

Ambassador Program Overview

International Youth Council on Gender Equality

Objective:

The Ambassador Program is a cornerstone initiative of the International Youth Council on Gender Equality (IYCGE), designed to ensure meaningful youth representation in global gender equality discourse. Through this program, IYCGE empowers youth leaders to represent their countries, lead national teams, and contribute evidence-based insights to international policy conversations. Ambassadors function as the primary bridge between local realities and global decision-making.

Definition and Scope

Ambassadors are the official country representatives of IYCGE. They serve as the principal link between their country's National Team and the broader international council, ensuring that national perspectives are accurately and consistently reflected at the global level. Each Ambassador represents the political, social, cultural, and institutional context of their country, contributing insights that enrich collective understanding and inform global initiatives. Through active participation in council deliberations, Ambassadors ensure that regional diversity and local realities remain central to IYCGE's mission and policy positions.

Leadership and Research Responsibilities

A core responsibility of Ambassadors is overseeing national research initiatives related to gender equality. This includes:

- Identifying priority gender-related issues within their country
- Coordinating research agendas aligned with IYCGE's strategic objectives
- Guiding methodological rigor and analytical quality
- Compiling and synthesizing research findings for national and international use

Ambassadors provide strategic oversight to ensure that research outputs are credible, policy-relevant, and contribute constructively to global dialogue. Their leadership ensures consistency, ethical standards, and academic integrity across all national research activities.

Coordination of National Teams

Each Ambassador leads a National Team composed of Fellows and supporting members. In this capacity, Ambassadors are responsible for:

- Recruiting, onboarding, and mentoring Fellows
- Delegating responsibilities and managing collaborative projects
- Monitoring progress and ensuring accountability

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- Fostering a professional, inclusive, and productive team environment

Through effective team leadership, Ambassadors strengthen national capacity while cultivating future leaders in gender equality research, advocacy, and policy engagement.

Government Relations and Public Advocacy

Ambassadors spearhead national-level government relations and public advocacy efforts on behalf of IYCGE. Acting as the primary national point of contact, they engage with:

- Government ministries and policymakers
- Academic institutions and research bodies
- Civil society organizations and advocacy groups
- Media and public forums

Ambassadors translate research findings into actionable policy recommendations, advancing informed dialogue and evidence-based engagement on gender equality issues. Professionalism, diplomacy, and ethical representation are essential components of this role.

Global Engagement and Reporting

Monthly Council Conferences

IYCGE convenes monthly international conferences at which Ambassadors present updates on their national activities. During these sessions, Ambassadors:

- Present research findings and analytical insights
- Report on initiatives undertaken by their National Teams
- Highlight national developments, challenges, and progress
- Provide evidence-based recommendations to the Council

These conferences serve as a central mechanism for cross-national learning, accountability, and strategic alignment.

Collective Regional Representation

Beyond individual national representation, Ambassadors function collectively as the voice of their region. By sharing local realities and lived experiences, they ensure that global strategies reflect diverse socio-political contexts and do not rely on one-size-fits-all approaches.

This collective representation strengthens IYCGE's legitimacy as a truly global, youth-led institution.

Eligibility and Requirements

Commitment to Gender Equality

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Ambassador candidates must demonstrate a strong commitment to gender equality and inclusive policy advocacy. Applicants should show sustained engagement with gender-focused initiatives and a clear motivation to represent their country at the international level.

Research Experience

Applicants are required to have prior research experience, which may include:

- Academic or institutional research
- Policy analysis or think tank work
- Postgraduate-level research, including work completed or undertaken during a master's degree
- Published or unpublished research relevant to gender equality

This experience should demonstrate analytical rigor, familiarity with research methodologies, and the ability to translate findings into policy-relevant insights.

Language and Communication Skills

Ambassadors must be fluent in the official language(s) of their country and possess strong proficiency in English. The role requires:

- Clear written communication for reports and policy briefs
- Confident verbal communication for presentations and discussions
- The ability to engage effectively with international and multicultural audiences

Leadership and Advocacy Experience

Candidates should have a demonstrated background in leadership, team coordination, or organizational management. Experience in public advocacy, public speaking, or stakeholder engagement is essential, as Ambassadors act as public representatives of IYCGE.

Selection and Onboarding Process

Application Cycles

Ambassador onboarding occurs through annual selection cycles. Each year, IYCGE opens applications for countries currently represented within the Council. Eligible candidates may apply through the official recruitment process during these periods.

Representation Requests

For countries not yet represented within IYCGE, interested individuals may request an application by contacting admin@iycge.org. Requests are reviewed on

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a rolling basis and are subject to organizational capacity and strategic representation needs.

Multi-Stage Selection Process

When an application cycle is open, candidates under AP go a structured, multi-stage evaluation process, including:

- A written assessment evaluating research experience, policy understanding, and alignment with IYCGE's mission
- A spoken or presentation-based component assessing communication skills and leadership capacity
- A formal interview to evaluate suitability, regional representation, and readiness to serve as a national and international representative