatory approach in their HRE work
- Apply a gender perspective to their analysis and activities
- Identify ways in which human rights education can be a tool for positive social change and progress towards gender equality
- Implement a plan to apply what they have learned to their own human rights education work
- Put in practice several new techniques and activities of virtual human rights education
- Apply a human rights-based approach (HRBA), including using international human rights instruments and standards
- Collaborate with other participants in HRE opportunities that contribute to positive social change
- Adopt basic measures related to the digital security of human rights defenders



# Curriculum & Training Approaches

The 10 week training program, with a total duration of 60 hours, consists of 10 learning modules (one module per week), structured in 3 pillars:

- Fundamentals of human rights: concepts, values, debates
- Key approaches and methodologies in human rights education
- Taking action: from theory to practice

In a transversal way, the training emphasizes **gender equality** and a **gender perspective**. A **participatory approach** is at the core of *Global Rights Connection*, allowing participants to share their experiences and perspectives with a diverse group and to develop a strong network of contacts from around the world. The tools used and developed during the training ensure participants' human rights education activities are more effective and have greater impact.

## Facilitation

Equitas has the privilege of having an **extraordinary facilitation team**, made up of individuals from various regions of the world with extensive experience, including facilitation of the International Human Rights Training Program (IH RTP). Each group of participants will be accompanied by a facilitation duo during the live sessions, in addition to an Equitas team member who will be present to ensure that the meetings run smoothly from a technical perspective.



# From Learning to Action

During the training program, participants are supported in preparing an **action plan** tailored to their organization. Equitas places great importance on linking theory to practice and on fostering the integration of learning. *Global Rights Connection* offers several workshops and sessions in which participants think about how the learnings apply to their specific context. The result is a plan for the integration of the knowledge acquired into the organization's future activities. Participants will also be invited to meet again 4 months after the end of the program for a dynamic exchange on how they have implemented what they have learned within their organizations.



## A Week in *Global Rights Connection*: An Overview

Each weekly learning module includes a part of **asynchronous individual work** requiring a maximum of 3 hours of commitment, which can be done at a time chosen by the participant. This work is done on an e-learning platform and includes videos to watch, readings, reflection questionnaires, etc. Participants are also encouraged to contribute to collective written discussions and reflections with other members of their group.

Each learning module also includes a portion of **synchronous work in small and large groups**, which requires online presence at set times, and takes **a maximum of 2.5 hours a week**. During live events, participants are most often gathered in groups of 12 with facilitators to conduct original and participatory workshops and learning activities. On a few occasions, the entire cohort is brought together for conferences, plenary sessions or special festive events.



Synchronous and asynchronous work totals between **5 and 6 hours of weekly engagement**. As Equitas uses a participatory approach that places participants at the centre of the process and encourages the mutual sharing of knowledge and experience, critical reflection and action strategies, the full participation and proactive engagement of everyone is essential!

## Language Used During *Global Rights Connection*

Several groups of participants will be created and will work in French or English during the training. Since participants are expected to actively participate in group workshops and do extensive reading, fluency in English or French is essential. Simultaneous translation into English or French will be available at all bilingual conferences, plenaries and events involving the entire group.



# A Safe and Inclusive Virtual Space

Equitas aims at creating an online space that is inclusive, welcoming and safe for human rights educators. To this end, various measures are being adopted through *Global Rights Connection*:

- Implementation of digital security measures for human rights educators and initial training to understand digital security issues and how to deal with digital risks.
- Designation of an Ombudsperson to receive and deal with any complaints or incidents of discrimination that arise during the program. This measure aims to ensure that discrimination on the basis of gender identity or expression, ethnic origin, religious affiliation or other criteria can be denounced confidentially and dealt with in a constructive and restorative manner.
- Creating informal moments for participants to share their impressions of the program, build relationships outside of formal learning activities, and share their reflections, challenges and successes.



# Profile of Organizations and Candidates

*Global Rights Connection* is for human rights educators from civil society organizations, regional and national institutions and government agencies. To be eligible to participate in this training, **a candidate must:**

- Have been working in their organization for a minimum of two years.
- Have a role within their organization that allows them to conduct human rights education activities or influence the way in which these activities are conducted.
- Have a basic knowledge of international human rights principles and instruments.
- Confirm their willingness to actively participate in the entire training, allowing for 5-6 hours per week of involvement during the 10-week training, and clearly communicating this commitment to colleagues in their organization.
- Commit to passing on the knowledge, methods and perspectives learned to colleagues upon completion of the training program.
- Be sensitive to the challenges of working in a multicultural context, respect diversity and commit to fostering an inclusive, respectful and safe space for all by adhering to the code of conduct against harassment and discrimination.

