



UNGA80 High-Level Week Ministerial Side-Event

Feminist Foreign Policy Plus Group (FFP+)

Women Building Peace in an Age of Crises and Armed Conflicts

How Feminist Approaches to Foreign Policy Can Advance Peacekeeping and Peacebuilding

Date and time: September 25, 8.00am-9.30am

Location: CR11, UNHQ

Interpretation: English, Spanish and French

Hosts: France and Colombia on behalf of the FFP+, International Peace Institute (IPI)

Background information: the Feminist Foreign Policy Plus Group (FFP+) is a cross-regional coalition of 20 Member States from around the world that either pursue feminist foreign policies or incorporate feminist principles into their policymaking. The FFP+ works in partnership with the United Nations and civil society organizations.

Since its establishment in 2022, the FFP+ has played an active role in the work of the UN, organizing side events and adopting ambitious, action-oriented political declarations—particularly during the UN General Assembly (UNGA) High-Level Weeks in 2023 and 2024. The Group is committed to strengthening collective efforts toward gender equality, the empowerment of women and girls, and the full realization of all their human rights.

In parallel, three Feminist Foreign Policy Ministerial Conferences have been held—in Germany (2022), the Netherlands (2023), and Mexico (2024). The next conference will be hosted by France in October 2025.

Concept: Thirty years after the adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, and twenty-five years after the adoption of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace, and Security, the role of women in peacekeeping and peacebuilding—and the support provided by Member States in this regard—has never been more vital.

In an age of crises and armed conflicts, women continue to play a central role in preventing conflicts, maintaining peace and security, protecting civilians, and strengthening societal resilience and recovery. They do so as political leaders, negotiators, mediators, peacekeepers, humanitarian workers, or civil society representatives—both on the ground and on the international stage. Their contribution is recognised in several mandates that promote the integration of gender perspectives in peacekeeping, as well as in the work of the UN peacebuilding architecture (UNSCR 2282).

At the same time, women and girls are increasingly bearing the brunt of crises and conflicts. Their exposure to armed conflicts has risen by 50% over the past decade, and the number of UN-verified cases of conflict-related sexual violence—primarily targeting women and girls—has steadily increased in recent years. Attacks on women's rights are multiplying, while negotiations on gender issues at the UN have become increasingly contentious, threatening hard-won progress.

This challenging context is further compounded by severe financial constraints facing the UN and the urgent need for reforms aimed at efficient multilateralism, as highlighted by the ongoing UN80 reform initiative.

This event aims to highlight the "peace dividends" of women's leadership—in other words, the essential roles women play in achieving sustainable and lasting peace at every stage of conflict: before, during, and after. The event offers a key opportunity to showcase the role of feminist and gender-based approaches as drivers of democracy, human rights, equality, sustainability and lasting peace. Integrating a gender perspective is not just an added value—it is a key driver of sustainable peace. It also reflects our collective commitment to reinforcing the participation and representation of women, in the spirit of CEDAW Committee General Recommendations n°30 and n°40.

The event will welcome four new members to the FFP+ (Morocco, Nepal, Slovenia, and the United Kingdom) and recognize their exceptional commitment to gender equality, women's rights, and women's empowerment in their foreign policy agendas. It also aims to build momentum for the upcoming 4th Feminist Foreign Policy Ministerial Conference, which will take place in Paris in October 2025, following the successful conference hosted by Mexico in 2024.

Participants will be given an opportunity to reflect upon national, regional and international experiences that underscore the peace, security, democracy and social dividends of women's and girls' agency and leadership.

Invited: Ministers from Members States of the FFP+, Ministers from other Member States implementing a feminist approach in the conduct of their foreign policy and/or interested in joining the FFP+, High-Level United Nations representatives, civil society representatives.

Moderator: International Peace Institute (IPI)

Communication: please engage with us by using the hashtag #FFP+ and #FeministForeignPolicy, as well as by tagging the co-hosts.