

## G7 Gender Equality Ministers Meeting:

# Women7 calls for solidarity with women & LGBTIQ\* activists protesting around the world

Press release, October 11, 2022

“We are here, we are loud! United against the Backlash” is the motto of a special evening at Berlin’s oldest queer club, SchwuZ, on Friday, October 14. The event is hosted by [Women7](#) (W7) and rounds off the G7 Gender Equality Ministers Meeting, taking place in Berlin from October 11 to 15. During the event, which begins at 6 p.m., the National Council of German Women’s Organizations ([Deutscher Frauenrat](#)) will welcome representatives of feminist organizations from all around the world to discuss the outcome of the German G7 presidency for equality policy and to reaffirm their demands to G7 gender equality ministers.

Back in May, after months of debate, the group of civil society organizations that make up Women7 agreed on a joint statement formulating powerful equality-policy demands to G7 leaders, which they handed over to German Chancellor Olaf Scholz during the international [W7 Summit](#).

“This is a moment for reflection,” says Dr. Beate von Miquel, President of the National Council of German Women’s Organizations. “We stand by the courageous and persistent women’s and LGBTIQ+ rights activists who are risking their lives every day in Iran, Afghanistan and elsewhere. The rise of anti-feminist movements worldwide isn’t only having an impact on the human rights of women and marginalized groups, it endangers the whole of civil society and threatens democracy around the globe. The G7 and their equality ministers must send a clear signal that reaffirms their solidarity with those on the frontlines.”

The panel discussion on the evening of October 14 will feature equality experts such as: Margit Gottstein, State Secretary at the Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth; Masanobu Ogura, Japanese Minister of State for Gender Equality; Jessica Stern, U.S. Special Envoy to Advance the Human Rights of LGBTIQ+ Persons; and Erika Castellanos, Interim Executive Director of Global Action for Trans Equality.

For more information on the program and the speakers and to read the W7 Statement on the Meeting of the G7 Gender Equality Ministers, visit [www.women7.org](http://www.women7.org).

## BACKGROUND

[Women7](#) is an official Engagement Group of the G7. This year, it brings together over 60 representatives of feminist organizations and advocacy groups from 24 different countries. The [National Council of German Women's Organizations](#) is hosting the W7 Dialogue during the German G7 Presidency.

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## NOTE TO THE PRESS

A limited number of journalists will be granted access to the photo ops on October 14. Please register by October 13. Photographs will be made available on the website [www.women7.org](http://www.women7.org) from October 15.