In order to maximize the impact of an individual's participation in *Global Rights Connection*, careful consideration is given to the selection of organizations in which applicants work. **Applicant organizations must:**

- Demonstrate a commitment to the promotion and protection of human rights
- Be recognized for the effectiveness of their work
- Be engaged in human rights education activities through training sessions, awareness-raising and advocacy campaigns, reporting of rights violations;
- Be committed to facilitating the transfer and application of the knowledge acquired by their candidate upon the completion of the program.



## Selection Process

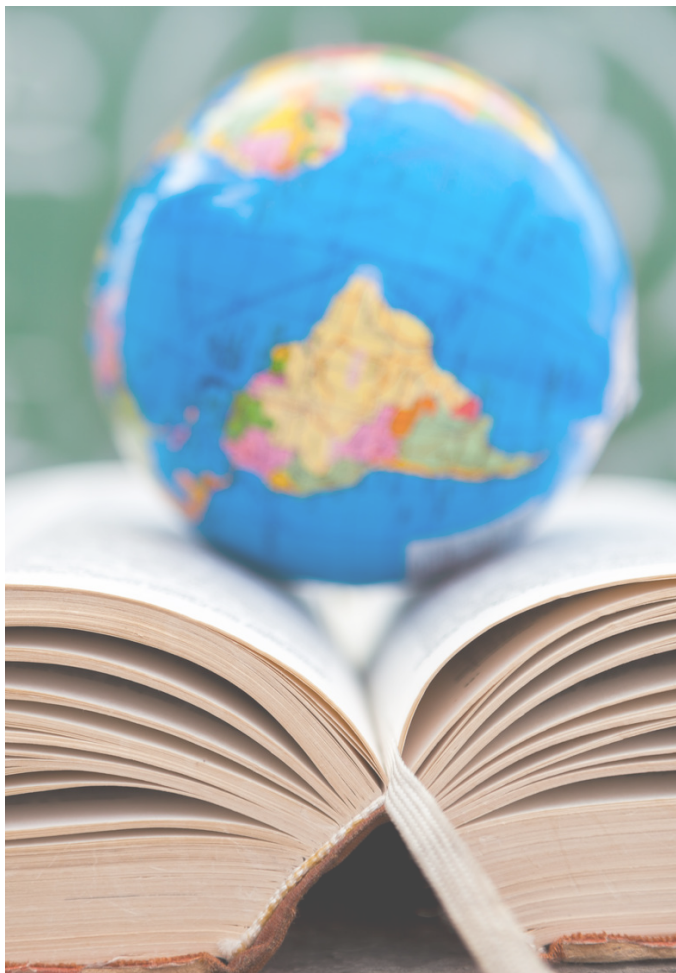
For its first edition, the opportunity to apply to *Global Rights Connection* is reserved for those who were accepted into the 2020 International Human Rights Training Program, which did not take place due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

## Participation Fees

The participation fee is \$2,300 CAD. It includes:

- Registration fees
- Training fees
- Access to e-learning platforms
- Course materials and access to all activities

Participants are responsible for all other potential expenses, such as local travel to an office with quality internet access or the purchase of a computer or tablet if required.



## Bursaries

Equitas may be able to offer a limited number of bursaries to selected applicants. Once eligibility has been determined, the selection committee will grant bursaries to the applicants who best meet the selection criteria. Due to the limited number of bursaries and the equitable distribution of bursaries, selected applicants are not guaranteed a bursary. We therefore urge applicants to start seeking other sources of funding now.



## Information

For more information, see our [Frequently Asked Questions](#) or contact us: [pifdh-ihrtp@equitas.org](mailto:pifdh-ihrtp@equitas.org)

## More about Equitas

Equitas is the most recognized and active human rights education organization in Canada. We are dedicated to advancing equality, social justice and respect for human dignity through transformative education programs. We empower people to challenge inequality and discrimination, and to take action to build safer and more inclusive communities. To learn more, visit [www.equitas.org](http://www.equitas.org)

Canada 

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