

COMMUNIQUÉ 2025 WOMEN 7

This Communiqué is addressed to G7 leaders, Ministers, and policy makers. It builds on and consolidates the Women 7's (W7) Communiqués from the past seven years¹ and includes updates from activists around the world.

We invite organizations from around the world to sign on.

The final Communiqué and signatures will be presented to the Government of Canada and shared with other G7 leaders and officials.

The challenges facing today's world are enormous and urgent. Now is the moment for G7 leaders to step up and act.

Global income inequality continues to intensify. In 2024, billionaire wealth rose by USD 2.8 trillion and the Global South continues to lose USD 30 million an hour to the Global North's wealthiest 1%. The number of people living below the poverty line today is the same as it was in 1990 (3.5 billion) and one in ten women lives in extreme poverty.

Military spending continues to climb (over USD 2,443 billion in 2023) and conflicts and wars of aggression have increased in the last year. There is fierce and growing anger regarding the inaction and, in many cases, complicity of G7 countries on documented genocide in Palestine and Sudan, alongside increasing destruction and human rights violations in Afghanistan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Haiti, Myanmar, and elsewhere. Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine continues to cause ripple effects around the world.

2024 was the warmest year on record. According to scientists, humans have now crossed six of the world's nine planetary boundaries. Yet global agreements to address the climate catastrophe fall dramatically short. Environmental protest can be deadly. Global Witness estimates that more than 2,100 land and environmental defenders were killed between 2012 and 2023.

Our starting point is the overarching objective to fulfil, protect, promote and respect universal human rights. Acknowledging that there are many feminisms, we embrace the full diversity of women, including from Indigenous, Black and racialized communities, climate frontline communities, those with apparent and nonapparent disabilities, women living in occupied and colonised territories, migrant, immigrant, refugee and stateless women, sex workers, and non-binary, trans and gender nonconforming people. We address the priorities and goals of all ages and highlight the important contributions of young women. We explicitly and proudly stand for the rights of all people regardless of their gender or sexual orientation, as all struggles for gender justice and gender equality are intertwined.

Our goal is the dismantling of structures rooted in white supremacy, colonialism, neoliberal capitalism, militarism, heteronormativity, fundamentalisms and the patriarchy that are destroying our planet, our lives, our bodies, our movements, and our dignity. We aim to build a more peaceful, just, equitable, sustainable, livable, and joyous world centering on feminist principles of liberation, universal human rights, gender justice, individual and collective care, healing justice, ecological balance, and accountability.

1 Italy (2024), Japan (2023), Germany (2022), United Kingdom (2021), France (2019), Canada (2018)

We are deeply concerned by the rise of fascist movements and right-wing governments around the world. Attacks on migrants, LGBTIQ people, and rights defenders combine with cute to public services and growing limitations on civil society organizing and protests to create a policy chill like no other.. Laws have been weaponised to detain women human rights defenders (WHRDs) and dissenters through false charges, arbitrary arrests and detentions as well as the extrajudicial killings of dissenters to quash people's movements.

Against this backdrop, progress on women's human rights and gender equality has stalled. As the UN Secretary-General noted on March 10th: "Women's rights are under siege. The poison of patriarchy is back – and it is back with a vengeance."

No country is on track to achieve gender equality by 2030 and, if current trends continue, global gender equality won't be achieved until the 22nd century. Between 2019 and 2022, nearly 40% of countries – home to more than 1 billion women and girls – stagnated or declined on gender equality. After a year in which almost half of the world's population voted in national elections, 27 new parliaments have fewer women than they did before. A woman or girl is killed every ten minutes by their intimate partner or family member. All too often, data to track progress and inform decision-making is lacking.

In this moment, despair is not an option. Around the world, vibrant movements inspire radical hope—from Mexico and Namibia electing their first women presidents to breakthroughs in gender-based violence legislation, access to safe abortion, ending child marriage and progressive legal reforms. Feminist organizations are forging inclusive alternatives and challenging structural injustices and social norms.

It is clear that gender justice and women's rights are intertwined with the issues on the G7's agenda. Strengthening economic resilience requires attention to gender gaps, care infrastructure, and barriers to women's labour force participation. Peace and stability are impossible without the full implementation of an ambitious women, peace and security agenda that centres the dreams and voices of women peace activists. Strong, independent, and well-resourced feminist movements protect and defend democracies.

