

### CSOs and NGOs working for Human Rights<sup>1</sup>

**Name of Organisation:** ESCR-Net

**Website of Organisation:** <https://www.escr-net.org/about/what-we-do>

**Facebook of Organisation:** <https://www.facebook.com/escrnet/>

**Organisation of DTP Alumni Y/N:** Yes

The International Network for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ESCR-Net) is a collaborative initiative of over 230 groups and 50 individual advocates from around the world working to secure economic and social justice through human rights. ESCR-Net seeks to strengthen the field of all human rights, with a special focus on economic, social and cultural rights, and further develop the tools for achieving their promotion, protection and fulfillment. Through ESCR-Net, groups and individuals exchange information, develop a collective voice, amplify their actions, develop new tools and strategies. By facilitating joint actions, enhancing communications and building solidarity across regions, the network seeks to build a global movement to make human rights and social justice a reality for all.

ESCR-Net is led by Members, who build shared analysis, define strategies and undertake collective action, foremost through Working Groups, including: Women and ESCR, Corporate Accountability, Strategic Litigation, Economic Policy, Monitoring of ESCR and Social Movements. Working groups annually evaluate their progress, revise objectives, and prioritize collective actions as part of shared work plans. ESCR-Net also coordinates the NGO Coalition for the OP-ICESCR and a System of Solidarity (SOS), harnessing the collective power of the Network to address urgent threats to human rights defenders. ESCR-Net is guided by a Board is elected from and by Members based on principles of regional diversity, gender balance and inclusion of grassroots groups. The Secretariat facilitates the collective work of Members.

#### Strategic and Institutional Development Plan

1. Advance collective, strategic, transnational efforts to realize economic, social and cultural rights (ESCR) for all, in interdependence with civil and political rights;
2. Strengthen international standards and accountability mechanisms related to ESCR, ensuring that they are accessible to and shaped by the realities and advocacy of affected communities, grassroots groups, and national-level NGOs.
3. Deepen Member-to-Member capacity building and advance shared analysis and strategy between groups across geographic, linguistic, and historic divisions and expertise;
4. Further role as a trusted global repository and collective source of vital information and key resources relevant to the ESCR field; and
5. Coordinate mutual support and solidarity to advance Members' struggles.

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*Profile written April 2017*

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<sup>1</sup> The Diplomacy Training Program (DTP) is an NGO affiliated with the Faculty of Law at UNSW in Sydney. Since 1990, It has provided training to over 2600 human rights defenders and community advocates. These individuals work for a wide range of organisations working to promote shared values of human rights – in different ways. This profile is part of a series developed by DTP ([www.dtp.unsw.edu.au](http://www.dtp.unsw.edu.au)) to illustrate the richness and diversity of the organisations working to promote human rights more broadly.

