



Public Update
2025 Women's 7/W7 (Engagement group for the G7)

February 2025

Summary

Canada will chair the G7 in 2025. The W7 or [Women's 7](#) is one of many 'engagement groups' that provides recommendations to G7 countries and holds governments accountable for commitments made.¹ The W7 focuses on advancing women's rights and gender equality as both a standalone priority and a set of issues that requires attention and robust action in each ministerial meeting and theme discussion. Each year, the W7 is organized by civil society organizations from the host G7 country.

This document provides a brief overview of the 2025 W7, building on lessons learned since 2018 and addressing current challenges.

History

In 2018, Canadian organizations set a new direction with an explicitly [feminist W7](#), that focused on feminist issues, such as sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), gender-based violence (GBV) and unpaid and paid care. For the first time Global South feminist activists were active participants. Since then, W7 hosts in other countries have built on this experience while developing their own goals, ways of working, and priorities.

¹ The other official engagement groups include Y7 (youth), C7 (civil society), T7 (think tanks), L7 (labour), and B7 (business). Last year, a group gathered in Japan under the banner of the P7 (pride/LGBTQI), but this is not (yet) an officially recognized engagement group.

As well, in 2018, the Government of Canada (GoC) established the inaugural Gender Equality Advisory Council (GEAC). In all but one year, G7 presidents continued the GEAC. In its different forms, each GEAC has provided recommendations to the G7 on how to advance gender equality.

Some of the organizers of the 2018 W7, as well as new organizations, have come together to plan the 2025 W7 in Canada.

W7 Objectives

- Host the 2025 W7 during Canada's G7 presidency (involving feminist activists from across Canada, G7 countries, and the Global South).
- Engage G7 actors in 2025, bringing feminist proposals (analysis, language, initiatives, etc.) to the discussions of Canada's G7 priorities.
- Where possible, influence outcome documents and commitments.

Approach

Given each year the leadership of the W7 shifts from country to country, we believe preparations for Canada's G7 presidency should start as soon as possible. We have formed a W7 organizing committee that will coordinate activities for the balance of 2024 and throughout 2025 (including the handover to France for 2026).

After an analysis of past W7s, other engagement groups, and G7 trends, we are approaching the W7 in a different way than previous years.

Our key actions include:

- **Background Papers:** Commissioning 5 background papers to provide analysis and support for the development of recommendations. The papers look past G7 documentation and gender analysis regarding:
 - Climate
 - Economic resilience
 - Emerging technologies
 - Care²
 - Democracy.
- **Communique:** Developing a W7 communique. We've compiled recommendations from previous communique and asked activists from the Majority World to provide a peer review.³ We hope to have the communique available for sign on starting late February.
- **Working Groups:** Forming 5 thematic working groups who will meet online to provide inputs into recommendations and 'policy briefs.' We will look for opportunities for the Working Group Chairs to engage with G7 officials. After a public call for participation, the working group members have been confirmed by the co-chairs. The working groups are:
 - Climate

² We are grateful to the Gender and Development Network in the UK for their support of the care paper.

³ We are grateful to the Gender and Development Network for their support of this peer review process.

- Economy
- Emerging Technologies
- Democracy
- Gender Equality
- **Policy Briefs:** Developing a series of policy briefs on key issues that review past G7 language/commitments, identify gaps, and make concrete recommendations.
- **GEAC:** Working - to the extent possible - with the GEAC, coordinating analysis and recommendations. The Organizing Committee will hold a joint session with the GEAC during their in-person meeting mid-March.
- **Analysis:** Preparing a response to the Leaders' Communique.
- **Other Engagement Groups:** Liaising with other 'engagement groups' to both learn and advance shared priorities.
- **Public Outreach:** Developing public "products" (including a website – to be launched in late February) to advance the policy dialogue around key feminist priorities.

Key Dates

February 21st:	Welcome to the 2025 W7 (online meeting for all working group members)
late February:	W7 Communique open for global sign on W7 website launched
March 18-19th:	W7 Organizing Committee joins in-person GEAC meeting Draft Policy Briefs ready
TBD:	Official launch of the W7 Communique with all the signatures
TBD:	In-person meeting - Working Group Co-Chairs and the Organizing Committee
May:	Policy Briefs launched
June 15-17th:	G7 Leaders Summit (W7 to publish analysis)
June TBD:	Final meeting (online) of all the Working Groups

Organizing Committee Members

Our organizing committee has representatives from: Action Canada for Sexual Health and Rights, Canadian Labour Congress, Canadian Women's Foundation, Equality Fund, Equitas, Mines Action Canada, Nobel Women's Initiative, Oxfam-Canada, Women's Shelters Canada, and a Senior Fellow - Feminist Foreign Policy Collaborative.

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