



Global Affairs Canada: Feminist Foreign Policy Dialogue

Thank you for your contribution to the feminist foreign policy dialogue. We invite you to provide your contribution below, within the five (5)-page limit

Self Identification:

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Please indicate if you are submitting this contribution:

- ☒ As an individual
- ☐ On behalf of an organization
- ☐ On behalf of a group of organizations or individuals

Please indicate the areas covered in your contribution:

- ☒ Overarching considerations
- ☐ Enhanced diplomatic engagement
- ☐ Women, Peace and Security (WPS)
- ☐ Responding to evolving vulnerabilities
- ☐ Inclusive digital transformation
- ☐ Other: please specify

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Written Contribution:

* Please respect the **five (5)-page limit**

1. I am concerned that the Minister of International Trade's office's has disclosed it will renege on the government's 2018 promise and will refuse to establish a human rights Ombudsperson office with the power to do its job — holding businesses accountable for human rights violations in commercial operations overseas.
2. Corporate accountability must be a key component of Canada's Feminist Foreign Policy
 - Women, girls, and vulnerable communities are often disproportionately impacted by business-related human rights abuses.
 - Achieving Canada's Feminist Foreign Policy objectives will be impossible unless Canada takes action to curb corporate abuse.
3. The Government of Canada must:
 - *Empower* the Canadian Ombudsperson for Responsible Enterprise (CORE)
 - An effective CORE is mandated to independently investigate human rights abuse allegations and has the power to compel documents and testimony.
 - The CORE should publish gender-responsive investigation procedures and gender-transformative recommendations.
 - *Enact* a comprehensive mandatory human rights due diligence law
 - that requires companies to prevent human rights abuse and environmental harms in their global operations and supply chains
 - that includes real consequences for failing to take all reasonable steps to prevent harm