



Women 7 2026 Declaration

Defending gender equality and international solidarity to reduce global imbalances

March 2026

Women 7 2026, which brings together more than 260 civil society organizations from 62 countries around the world, presents its analysis of “global imbalances,” the main theme of the G7 2026, and its key recommendations for addressing them. France, which holds the G7 presidency in this pivotal year, has a major role to play, which requires political courage, the willingness to accept certain power relations, and consistency with regard to its national and international commitments.

The backlash: a major imbalance

France has decided to base its G7 presidency on one observation: *“Significant imbalances are threatening the global economy, ranging from predatory competition, industrial overcapacities, underinvestment, excessive debt and deregulation to a drop in international solidarity and low private investment in developing countries, among other issues. As a result, trade tensions and geopolitical tensions are running high.”*

This diagnosis overlooks a major factor contributing to imbalance: the **backlash** against the rights of girls, women, and LGBTQIA+ people. This organized, planned, and well-resourced phenomenon is supported by anti-rights movements and conservative political parties, with the complicity of part of the private sector and Big Tech. Their actions and rhetoric exacerbate sexism and homophobia in our societies, and often racism and discrimination against people from migrant backgrounds as well. This backlash, already strongly at work today, could intensify in the near future. Beyond its impact on women’s rights and gender equality, this trend is a **major warning sign for democracy**. The mechanism is well known: wherever civil society organizations, particularly feminist organizations, are attacked or weakened, civic space closes, countervailing powers recede, and authoritarian regimes thrive.

This backlash goes hand in hand with other factors that need to be explicitly named: an unprecedented challenge to international law and multilateralism, including

essential normative frameworks such as the Women, Peace and Security agenda, despite the intensification of conflicts and humanitarian crises.

In international relations, women's rights and gender equality are not secondary or peripheral issues: whether they are used as dividing lines, bargaining chips, or objects of manipulation, they are major geopolitical issues.

Adopting a very firm stance in the face of these multifaceted attacks

To redress global imbalances, the French Presidency makes the following proposal: *“Confronted with imbalances and rivalries, France will not settle for either a “might is right” approach, which would lead to subservience and a bloc mentality, or a moral posture limited to simple commentary which would condemn us to marginalization and powerlessness.”*

For Women 7, there is indeed an urgent need to prevent **the law of the strongest from becoming permanently established**. For decades, feminist researchers and activists have developed analytical frameworks for understanding this phenomenon. With regard to economic and financial imbalances, they point, for example, to underinvestment in healthcare systems, unequal access to labor markets and finance, and the gendered impact of debt and austerity. They also highlight **the links between a masculinist culture, the rise of the far right and populism, the brutalization of international relations, and geopolitical crises**. Today, the global situation proves the validity of these analyses, which had previously been largely overlooked by those in power. It is exacerbated by misinformation and the proliferation of hate speech. In this regard, it should be added that the regulation of **digital spaces** is an extremely important issue. In its 2026 annual report, the French High Council for Gender Equality identified online masculinism as a security issue. The lack of women involved in decisions relating to the adoption and implementation of AI presents a real risk that these imbalances and inequalities will be exacerbated.

As for the need to move beyond “moral posturing,” **feminist demands** offer solutions here too. Funding human rights organizations, promoting international solidarity, and protecting civic space are **concrete levers** for strengthening social resilience and **democratic stability**.

Ignoring this reactionary offensive will not make it go away: on the contrary, it will become more deeply and durably entrenched.

Mobilizing within the G7 and beyond

It should be remembered that the **G7** is an ambivalent decision-making forum. On the one hand, it lacks legitimacy compared to UN executives, but on the other, it has been a forum where certain **gender equality initiatives** have emerged. At the previous G7 summit in 2019, France, for example, facilitated the creation of the “Biarritz

Partnership” and set up its “Support Fund for Feminist Organizations,” which has since provided financial support to nearly 1,500 organizations around the world. Thanks to this fund, these organizations have been able to drive collective mobilization, support legislative changes, and carry out significant, even vital, actions around the world, including prevention of gender-based and sexual violence, access to justice, and the fight against climate change. In addition, the global visibility of the G7 makes it a gateway for mobilizing public opinion. It is in this context that Women 7's action takes place.

Today, we must add another layer of complexity: **recent policies adopted by certain G7 member States are seriously undermining gender equality, human rights, multilateralism, and democratic principles.**

The minimum objective is therefore to **leave no room for regression within the G7.** It is also a question of using the various events and processes directly or indirectly linked to France's G7 presidency to move forward, bringing together a wide range of actors beyond States.

It should be noted that the 5th Conference on **feminist diplomacy** will be held in Madrid, ten days before the G7 summit. Germany, Canada, France, and the United Kingdom, representing **the majority of G7 members**, signed the political declaration of the 4th conference in Paris in October 2025.

