

GC Human Rights Preparedness

Guidelines for contributors

Each pandemic is different. At the same time, each is also the latest in a long line, which means there are lessons to be learned from the past, and preparations that can be made for the future.

Human rights are vital to this preparedness. We know this in part because we have learned from the HIV/AIDS pandemic where lives were saved when a rights-based approach replaced the criminalisation, stigma and discrimination of the initial response. However, as the COVID-19 pandemic is making clear, a rights-based approach to pandemics is neither secure nor sufficiently clearly articulated, and the same is true of a rights-based approach to other emergencies.

To play a bold and reflective role in developing and promoting a rights-based approach to pandemics and other emergencies, the [Global Campus of Human Rights](#)—a consortium of more than 100 universities from across the world—is harnessing its multiregional and multidisciplinary approach, resources and outreach in order to offer a resource of enduring value, *GC Human Rights Preparedness*.

Our title, [Human Rights Preparedness](#), is a dual invitation: it invites contributors (i) to explain the ways in which protecting, respecting and fulfilling human rights, as we understand them today, is vital in meeting the challenges of pandemics and other emergencies, or (ii) to imagine how human rights could be better prepared for such challenges.

We invite all members and friends of the Global Campus network—faculty, researchers, practitioners and experts, institutional partners, alumni and students—to contribute to this important new initiative.

GC Human Rights Preparedness also hosts a series called **Curated**. Here, under the guidance of one or more project leads ('curators'), different aspects of topics of particular importance are examined. Each Curated sequence includes both a scene-setting introduction and an agenda-setting conclusion by its curator(s).

Guidelines

All submissions to GC *Human Rights Preparedness* should have a clear human rights orientation, aiming overall to contribute towards the development of a rights-based approach to pandemics and other emergencies. Submissions should be focused and of high quality: the contribution towards a rights-based approach should be easy to identify and likely to be of enduring value. The aim is to create a point of reference on the topic.

Submissions should also foreground accessibility. The opening sentences of the submission are crucial: use simple, direct and lively language to give a concise statement of your main idea, including how it relates to a rights-based approach to pandemics and other emergencies. By doing this, you help to ensure that readers look at your full submission.

A variety of styles are welcome: analysis, stories, reflections, testimonies, best practices, recent developments, bold thinking, etc. Submissions can be in written/photo/video/audio form.

We welcome submissions across the human rights-pandemics-emergencies spectrum, including topics related to:

- cross-cutting themes (eg, gender, equity, disability, poverty, sustainable development) democracy, governance, rule of law, non-discrimination)
- groups most at risk (eg, children, women, workers, migrants)
- specific rights and freedoms, duties and responsibilities (eg, health, education, food, housing, movement, life).

The multiregional and multidisciplinary character of the Global Campus are integral to the initiative. Thus, contributions can have global, regional or local relevance; comparative perspectives are also welcome. Contributions can be multidisciplinary, interdisciplinary or from the perspective of any one of the arts, humanities and social sciences disciplines that enrich our network—including Law, International Relations, Sociology, Economics, Politics, Anthropology, History, Education, Health and the Arts.

Submissions are invited in English. To enhance accessibility, we would be pleased to receive a second version of the submission in a different language: the English-language version will be used for review and editing, but we shall upload both versions to the website. Our website has a search facility that allows readers to find submissions in languages other than English.

If you wish to propose a Curated section, please send a 500-word outline to preparedness@gchumanrights.org, explaining the topic, why it is of particular importance, who will

act as curator(s), who will contribute and on what specific aspects of the topic, and the timeline proposed.

Readers' comments on submissions are welcome. We ask that comments are written in a civil way, designed to engage directly with the relevant submission and avoiding content that is largely promotional in nature. Comments are moderated and we will not publish any comments that could be considered threatening, abusive or hateful, or to attack or harass an individual.

Template for contributors

We ask that you use our template to submit your contribution.

- **Title:** no more than 100 characters. Aim for something that captures the essence of your contribution in a simple but interesting way. As a general rule, readers prefer titles that are jargon-free, attention-grabbing and concise; these titles are also much easier to share on social media. Avoid italics as they interfere with online sharing.
- **Tags:** 4-5 relevant keywords at the top of your contribution.
- **Region:** specify the GC region relevant to your contribution. If the contribution is relevant to more than one region, or you are offering a global perspective, please state this.
- **Discipline:** specify the discipline or disciplines that inform your contribution (eg History; Law; Political Science).
- **Excerpt:** include an excerpt of max 40 words as a summary of the content or aim of the post.
- **Type:** if you submit an audio or a video file (eg, an interview, a self-recording) please use a Word document with the title, a short summary and the link to the audio or video file. Submit any image as a stand-alone file and indicate the caption and full copyright attribution. Hyperlinks and images can be included in any text or image-based submission.
- **Length:** text: max 700-1200 words | audio: max 5 minutes | video: max 3 minutes | slide shares: max 20 slides | photo essay: max 5 photos, each accompanied by text (max 1200 words) | announcements: max 200 words.
- **References:** referencing must be via in-text citations. Embed hyperlinks to your sources; try to link to no more than 3 words in your text, and for any particular source, include the hyperlink only once in the text. Do not use footnotes. A reference list can be added as a separate file for video/audio submissions.
- **Originality:** please indicate if your submission has been published or submitted for consideration elsewhere and if you have permission to republish. Where a submission has been prepared specifically for *GC Human Rights Preparedness*, once it has been published, you are welcome to submit it elsewhere, noting where it first appeared.



- **Language:** UK English (eg, ise not ize), but we would be pleased to receive your submission in a second language too. Please avoid using Latin terms unless absolutely necessary. Avoid symbols too: our readers come from different disciplines, so if you are referring to a particular legal provision, use paragraph, section, etc.
- **Your name, title, affiliation and research interests:** max 50 words.
- **Photo(s):** please include a colour photograph of yourself. If your submission is a blogpost, you may also include a licence-free, high-resolution photograph that is directly relevant to the content of your submission. Please make sure the photo is of high quality (1920x1080px).

Process and visibility

We aim for a quick turnaround from receipt to publication. As part of this, peer review will focus on relevance, fairness and accuracy, and any editing will be light. We will keep you informed about the timing of publication.

Announcements

We have an Announcements page, which you can use to inform our readers about a conference, recent publication or call for papers relevant to our focus on human rights preparedness.