

The International Youth Council on Gender Equality

Empowering Youth for Gender Equality





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An introduction to IYCGE

The International Youth Council on Gender Equality (IYCGE) was founded in 2025 with a bold vision: to amplify the voices of youth in global decision-making spaces, aligning with the mission of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs and Sustainable Development Goal 5 – Gender Equality. Recognizing the urgent need for youth-led advocacy on gender issues, a group of experienced and passionate young leaders came together to establish the council’s Executive Board, laying the foundation for a dynamic, action-oriented network.

Since its founding, the IYCGE has expanded beyond its initial vision, building connections with non-profits, youth organizations, and advocacy groups around the world. Today, the council represents thousands of young people from diverse backgrounds, cultures, and regions, united by a shared commitment to advancing gender equality and social justice. This global network empowers youth to engage in meaningful dialogue, shape policies, and participate in initiatives that drive tangible change in their communities and beyond.

The work of the IYCGE is guided by the principles of inclusivity, collaboration, and impact. Every project, campaign, and partnership is designed to elevate youth perspectives, promote intersectional understanding, and foster equitable opportunities for all. From advocacy and research to education and community engagement, the council serves as a platform for young leaders to contribute to a more just and equitable world.



Global Ambassador Program

Ambassadors are the global representatives of the International Youth Council on Gender Equality (IYCGE), serving as the primary link between their country's national team and the broader international council. They represent their national context, priorities, and perspectives, ensuring that regional voices are meaningfully reflected in global discussions and decision-making processes.

Ambassadors are responsible for overseeing and compiling national research initiatives, guiding the direction and quality of policy-oriented analysis, and coordinating the work of their national teams of fellows. They provide leadership, structure, and strategic oversight, ensuring that research outputs align with IYCGE's objectives and contribute constructively to international dialogue.

In addition, ambassadors spearhead national government relations, policy recommendations, and public advocacy efforts. They act as the principal point of contact between IYCGE and relevant governmental bodies, institutions, and stakeholders, translating research findings into actionable recommendations and advancing informed engagement on gender equality at the national level.





Global Perspectives

A Transnational Community Investigation into Youth Gender Equality

Global Perspectives is the major project of the International Youth Council on Gender Equality (IYCGE) during the 2025 - 2026 term. Under the direction of the Department of Research and Education (DRE) and the Global Ambassadors, Global Perspectives will foster global dialogue, empower local epistemologies, and establish IYCGE as a leading advocate for youth gender equality. Global Perspectives will resource National Teams to investigate the causes, manifestations, and implications of gender inequality.

Global Perspectives advances a global, community-based, and inclusive approach to gender equality. Conversations on gender equality often rely on Western, Eurocentric frameworks, overlooking and marginalizing perspectives from the Global South. When dialogue is confined to Western-oriented institutions, it fails to address the complex realities of many communities.

Global Perspectives challenges the dominance of Eurocentric ways of knowing and works to elevate diverse approaches to gender equality. Traditional research on gender inequality has also depended on rigid, uniform methodologies, which limit understanding of communities with different customs and social contexts. This creates a need for flexible methods grounded in local realities.





Fellowship Program

Fellows are individuals who serve as members of their country's national team within the International Youth Council on Gender Equality (IYCGE). They play a critical role in advancing the council's research, policy, and advocacy agenda at the national level, working under the strategic leadership of their Ambassador.

Fellows contribute subject-matter expertise, regional insight, and operational support across IYCGE's core workstreams. Through their specialized roles, fellows ensure that national priorities, lived experiences, and evidence-based analysis inform both domestic engagement and international dialogue.

Each national team consists of up to six fellows, making fellowship positions highly selective. Fellows are chosen based on demonstrated experience, academic or professional background, and a strong commitment to advancing gender equality through research, policy engagement, and public advocacy.





Roundtables

Fellows are organized into regional groups to ensure discussions reflect diverse social, cultural, and political contexts. Each group participates in focused roundtables addressing key issues related to gender inequality. These roundtables allow fellows to explore challenges specific to their regions while learning from comparative global experiences. The structure encourages dialogue that highlights both differences and shared realities across contexts. Overall, the initiative emphasizes convergence — identifying common goals and collaborative pathways toward gender equity.

Government Relations Fellow

Supports engagement with government bodies and policy stakeholders, helping translate research into policy briefs, outreach efforts, and actionable recommendations.

Research Fellow

Contributes to national research through data collection, policy analysis, literature reviews, and report preparation, ensuring strong academic and analytical standards.

Public Advocacy Fellow

Leads public engagement and awareness efforts, supporting campaigns and media initiatives while turning research and policy ideas into accessible content for broader audiences.





Initiatives & Leadership Opportunities

DAILY DOSE OF DIVERSITY

Daily Dose of Diversity is a mini multimedia series by the Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Department designed to raise awareness about how DEI affects us all and why its importance within IYCGE and the wider world should not be underestimated. The series shares short, engaging content that highlights different perspectives, lived experiences, and key concepts, helping build understanding, empathy, and a more inclusive community.

CURRENT

Current is an International Youth Council on Gender Equality (IYCGE) series that documents conversations between youth leaders and political decision-makers on gender equality. It captures institutional perspectives, policy priorities, and emerging challenges in real time, with a focus on how gender equality is being addressed across national and global governance spaces.

COLUMN

Column is the International Youth Council on Gender Equality (IYCGE)'s editorial platform, where Fellows publish op-eds on the issues that matter most to them – from local realities to global gender justice conversations. The platform highlights lived experiences, policy perspectives, and critical reflections on gender inequality across regions. It centers youth voice, regional knowledge, and interdisciplinary thinking, fostering dialogue that connects community realities with broader global conversations on equity and justice.



Specialists



The Chairperson



Ambassadors



Directors



Supervisors



Administrators



Interns



Fellows



Advisors

The People Behind IYCGE



IYCGE

Founded in 2025, the International Youth Council on Gender Equality (IYCGE) began with a simple but powerful idea: young people deserve a real seat at the table when global decisions are made. Driven by a shared passion for gender equality and aligned with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal 5, a small group of committed youth leaders came together to build something meaningful—an organization rooted in action, collaboration, and lived experience. What started as a vision quickly grew into a global network working to ensure that youth voices help shape a more equitable future.

Learn more about IYCGE's journey, its people, and its work at IYCGE.org.

