

BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS

19-23 MAY 2025
GENEVA AND ONLINE

This training course will examine how the United Nations (UN) Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights have been utilized to advance the concept of business respect for human rights throughout the UN system, the impact of the Guiding Principles on other international organizations, as well as the impact of standards and guidance developed by these different bodies.



For many decades, the question of how businesses should address human rights abuses to which they are linked through supply chains, trade and investment, has been contested. Victims in countries with weak legal systems have often been left without access to remedies when harmed by conduct connected to transnational corporations. In 2011, the UN Human Rights Council adopted the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, a set of 31 Principles that clarify the role of the State in protecting persons from human rights abuses connected to business activity. More importantly, the Guiding Principles establish a framework for corporate responsibility to respect human rights, including the provision of access to an effective remedy.

Participants in this training course will examine how the UN Guiding Principles have been utilized to advance the concept of business respect for human rights throughout the UN system. In examining the impact of the Guiding Principles on other international organizations such as the International Labour Organization and the OECD, participants will also explore the impact of standards and guidance developed by these different bodies, and how governments, civil society and businesses interact with different organizations. We will also examine recent regulatory developments in Europe, the EU, Latin America and Asia to advance business respect for human rights. These developments are the result of the interplay between international and domestic law but also link to cross-cutting global issues such as climate change and climate justice, sustainable development, and international trade and investment. Participants will also examine current debates and critiques of the Guiding Principles. Finally, participants will consider how business and human rights is a relevant field that can be applied across different areas of human rights policy and practice.

The course will draw on experts from major UN bodies in Geneva and elsewhere, as well as experts from academia, government, business and civil society.

METHODOLOGY

The training course will be interactive and participants will be encouraged to share their own experiences and perspectives on the issues covered. The sessions will include lectures and discussions with a wide range of experts as well as practical examples and case studies.

AUDIENCE

This training course is designed for staff of NGOs, research institutes, UN agencies (especially members with experience in fieldwork) and other national and international organisations, members of NHRIs, business enterprises and representatives of governments and academia.

IN GENEVA AND ONLINE

The course can be followed in Geneva or online.

APPLICATION DEADLINES AND FEE

Fee for on-site participation: **CHF 1,830** (There is a 30% discount for PhD and master students).

Discounted fee for online participation: **CHF 1,550**

Deadlines:

Application end with visa: **4 May 2025**

Application end (no visa or online): **13 April 2025**

* These two discounts cannot be combined.

READ MORE AND APPLY

Full program details and registration at:

<https://bit.ly/43g0s4l>