Four priorities to address before the turning point of the US presidency

In this context, France's presidency of the G7 must be a moment of important clarification: between the States that are orchestrating the backlash, those that are turning a blind eye, and those that are actually fighting it.

To those who turn a blind eye, we say that they must break their silence now. To those who are committed to fighting backlash, we say that now is the time to demonstrate this by redoubling their efforts. And in both cases, we call on these States to:

- **Affirm that the backlash** against the rights of women and girls in all their diversity, as well as LGBTQIA+ communities more broadly, **creates a major global imbalance for democracies.**
- Explicitly **recognize the fundamental role of civil society organizations**, particularly **feminist** organizations and civil society, in responding to global imbalances and defending democracy.
- **Make the political choice** to direct **substantial public financial resources towards supporting these organizations** at a time when such funding is at an all-time low. In concrete terms, this means providing direct, flexible, multi-year financial resources to feminist organizations in G7 countries and beyond, particularly local groups led by the Global South. It also means mobilizing financial institutions, private foundations and businesses to finance gender equality.

- Use their driving force to **bring together** and amplify the mobilization of various actors (other institutions, civil society, public opinion and the media, the private sector).

In 2027, the United States will take over the presidency of the G7 and, in the least unfavorable scenario, will neutralize any possibility of action. This is therefore the last year to consolidate alliances. The Women 7 calls for this fight to be structured with clarity and conviction.

Signatories

Associations

#StopFisha

Action communautaire pour le Bien être de l'Enfant et de la Femme au Burkina

Action des jeunes sans voix asbl

Action for Women

Action justice climat

ActionAid France

Actions pour la Réinsertion Sociale de la Femme

Afrihealth Optonet Association

Action Humanitaire pour les Initiatives du Développement Nord-Sud au Sahel

Aide Humanitaire et Journalisme

Aidos - Associazione Italiana Donne Per Lo Sviluppo

Amref Health Africa

Angels4Women

Asian-Pacific Resource and Research Centre for Women

Assirem n'yellis N'Djerdjer

Association au Secours des Filles Mères

Association belle et forte

Association Biowa

Association d'Aide à l'Education de l'Enfant Handicapé (AAEEH)

Association des Femmes de l'Europe Méridionale AFEM

Association Elkarama de Tozeur

Association Fida

Association Human Hope

Association interculturelle Daniel paris

Association Man For Woman

Association Nationale des Etudiant.e.s sages-femmes

Association Olympe

Association pour la Valorisation de la Femme

Association pour le développement des assistantes de maison "travailleuses domestiques", femmes et filles mères désœuvrées au Cameroun

Association Sauvons des Vies

Associazione di Solidarietà Donne per le Donne

Associazione Violetta

Associazione Women20
Aswat Nissa
Au tambour !
Austrian Family Planning Association
AXEPT - Safe Carefree Children Presently
Barwaqa relief organization
Batik International
Blue Circle Diabetes Foundation
Bullyid App - NMA Foundation and Safeintech
Business and Professional Women International
Cabinet de consultance Dr. Carla Laura Petruzzelli
CACI
Canadian Partnership for Women and Children's Health
CARE France
Católicas por el Derecho a Decidir
Centrale Supelec au féminin
Centre for Public Health
Cercle des voix courageuses
Cercle Interl
CF Posmishka UA
CF Slavic Heart
Charitable Organization "Charitable Fund "National Agency for Humanitarian Aid
Zdorov
Child Way Uganda
Children Education Society
Chirapaq, Centro de Culturas Indígenas del Perú
Civil society health Partnerships
Coalition des Organisations de la Société Civile pour le Financement de la Santé et la
CSU Coalition PLUS
ComFéministes
CommonAge; Commonwealth Foundation (Asia region)
Community Advocacy Initiative in Kenya
Congoese Family For Joy
Conseil Consultatif des Enfants et Jeunes de Guinée
Controparola
Cooperativa di Impresa Sociale CER
Coopérative des femmes Haïtiennes Engagées Pour le Développement
Coordination française pour le Lobby Européen des Femmes
Coordination SUD
CSEM for UHC2030
Debbo Consulting
Democrats Abroad Violence Against Women Task Force (Chair)
Decodeuses
Deutsche Stiftung Weltbevölkerung
Disability People's Forum Uganda
Disability Rights India Foundation

