

Women's Leadership for Peace and Security

CLUB DE MADRID MEMBERS INVOLVED

MARTTI AHTISAARI
President of Finland
(1994-2000)
2009 Nobel Peace Prize
Laureate
Former U.N. Special Envoy
to the Horn of Africa

SADIG AL MAHDI
Prime Minister of Sudan
(1966-1967, 1986-1989)

VALDIS BIRKAVS
Prime Minister of Latvia
(1993-1994)

KJELL MAGNE BONDEVIK
Prime Minister of Norway
(1997-2000, 2001-2005)

KIM CAMPBELL
Prime Minister of Canada
(1993)
Former Minister of
Defense of Canada

JOAQUIM CHISSANO
President of Mozambique
(1986-2004)
Former U.N.
Special Envoy to Uganda

VAIRA VIKE-FREIBERGA
President of Latvia
(1999-2007)

WIM KOK
Prime Minister of the
Netherlands
(1994-2002)

ALPHA OMAR KONARE
President of Mali
(1992-2002)

**CHANDRIKA
KUMARATUNGA**
President of Sri Lanka
(1994-2005)

BENJAMIN MKAPA
President of Tanzania
(1995-2000, 2000-2006)

MARY ROBINSON
President of Ireland
(1990-1997)
Former U.N.
High Commissioner for
Human Rights

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WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY IN CONTEXT

Important progress has been made in terms of the number of women elected and appointed to office around the world. However, women continue to face significant structural disadvantages in politics and decision-making worldwide. Nowhere is the void of women's representation more noticeable and unacceptable than in matters of peace and security. The reason is simple: while women continue to experience the full impact of violent conflict as civilians and combatants – and too often as targets of extreme forms of violence – they are still generally excluded from the decision-making processes that ignite wars and put an end to hostilities.

ABOUT THE PROJECT

This project utilizes a proven methodology of leaders working with leaders – both male and female, including women recently elected or aspirants to political office – to build strategies and capacities for increased, effective participation of women and representation in political decision-making, particularly as it concerns peace and security matters. In response to requests from leaders for a more

“Women experience the full impact of violent conflict as civilians and combatants – all too often as targets of extreme forms of violence. That they are excluded from the decision-making processes that ignite wars and put an end to them is unacceptable and must stop.”

Mary Robinson
President of Ireland (1990-1997)

focused systematic engagement on this issue – and building on the experiences and outcomes of the Club de Madrid's recently concluded **African Women Leaders Project (AWLP)** – the Club de Madrid has launched the **Women's Leadership for Peace and Security** Project in the Greater Horn of Africa (Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Somalia, Somaliland, Sudan and Uganda), and in the Andean region (Bolivia and Colombia).

THE BACKBONE: U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1325

United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 (UNSCR 1325) calls for women's equal participation in decisions concerning peace and security.

Using 1325 as leverage, the project works directly with women leaders and women's groups in the Greater Horn of Africa and the Andean region to promote interaction and dialogue with national, regional and international decision-making structures and mechanisms to engage in peace and security policy-making.

MAXIMIZING THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN PEACE AND SECURITY MATTERS

Despite some recent successful efforts led by women for peace in the Greater Horn of Africa, this work is seldom acknowledged and women generally remain absent from policy dialogue with government on the critical issues of peace and security that have fundamental gender dimensions and implications.

There are also significant challenges to increasing women's leadership and decision-making roles in security initiatives and peace-making in the Andean region: the overall contribution of women to the formation and implementation of security and peace policies in the region is minimal, and priority is rarely given to supporting their ability to address these conflicts and to build stable, peaceful, democratic institutions.

SECURITY FLUENCY & A SEAT AT THE NEGOTIATING TABLE

In order to maximize the participation and contribution of women in political dialogue and national, regional and international security decision-making in the target countries, Club de Madrid members and project partners focus on the following two components:

- **Learning security fluency:** building women's knowledge of and capacity to address peace and security issues; and
- **Securing a seat for women at the decision-making table:** advancing women's participation in and influence on security policy and practice, at all levels.

GENERATING IMPACT

A core group of Club de Madrid members facilitates and works with local partners towards building the capacity of women leaders in both regions to lead political advocacy campaigns, targeting policy-makers inside and outside the regions. The project connects women's groups and political decision-makers to address and begin to bring down the barriers that prevent women from greater participation at national and regional leadership levels in conflict transformation and post-conflict governance.



