



Inter-Parliamentary Union
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The role of parliaments in advancing the SDGs

Investing in robust public health and care systems: Addressing gender inequalities

12 February 2025

10:00–11:30 CET (Geneva time) / 16:00–17:30 ICT (Bangkok time)

Organized jointly by the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)

PROGRAMME

10:00	Opening session <i>Moderator: Ms. Lin Yang, Deputy Executive Secretary of ESCAP</i>
10:04	Inspirational messages by the co-organizers <ul style="list-style-type: none">- <i>Ms. Kareen Jabre, Director of the Division of Programmes, IPU</i>- <i>Mr. Dmitry Mariyasin, Deputy Executive Secretary, ECE</i>- <i>Ms. Lin Yang, Deputy Executive Secretary, ESCAP</i>
10:07	Part 1: Gender inequalities and the pay gap in the health sector This segment will focus on the challenges women face in the health and care sectors (e.g. gender pay gap; unpaid care activities; lack of access to decent work; lack of recognition). It will serve to take stock of the situation and discuss the magnitude of the problem with its direct/indirect consequences on women and society. Population ageing and the need for quality health and care services will also be discussed. <ul style="list-style-type: none">- <i>Ms. Ana Pashalishvili, Women's Economic Empowerment Specialist, UN Women Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia</i>- <i>Mr. Vadim Aftene, Director, General Directorate for Integrated Medical Services Policies, Ministry of Health, Republic of Moldova</i>- <i>Ms. Kate Lappin, Regional Secretary of Public Services International – Asia Pacific</i>- <i>Ms. Padma Deosthali, Senior Director, International Center for Research on Women (ICRW), Asia</i> The panel discussion will be followed by an interactive discussion with participants.
10:42	Part 2: Legislative and policy measures to build sustainable and resilient care systems This segment will discuss good practices as well as concrete ways to strengthen collaboration and cooperation among governments, parliaments and relevant stakeholders in order to address gender inequalities and related challenges.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Ms. Cai Cai, Chief, Gender Equality and Social Inclusion, ESCAP</i> - <i>Ms. Silvia Dinica, former Senator, Parliament of Romania</i> - <i>Ms. Nicole Zuendorf-Hinte, Head of Division for International Policy on Ageing and Inclusion, Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth, Germany</i> <p>The panel discussion will be followed by an interactive discussion with participants.</p>
11:17	<p>Presentation of the new IPU toolkit for parliamentarians on <u>SDG-informed legislative scrutiny</u></p> <p>This toolkit has been designed to help parliaments and policymakers worldwide to integrate the SDGs into their functions and legislative efforts in a comprehensive manner. Given the slow pace of progress on the SDGs, it is high time for them to be embedded in the legislative process in a systematic way.</p>
11:22	<p>Short summary of key takeaways</p> <p>Closing remarks</p>
11:30	End of webinar