We call on G7 leaders to seize this global moment by adopting a transformative agenda that guarantees human rights, upholds gender justice, and protects the bodily autonomy and dignity of all women, girls, and non-binary people.

This includes:

- Increasing ambition to both systematically and explicitly ensure attention to women's human rights, LGBTIQ+ rights and gender justice issues across all G7 discussions and address gender equality priorities as a key standalone agenda. It is not 'either/or.' Commitments to women's human rights and gender equality are empty if the analysis and commitments are not explicitly coherent across all major discussions, documents, and priority areas.
- Recognizing that progress on gender justice is required to address today's global challenges.
- Backing rhetoric with concrete commitments, actions and resources, both monetary and non-monetary (including resources for feminist movements, organizations and networks).
- Demonstrating **leadership** and **policy coherence** based on gender justice and universal human rights and fundamental freedoms both **domestically** and **globally**. In order to be credible, consistency across foreign and domestic policy areas is needed.
- Strengthening (and investing in) **gender and age-disaggregated data** in order to track and monitor change.

The Annex outlines specific recommendations for G7 leaders in the six areas: 1) Democracy and support for human rights; 2) Building just and equitable economies; 3) Climate justice; 4) Peace and security; 5) Emerging technology and 6) Accountability and financing. These recommendations draw on past W7 Communiqués and have been crowd sourced from feminist from around the world.

2025 is a challenging year for the G7 and our planet. It is also a challenging year for feminists – in movements, the private sector, governments, global institutions, and grassroots organizations. Together, better is possible. We call on the G7 to work towards peace, equality, human rights, a healthy planet, and justice for all.

2025 W7 COMMUNIQUÉ ANNEX

Activists from around the globe have contributed to these recommendations. They do not necessarily reflect the views of each signatory to the main Communiqué.

1. STRENGTHEN DEMOCRACY AND SUPPORT HUMAN RIGHTS

Autocrats target feminists and gender justice advocates, signaling a democracy under threat. "Anti-gender/anti-rights" actors across the world seek to roll back human rights, exploit divisions in societies, and advance hyper-masculine, racist and natalist positions and policies. Egregious attacks on women's rights the world over point to the global prevalence of gender apartheid. No country has achieved gender equality.

Sexual and gender-based violence is a pressing global challenge that demands urgent action. Technology-facilitated abuse undermines women's political participation, reinforces harmful social norms, and endangers women human rights defenders. Moreover, the development of new technologies is often influenced by patriarchal biases. To strengthen democracies and ensure accountability, it is essential to prioritize human rights and support feminist organizations.

HUMAN RIGHTS

- Commit to the advancement, protection, and funding of comprehensive sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), services and commodities – both domestically and globally.²
- Defend, protect, and promote the human rights of women and LGBTQIA+ people in constructive, coherent, and non-partisan ways, avoiding playing into the polarization of international negotiations and processes. This requires a consistent and robust defense of human rights, gender justice, and fundamental freedoms in all contexts and not trading human rights for other elements in international negotiations.
- Finance robust protection mechanisms for WHRDs (defined by WHRDs themselves) including reparations.

² A comprehensive SRHR information and services agenda includes: comprehensive information on sexuality and contraception services and supplies (including emergency contraception, post exposure prophylaxis, male and female condoms); pregnancy care (ante-natal and postnatal care, skilled birth attendance, referral systems, and emergency obstetric care); safe abortion services and post-abortion care; access to assisted reproductive technologies; prevention, prevention tools, treatment and care of sexually transmitted infections and HIV; prevention, treatment, and care of reproductive cancers. It requires: expanding access to a range of modern methods of contraception, including those accessible for men; adopting women-driven approaches to research in sexual and reproductive health; ensuring all service delivery initiatives are developed in line with the right to health - accessibility, availability, acceptability and quality of SRH services; supporting movements, local activists and government-led initiatives to improve SRHR – supporting spaces to strategize, organize, have dialogue, access to justice and voice accountability, and supporting comprehensive sexuality education, grounded in intersectional feminist and rights-based approaches.

