Democratic rollbacks deepen, further disconnecting states from citizens.

Grassroot activists provide a safety net, but a fragile and under-funded one.

Feminist policy advocacy is relentless, but women's influence is limited.

**LESSONS FROM COVID-19: PROGRESSIVE AND FEMINIST POLITICS ARE IN LOCKDOWN**

Over the past 10 years, the number of countries experiencing democratic erosion has doubled.

In 2019, 44% of the world's population lived in countries that had experienced some form of democratic erosion in the previous 5 years.

61% of countries have implemented pandemic containment measures concerning from a democracy and human rights perspective.

Out of 225 COVID-19 taskforces in 137 countries, only 4.4% have gender parity, 84% are dominated by men, and 24 countries did not have a single woman on their taskforces.

Despite government restrictions, globally, 5,012 women's demonstrations took place between March and December 2020.

In a survey, more than 1/3 of women's organizations in conflict-affected and humanitarian settings reported risking closure due to the pandemic.

In 2018-19, women's rights organizations received only around 1% of bilateral aid allocated to gender equality, a tiny fraction of total aid.