

# The Inequality Project: the Guardian's in-depth look at our unequal world

Today we kick off a new project investigating inequality of all kinds, all over the world. Here's how we plan to approach it – and how you can get involved



A man begs for money in Madrid – but what's the full story behind such scenes of inequality?  
Photograph: Alamy

Inequality is all around us – some all-too visible, much of it obscure and insidious. Experts are lining up in ever-greater numbers to warn of its harmful effects – from Professor Stephen Hawking, who wrote in the *Guardian* of technology's role in growing levels of income inequality, to Christine Lagarde, head of the International Monetary Fund, who told the world's business leaders earlier this

year:

"I hope people will listen [to my warnings] now."

Not everyone is listening, though – in part because the picture can be very confusing. In the UK, for instance, the *Office for National Statistics* revealed the gap between the richest and poorest fifths of society fell significantly last year. However, it also said Britain's generational divide is growing, with a boost to pension payments masking the continued struggle of many other households.

In Australia, the country's sex discrimination commissioner, Kate Jenkins, has highlighted her concerns about the "surprising and concerning" prevalence of opposition to advancing gender equality.

And in the US, a new book by Professor Tom Shapiro, *Toxic Inequality*, reveals how ingrained, systemic racism is responsible for the widening gap between the wealth of white and African American households.

Over the coming year, the *Guardian's Inequality Project* – supported by the *Ford Foundation* – will try to shed fresh light on these and many more issues of inequality and social unfairness, using in-depth reporting, new academic research and, most importantly, insights from you, our audience, wherever you are in the world and whatever your experiences of inequality.

- To get in touch, email us at [inequality.project@theguardian.com](mailto:inequality.project@theguardian.com)
- To read all of the *Guardian's* coverage of these issues, check out our [inequality homepage](#).

## About this project

The *Inequality Project* is supported by the [Ford Foundation](#). All our content is editorially independent, with a remit to focus on inequality of all kinds, all over the world. The project is anchored from *the Guardian*'s London office, and is edited by Mike Herd.

All our journalism follows *GNM*'s published editorial code. *The Guardian* is committed to open journalism, recognising that the best understanding of the world is achieved when we collaborate, share knowledge, encourage debate, welcome challenge, and harness the expertise of specialists and their communities.

The only restriction to *the Guardian*'s coverage is where *the Ford Foundation* is prohibited under US law from directly funding or earmarking funds to:

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This means any communications to the public in which a view is expressed about a specific legislative proposal, and the recipients of the communications are urged through a "call to action" to contact government officials, must provide a reasoned, objective consideration of facts and issues in a full and fair manner that enables third parties to develop their own positions on any legislation that may be discussed. You can read more about content funding at the Guardian [here](#).

## Topics

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- [The drone video that sums up global inequality](#)

