# Group Presentation Brief

This group presentation offers you the opportunity to draw and reflect on the knowledge acquired during the seminar and address the issue of global inequalities, putting particular emphasis on finding practical solutions to them. As one of the key purposes of the INU Seminar is to facilitate international cooperation, and cultural exchanges, do use this presentation as a platform for collaborative work and for learning from one another.

Based on what you learn during the student seminar, **how would your group propose bridging the gaps in global inequalities?** You could consider the different kinds of inequality (race, gender, education, health, etc.) at different levels - globally, regionally, and nationally, but also in terms of local communities and individual experiences.

It would be worthwhile deciding what you would like to focus on, and to narrow it down to a manageable level for the seminar timeframe.

There are some things you should bear in mind when working on this task:

- The presentation should be approximately 10 minutes and will be followed by a short Q&A session.
- It is advisable that you use PowerPoint or alternative visual tools to present your work. Do feel free to get creative about how you want to present your findings (while PowerPoint is an option, there are many other interactive ways in which you can deliver your presentation).
- Try to be collegial and allow everybody in the group to contribute to the presentation, so that you all feel that you own it.
- In terms of the topic of your presentation, the first thing to do is decide what topic you want to engage with and to narrow it down to a manageable level. As you know (and the Seminar sessions also demonstrates) that are many kinds of inequality (race, gender, education, health, etc.) and they can be discussed in different ways (at global, regional, and national level, but also in terms of local communities and individual experiences).
- When selecting and narrowing the topic of your presentation, try to get out of the comfort zone of your immediate knowledge and use the diversity in your groups as a way to share and exchange information.
- Make sure that you have a clear logic and structure in the way the information is arranged and presented.
- The content should be a mix of descriptive information (presenting relevant background and data) and critical analysis (what the impact is on human security and any thoughts about solutions) related to the topic of your choice.
- Most importantly, try to have fun in preparing this!

Good luck and we look forward forward to seeing your presentations!

# Keynote Speakers

**A critical juncture: Tackling intersecting inequalities in the path to inclusive societies**
Vidya Diwakar, Research Fellow, Chronic Poverty Advisory Network, Equity and Social Policy Programme, Overseas Development Institute (ODI), UK
https://odi.org/en/

The progress made in reducing poverty and inequality before the Covid19 pandemic had been widely celebrated. However, it was not sustainable, especially in many low- and middle-income countries where a large share of people escaped poverty but remained vulnerable to future poverty. Moreover, the aggregate progress masked the experiences of regions and groups of people facing intersecting inequalities, who were adversely included or otherwise historically excluded from processes of sustainable development.

Covid19 has contributed to amplifying these fissures in our society. The Gini index for low-income countries was estimated to increase in the last year, aggravated by the crisis as well as associated containment measures. Not only are individuals who were near the poverty line now becoming impoverished, but there is also evidence of considerable destitution processes. There has moreover been a concurrent rise in multidimensional inequalities, such as in education, as well as heightened violence against women and gendered care burdens marking entrenched and widening gender inequalities.

People experiencing intersecting inequalities are likely to face the worst of these effects, with limited tangible and intangible assets to rely on in the recovery period. Yet they are frequently neglected in pro-poor policy and programming. This session examines intersecting inequalities in low- and middle-income countries pre-pandemic, and how Covid19 has exacerbated monetary and multidimensional inequalities. Based on this evidence, it suggests a portfolio response to develop contextually relevant policies and programmes at this critical juncture with the potential to promote truly inclusive societies.

**The Principle of Sovereign Equality of UN-Member States**
**Prof. Dr. Carmen Thiele, Faculty of Law, European University Viadrina Frankfurt (Oder), Germany**

The UN is based on the legally binding principle of the sovereign equality of all UN-Member States as stated in Article 2 (1) of the UN-Charter. On the one hand, all States are sovereign, and on the other hand, all States are equal. The legal equality of States implies that they all have equal rights and duties and are equal members of the UN, despite their existing differences in the size of territory and population, and in political, economic, and military power. This in turn means that all States are formally unequal.

An expression of the principle of equality of all UN-Member States can be found in Article 18 (1) of the UN-Charter, pursuant to which all States have one vote in the UN-General Assembly. This distinguishes the General Assembly from organs of other international organisations such as the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank with their weighted voting system.

While all 193 UN-Member States are represented in the General Assembly, the UN-Security Council consists of only fifteen members, five permanent and ten non-permanent in accordance with Article 23 (1) of the UN-Charter. In addition to their privileged position because of the

permanent seat, the permanent members also have the right to veto under Article 27 (3) of the UN-Charter.

It should therefore be asked whether and, if so, to what extent the provisions on the composition and voting rights of the permanent members of the UN-Security Council correspond to the principle of equality of all UN-Member States in Article 2 (1) of the UN Charter.

