



Beijing Platform for Action 25 years on

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Women inspiring action,
transforming lives

In September 1995, 17 000 participants and 30 000 activists from across the globe gathered in Beijing for the 4th World Conference on Women. State representatives of 189 governments, NGOs and civil society met for one purpose: the achievement of gender equality.

The [Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action](#), is the most progressive blueprint ever for advancing women's rights, the most internationally agreed statement adopted unanimously.

The document provides a defining framework with 12 critical areas of concern



12 critical areas of concern

<https://www.unwomen.org/en/csw/csw64-2020>

- Women and poverty
- Education and training of women
- Women and health
- Violence against women
- Women and armed conflict
- Women and the economy
- Women in power and decision-making
- Institutional mechanism for the advancement of women
- Human rights of women
- Women and the media
- Women and the environment
- The girl-child

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As you can see each of these areas are concerns of Soroptimist International.



CEDAW and BPfA

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women 1979

(<https://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/CEDAW.aspx>)

(<https://www.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/publications/2006/1/cedaw-and-security-council-resolution-1325-a-quick-guide>)

Based on the Rights Framework.

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[The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women \(CEDAW\)](#), adopted in 1979 defines what constitutes discrimination against women and sets up an agenda for national action to end such discrimination.

CEDAW articulates the human rights of women. Countries that have ratified or acceded to the Convention are legally bound to put its provisions into practice.

The Beijing Document Reinforcing the Promise of the Rights Framework.



Beijing +5 ----2000

- * Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century".
- * The 23rd Special Session of UN General Assembly outcomes
- * UN adopts the MDGs

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Reviews of the implementation were presented to the 23rd Special Session UN General Assembly.

Reviews of the national reports show that profound changes in the status and role of women have occurred and non-governmental organizations, especially women's organizations have been responsible.

Human rights of women had gained recognition, violence against women was now an illegal act in almost every country.

Yet Violence and poverty remained major hurdles

Globalization had created several new challenges for the implementation of the Platform, such as trafficking in women and girls, changing nature of armed conflict to name some.

The role of women as peace makers was highlighted which led to Security Council Resolution 1325.



SCR-1325

<https://www.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/publications/2006/1/cedaw-and-security-council-resolution-1325-a-quick-guide>

The Security Council adopted Resolution (S/RES/1325) on women, peace and security --31 October 2000.

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Recalling the commitments of the Beijing Declaration a step forward was taken. The Security Council formally acknowledged the creation of Resolution 1325. The resolution addresses how women and girls are differentially impacted by conflict and war, and recognizes the critical role that women can and already do play in peacebuilding.



Beijing+10 and Beijing+15

- Reviews in 2005 and 2010 identified:
 - the progress and the challenges
 - the gaps
 - shared experiences
 - good practices within the framework of the Platform for Action

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A review and appraisal of the implementation of the https://beijing20.unwomen.org/~media/headquarters/attachments/sections/cs/w/pfa_e_final_web.pdf in 2005 and in 2010 identified the progress and the challenges, the gaps but also shared experiences and good practices within the framework of the Platform for Action.



Beijing +20 -2015

* "2015 must mark the beginning of the end of gender inequality, with 2030 as the expiry date." - -
Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, UN Women Executive Director

* Planet 50-50 by 2030: Step it Up for Gender Equality.

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The 20th anniversary of Beijing opened new opportunities to reconnect, regenerate commitment, charge up political will and mobilize the public. Women are at the heart of Sustainable Development and the post-2015 SDG agenda must include a clear and **stand-alone goal on gender equality and women's rights** as users, shapers and leaders of new technologies. SDG 5 - fulfilled the Beijing commitments.



Beijing +25--2020

*Reviews of the progress with focus on gender equality in the light of the it's contribution towards the realization of the 2030 Agenda of the SDGs

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In 2020, the global community will mark the twenty-fifth anniversary of the [Fourth World Conference on Women](#) and adoption of the Beijing Declaration.

In 2020 UN Women looks forward to a Global Forum for Gender Equality to be held in, Mexico and France. It will be an event both of celebration of progress and a challenge to governments to accelerate what remains to be done