

7th Edition

International Course on Public Policies on Human Rights

2024





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IPPDH
Instituto de Políticas Públicas
en Derechos Humanos

PRESENTATION

The International Course on Public Policies on Human Rights will be held in its seventh edition (“Course”), which is organized jointly by the Institute of Public Policies on Human Rights of MERCOSUR (IPPDH) and the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States (“GS/OAS”), through the Executive Secretariat of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (“ES/IACHR”).

For this edition, the course will have as its transversal axis the response to critical and emergency contexts because global challenges and emerging crises require a rapid and effective response that protects and promotes human rights. Therefore, in this new edition, the course will place special emphasis on the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of public policies on human rights in critical and emergency contexts, from a transversal perspective of gender, race and ethnicity. This decision responds to the need to adapt our tools and approaches to current challenges, ranging from armed conflicts and political crises to natural disasters and pandemics.

The Course will contribute to the training of professionals capable of responding effectively to critical and emergency situations. That is, respond with public policies with a human rights focus to a wide spectrum of situations that jeopardize social organization, by altering the provision of goods and services essential for human subsistence, which can cause forced displacement or deepen situations of violations of pre-existing rights, if they are not accompanied by holistic policies to mitigate their effects and prevention policies are not developed to avoid their occurrence. In this regard, the experience lived on a global scale by the COVID-19 pandemic, but also the environmental crisis, situations of violence in the territories and others.*

* With this conceptual framework, since 2023, the IPPDH has been executing the IPPDH-FOCEM III Project for “Strengthening the regional institutions of MERCOSUR to face critical and emergency contexts (pandemic and post-pandemic) with public policies with human rights perspectives”. Likewise, the IACHR in its Strategic Plan 2023-2027 in its Program 12 defines a roadmap for timely attention and response to crises and emerging human rights situations.

MIXED MODALITY



Virtual Phase

From July 30 to
October 22,
2024.

Composed of 8
modules. It has a
workload of 5-6 hours
per week.



In-Person Phase

From December 2
to 6, 2024, at the
IPPDH headquarters
in the City of
Buenos Aires.

Presentation of final
project and classes with
specialists.

Both phases are **mandatory**.
Languages: Spanish and English

Optional Week (virtual)

Workshop on the Inter-American Human Rights System and its
mechanisms (additional certificate will be granted).

INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

The **IPPDH** is an intergovernmental organization, created in 2009 by Decision of the Common Market Council, with the aim of contributing to democracy and consolidating human rights as a fundamental axis of identity and development of MERCOSUR, through technical cooperation for the coordination of public policies, its strategic lines of work are approved by the Meeting of High Authorities on Human Rights (RAADH), made up of the main authorities of the institutions competent in the matter of the States Parties and Associates of MERCOSUR. Its axes of work are training and qualification, technical assistance, research and information management, dialogue and participation and communication and culture in human rights.

The IPPDH International School is a training and technical cooperation body that responds to the need present in the Institute's founding regulations. It is a center of higher education in which the training and education function is organized and developed which articulates political and academic knowledge of the highest level in dialogue with social knowledge, aimed at strengthening government and policy management capacities with a focus on rights, at the national, state/provincial, local and regional levels.

The **IACHR** is one of the main organs of the Organization of American States ("OAS"), whose function is to promote the observance and defense of human rights in the Americas and serve as a consultative body of the Organization in the subject.

The mandate of the IACHR is established in Article 106 of the OAS Charter, as well as in the American Convention on Human Rights (Pact of San José), adopted on November 22, 1969, with entry into force on July 18, 1978. The IACHR carries out its functions based on three pillars of work: the system of individual petitions; monitoring the human rights situation in the Member States and providing advice and technical cooperation with the States. The functions of the IACHR are: stimulating awareness of human rights and carrying out promotional and training activities for public officials and members of civil society organizations.

The IACHR develops training and promotional activities on human rights and public policies aimed at strengthening respect for human rights as a central element of the processes of strengthening national capacities for the implementation of inter-American human rights standards.

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In this institutional framework, the International Course on Public Policies on Human Rights is developed, which had its first edition in 2016, organized by the IPPDH, and since its third edition it has been organized jointly between both institutions, its main objective being the construction of knowledge for public policy management from a human rights perspective, assuming theoretical frameworks and current and appropriate tools. In turn, the Course proposes a space for training and debate for the generation of “communities of practice” that address challenges that public policy managers in the region face today.



OBJECTIVES

Train and strengthen the capacities of relevant agents in the Americas in the rights approach in public policies from a perspective that recognizes the contributions and challenges of the region, offering an approach to existing experiences and the challenges that the horizon of the rights presented to the state institutions.



PARTICIPANTS

Public officials responsible for the design, direction, execution and evaluation of public policies, members of organizations and social movements, academics from the Member States of MERCOSUR and the OAS.



SELECTION PROCESS

A public call will be opened from 06/27 to 07/08. Up to a maximum of 80 participants will be admitted. In the selection process, geographic, disciplinary, ethnic/racial, gender, and institutional membership representation will be taken into account, and the performance of decision-making and/or impact on public policy functions will be especially valued.



ENROLLMENT

The course has no cost for the selected people, so participants will not have to pay registration for its completion. However, people must assume the costs of travel and subsistence during the mandatory in-person closing week.



PARTICIPATION

The names of the people who are selected will be published on the website of both institutions and they will receive a notification via email and a commitment letter that they must complete and send signed. In this letter they must state their commitment to participate in all course activities, including participation in the mandatory closing week. A deadline will be given for the receipt of letters, not accepting those that are received outside the stipulated date.