 Since the Taliban takeover in August 2021, the situation in Afghanistan has deteriorated dramatically, particularly for women and girls, as well as ethnic and religious minorities. We call for an urgent UN independent investigative mechanism complementary but in addition to the current Special Rapporteur mandate on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan, with specific responsibility to urgently advance international response for the women, girls and LGBTQI+ people of Afghanistan;

SEXUAL AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

- At the national level, establish (with the meaningful participation of diverse women's human rights and feminist organizations), resource, report on and evaluate comprehensive national action plans to address sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV). Include provisions for sustainable funding for women's human rights and feminist community based organizations.
- At the national level, fulfill existing commitments. This includes Canadian implementation of the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and 2SLGBTQQIA+ People National Action Plan.
- At the global level, triple Official Development Assistance investments in initiatives that address violence against women.
- Include the recognition of conflict-related sexual violence in all transitional justice processes.
- At the global and national levels, enhance mechanisms providing justice for survivors, including survivors/victims of war and conflicts, and enable greater access to these mechanisms.
- Ramp up investments that address TFGBV, including to fulfill the Global Call to Action.

PARTICIPATION AND REPRESENTATION

- Adopt concrete measures to ensure equitable and meaningful participation of diverse women (with an explicit focus on young women) in all political and economic decision-making bodies.
- Support and protect civil society access to (including information access), representation and participation in international multilateral negotiations.

2. BUILD JUST AND EQUITABLE ECONOMIES

G7 nations, with their colonial legacies, economic dominance, and high historical carbon emissions, bear a unique responsibility in shaping the global economy. In an era of rising inequalities, poverty often bears a distinctly female face—women, girls, and gender-diverse people are hit hardest by macroeconomic constraints that limit funding for gender-just outcomes and climate action. Cuts to accessible, affordable public services force women to take on extra care work, risk job losses in the public sector, and suffer from deepened economic vulnerability, undermining efforts to combat gender-based violence and advance true gender equality.

CARE

- Build on previous G7 references to the importance of the care economy, taking concrete steps to enhance paid and unpaid care policies including investing an additional 2% of GDP into social infrastructure to create and sustain gender-transformative public health, education, housing and care services that improve service provision for the most marginalized, reduce women's unpaid care work, and create decent work for women.
- Recognise and reflect in G7 commitments that women do over 76% of unpaid work in the world³, and therefore unpaid and paid care, domestic and communal work constitute a justice priority. There is a need for an urgent focus in domestic and foreign policy (including ODA) on social provisioning including social protection, decent work, and the right to rest and leisure for women and girls. In regions where women face particularly odious patriarchal laws and policies, it is a development priority to work on political restructuring, social transformation, and the care economy, in law and in practice.
- Finance a global social protection fund to kick-start universal, publicly funded national protection schemes for low to middle income countries.

GENDER-TRANSFORMATIVE APPROACHES TO FINANCING FOR DEVELOPMENT

- Support, promote and strengthen efforts to transform the global financial architecture based on human rights, equitable and democratic principles, and promote, adopt, and refine gender-transformative approaches to budgeting and fiscal policy.
- Advance discussions to develop global economic indicators that go 'beyond GDP,' drawing on feminist analysis and insights.
- Support the enactment of a new multilateral mechanism/convention for sovereign debt cancellation and workout, under the auspices of the United Nations, to support states in restructuring or canceling debts owed to all creditors-including private creditors, in an equitable and transparent manner. Restructuring and cancellation should be based on debt sustainability assessments that meaningfully integrate climate financing, gender equality, and human rights impact assessments and audits.
- Engage constructively in global negotiations towards the UN framework convention on international tax cooperation and accelerate progress on the G20 commitment to tax the super wealthy.
- Stop illicit financial flows, including cross-border tax abuse, tackle tax havens, and end the "race to the bottom" system of tax incentives (including by requiring country-bycountry reporting and public disclosure of beneficial ownership, among other measures). This should include reviewing and amending existing Double Taxation Treaties (DTTs) with countries in the Global South to address loopholes that facilitate tax avoidance and contribute to wealth inequality
- Divest from fossil fuel, military and carceral systems, regulate the financial sector, and redirect budgets to invest in care, public services, and human rights defenders.
- Support a comprehensive taxation mechanism for digital corporations to pay their fair share to the countries where they earn profits without necessarily having a physical footprint.
- Cancel Investor-State-Dispute-Settlement (ISDS) in trade and investment agreements
 and support establishing a comprehensive framework of international investment based

on the principle of reparation that replaces the ISDS by a system that is underpinned by cooperation, accountability and transparency; and recognises the primacy of human rights and sustainable development priorities.

