

28 July 2025 Geneva, Switzerland

Summit of Women Speakers of Parliament



Inter-Parliamentary Union
For democracy. For everyone.

Nationalrat
Conseil national
Consiglio nazionale
National Council

#15SWSP



Leading for inclusive and lasting peace

Monday, 28 July 2025, 10:00-17:30

Provisional programme

10:00–10:40

Opening session

Dr. Tulia Ackson, IPU President

Ms. Maja Riniker, President of the National Council of Switzerland and
President of the Summit

Remarks by

Ms. Tatiana Valovaya, Director-General of the United Nations Office at
Geneva

10:40–12:40

Session 1: The women, peace and security agenda 25 years on: Persisting challenges and the way forward

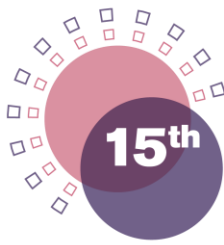
This session will focus on taking stock of the implementation of the women, peace and security agenda since the adoption of UN Security Council resolution 1325 in 2000. Women Speakers and Presidents will share information and views on progress and persisting challenges. They will also share experience and solutions on stepping up the leadership of women in peace and security, addressing the gendered effects of conflict on women and girls, and paving the way for inclusive and sustainable peace for the whole of society. They will reflect in particular on their role as women leaders of parliament in advancing the women, peace and security agenda.

Session keynote address

Video message from HRH the Grand Duchess Maria Teresa of Luxembourg,
Global Champion for the Fight Against Sexual Violence in Conflict

Statements by women Speakers and Presidents

- Ms. Khuon Sudary, President of the National Assembly (Cambodia)
- Ms. Kandia Kamissoko Camara, President of the Senate (Côte d'Ivoire)
- Ms. Maria Fernanda Lay, Speaker of the National Parliament (Timor-Leste)
- Ms. Verona Murphy, Chairwoman of Dáil Éireann (House of Representatives) (Ireland)
- Ms. Sahiba Gafarova, Chairwoman of the National Assembly (Azerbaijan)
- Ms. Marketa Pekarova Adamova, President of the Chamber of Deputies (Czechia)



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- Ms. Margarida Adamugy Talapa, Speaker of the Assembly of the Republic (Mozambique)
- Ms. Beline Uwineza, Deputy Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies (Rwanda)
- Ms. Nelly Butete Kashumba Mutti, Speaker of the National Assembly (Zambia)
- Ms. Thorunn Sveinbjarnardottir, Speaker of the Althingi (Iceland)
- Ms. Valentina Matvienko, Speaker of the Council of the Federation of the Federal Assembly (Russian Federation)
- Ms. Saara Kuugongelwa-Amadhila, Speaker of the National Assembly (Namibia)
- Ms. Natalia Kiselova, Speaker of the National Assembly (Bulgaria)
- Ms. Lashell Adderley, President of the Senate (Bahamas)
- Ms. Mamonaheng Mokitimi, President of the Senate (Lesotho)
- Ms. Mabel M. Chinomona, President of the Senate (Zimbabwe)
- Ms. Lindiwe Dlamini, President of the Senate (Eswatini)
- Ms. Tanzila Narbaeva, Chairwoman of the Senate (Uzbekistan)
- Ms. Angela Thokozile Didiza, Speaker of the National Assembly (South Africa)
- Ms. Carolina Cerqueira, Speaker of the National Assembly (Angola)
- Ms. Cynthia Lopez Castro, President of the IPU Bureau of Women Parliamentarians (Mexico)
- Ms. H. bint Hassan Al Sulaiti, Member of the IPU Executive Committee and Deputy Speaker of the Shura Council (Qatar)
- Ms. Katarina Barley, Vice-President (European Parliament)
- Ms. Maryam Bin Theneya, President of the Women Parliamentary Forum (Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean)
- Ms. Memounatou Ibrahima, Speaker of the Parliament (ECOWAS Parliament)

12:40–13:00

Group photo

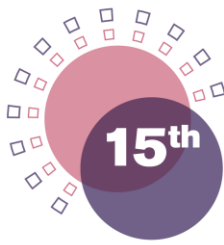
Women Speakers of Parliament, women Presidents of regional or international parliamentary assemblies that are Associate Members and permanent observers of the IPU, and high-level guests will be invited for a group photo in the premises of the International Labour Organization.

