



Ministry for Foreign  
Affairs of Finland



## Commitment 2025 on Women's Inclusion in Peace Processes

Since the adoption of United Nations Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) and subsequent resolutions progress has been made on women's inclusion in peace processes, especially in the framework of UNSC 2242 (2015), which stresses women's meaningful participation at all stages of the conflict cycle. A growing body of evidence indicates that the inclusion of women in negotiation processes increases notably the likelihood of durable peace accords and sustained peace and prosperity following conflict.

Yet, women, who make up half of the world's population and the majority of people affected by armed conflict, remain tremendously marginalized. They often constitute a small minority of negotiators, witnesses, mediators, observers and signatories to peace accords. Studies continue to show that in all major peace processes between 1990 and 2017 women constituted only two percent of mediators, five percent of witnesses and signatories, and only eight percent of negotiators.

The UN and its Member States, regional organizations and civil society are preparing to commemorate the 20th anniversary of UNSC resolution 1325 (2000) with tangible commitments made to women and girls in the field of peace and security.

With this declaration we aim to look beyond 2020. The declaration outlines a set of longer-term and ambitious commitments for the 25th anniversary with regard to the participation of women in peace processes.

We are determined to increase the meaningful and substantive participation of women in conflict prevention and resolution, negotiation and mediation processes by 2025.

To that end, we hereby commit ourselves and call on other UN Member States to:

- 1. Without delay nominate and appoint women** to senior political, diplomatic and peace and security positions in national as well as regional and international institutions, including envoys and mediators.
- 2. Use our membership of international and regional organizations** to guarantee the meaningful participation of women in all internationally-led and regionally-led peace



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and negotiation processes and make sure that senior regional Women, Peace and Security envoys are consistently involved.

**3.** Require the inclusion of women, including young women, **in all their delegations** to peace negotiations and **urge other parties to do the same**, and in all relevant mechanisms established for the implementation of peace agreements.

**4.** Offer **political, technical and financial support** to negotiating parties in peace processes that include the meaningful participation of women.

**5.** Advocate for **increased official development assistance** devoted to promoting women's participation and leadership in building and sustaining peace and inclusive development and achieve the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda. And to that end, invest in the promotion of women's and girls' rights, including civil and political rights as well as economic, social and cultural rights.

**6. Commit to fund initiatives** to support women's participation and leadership both in formal peacebuilding fora and in informal consultations related to ongoing peace and security initiatives.

**7.** Support and work with **civil society organizations and women peacebuilders**, including through multi-year financial and technical assistance, to ensure that women's organizations are included and engaged in all current and future peace processes and that women's perspectives and priorities are explicitly reflected in the agenda for negotiations.

**8.** Support the work of **Women Mediators' Networks** and ensure that their efforts are fully taken into account in actual peace processes and negotiations, especially by supporting training programs and research and knowledge generation initiatives.

**9.** Consistently invest in the promotion of women as a core part of the response to **prevent and counter violent extremism**.

**10. Map, track and report regularly** on women's representation in political, governance, diplomatic, and peace and security institutions that are relevant to the Women, Peace and Security agenda, especially peacemaking, negotiation and mediation processes.



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**We call upon the United Nations to:**

- 1-** Continue and strengthen the efforts to appoint women to senior political, diplomatic and peace and security positions, including envoys and mediators.
- 2-** Guarantee that Special Envoys and Special Representatives take steps to ensure women's systematic participation in peace processes, inter alia by urging conflict parties to include women in their delegations and by consulting regularly with women's civil society groups.
- 3- Include a gender advisor in all field based political and peacekeeping missions** and create a Gender Focal Points structure.
- 4-** Ensure that all senior mediators, Special Envoys and Representatives and their team members receive **gender sensitivity training and that UN handbooks and mediation guidance tools** provide practical and tactical advice-on how to increase women's meaningful participation in peace processes.
- 5- Include gender equality and WPS responsibilities** in mediators, Special Envoys and Representatives' terms of reference in order to monitor effective participation of women in peace processes.

**In 2022 we will present a follow-up report on the above-mentioned commitments.**