• Support the civil society-driven development and establishment of a United Nations Binding Treaty on Business and Human Rights.

WORK

- Promote decent work by ratifying, funding, and enforcing ILO conventions on collective bargaining, freedom of association, domestic workers (189) and elimination of violence and harassment in the world of work (190).
- Eliminate the persistent gender pay and pension gap.
- Provide tailored support for women entrepreneurs and ensure their equal access to finance, markets, and procurement opportunities, including public procurement.

TECHNOLOGY

- Invest nationally and globally in gender-transformative education, with a focus on digital literacy, comprehensive sexuality education promoting positive masculinities, women's participation in STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) and men's participation in HEAL (health, education, administration and literacy), and invest in public campaigns to end gender stereotypes.
- Redress the exclusion and exploitation of affected workers and those whose livelihoods have already been disrupted by climate change through technology co-creation and upskilling
- Ensure equitable, inclusive, gender-just digitalisation, ensuring the protection and privacy of learners. Invest in prioritising appropriate and context-based technologies and prioritise the poorest, most excluded communities and learners.
- Prioritize ethical development and deployment of technology without causing harm, and by centering the agency of all human beings whose data are being used in the development and deployment of such technologies.
- Distribute the benefits of all technologies equitably through technology and knowledge transfer paradigms.

3. WORK TOGETHER ON CLIMATE JUSTICE

Global warming efforts are off track, with the G7–comprising just 10% of the world's population—responsible for over 25% of global emissions. Intensifying weather disasters are causing greater death, suffering, displacement, and economic loss, disproportionately impacting women, girls, and marginalized communities. Escalating conflicts further worsen the crisis by destroying fertile land, polluting air and water, and reviving diseases, potentially pushing 158 million more women and girls into extreme poverty by 2050.

Amid these challenges, feminist and Indigenous activists are leading the climate fight from local land defenses to global policy corridors. Despite significant risks and minimal funding, their insights and advocacy deserve a central role in shaping G7 outcomes and commitments.

ACTIONS

- Prioritise and address climate justice strategies, incorporating climate-induced loss and damage, ocean health, disaster risk reduction, and an end to biodiversity destruction and ecocide.
- Account for the military emissions gap, including the emission of militaries and production of their weapons and other hardware as well as the environmental impact of military conflict.
- Divest from economic dependency on fossil fuels, mining and other harmful extractive industries and reduce the contribution of global trade to carbon emissions.
- Commit to a gender-just and equitable green transition by dismantling systems of extraction, exploitation, and oppression affecting both people and the planet. Ensure solutions to phase out carbon dependency while prioritizing human rights and redistributive justice. Support women and marginalized groups by recognizing, redistributing, and remunerating unpaid care work, ensuring their access to decent, green jobs, and addressing occupational segregation in green sectors. Shift economic power to local, worker-led cooperatives, and support micro, small, and medium enterprises to foster community resilience.
- Move away from false climate solutions that delay real climate action. These include biofuels, net zero, carbon trading, offsets, geoengineering, and soil carbon farming.
- Develop and implement accountability mechanisms to hold corporations hosted in G7 states accountable for any violations of environmental and human rights standards (with specific attention to women and Indigenous rights and territorial defenders).
 Ensure consistency with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People (UNDRIP) and respect for the principle of Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC).
- Strengthen meaningful attention to gender analysis and objectives in all climate discussions.

