



# #YALILEARNS



## YALILearns Session Facilitation Guide

**ADVANCING THE ROLE OF WOMEN  
IN POLITICS, PEACE AND SECURITY,  
AND ECONOMIC INSTITUTIONS**

## Your Guide to Facilitating a Session on Advancing the Role of Women in Politics, Peace and Security, and Economic Institutions

Using the YALI Network online course [Advancing the Role of Women in Politics, Peace and Security, and Economic Institutions](#), this guide will help you facilitate dialogue about the many spaces women occupy in society. Participants will learn about the obstacles women face in political representation, the critical role women play in peacebuilding and security, and strategies for eliminating barriers women face in the workforce.

**Total Time: 105 minutes**

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### Introduction (5 Minutes)

- Introduce yourself and thank your participants for coming. Explain that you are a YALI Network member interested in starting a meaningful conversation about women's rights and empowering women in all areas of society.
  - Briefly share why you are interested in this topic, but remember to keep it short!
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### Icebreaker (10 minutes)

- Start the conversation by asking an icebreaker question.
- Choose a person to answer your question.
- The person will then introduce him/herself, answer the question posed by the host, and then select another person within the group to answer the icebreaker question.
- Continue to go around the group until everyone has responded to the icebreaker question or until 10 minutes have passed, whichever comes first.

#### Example Icebreaker Questions:

- What is the best piece of advice you've ever received?
  - What is the best book you've ever read?
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### Watch Lesson 1: [Advancing Political Participation](#) (10 minutes)

#### Group Discussion (15 Minutes)

- How are women's voices in politics represented in your local community?
- Can you think of any examples in which having or not having women's voices represented has affected political activities or legislation?
- What factors can you identify that keep women from obtaining considerable representation in politics?
- How do you encourage more women to see politics as relevant to their daily lives?
- What can men do to advance the role of women in political processes?



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## Watch Lesson 2: [Advancing Peace and Security](#) (15 minutes)

### Group Discussion (15 Minutes)

After participants have had a chance to watch the second video, invite them to consider the discussion questions at the end of the lesson:

1. Does your country have a National Plan or Legislation on Women, Peace and Security?  
*Note: look up your country's implementation plan beforehand to inform your guests.*
2. Is there a civil society organization in your country focused on these issues?

If time permits, feel free to discuss the following:

- Can you identify women or organizations that you think are playing essential roles in the area of peace and security? What makes them most effective?
- Who or what contributes most to the barriers women face in peace and security?
- How can men support the effort to increase the role of women in peace and security?

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## Watch Lesson 3: [Advancing Economic Prosperity](#) (18 minutes)

### Final Thoughts (15 minutes)

In light of the three videos and the discussion, invite participants to reflect on the following questions and their role as community members in including women in politics, peace and security, and economic institutions.

- Are there any specific challenges you think your community or country must overcome to see more women in the workplace or starting businesses?
- How can you support more women to participate in your businesses and communities at the decision-making level?
- As an entrepreneur, established business owner or employee within a company, how can you use the lesson recommendations to create a more favorable economic environment for women?

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### Wrapup (5 Minutes)

- Thank participants for attending and briefly restate the importance of understanding and advancing women and girls' rights in all areas of society.
- Encourage participants to sign up for the YALI Network at [yali.state.gov](http://yali.state.gov) and visit [yali.state.gov/4her](http://yali.state.gov/4her).

For additional resources, take the course Understanding the Rights of Women and Girls and then download the Facilitation Guide.