PASSING THE COURSE

To pass, you must comply with the requirements of the virtual phase, submit the preliminary project, prepare the final project and participate in the mandatory closing week at the IPPDH headquarters in the City of Buenos Aires. Those people who meet all the requirements will obtain the course approval certificate.

Once the virtual phase begins, those people who do not participate on campus in the first two weeks will automatically unsubscribe.



FINAL PROJECT

The final project is an exercise in applying the knowledge taught within the framework of the course based on a hypothetical or real situation posed by the participants. This work consists of the proposal of a public policy on human rights that requires the intervention of the State (with the participant being able to emphasize some of the stages of the public policy cycle). It can be done in groups (maximum 4 people).

It is recommended to orient the final projects to the thematic axis of response to critical and emergency contexts. During the virtual phase, participants must submit a preliminary project where the proposal is presented and it will be evaluated by the technical team of the Course. Once this document has been returned, the final project must be prepared and presented during the closing week of the course as one of the requirements for the certification of the course. Both the pre-project and the final paper will not be assessed.

The content of the projects and interventions of the participants throughout the course will be considered individual opinions and expressions. In this sense, the convening institutions do not provide their endorsement or consent.



TEACHING TEAM

Each module will be led by course leaders, some members of the IPPDH and IACHR team, and others will be invited (experts, teachers of other courses offered by the IPPDH and the IACHR, previous participants in the international course). There will also be academic coordination and technical assistance throughout the entire process.

METHODOLOGY

The study process offered through the International Course will combine theoretical and practical training in the fields of American thought, international human rights law, the Inter-American Protection System, social sciences, humanities and public administration, with presentation of High-impact practical experiences for the guarantee of rights, implemented in the States of the region in recent years.

The dynamic of exchange between the people participating in the course, coming from the state, academic and civil society spheres, constitutes in itself a forum to identify problems, obstacles, resources and opportunities, with a view to strengthening institutions and policies focused on human rights.

In short, the Course aims to integrate a theoretical-practical approach with the socialization of significant experiences of public policies on human rights. At the same time, it is proposed as a dynamic tension of its proposal, to constitute a space for dialogue around the construction of rights, understood in the broad arc that goes from social struggles to their effective satisfaction through public policies consistent with the needs and demands of the population.

CONTENTS

The Course combines an offer of permanent topics with others of a temporary nature based on the historical dynamics of the region. In addition, it offers keys for the analysis of the main processes that the American region is going through and that represent challenges to the full validity of human rights. Through permanent topics, the construction and management of public policies in human rights are addressed. For its part, the offer of current topics is developed taking into account the interests of the Course participants and the priorities of the organizing institutions in each edition of the Course.

VIRTUAL PHASE

This phase is aimed at developing technical and management aspects, favoring the analysis of specific experiences. In addition, it will provide the opportunity to deepen specific aspects of the public policy cycle from the perspective of rights and specific experiences of the countries of the region will be analyzed, placing special emphasis on the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of public policies on human rights in critical and emergency contexts from a transversal perspective of gender, race and ethnicity.

Dates

July 30 - October 22

Workload

Between 5 and 6 hours weekly

8 modules

Mandatory and complementary theoretical contents

Virtual classes

Synchronous and dynamic with invited specialists and experts. A weekly class on Mondays at 2:00 p.m. (Argentina time)

Requirement 1

Have a minimum of 80% attendance in virtual classes to pass

Requirement 2

Preparation and delivery of preliminary project and final project

IN PERSON PHASE

Important

Verify travel documents required to enter Argentina (passport and/or visa) as well as their validity at the time of applying for the course



Mandatory in nature

From December 2 to 6, 2024

Place

Headquarters of the IPPDH, in the City of Buenos Aires

Open seminars

and conferences on public policy management from the human rights approach

Discussion tables

on the topics worked

Presentation of final projects

Participants must assume travel and subsistence costs.

OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES

1

WORKSHOP ON THE IASHR AND ITS MECHANISMS

During the month of October, a three-day training workshop can be held on the Inter-American Human Rights System, including the exchange of experiences, challenges and good practices. The workshop sessions will be led by Specialists from the Executive Secretariat and Commissioners of the IACHR. An additional certificate of participation will be awarded.

2

PERIOD OF SESSIONS AT THE IACHR

From November 4 to 8, public hearings will be held within the framework of the 191st Period of Sessions of the IACHR in Washington DC.

Public hearings are one of the main mechanisms in which civil society can participate after making a request. Their purpose is to receive information about the human rights situation regarding certain topics or issues, in specific countries or in the region, as well as to issue recommendations for the respect and enjoyment of human rights.

Participants interested in learning in depth about this mechanism may attend the IACHR headquarters in person or virtually. People who attend in person will have the opportunity to visit the Commission's offices and exchange with specialists and authorities of the IACHR.

People who have the interest and possibility of attending in person must bear the costs of travel, accommodation, transfers and food during their stay in Washington DC.

TIMELINE

DATE	WEEK	MODULES
30/07	1	Inaugural panel and opening class
05/08	2	Inter-American Human Rights System
12/08	3	Regional Integration, human rights and public policies
19/08	4	Public policies with a human rights approach: conceptual notions
26/08	5	Approaches to the management of public policies and the human rights approach
02/09	6	Gender approach and ethnic-racial perspective in public policies
09/09	7	Preliminary project delivery
16/09	8	Production, access to information and system of indicators
23/09	9	Participation in public policies
30/09	10	Thematic modules
07/10	11	Thematic modules
October	12	Optional week workshop on the Inter-American Human Rights System
October		Consultation class for development of final project
November		Preparation of final project
November 4 to 8		Public Hearings - optional attendance 191st Period of Sessions IACHR - Washington DC
December 2 to 6		IN-PERSON CLOSING WEEK - Buenos Aires

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