



## **Better Together UN80 Initiative 2025 United Nations Day of Peace: First Ladies Becoming High-Level Forum**

**Theme: First Ladies Becoming Actions for Peace: Ambition for Women as Key Players in Promoting Sustainable Development.”**

**Tuesday September 22,2025  
9:00AM -4:00PM**

**The United Nations Salvation Army International  
Social Justice Commission Auditorium  
221 East 52nd Street New York, NY 10022 . USA**



# 2025 United Nations Day of Peace

**First Ladies Becoming Actions for Peace:  
Ambition for Women as Key Players in Promoting  
Sustainable Development at UNGA80 Session**

First Ladies' Presentations on Peace

Post 30+ Beijing Women's Conference on Women and Peace

Gender Priority Strategy, GEPs on Women and Peace

Ring the Peace Bell

Awards and Recognitions

Fellow Gender Priority Strategy



**Date:** Monday, September 22, 2025

**Time:** 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

**Location:** The United Nations Salvation Army International  
Social Justice Commission Auditorium  
221 East 52<sup>nd</sup> Street, New York, New York 10022, USA

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In 1981, the United Nations General Assembly declared the third Tuesday of September as the International Day of Peace. This day coincided with the opening day of the annual sessions of the General Assembly. The purpose of the day is to strengthen the ideals of peace and harmony around the world.

Since 2010, our organization, with UN ECOSOC NGOs on Gender Equality, the Africana Women Working Group at the UN, has continued to advance the cause of women in leadership positions through our program, First Ladies Becoming High-Level Forum on SDG-16 and Targets, to bring global awareness to the most needed roles of First ladies of Nations in women and peace.

In the words of United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres, "Peace is needed today more than ever. War and conflict are unleashing devastation, poverty, and hunger, and driving tens of millions of people from their homes. Climate chaos is all around. And even peaceful countries are gripped by gaping inequalities and political polarization." Women, especially First Ladies of Nations, have a significant role to play, and we are committed to this cause towards our passionate commitment to achieving a peaceful society.

This year's theme for Peace Day is **"Act Now for a Peaceful World."** As a call to action in times of turbulence, tumult, and uncertainty, it urges everyone to take concrete action to mobilize for peace. It also recognizes our individual and collective responsibility to foster peace and contribute to the realization and achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This will help create a culture of peace for all women and girls.

The Africana Women Working Group will explore strategies on how to advance the theme through discussion and conversation by "First Ladies Becoming Actions for Peace: Ambition for Women as Key Players in Promoting Sustainable Development."

The purpose is to discuss women's role as key players in GEPS (Gender Priority Strategy)

This entails:

- Review of Gender Actions on SDG 16 and Targets
- Women work to address the challenges and gaps in advancing gender equality.
- Generation Equality and Ambition for First Ladies linked to promoting sustainable development.
- Conversations with First Ladies and their key role as key players in the Gender Priority Strategy, in promoting global peace.
- Gender Priority Strategy GEPS Action Model on gender actions for peace.

The outcome of the event will ignite action to further the GEPS on Gender Actions for Peace by partnering with First Ladies to become pillars of a sustainable world.

Peace is possible in our lifetime through global citizens working in unity and harmony. Since the establishment of the United Nations and the creation of the Charter of the United Nations, member states have a responsibility to work towards achieving the agenda for 2020 of Leaving No One Behind.

Life is better in a world where peace exists, and today, we look to those who have been peacemakers and peacekeepers to learn what we can each do individually to make the world a more peaceful place, as well as advance the Gender Priority Strategy as women.

## **From the UN on 2025 Theme: Act Now for a Peaceful World**

In a time of turbulence, tumult, and uncertainty, it is critical for everyone to take concrete action to mobilize for peace.

From peacekeepers on the front lines of conflict to community members to students in classrooms around the world, everyone has a role to play. We must speak up against violence, hate, discrimination, and inequality; practice respect; and embrace the diversity of our world.

There are many ways to act right now. Spark conversations about the urgent need for understanding, non-violence, and disarmament. Volunteer in your community, listen to voices different from your own, challenge discriminatory language in your workplace, report bullying both online and offline, and take the time to verify facts before you post on social media.

You can also speak up with your choices, opting to purchase items from socially conscious brands or donating to organizations that promote sustainability and human rights.

The United Nations also works in each of these areas, leading global efforts to advance human rights, fight climate change, and prevent and respond to conflict.

