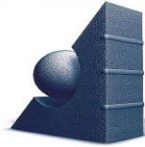


2003 - 2023

20 years of service



Geneva for Human Rights
Global Training & Policy Studies

Genève pour les Droits de l'Homme
Formation Internationale & Études de Politique

On the occasion of the 54th session of the UN Human Rights Council

54TH GENEVA COURSE FOR DEFENDERS FROM THE REGIONS **'Course on the Human Rights Council, international human rights and humanitarian law, international procedures and diplomacy'**

(hybrid Course, Geneva, from 18 September to 4 October 2023)

Registration: info@qdh-qhr.org

- ***On-line participation: link will be sent to selected trainees.***
- ***In-person participation: in Conference Room Caecilia, 16 Rue Schaub, Geneva.***

Keep the date and apply to the **54th Geneva Course** conducted by *Geneva for Human Rights* (GHR) for defenders from the Regions !

This **Course** takes place **from Monday 18 September to Wednesday 4 October 2023**, during the 54th session of the UN Human Rights Council (*'HR-Council', from 11 September to 6 October 2023*). GHR obviously prefers trainees to attend the Course **in person**. However, after the Covid-19 crises, many *defenders from the regions* still cannot come to Geneva to attend UN sessions. Therefore, the programme and working methods of the Course have been adapted to enable defenders to also attend the Course **on-line**.

GENEVA FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

An international training organization, *Geneva for Human Rights* (GHR) aims at human rights **implementation** in the countries. It trains human rights NGOs and defenders to **empower** them in the use of domestic, regional and international human rights procedures, and in the elaboration and realization of implementation strategies.

Since the creation of the HR-Council (2006), GHR held its Geneva Course at **ordinary sessions** of the HR-Council. GHR also conducts Briefings and Workshops (especially on-demand for national NGOs coalitions) during sessions of the treaty bodies and of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR). With its partners in the field, GHR also conducts many (3-4 days) In-Country Courses in all the regions, and Experts Seminars in Geneva on the main themes of the HR-Council's agenda.

THE GENEVA COURSE (GSC)

The *Geneva Course* is an **interactive and intensive training** during ordinary sessions of the HR-Council. Trainees acquire basic knowledge in international relations; international human rights, humanitarian and criminal laws; human rights standard setting process; transitional justice; inter-governmental organisations (IGOs); the UN, its reform and the role of its main organs; the HR-Council and its mechanisms; and human rights treaty bodies.

With the wide training experience of its trainers in Geneva, GHR *Geneva Courses* are unique. They combine the **theory**, the exchanges on the experience of the participants (**field situations**) and the **exposure** to the multilateral **reality**, which participants monitor. Composed of its researchers and fellows from different universities, GHR *Programme of Human Rights Policy Studies* (HPS) assists the trainees during the HR-Council's session.

PARTICIPANTS IN THE 54TH GENEVA COURSE

The *Geneva Courses* are part of GHR Global Training Programme, which aims at a **full and effective participation** of **defenders from the regions** in the work of the HR-Council. Such participation is essential for the quality of the HR-Council's work. Priority in the **selection** is given to defenders and NGOs from the regions. GHR also welcomes members of national and regional NGOs delegations attending the session of the HR-Council, and trainees from regional and international human rights organisations having their seat or representation at the UN Office in Geneva.

PROGRAMME OF THE 54TH GENEVA COURSE

The Course is divided into three parts:

Week-1: **General Course (18-22 September 2023)** presenting an overview of international relations; international human rights, humanitarian and criminal laws; the UN mechanisms and procedures; the HR-Council and its mechanisms; the OHCHR; and the use of the Special procedures, treaty bodies and UPR. Trainees will learn drafting communications to the Special procedures.

Week-2 on the **HR-Council's proceedings (25-29 September 2023)**, introducing the main **reports** to the 54th session (submitted by OHCHR and Special procedures). Specific classes will be conducted on transitional justice, women's and indigenous peoples' rights, enforced disappearance, SDG's, the protection of human rights defenders.

Week-3 (2-4 October 2023) devoted to the **conclusions and follow-up** of the Geneva Course, with GHR Course on **human rights implementation in the countries** (SDG's, national plans, NMIRFs, technical assistance, NGOs strategies inside the countries). This last segment of the Course is generally animated on-line by former trainees in the Geneva Course, who are still involved in the human rights movement, and who will share their experience.

COURSE ADMINISTRATION

- The schedule of the daily classes is from 10:00 to 13:00, each morning, Geneva-time. It makes it possible for defenders from Europe, Africa (similar times) and from Asia (afternoon there) to participate in the Course.
- **For online-participants, deadline for applications is 14 September 2023.** You can apply by sending a mail to info@gdh-ghr.org.
- **All applicants are requested to fill the application form of the course.**
- During the daily classes, each presentation includes a short introduction, space for questions and answers, and a discussion. GHR will enable trainees to intervene on-line and/or to send their questions in advance.
- On-line trainees, who cannot attend 'in person' the session of the HR-Council, will monitor several live and/or recorded sessions of the HR-Council on 'UN Web TV'.
- Tuition Fees for the Course is 1'200.00 Swiss francs (CHF). The fees include the full documentation and background papers as well as a personalized follow-up and implementation strategy briefing. Human rights defenders from the regions having no sponsor may obtain on demand (last question of the application form) a reduction in the fees.

*To obtain the **Course's certificate**, trainees have to comply with several tasks: submitting a paper on the patterns in their country; reading and summarizing reports submitted to the HR-Council, drafting reports on the deliberations of the HR-Council, drafting a communication to the UN thematic procedures; there are two written tests.*

'Geneva for Human Rights – Global Training'

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