



EPIC

Equal Pay International Coalition

EQUAL PAY FOR WORK OF EQUAL VALUE

International Equal Pay Day

Join an EPIC event to accelerate change towards reducing gender pay gaps

To mark the first International Equal Pay Day, the [Equal Pay International Coalition \(EPIC\)](https://www.equalpayinternationalcoalition.org/) organizes a virtual event to exchange ideas and evidence on how to effectively combat gender discrimination and commit to further action to achieve equal pay for work of equal value.

Despite decades of gains in women's educational attainment and employment participation, legislation, policy action and activism, women around the world continue to be paid less than men ([background note](#)). Globally, the gap in earnings between men and women stands at about 20%. What's more, the COVID-19 pandemic has widened gender inequalities at work and at home. Women constitute the majority of frontline workers in the health and social care sectors ; women have picked up much of the additional unpaid work caused by widespread school and childcare closures; and, women face higher risks of job loss. Furthermore, in developing countries, women are among the most vulnerable in the informal economy without access to social protection and COVID-19 national stimulus packages.

Policy makers, employers, unions and other stakeholders must work together to reduce gender inequalities. EPIC's virtual event on this first International Equal Pay Day therefore reflects the diversity of stakeholders;: [Samira Ahmed](#) the BBC journalist who successfully filed legal proceedings against the BBC under the UK's [Equal Pay Act](#); Harvard University Professor and Academic Dean: [Iris Bohnet](#) who has written extensively on gender equality; two-time world cup and Olympic gold winning US soccer star [Megan Rapinoe](#); [Kristin Skogen Lund](#), one of Fortune's 50 Most Powerful Women in Business; Moroccan trade unionist - [Confédération Démocratique du Travail \(CDT\)](#), Nadia Subat, who succeeded in bringing women from the country's agricultural sector to the bargaining table to fight for equal pay; Iceland's [Thorsteinn Viglundsson](#), who was instrumental in getting the country's equal pay standard approved; and [Sylvie Durrer](#), Director of Switzerland's Federal Office for Gender Equality and Chair of EPIC's steering committee who will be making a global call to

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action. The EPIC Secretariat will also be represented by [Guy Ryder](#), Director General - ILO, [Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka](#), Executive Director – UN Women, and [Angel Gurría](#), Secretary General – OECD. The discussion will be moderated by [Nozipho Tshabalala](#) whose journalist experience spans political economy, development finance, and gender mainstreaming.

Please join us in our call for concerted efforts to be made to promote equal pay for work of equal value, and accelerate efforts to close gender pay gap. It is only together we can ensure that the response and recovery efforts lead to building a more inclusive and fair world of work.

Some practical details

The event will be held in **English**, with simultaneous interpretation into **Arabic, French, Russian, Spanish, and International Sign language**.

Date: Friday 18th September 2020

Time: 15h00-16h30 (CEST).

Platform: Zoom

Please register here: [International Equal Pay Day 2020](#)

Get involved: engage in the discussion using hashtags #EqualPayDay and follow us at @epic2030.