Through its Peacebuilding Commission, which is marking its twentieth anniversary in 2025, the United Nations works to address poverty, inequality, discrimination, and injustice – all potential drivers of violence. Through its 17 Sustainable Development Goals, the United Nations supports countries' efforts to increase prosperity, raise health and living standards, and end all forms of discrimination and injustice. UN peacekeepers work in difficult and dangerous conditions around the world, inspiring us all to take action.

And in its recently adopted Pact for the Future, the United Nations promised to address emerging challenges and opportunities – such as in science, technology and innovation – and support the active engagement of future generations.

The United Nations' ActNow Campaign has helped millions of people around the globe choose issues they care about, commit to action, and track their impact.

All of our efforts are connected. From UN-supported health clinics to youth-led advocacy for the rights of the world's most vulnerable, and from debates in parliaments to debates in history class, we can all do our part to build a more peaceful world.

Let our actions for peace resonate louder than words.

### **Program Format:**

Opening remarks and Call to 2025 UN Day of Peace.

The Africana Women Working Group at the UN, The Permanent Observer Mission of the Pan African Intergovernmental Agency for Water and Sanitation to the United Nations, Federation of World Peace and Love FOWPAL

Welcome song and dance by FOWPAL Volunteers

Review of Gender Actions on SDG 16 and Targets

- Special Guest Speakers
- Theme: First Ladies Becoming Actions for Peace: Ambition for Women as Key Players in Promoting Sustainable Development.

Challenges and gaps in advancing gender equality for women and peace.

- Gender and peace advocates

Generation Equality and Ambition for First Ladies linked to promoting sustainable development.

- Presentation from First Ladies

Conversation with First Ladies and their key role as key players in the Gender Priority Strategy for promoting global peace.

- First Ladies Session

Gender Priority Strategy GEPS Action Model on gender actions for peace.

- Gender Priority Strategy Ambassadors sharing

FOWPAL Dancers and Bell Ceremony

2025 Culture of Peace for Peace Advocates, Women, and Girls: Ring the Peace Bell

- First Ladies and Esteemed Persons to Ring the Peace Bell and Presentation of Peace Awards by the Federation of World Peace and Love FOWPAL

Presentation and Decoration of Fellow Gender Priority Strategy FGEPS

Better Together UNGA80: UN Day of Peace Clarion Call to Action

Closing Remarks

Lunch, sharing, conversation, and networking.



**United  
Nations**



Building  
Our Future  
Together



## UNGA80 Session Side Event

### **Better Together:**

**A Luncheon to Commemorate the Pact for  
Sustainable Development Goals and the  
Commissioning of Science-Based Solutions  
for Clean Water and Sanitation.**

23rd September 2025

10:00 am – 4:00 pm

At Delegate Dining Lounge, 4th Floor,  
United Nations Headquarters, New York

For more information, contact:

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## **The UNGA80 Initiative**

The UN80 initiative is the United Nations' ambitious, system-wide reform effort, launched by Secretary-General António Guterres in March 2025 as the UN marks its [80th anniversary](#).

### **It responds to a vital question »»**

How can the UN adapt to become more agile, integrated, and equipped to respond to today's complex global challenges amid tightening resources?

UN80 builds on previous reforms — including the UN development system repositioning, the peace and security reform, the management reform, and [UN 2.0](#) — but takes them further. It aims to make the United Nations more responsive and resilient; better equipped to serve the people whose lives depend on it; more accountable to taxpayers who underwrite its work; and more supportive of staff in their critical roles.

It's about doing more, more effectively, and with fewer bureaucratic burdens — ensuring the UN system is better aligned to meet rising global needs with unity, agility, and purpose.

The Secretary-General appointed a dedicated UN80 task force to elaborate reform proposals across the following three key areas:

#### **1. Efficiencies and improvements**

Work is underway to identify efficiencies in the management and operations of the United Nations Secretariat and the system as a whole.

#### **2. Mandates implementation**

A comprehensive review of approximately 4,000 resolutions and other mandate source documents is underway to streamline delivery, reduce duplication, and increase impact. The initial focus has been on the work of the Secretariat, but this will be extended across the system.

#### **3. Potential structural changes and program realignments**

Potential structural changes to the architecture of the UN system and realignment of programs across entities are being explored to ensure optimal coherence, resource use, and impact.

### **What are the goals of the initiative?**

To create a UN that is:

- More efficient and cost-effective.
- More responsive to crises and countries' needs.
- More effective in the delivery of the Sustainable Development Goals.
- More accountable to taxpayers and the people it serves.
- More supportive of UN staff and their mission-critical work.

The Initiative aims to use our finite resources as effectively as possible and with fewer bureaucratic burdens.



