



Call for applications

ODIHR Advocacy School on Gender and Politics

For women's rights civil society representatives from Central and Eastern Europe, South Caucasus and Central Asia

WHEN: 25 and 27 April, and 4, 6, 9, 11, 18 and 20 May 2022 at 14:00-17:00 CET, followed by one-on-one coaching sessions

WHERE: Online

ODIHR is organizing the second edition of the Advocacy School on Gender and Politics to strengthen capacities and advocacy efforts of women's rights activists from civil society organizations and women's movements from Central and Eastern Europe, South Caucasus and Central Asia. This school will bring together up to 25 gender advocates to create a platform for exchange and capacity building as well as for the development of practical advocacy campaigns on women's political participation and gender equality in politics at local levels. Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, the training will be held online.

ABOUT THE TRAINING

Support to independent women's rights organizations and to their advocacy efforts on gender equality in political and public life facilitates democratic institutions to become more inclusive and gender-responsive.

The OSCE participating States have committed to "recognize the vital role women and women's organizations play in national and international efforts to promote and enhance women's rights by providing, inter alia, direct services and support to women and encouraging a meaningful partnership between governments and these organizations for the purpose of advancing equality for women" (Moscow Document, 1991).

The main goals of the Advocacy School are:

- Establishing a broad platform for exchange on challenges, lessons learned and promising practices among gender advocates working practically on advancing gender equality in politics;
- Supporting gender advocates to gain an in-depth overview of existing knowledge and findings from academic research on women's political participation, gender equality in politics and governmental institutional mechanisms for the advancement of gender equality, with a focus on case studies and work on the ground;
- Helping gender advocates in identifying local advocacy priorities around advancing women's political participation, conceptualizing concrete advocacy campaigns to be put into action after the Advocacy School and learning about their implementation and assessments of results;
- Stimulating cross-cutting collaboration among civil society organizations and women's movements.



WHO CAN APPLY FOR THE TRAINING?

The Advocacy School is open to gender advocates and active members of women's organizations, political foundations, human rights NGOs or non-formal civil society initiatives with a strong track record on advancing women's political participation and gender equality in politics in general.

Applicants from the following participating States are invited to apply: Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Georgia, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan.

Applicants from Kosovo¹ are invited to apply.

The maximum number of participants is 25. Organizers will attempt to achieve a gender, diversity, and regional balance.

HOW TO APPLY?

Applications should be submitted online by **8 April 2022** (including this date) to: <https://forms.gle/c4Unc9kJ5X2LvR8G8>

Applications will include basic personal data, a narrative CV and a cover letter (up to 300 words each), highlighting the motivation and ideas on how the new knowledge and skills could be applied. No other documents will be required at this stage.

The organizers encourage all candidates to apply irrespective of disability, religious and ethnic backgrounds. Please let us know, should you require interpretation or assistance related to disability in order to complete the application process.

All applicants will be informed about the outcome of their application by 14 April 2022. At this stage we will also share a detailed agenda and other technical details.

HOW WILL THE SCHOOL BE DELIVERED?

The Advocacy School will be delivered by leading scholars and practitioners in the field of women's political participation and gender equality in politics from well-known universities and leading feminist civil society initiatives/NGOs.

The training programme covers and discusses academic research, case studies, practical advocacy and campaigning for women's political participation in eight afternoon sessions to be held on 25 and 27 April, and 4, 6, 9, 11, 18 and 20 May at 14-17pm CET followed by one-on-one coaching sessions for interested participants. Participants are also expected to work between sessions on developing their own advocacy campaigns.

¹ All references to Kosovo, whether to the territory, institutions or population, in this text should be understood in full compliance with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244.



The working language will be **English only**. It is essential that prospective participants secure good online access for the whole duration of the Advocacy School.

As a follow up to the School, ODIHR will offer one-on-one support in conceptualizing and implementing concrete advocacy campaigns to a selected group of participants. Limited financial support may be available for the implementation of a selected campaign.

Each participant will receive a Certificate after successful participation.

COSTS

There are no fees.

QUESTIONS?

If you have any queries, please write to Sara Haapalainen, Adviser on Gender Issues, sara.haapalainen@odhr.pl