13:00–14:30

Lunch break

Lunch will be served to women Speakers of Parliament, women Presidents of regional or international parliamentary assemblies that are Associate Members and Permanent Observers of the IPU, and high-level guests in the “Marble Room” on the 11th floor (access via 10th floor) of the International Labour Organization building.

A lunch buffet for accompanying delegations and all other participants will be available at the “Les Morillons” Restaurant, on floor R2 North of the International Labour Organization building.



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14:30–17:00

Session 2: Emerging challenges to inclusive and lasting peace and the way forward

This session will focus on emerging challenges to peace, security and safety, in particular climate change, artificial intelligence (AI) and gender-based and racial violence online. Women Speakers and Presidents will uncover different aspects and dimensions of such emerging challenges and their impact on women and girls. They will also share good practices and solutions to tackle the challenges, from their perspective as women leaders of parliament.

Session keynote address

Keynote address by Ms. Sofia Calltorp, Director Geneva Office and Chief of Humanitarian Action, UN Women

Doha-style debate among women Speakers and Presidents

The Doha Debate format involves focusing on controversial motions, with some women Speakers and Presidents speaking in agreement with the motion and others expressing views that differ from the motion. This style of debate aims to stimulate lively exchanges among the women Speakers and Presidents.

Debate on Motion 1 (14:45-15:45)

Climate change is gender-neutral, it has the same impact on women and men

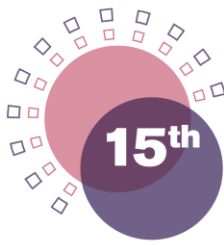
The debate among Speakers and Presidents supporting the motion and those of different views will be followed by contributions from the floor by other Speakers.

Speakers and Presidents in agreement with the motion:

- Ms. Khuon Sudary, President of the National Assembly (Cambodia)

Speakers and Presidents with views that differ from the motion:

- Ms. Kandia Kamissoko Camara, President of the Senate (Côte d'Ivoire)
- Ms. Margarida Adamugy Talapa, Speaker of the Assembly of the Republic (Mozambique)
- Ms. Beline Uwizeza, Deputy Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies (Rwanda)
- Ms. Nelly Butete Kashumba Mutti, Speaker of the National Assembly (Zambia)
- Ms. Saara Kuugongelwa-Amadhila, Speaker of the National Assembly (Namibia)



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- Ms. Lashell Adderley, President of the Senate (Bahamas)
- Ms. Mabel M. Chinomona, President of the Senate (Zimbabwe)

Debate on Motion 2 (15:45-17:00)

It is already too late to make AI gender-sensitive and to eliminate violence against women online

The debate among Speakers and Presidents supporting the motion and those of different views will be followed by contributions from the floor by other Speakers.

Speakers and Presidents in agreement with the motion:

- Ms. Antonina Ņenaševa, Deputy Speaker of Parliament (Latvia)
- Video message from Ms. Dunyagozel Akmuhammedovna Gulmanova, Chairwoman of The Assembly (Turkmenistan)

Speakers and Presidents with views that differ from the motion:

- Ms. Thorunn Sveinbjarnardottir, Speaker of the Althingi (Iceland)
- Ms. Raymonde Gagné, Speaker of the Senate (Canada)
- Ms. Kandia Kamissoko Camara, President of the Senate (Côte d'Ivoire)
- Ms. Katarina Barley, Vice-President (European Parliament)
- Ms. Cynthia Lopez Castro, President of the IPU Bureau of Women Parliamentarians (Mexico)

17:00–17:30

Closing session

Key findings and conclusions

Closing remarks

Ms. Maja Riniker, President of the National Council of Switzerland and President of the Summit

Dr. Tulia Ackson, IPU President