

# Global Civil Society Led Initiative: Beijing+25 and the Generation Equality Forum



**BEIJING +25**

## An Overview



Created by NGO CSW/NY



# What is Beijing + 25 / Generation Equality?

To commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Beijing Platform for Action (BPfA), the [Generation Equality Forum](#) and [CSW64](#) will look back at the past 25 years to evaluate progress, as well as look forward to determine concrete action for gender equality.

The Generation Equality Forum is a multi-stakeholder gathering with two major meetings. The meetings originally scheduled for 2020 are postponed to early 2021 with the possibility of having all virtual meetings. The Forum is convened by UN Women, co-chaired by France and Mexico, and in partnership with global Civil Society.



# Governance Structure for the Generation Equality Forum

## Core Group (decision making)

- 4 members - 1 representative for UN Women, France, Mexico & Civil Society
- Consults with Advisory Group to the Core Group

## Civil Society Advisory Group to the Core Group\*

- 21 members - decided by a volunteer Selection Committee
- Consults with Advisory Committee Working Group

## Advisory Committee Working Group\*

- Open to all global civil society members
- Ensures inclusive & representative nature of Advisory Group by providing input

## Multi-Stakeholder Steering Group

- 25 members - decided by Core Group
- Supports design, planning & implementation of Forum

## Strategic Planning & Leadership Group

- 50+ civil society leaders - decided by UN women
- Advise UN Women on Beijing+25

## Beijing+25 Youth Task Force

- 30 members - decided by UN Women
- Advises UN Women on youth involvement in Beijing+25

\* Civil society led and driven

# Advisory Working Group

The Advisory Working Group consists of over 500 [members](#) of global civil society who will be instrumental in ensuring that *all* voices are heard and represented in this Beijing+25 process. The Advisory Working Group consults the Advisory Group to the Core Group to make sure they are representing the needs and mandates of global civil society.

The group is completely open to join and meets every two weeks via Zoom to hear updates from UN Women, the Advisory Group to the Core Group, and Beijing+25 regional processes. Advisory Working Group members are also encouraged to provide their own input into these processes so that their voices can be brought to the Generation Equality Forums in Mexico and Paris.

If you have any questions or are interested in joining the Advisory Working Group, email [beijing25@ngocsw.org](mailto:beijing25@ngocsw.org).

# Advisory Group to the Core Group

The Civil Society [Advisory Group to the Core Group](#) (CSAG) serves as the representative of civil society's priorities for the Generation Equality Forum by guaranteeing participation on a co-equal basis of civil society with the other members of the Core Group. It was created to ensure that diverse women's rights and feminist organizations can engage meaningfully in the Generation Equality process. You can find the group's Terms of Reference [here](#).

The CSAG was chosen through a civil society-led process by a selection committee of 5 volunteers from the Advisory Working Group. They selected 21 members from [136 applications](#) representing diverse genders, generations, regions and backgrounds. For more information about the selection committee's process and criteria, read their announcement letter [here](#).

# Civil Society's Vision for Beijing+25/Generation Equality

**A Civil Society Feminist and Women's Movement Action Plan to advance global gender equality.**

- Central premise is 'women's rights are human rights'
- A feminist approach aimed at positively transforming norms and power structures
- Open, welcoming, inclusive of wide diversity of feminist and women's movements
- Creative, action-oriented, brave and safe
- Using power of existing political commitments and obligations to avoid "reinventing the wheel"
- Utilizing extant CSO processes actions at global, national, regional and sub-regional levels to help advance

# Feminist & Women's Movement Action Plan

The [Feminist and Women's Action Plan](#) (fwMAP), developed by experienced civil society activists and experts, will leverage the power of global consensus and new alliances by utilizing the Beijing Platform for Action, CEDAW and the SDGs, along with other international treaties, human rights mechanisms and international commitments.

In April 2020, fwMAP launched a [Universities and Teach-Ins Working Group](#) which aims to create spaces in academic institutions to further develop an understanding of women's human rights and feminist activism at the United Nations.

The fwMAP process is open, welcoming, inclusive of the wide diversity of the feminist and women's movements, creative action-oriented, brave and safe.

If you would like to be involved in the fwMAP process, email [beijing25@ngocsw.org](mailto:beijing25@ngocsw.org).

# Objectives for Beijing+25/Generation Equality

- Emergence of a coherent feminist agenda with demands reflecting an agreed set of priorities
- Achieving cross-cutting alliances
- Galvanize activists globally who will speak with one voice against suppression
- Help connect activists across silos working for similar objectives to achieve goals
- Help create the platforms that will address inequalities and lead to action
- Address inequalities created by patriarchy, colonialism, racism, and militarism



# Action Coalitions for Generation Equality

Action Coalitions are global, innovative, multi-stakeholder partnerships that will mobilize governments, civil society, international organizations, and the private sector to: **catalyze** collective action; **spark** global and local conversations among generations; **drive** increased public & private investment; **deliver** concrete, game-changing results across generations for girls and women.

The selected Action Coalition themes are:

1. **Gender-Based Violence**
2. **Economic justice and rights**
3. **Bodily autonomy and sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR)**
4. **Feminist action for climate justice**
5. **Technology and innovation for Gender Equality**
6. **Feminist movements and leadership**

[Read more about Action Coalitions](#)

# Building Alliances & Linking Across Silos

To progress toward gender equality, we must link across silos of activism to create a common framework and build the power of women's rights movements.

- Not looking to abandon our own thematic and issue-based work, but starting to look for points of convergence to join forces around common goals
- Will build upon the global women's rights movement's strength to ensure an inclusive action plan with clear priorities and demands

# For more information...

- [Forum.generationequality.org](https://forum.generationequality.org)
- [Generation Equality Social Media Package](#)
- <https://ngocsw.org/beijing25-ngo-participation/>
- <https://www.unwomen.org/en/get-involved/beijing-plus-25>
- [Beijing Platform for Action document](#)
- [Feminist and Women's Movement Action Plan](#)