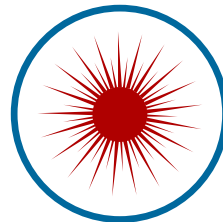




# JUSTICE FOR ALL MEANS LEAVING NO ONE BEHIND

## The Premise

The **global justice gap** reflects 5.1 billion people without equal access to justice, but within this gap, some populations face more acute disparities than others. Women and girls, children and youth, displaced populations, racial and ethnic minorities including Indigenous populations, people with disabilities, and LGBTQIA+ communities experience significant barriers that impact their justice journeys.



**The largest protest movements of recent years—Black Lives Matter, the EndSARS protests in Nigeria, the #MeToo movement, the Arab Spring—were all rooted in structural injustices which, after simmering for years, triggered sudden unrest. Systemic racism and discrimination against poorer and marginalized communities left communities with few options to address injustices other than to take to the streets in protest.**

**The increasing intensity of these movements—in countries from all regions and income groups—demonstrates how the social contract between the state, communities and people is fraying. Peaceful protest can be a sign of an effective social contract, but disengagement by protesters from state institutions or protests that turn violent or are met with violence at the hands of the state are reflective of a social contract that is in peril.”**

[Justice For All and the Social Contract in Peril](#)



# Justice For All: Communities

While **women and girls** comprise half the world's population, they are often most at risk of being left behind in formal systems, including justice systems. Women and girls are more likely to face legal discrimination, lack of protection under the law, intimate partner violence, and exclusion from decision making. At the same time, enhanced justice for women is correlated with an increase in human development.

## Women & girls and justice

## Displaced populations and justice

More than 100 million people around the world are **forcibly displaced**. The situation is particularly acute in low- and middle-income countries, where over 80 percent of forcibly displaced persons live uprooted for extended periods of time. These communities often face discriminatory laws and experience limited access to adequate justice services, despite having urgent and complex justice needs like accessing housing, employment, healthcare, and social services.

Roughly 1 in 3 people across the globe is a **child**. Yet, while the sustainable development agenda pledges to leave no one behind, there is a stark gap when it comes to measuring, understanding, and—most critically—fulfilling this global ambition for children. To achieve justice for children, we must build inclusive intergenerational partnerships, invest in inclusion, well-being and the prevention of justice problems for children, collect data in a child friendly way that includes their perspectives, and scale justice innovations with a focus on digital justice for children.

## Children & youth and justice

## Racial & ethnic minorities and justice

**Ethnic and religious minorities, as well as Indigenous communities**, face unique justice needs and challenges rooted in historical power imbalances and prejudices, social stigmas and discrimination, and a fundamental lack of recognition of their informal, customary, and traditional justice systems.

**People with disabilities** face discrimination at work, at home, from authorities, and in their communities. Their justice problems are often related to health issues, unemployment, social exclusion, homelessness, and interactions with the criminal justice system. However, "inaccessible legal information, inflexible court procedures, negative attitudes and stigma towards people with disability and an under-resourced legal assistance sector," all create key barriers in access to justice.

## People with disabilities and justice

## LGBTQIA+ communities and justice

**LGBTQIA+ communities** worldwide have seen severe rollbacks and restrictions of their rights in the past years—and these communities sit squarely in the sights of those who would restrict rights broadly. LGBTQIA+ communities face increased risk of violence, abuse, stigma, and legal discrimination, as well as limits to their basic human rights.



## The Action Steps

To advance progress for **all communities** and ensure we leave no one behind, justice must be available to **everyone**. To realize that ambition, **those in situations of vulnerability** must be at the center of research, design, and programmatic prioritization, including planning and financing. Putting **people** at the center of justice will result in a more just, equitable future for all.

# 1

**Prioritize** those most at risk of being left behind in data collection, policy design, implementation, decision-making, and global fora

# 2

**Prevent and address** discrimination, violence, and marginalization

# 3

**Engage and empower** communities economically, legally, and in conversations about their own justice journeys

# 4

**Fund and resource** justice services that support those in situations of vulnerability and **build partnerships**

# 5

**Collect, analyze, and use** population-specific disaggregated data

## Additional Resources

- [Young Justice Leaders Workplan](#)
- [Justice for Children, Justice for All Agenda for Action](#)
- [Justice for Children, Justice for All Challenge Paper](#)
- [Access to Justice in Situations of Forced Displacement](#)
- [A Critical Part of Closing the Global Justice Gap: Providing Justice for Refugees](#)
- [Justice for Women High-Level Group Report: Executive Summary and Key Messages](#)
- [People with Disability](#)
- [Justice for All Report: Report of the Task Force on Justice](#)