FINANCING

- Ensure that climate finance architecture is guided by decolonial feminist principles of restoration and reparations. Disincentivize and reduce investment in fossil fuel-based energy, currently sitting at levels of USD 1 trillion, in order to be consistent and coherent with the rapid rise of investment in renewable energy.
- Provide climate finance that is predictable, adequate, transparent, accountable, and in the form of grants not loans or debt for nature swaps. Adopt a minimum target of US \$1 trillion per year provided in grants and grant-equivalent terms from developed countries to developing countries to meet their evolving needs.
- Endorse, finance, and fully implement the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change's ten-year Lima work programme on gender and the forthcoming renewed gender action plan.
- Ensure coherence and ambition and urgently resource both the UNFCCC and Sendai GAPs;
- Implement new gender-responsive delivery mechanisms and resource existing mechanisms such as women's and environmental funds and organizations, to support direct access to climate finance for grassroots women's organizations, Indigenous Peoples and local communities, to support work on loss and damage, adaptive capacity, disaster risk reduction and response, and resilience of communities through the realization of rights.

- Recognize just transition policies, programmes, and plans, e.g. social dialogue and consultation processes, social protection policies, including policies related to care, as supportive of climate ambition and therefore eligible to receive climate finance.
- Strengthen transparency and tracking of climate funding, by publishing available detailed data and disaggregating further to funding provided to Indigenous Peoples, local communities, women, and youth and geographical distribution, among others.
- Allocate at least 15 percent of climate finance official development assistance to initiatives with gender equality as the primary objective and dramatically scale up resourcing to women-led organizations.

LEADERSHIP

• Ensure the equitable participation of women in all their diversity and center their leadership in climate discussions and decision-making bodies and processes. In particular, we highlight the urgency of recognizing the leadership of Indigenous women from all parts of the world, African states, SIDS, LLDCs and LDCs, among others.

4. BUILD A MORE PEACEFUL AND SECURE WORLD

Decolonization, demilitarization, and genuine peace must be at the forefront of the G7 agenda, as current conflicts exact a toll for generations. Colonial legacies—ranging from exploitative economic practices to the neocolonial use of borders, loans, and tariffs—continue to destabilize societies. We call for the decolonization of institutions across religion, justice, education, health, finance, and politics, along with immediate restitution for historical harms, particularly for Indigenous peoples and the marginalized women who bear the brunt of these injustices.

As 2025 marks the 25th anniversary of UNSC Resolution 1325 and the Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) agenda, it is clear that past G7 commitments have been superficial. Rather than treating WPS as an add-on limited to conflict-related sexual violence or women's military participation, we need a transformative approach that fully recognizes the link between gender inequality and conflict.

MILITARISM AND DISARMAMENT

- Reverse the trend of rising military spending and invest in diplomatic solutions to conflict.
- Ratify and vigorously implement international disarmament agreements, treaties and conventions, including but not limited to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, the Arms Trade Treaty, the Ottawa Treaty banning landmines, and the Convention on Cluster Munitions.
- Stop funding, spending, production and trade of arms and ammunition. The G7 shall consider concrete steps to removing security and military alliances and foreign military bases as it only contributes to diversion of resources from building people-determined peace particularly in the global south.
- Lead global negotiations to prohibit autonomous weapons systems that target people and to require all autonomous weapons systems to be under meaningful human control.
- Prioritize the adoption and implementation of Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration programs in conflict zones.

- Hold private military contractors accountable to the established frameworks of the Montreux document and other relevant standards established under international, international humanitarian, and international human rights laws.
- Recognise the impact of continued occupation, endemic conflicts and the intentional eradication of lives and livelihoods.
- Urgently reduce the number of military bases as a top G7 priority, including the extraordinarily massive presence of 750 American bases (in 80 countries) and 100 UK military bases around the world; also reduce military exercises especially ending RIMPAC in which most G7 countries participate, off the coast of Hawaii.

FUNDING AND RESOURCING

• Dramatically increase resources to women-led peacebuilding organizations and networks. Commit at least 15% of ODA to fragile/conflict-affected states to OECD-DAC Gender Equality Marker 2 and ensure that 10% directly reaches women's rights/women-led organizations.