## The Workshops

The 4 workshops will focus on the following topics:

Workshop 1

**'Comparative Analysis of the Global Disparities that exist between the global North and global South.'**
Speaker:  Angelo Jephtha, Stellenbosch University International (Centre for Global Engagement)

Significant developments have been made globally that have elevated millions of people out of total poverty. While millions of people have elevated themselves out of poverty, there remains substantial evidence that inequality between the world's richest and poorest countries is widening.

The rich countries, who are mostly represented in the Northern hemisphere and accommodate one quarter of the world's population, controls approximately four-fifths of the world's total income. In contrast, the poorer countries in the Southern hemisphere, representing three quarters of the world population have control to merely a fifth of the respective income (Tait; 2016).

There are several reasons for the existence of these disparities. Some of the reasons include the availability of natural resources; different levels of health and education; the nature of a country's economy and its industrial sectors. Other reasons include countries international trading policies, access to markets; how countries are governed and international relationships between countries; conflict within and between countries as well as a country's vulnerability to natural hazards and climate change.

In this session, we will take a comprehensive look at the disparities that exist between the Global North and Global South by drawing a distinction between these two economic worlds using several variables such as levels of productivity, population growth and exports, international relations, availability of natural resources and how these countries are governed.

Workshop 2

**'Health Equity: A Global Goal'**

Speaker:  Modjadji Choshi, PhD, RN, Assistant Professor of Nursing, James Madison University

The increasing globalization brings new economic efficiencies and prosperities, however, these benefits may not be recognized or if recognized, are not distributed equitably. This workshop is designed to provide a space/platform for students/ participants to share ideas and maybe built networks for comprehensive social context and determinants of the world's population health.

The discussions will range from international societies and cultures, to the impact of globalization on health, illuminating the globalized character of the world we live in. The discussions will, therefore, expand and reshape the participants' thought processes about contemporary issues and challenges that cross borders and affect every region of world; e.g. COVID-19 pandemic. We will discuss intersectionality from the perspective of the complex environments where people live, work, socialize and struggle for better lives within a global contexts. An important fact to understanding is that a combination of extraneous factors, which may be political, economic and/or social influence people's health outcomes. Global social and health equity cannot be achieved by people working in silos, but, by a multidisciplinary global citizens' network.

At the end of the workshop students will:
1.      Understand health inequities in a global context.
2.      Identify the difference between equity and equality in relation to health and wellbeing
3.      Describe the impact of inequitable governing structures on health and well-being

Workshop 3
**'Inequality in the wealthy world: labor market institutions and low-wage jobs'**
Speaker: Dr Ferran Mañé Vernet, Associate Professor, Rovira i Virgili University

As global flows of goods, capital, information, and people accelerate competitive pressure on businesses throughout the industrialized world, firms have responded by reorganizing work in a variety of efforts to improve efficiency and cut costs. The consequence has been the development of two interconnected phenomenon: an expansion of low-wage jobs and a dramatic increase in nonstandard job such as temporary help, agency workers or contract workers. Both trends have been linked to a large number of social and economic problems, such as family fragmentation, poverty and inequality, and poor individual well-being. At the same time, the growth of low-wage jobs and nonstandard work arrangements has affected different groups within the population in different ways.

In this workshop we will try to shed some light on the causes, consequences and policies to tackle our topics of interest. We will use a country level comparative approach, mainly because a large body of research points to the conclusion that the quality and incidence of low-wage work is more a matter of national choice than economic necessity and that government policies and business practices have inevitable consequences for the quality of workers' lives.

Workshop 4

**'Reducing inequities for sustainable development. The role of intersectorality in health.'**
Speaker:  Larisa Carrera, Dean-Professor, School of Medical Sciences
Universidad Nacional del Litoral

Worldwide, many people die from preventable causes or live complex situations related to their health, due to lack of access to adequate care. The shortage and inadequate distribution of the health workforce constitutes a major obstacle to achieving universal access and universal health coverage. The health situation in the Region of the Americas highlights the lack of equity that fundamentally translates into a lack of access to health that is detected in the region, and the lack of health professionals constitutes one of the most urgent problems. In recent years, the Region of the Americas has adopted policies to address the social determinants of health and promote human development with different results in different countries. However, Latin America remains the most unequal region in the world.

The 2030 agenda includes health and well-being within the proposed goals for sustainable development but, in addition, the health of populations is related to the other goals and it is necessary to include them in all policies implemented in a country in order to achieve the well-being of populations considering the social determinants of health. The pandemic has revealed the complex health situation in the region and its impact on the countries was very important, deepening inequities even more. Intersectoral work and the inclusion of health in all policies are necessary. It is proposed for this workshop to describe the health situation in the region, highlight the importance of intersectoral work and promote interaction and reflection on the importance of access and health care to guarantee the reduction of inequities.

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**Workshop 3 - 'Inequality in the wealthy world: labor market institutions and low-wage jobs'**

Sources to follow


**Workshop 4**
**'Reducing inequities for sustainable development. The role of intersectorality in health.'**

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