

THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW AND THE UN HUMAN RIGHTS SYSTEM: RAISING THE BAR ON ACCOUNTABILITY

10-14 NOVEMBER 2025

GENEVA AND ONLINE

This training course will explore the origin and evolution of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) and its functioning in Geneva and will focus on the nature of implementation of the UPR recommendations at the national level.



The emergence of the United Nations (UN) Universal Periodic Review (UPR) has brought new life into the measures taken at the international and national levels to hold states accountable to their international human rights and humanitarian law obligations.

The UPR has also generated a number of initiatives at national levels at a scale previously unrealised in the attempts to translate international human rights commitments into practice at the policy and field levels: improved inter-ministerial coordination; robust national civil society alliances; more rigorous work by UN agencies; new reporting and monitoring steps by national human rights institutions (NHRIs); more comprehensive training opportunities and human rights education on human rights and humanitarian instruments; a better understanding of the links between human rights and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's).

This training course will explore the origin and evolution of the UPR and its functioning in Geneva. It will largely focus on the nature of implementation of the UPR recommendations at the national level. Using examples (including anecdotes from the experience of the lecturers) of different stages of implementation the course will provide hands-on exercises to demonstrate the new pathways the UPR is evolving for the realization of human rights.

IN GENEVA AND ONLINE

The course can be followed in Geneva or online.

AUDIENCE

This training course is designed for staff of NGOs, research institutes, UN agencies (especially members with experience of fieldwork) and other national and international organisations, members of NHRIs and representatives of governments and academia. The language of instruction during the training is English. All candidates must possess a level of proficiency in English that enables them to actively participate in the training.

GENEVA HUMAN RIGHTS PLATFORM

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www.geneva-academy.ch/geneva-humanrights-platform

OBJECTIVES

At the end of this course, participants will be:

- Familiar with the genesis and evolution of the UPR, within the context of the UN human rights system
- Knowledgeable about the advocacy strategies employed by national actors to identify issues to be raised at the UPR and to ensure implementation
- Able to identify the distinct but also the collaborative role of various national level actors: national governments, NHRIs, civil society, UN agencies, academic bodies, national parliaments, diplomats and the media
- Able to utilise the sophisticated tools (matrices) developed by various actors at the national level to monitor progress with the UPR recommendations
- Able to demonstrate, in their own contexts, the many uses of the implementation examples used throughout the course
- Able to identify the link between the UPR and the SDGs at the international and national levels
- Able to draft impactful recommendations for the UPR.

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: **5 October 2025**

Application end (no visa or online): **26 October 2025**

*These two discounts cannot be combined.

READ MORE AND APPLY

Full program details and registration at:

<https://bit.ly/4jg5Ede>

