

ADDRESSING THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON WOMEN, GIRLS AND LGBTI PERSONS: POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PARLIAMENTARIANS

SUPPORTING GROUPS AT HIGHER RISK

There are many communities who suffer not only from the disproportionate gendered impact of the pandemic but also from compounded factors, such as xenophobia, racism, age-induced health risks, disabilities and armed conflicts. To prevent backsliding of gains made towards gender equality, it is essential to adequately address the intersectionality and multi-pronged approach of the gendered impact of COVID-19.

Actions Parliamentarians can take:

- Provide convenient healthcare and mental health support for older women and LGBTI persons through medical home visits, safe transport to healthcare facilities and psycho-social counselling;
- Ensure that basic services, including healthcare and remote education, remain accessible for women, girls and LGBTI persons with disabilities during times of confinement and reduced service delivery;
- Protect refugees who are women, girls and LGBTI through special measures such as systematic screening for COVID-19 and prevention from trafficking and survival sex;
- Adopt a rights-based approach to protect women, girls and LGBTI persons in humanitarian settings and conflict situations.

Country-Specific Practices:

Europe

Italy: To address the economic crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Italian government approved a €55 billion stimulus package, which includes funding to give undocumented migrants more opportunities to work legally in the country.

Middle East

Jordan: To reach the 700 children with disabilities enrolled in Azraq and Za'atari refugee camps, leaders innovatively used transparent masks in these children's learning so that deaf children can still lip read.

To learn more about PGA's Gender, Equality and Inclusion Program, or to share your country's experience and policies, please contact:

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