

Challenge: How can we achieve gender equality and women empowerment

Gender equality is at the heart of human rights and integral to achieving each of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals. Gender-based discrimination is prohibited under almost every human rights treaty. Despite much progress made in securing woman's rights globally, millions of women and girls continue to experience discrimination and violence, being denied equality, dignity, autonomy, and any kind of meaningful existence. This bias against women is deeply rooted in the fabric of society and intersects with systems of oppression including racism, colonialism transphobia, homophobia, classism, ableism, and others. It is systemic and persistent.

In recent years, there has been a resurgence of scepticism and a denial of international standards concerning women's human rights and gender-based violence while at the same time women and young people are raising their voices to demand equality and fair practices for women.

Related Resources

- Women and Girls from the Frontlines
<https://youtube.com/watch?v=ALVKNRduqgk&si=EnSIkaIECMiOmarE>
- Gender Inequality <https://www.unicef.org/gender-equality>
- Goal 5: Achieve Gender Equality and Empower all Women & Girls
<https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/gender-equality/>
- Global Issues: Gender Equality and Woman's Empowerment
<https://www.peacecorps.gov/educators/resources/global-issues-gender-equality-and-womens-empowerment/>
- The Roots of Gender Inequality in Developing Countries
<https://www.annualreviews.org/doi/10.1146/annurev-economics-080614-115404>