



**GLOBAL VOICES**

## 2021 UN Commission on the Status of Women Policy Fellowship

### Policy Proposal Instructions

#### Overview

The purpose of the proposal is to determine the focus and content of your policy paper, which you will complete as part of the Policy Fellowship component of the Global Voices Scholarship Program. Your proposal **cannot exceed 500 words**.

Your policy paper must include specific recommendations for domestic policy implementation that are realistic and achievable. While we are looking for innovative policy solutions based on ideas that demonstrate imagination and cutting-edge research, you should consider what can be achieved within the research timelines and within your available resources.

Your final paper will be approximately 2,500 words. If your final version is of high enough standard, it will be published on our online journal. You will also be supported to submit altered versions of your research to media organisations and think tanks for further publication, most often in the form of editorial or feature articles.

#### Context

The 66<sup>th</sup> session of the Commission on the Status of Women is scheduled from the 14<sup>th</sup> to the 25<sup>th</sup> of March 2022.

The session will be inclusive of representatives from member states, the economic and social council (ECOSOC)-accredited, non-governmental Organisations (NGO) and United Nations (UN) entities.

The 66<sup>th</sup> session takes an intersectional approach to attaining gender equality of all women and girls in the context of climate change, environmental and disaster risk reduction policies and programmes. It is also committed to improving and strengthening women's economic empowerment in the changing world of work (agreed conclusions of the sixty-first session).

The bureau of the commission consists of a diverse group of women who will be leading the sessions and ensuring the set agenda is fulfilled.

## Policy Prompts

Policy proposals must relate to one of the following areas and to the themes. You do not need to address the prompts directly, and you may have another area of interest that links to these. However, your proposal must address **ONLY** one policy area:

1. In the face of the global pandemic, many have called for an economic recovery that reflects the disproportionate [impact the pandemic has had on women](#). What policies should the Australian Government focus on to ensure an equitable recovery?
2. The growing allegations of sexual misconduct and rape incidents within the Australian parliament have been alarming. What strategies, policies and ideas should be considered to mitigating against workplace sexual violence?
3. As the global pandemic has forced people to work from home, issues surrounding domestic violence have become heightened. What strategies have been neglected and need to proposed in order to counter this issue?
4. The past two years has seen an increase in populism and political instability. How can women and girls be included in the process to improve democratic outcomes?
5. Amongst the enduring consequences of the global pandemic, the issue of housing, particularly for women, has been a pressing one. Propose some measures that can be introduced to eliminate the persistent and increasing burden of poverty of women, such as the increasing issue of female homelessness and housing affordability?
6. How has covid raised issues around mental health for women in particular and what do you suggest should be done to counter this?
7. What, and who, have been left out of the agenda in the post-pandemic recovery? What mechanisms should be in place to ensure that women and girls are not further disadvantaged in these recovery strategies?
8. How do we mainstream gender policies and what measures should be adopted when it comes to climate change and natural disasters?
9. How can digital technology be used to build safe and empowering spaces for women and girls in Australia? How can their safety, privacy and security be protected in light of the inherent digital risks?
10. How can digital technology be used to build safe and empowering spaces for women and girls in Australia? What creative solutions should be considered when responding to issues surrounding their safety, privacy and security being protected in light of the inherent digital risks?

## Proposal Structure

Your proposal must include the following sections:

- Context and background, including a top-line review of the existing research/commentary.
- Your research aims.
- Your proposed recommendations.
- A short bibliography of 2-4 of the most important sources you have used to start informing your research.

### Proposed Recommendations

- Provide specific, realistic, and achievable policy recommendations. You should aim to write these using [SMART criteria](#).
- These must relate specifically to Australia, but should also consider the global implications of their implementation.
- Recommendations should outline the mechanism responsible for implementing, funding, and evaluating the success of the policy recommendation. It is not always the same organisation who does all three of these. For example, many Federal Departments provide funding to the ABS to conduct research into a specific area, which is then used and evaluated by another organisation.
- You should consider what success would look like, if your recommendation was to be implemented. How would this be measured? And by whom? How would this fit within existing outcome measures?