CONFLICT RESOLUTION AND PEACEBUILDING

- Enable the full, meaningful and permanent representation, participation, leadership, and influence of women in all their diversity in conflict prevention, post-conflict justice restoration and disaster preparedness.
- Respect international law (including rulings and actions by the International Criminal Court and International Court of Justice) and call on other states and non-state actors engaged in armed conflict to do the same.
- Commit to ending impunity and implement transitional justice mechanisms with a meaningful inclusion of the most vulnerable communities in conflict zones while ensuring reparations and healing justice for survivors of conflict-related sexual violence.

SECURITY

- Recognize gender disinformation (including technology-facilitated gender-based violence) as a national security threat and include measures to address it in all security discussions.
- Strengthen analysis of the gender-climate-security-nexus, amplifying the voices of activists and identifying possible synergies.
- Take meaningful action to address, prevent and respond to conflict-related sexual violence.

WPS NATIONAL ACTION PLANS

- Update WPS national action plans in G7 countries so that they incorporate both domestic and international objectives, budgets, targets and indicators, and accountability mechanisms.
- As per the UN Secretary General's recommendation, quadruple the funding going to women's rights organizations in fragile and conflict affected contexts.
- Engage young activists and incorporate their perspectives into national and international deliberations.

5. EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES SUPPORT GENDER-JUST SOCIETIES AND ECONOMIES

Over the past seven years, the G7 has made strong rhetorical commitments to increasing women's participation in STEM and closing the digital divide, but implementation has faced challenges. Recent discussions have focused on integrating gender perspectives in technological governance, supporting women's leadership in emerging technologies and addressing algorithmic bias. However, a disconnect persists between high-level commitments and practical implementation.

In addition, feminist concerns regarding emerging technologies are much broader. The fast pace of technological change makes it difficult for states to keep up. Regulation is required to ensure accountability and minimize dangerous developments.

- Eliminate the gender digital divide (currently women are 21 percent less likely than men to use the internet).
- Institute and ensure maximum public safety protocols and regulations over AI. Prioritize initiatives to address the lack of transparency from billionaire-owned companies regarding the risks and limitations of their AI applications.
- Prioritise gender equality and human rights as a goal, even as AI systems are conceptualized and built.
- Support efforts to increase the participation of women in all their diversity in AID. This
 includes enabling and increasing gender-just early access to and leadership in STEM
 and ICT education and careers.
- Take concrete steps to address tech-facilitated gender-based violence, with the involvement of survivors.
- Regulate Al's Environmental Impact through sustainable practices in infrastructure development, energy consumption and waste management.
- Develop strong governance frameworks for spacefaring and demilitarized, decolonial uses
 of outer space. These frameworks should align with Outer Space Laws and the UN Charter,
 as well as with the Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous people to account for, include,
 and enable the use of multiple technologies in spacefaring.

6. ENSURE ACCOUNTABILITY AND FINANCING

Accountability for G7 commitments on women's human rights and gender justice is required. Resourcing, tracking, public reporting, better data, evaluations, and impact assessments support implementation and effectiveness.

From the Beijing Declaration and Platform of Action to the WPS agenda to CEDAW to women's rights organizations – resources and investments have not met the stated ambition. G7 deliberations provide opportunities to recognize the vital importance of feminist movements and commit new resources.

We recognize the progress reflected on the G7 Dashboard on Gender Gaps that reports on progress across G7 countries. It is a useful starting point. Additional investments and tracking methodologies are needed.

RESOURCING

- Provide robust, ambitious, sustainable funding for women's organizing domestically, regionally and globally and through ODA. The Walking the Talk "Common Ask Framework" outlines strategic ways this can be done, with a focus on ODA targets.
- Enact reparations for both institutionalized racism and climate damage, to advance racial, climate, and economic justice through commitments to non-repetition, restitution, compensation, rehabilitation, and satisfaction of claims.

DATA

- Recognize the importance of gender data across all G7 policy discussions and commit to consistent use to track policy outcomes.
- Announce new funding for gender data initiatives (capacity building, dissemination, methodological strengthening, work in key sectors, etc.) both domestically and in ODA.

REPORTING

- Report annually on follow-up to G7 commitments to women's human rights and gender equality.
- Report on the impact, achievements and lessons from past G7 commitments on gender equality including the G7 WPS Partnership Initiative (2018), the Whistler Declaration on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women and Girls in Humanitarian Action (2018).