PARTNERS

- BOLIVIA**
UNIR-Bolivia
Foundation
- COLOMBIA**
UN Women
- SOUTH AFRICA**
Institute for Security
Studies
- UGANDA**
Isis Women’s International
Cross-Cultural Exchange

ASSOCIATES

- African Union Commission
(AUC)
- Intergovernmental Authority on
Development (IGAD)
- United Nations Economic Com-
mission for Africa
(UNECA)
- DJIBOUTI**
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ben-
der Djedid Community Organi-
sation
- KENYA**
UNDP-Kenya.
UNIFEM-Kenya.
- SOMALIA**
Transitional Federal Govern-
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ABOUT THE CLUB DE MADRID

The Club de Madrid constitu-
tes the world’s largest forum of
democratic former Presidents
and Prime Ministers and offers
today’s leaders an unequalled
body of knowledge and political
leadership experience.

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PROJECT OBJECTIVE

Over a three year period (2009-2012), the project will raise the level of attention and political commitment to expanding the numbers and roles of women (from the grassroots up) organizing for peace and security in varied conflict and post-conflict settings.

PROJECT ACTIVITIES (2009-2010):

In the Greater Horn of Africa:

Seven high-level missions have been held in Addis Ababa (October 2009 & October 2010), Kampala (November 2009 & September 2010), Djibouti (December 2009) and Nairobi (February 2010 & May 2010) under the leadership of Club de Madrid Members Valdis Birkavs (Latvia), Kjell Magne Bondevik (Norway), Kim Campbell (Canada) and Mary Robinson (Ireland) and, engaging top leadership at international, regional and national levels on pressing issues of peace and security.

“If you do not understand the role of certain women in their communities, you do not understand how they can be supporters in the process of creating order, and the mission will be a failure ”

Hon. Kim Campbell
Prime Minister of Canada (1993)

In the Andean Region:

Two high-level missions were conducted to Bolivia and Colombia focused on promoting multi-sectoral, inclusive and participatory processes for the development and institutionalization of the countries’ respective UNSCR 1325 Nation Action Plans (NAPs). A delegation led by Member Vike-Freiberga (Latvia) to Bogotá (November 2009) constituted a significant step towards eventually leveraging UNSCR 1325 as a transformative gender mainstreaming tool in Colombia.

Advocacy

Intensive advocacy is being carried out in Brussels with relevant EU representatives. This has also served to strengthen the relationships between G40 and EU decision-makers. The G40 is now a new actor in international fora working on UNSCR 1325 which gives this project sustainable impact.

“Women’s organizations are really powerful, and you (G40) as a network of women in the Greater Horn of Africa can harness that strength to the benefit of the Greater Horn of Africa, to include the issues on the national agenda (...) it takes time, courage, effort, assistance and cooperation.”

Valdis Birkavs
Prime Minister of Latvia
(1993-1994)

THE G40

GROUP OF 40 WOMEN LEADERS

The G40 is a community of teachers, humanitarian workers, lawyers, grassroots peace activists, researchers, political scientists, business professionals, historians, social workers, human rights defenders and journalists that was formed in 2009 in the framework of the **Women’s Leadership for Peace and Security** in the Greater Horn of Africa project to bring fresh thinking to crisis prevention and recovery in the Greater Horn of Africa and to push new ideas into action through the communal forces of women’s networks and constituencies in Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Somalia (Puntland and South Central), Somaliland, Sudan and Uganda.

G40’s Strengths

- Multi-sectoral expertise on peace and security in the region that can provide know-how and insight to practical solutions.
- Ability to identify common ground.
- Generate options for resolving deadlocks from the bottom up.

G40 Achievements

- Engaging in Sudanese 2010 elections.
- Assessing the Somali Constitution Committee during the Drafting Process.
- Mainstreaming UNSCR 1325 in the Peace Recovery and Development Plan for Northern Uganda.
- Organizing for the Somaliland Elections.
- Engaging with high-level officials in Djibouti.
- Running as candidates for Parliament.



Members Kim Campbell, PM Canada (1993) and Mary Robinson, Pres. Ireland (1990-1997) with local partners in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