Donne e Scienza
Dr Uzo Adirieje Foundation
E2.0 Energy Service Company
Ecovanguard
Educate to Empower
Education International
Eleanor Crook Foundation
Electa
Ensemble Pour Elles
Equality Vanguard
Equipop
Espoir-Cameroun
Favour Health Foundation
Fédération pour la Promotion Féminine et Infantile
Feminist Diplomacy Lab
Feminist Task Force
Féministes contre le Cyberharcèlement
Femmes Artisanas de la Paix
Femmes Intéressées au Développement Antalaha
Femmes pour le Dire, Femmes pour Agir
Femnet
Fierté Afrique francophone
Fondation des Femmes
Fondation des femmes du moyen Atlas
Fondation des œuvres pour la solidarité et le Bien-être social UN Ecosoc
Fonds pour les femmes en Méditerranée
Forum d'avenir pour l'éducation et le développement à Ifrane
Forum des femmes Autochtones du Cameroun
Forum International des Femmes Handicapées Émergentes en Politique
Foundation Towards Dialogue
FP2030
FP2030 Asia - Pacific Hub
Friends of Saskatoon Afforestation Areas
Front pour l'égalité et les Droits des Femmes
Fundación Flor
Fundación Huésped
Fundacja GrowSPACE
Geledés - Instituto da Mulher Negra
Gender Action for Peace and Security
Gender and Development Network
GenDev Centre for Research and Innovation
Génération Cinq
Girls United for Human Rights
Global Health Advocacy Incubator
Global Health Advocates
Global Health Technology Coalition

Global Surgery Umbrella
Global Thinking Foundation
Greek Association of Female Entrepreneurs
WEnCoop
Balkan Women Coalition
Gret
Groupe Tawhida Ben Cheikh
Growing together 2.0
Guttmacher Institute
Handicapés et Fiers
Himaya Daim Aataa
Human Rights International Corner
Humanity Diaspo
ICF "Friends' hands"
ICRW
Initiative Congo debout
Institut du Genre en Géopolitique
International Federation of Business and Professional Women
International Women's Year Liaison Group
Ipas
Japan Emergency Peace Action
Japanese Organization for International Cooperation in Family Planning
JUMP pour l'Egalité
KAYAD
Kenya Network of people who use Drugs
La convergence pour le développement durable
Le cercle olympe de gougues
Les femmes de la diaspora tchadienne
Ligue Tunisienne des Droits de l'Homme
LiveWell Initiative
Local Girls Movement
Make Mothers Matter
Malaria and NTD'S Youth Corps Cameroon
MARA-Med
Margaret Pyke Trust
Mbulu Education Network
Mbuenet
Medfeminiswiya Network
Méditerranéenne solidaire
MEERA FOUNDATION
Midwives Association of Kenya
Mimoza executive committee
Morelle Alliance for Humanity
Most Inclusive Connect
Movimiento Mujeres Dominico-Haitianas
National Council of German Women's Organizations

NAWO India
Nigerian Women Agro Allied Farmers Association.
One Future Collective
ONG ASHAD
ONG Association de Lutte contre les Violences faites aux Femmes et aux Filles
OPD Fight For Right
Organisation Chand'elles Haïti
Organisation des Femmes Africaines de la Diaspora
Os Aido
OurCause
Paahibu Space
Paropakar Primary Health Care Centre
PAY-W Clinic
PLAID·ACT
Plan International Canada
Plan International France
Planning familial
PMNCH
Programme Femme et Environnement
Red Dot Foundation
Refam Dar Maalma
Refugee Women's Centre
Réseau des jeunes féministe Afrique de l'ouest
Réseau des journalistes et professionnels de communication pour la paix et la sécurité
(RJPS)
Réseau Féministe "Ruptures" (NGO France)
RESEAU FRANCOPHONE POUR L'EGALITE FH
Rural Infrastructure & Human Resource Development Organization
SAHEL URGENCE
Santé Sud
Sauti Salama
SHIELDTHEM SUPPORT ORGANIZATION
SMILY ACADEMY, special program of Indigenous Peoples Climate Justice Forum
Social Impact Center Albania
Society for Conservation and Sustainability of Energy and Environment in Nigeria
Solidarité Laïque
Solthis
Somerset County Commission of the Status of Women, New Jersey
Sorooptimist International
SOS Femmes en détresse
Sri Lanka Center for Development Facilitation
Stella's Girls, Inc.
Stop au Chat Noir
Sustainable Impact for the Development of Africa
Synergie Trans Bénin

TAFO MIHAAVO Reseau des communautes gestionnaire des ressources naturelles à Madagascar.

Tchowoure

The Dove Foundation for Global Change

The feminist Organization Tanit

Tinada Youth Action Africa

Trans arc-en-ciel Guinée

Transat

Tusa NGO

Ufedoc RDC

United Voices For Global Impact

Unspoken Smiles

Vie Saine Environnement Sain

Voice Up Japan

Voix de Femmes

WACI Health

Wagayway Equality, Inc.

WaterAid

We are NOT Weapons of War

WECF France

WECF International

WHEN Equity Empowerment Change

WiLDAF Togo

WILPF Youth

Women & Girls Capabilities & Empowerment Organization

Women EdTech

Women Empowered

Women for Positive Actions

Women in Hepatitis Africa

Women in Nexus

Women's World Banking

Young World Federation of Public Health Associations

Young Women Network

Youth Coalition for Sexual and Reproductive Rights

Youth Initiative for Development

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