

Peer-learning workshop

Main Lessons Learned



FROM INDIVIDUAL CASES TO SYSTEMIC CHANGE

Look beyond individual experiences and distinguish between a personal problem and a broader structural issue, recognising that a case affecting one older person may reveal systemic discrimination, exclusion or barriers experienced by many others.



IDENTIFYING WHAT CAN BE CHALLENGED

Strategic litigation is not limited to challenging formal decisions. Discriminatory practices, administrative omissions, procedural barriers and system design failures can also become targets for strategic action when they undermine older persons' rights.



LEGAL FRAMING MATTERS

Choosing the right legal argument is a strategic decision. Effective cases may draw not only on equality and non-discrimination principles, but also on frameworks related to accessibility, consumer rights, access to justice, or victims' rights. The strongest pathway is not always the most obvious one.



NOT EVERY INJUSTICE IS A LITIGATION CASE

Some situations may be too risky (for the plaintiff, the plaintiff's family), time-sensitive or legally challenging to pursue through courts. In such cases, complementary approaches, such as advocacy, complaints, documentation, communication and coalition-building, may be more appropriate or effective in achieving change.



LEARNING ACROSS CONTEXTS

Similar structural problems can require different responses depending on legal systems, political environments and national realities.

THE BIG PICTURE

LEGAL ACTION



ADVOCACY



PARTNERSHIPS



SOCIAL MOBILISATION

Strategic litigation is not simply about taking a case to court. It is a structured process of identifying systemic problems, selecting the most effective levers for change, and combining legal action with advocacy, partnerships and broader social mobilisation to advance older persons' rights.



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