

Training on Understanding Economic, Social and Cultural Rights | Geneva | 28 September– 2 October



OBJECTIVES

This training will provide human rights advocates, staff of non governmental organizations (NGOs) and national human rights institutions, representatives of governments, and staff of United Nations (UN) bodies and other international organizations, as well as members of the academia, with a broad understanding of economic, social and cultural rights (ESCR), and in-depth knowledge on how to promote ESCR in their work. At the end of the training, participants will be:

- Familiar with the content of ESCR, in particular specific rights such as the right to food, right to housing, right to education, rights to water and sanitation, right to health, right to social security and right to work;
- Knowledgeable about the UN mechanisms mandated to protect and promote ESCR and the domestic mechanisms available for implementing ESCR;
- Updated on a range of domestic and regional mechanisms available for implementing ESC rights, with an emphasis on the role of courts and tribunals;
- Conversant with the role of civil society, national human rights institutions, and non-state actors in relation to ESC rights;
- Able to identify and effectively describe violations and problems in progressive realization of ESC rights; incorporate this in their advocacy plans; and devise strategies for making use of UN and other ESC rights mechanisms;

DEADLINES & TUITION FEES

Dates: 28 September - 2 October 2015
Deadlines: 7 August (for applicants requiring visa)
11 September (for other applicants)
Tuition: 1530 CHF

AUDIENCE

This training aims to suit the needs of staff of human rights and development organisations, in particular non-governmental organizations (NGOs), as well as of UN agencies and other international organizations. Government representatives and members of academia who want to include ESCR issues in their work will also find

this training useful. The professional groups targeted are: advocacy/ human rights/legal officers, project managers, and researchers.

PROGRAM AND FURTHER BENEFITS

The training program will cover the following topics and sessions:

- The normative content of ESCR, particularly the rights to health, housing, education, food, water, sanitation, social security and work;
- UN monitoring mechanisms, including the UN Committee on ESCR, the Human Rights Council, and the UN Special Procedures;
- ESCR in context, e.g. privatization of services and ESCR; gender and ESCR; and the protection of the environment and ESCR;
- Discussions with experts, including UN Treaty Body members;
- Visit a session of the Committee on ESCR;

TRAINING ORGANIZERS

The training is hosted and organized by the Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights in the context of the Project on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. The Academy organizes trainings on ESCR since 2008. The training course is taught by members of academia and senior professionals from international organizations and non-profits. In past years we have had lecturers from different institutions, including the Geneva Academy, University of Oxford, Office of the UN High Commissioner of Human Rights, International Federation for Human Rights, World Health Organization, UNAIDS, European Court of Human Rights, International Commission of Jurists, FIAN International and Waterlex.

CERTIFICATION

Participants who successfully complete the training will receive a certificate of participation from the Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights.

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