



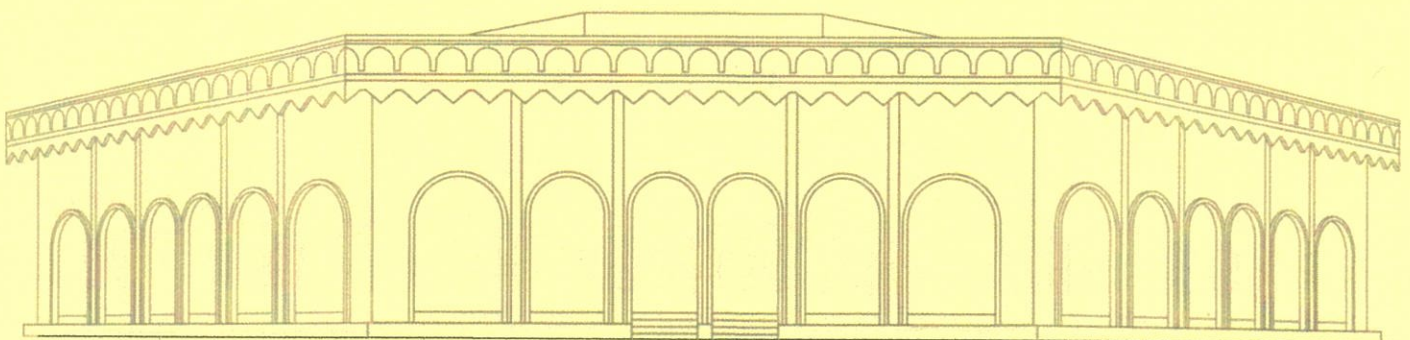
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15th Summit of Women Speakers of Parliament
28 July 2025,
Switzerland

Fellow Colleagues,

Twenty-five years ago, UN Security Council Resolution 1325 was instrumental in formally recognising the unique role of women in building peace and security. A quarter of a century later, it is time to take a hard look at where we are and where we need to go.

Let us acknowledge the progress that has been made. Today, there is greater awareness of women's unique contribution to conflict mediation and peacebuilding, and there are significant advances in the legal recognition of sexual violence as a war crime.





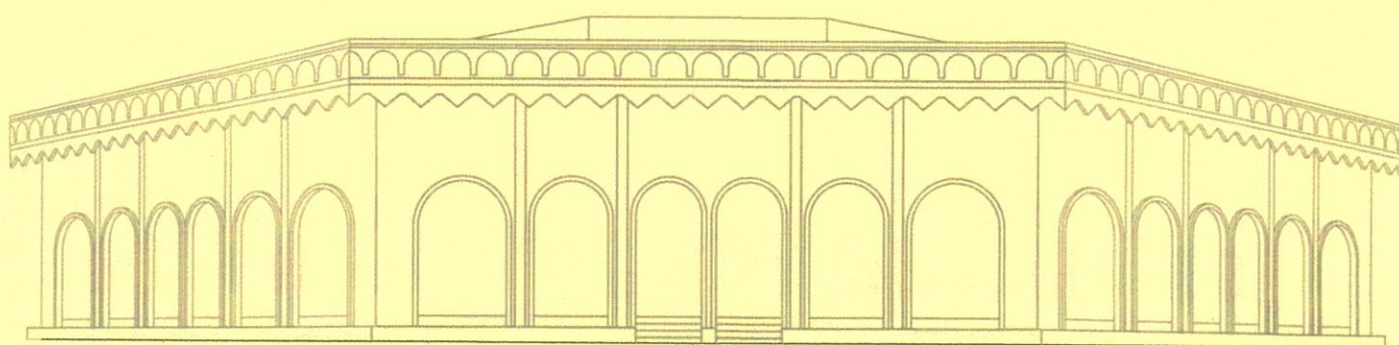
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However, alarming challenges persist, as women remain drastically underrepresented at the negotiating table – with only 13% of negotiators and 6% of signatories to peace agreements being women.

Funding for women's organisations working for peace remains inadequate, accounting for less than 1% of peace and security-related aid.

Even more worrying is that impunity for sexual violence crimes remains widespread, and we witness how women's rights are frequently instrumentalized rather than genuinely supported.

As parliamentarians, we have specific responsibilities, we need to seek ideas and solutions to increase women's participation in peace processes, ideas and solutions to ensure direct funding for women-led organizations, and ideas and solutions to strengthen accountability mechanisms.





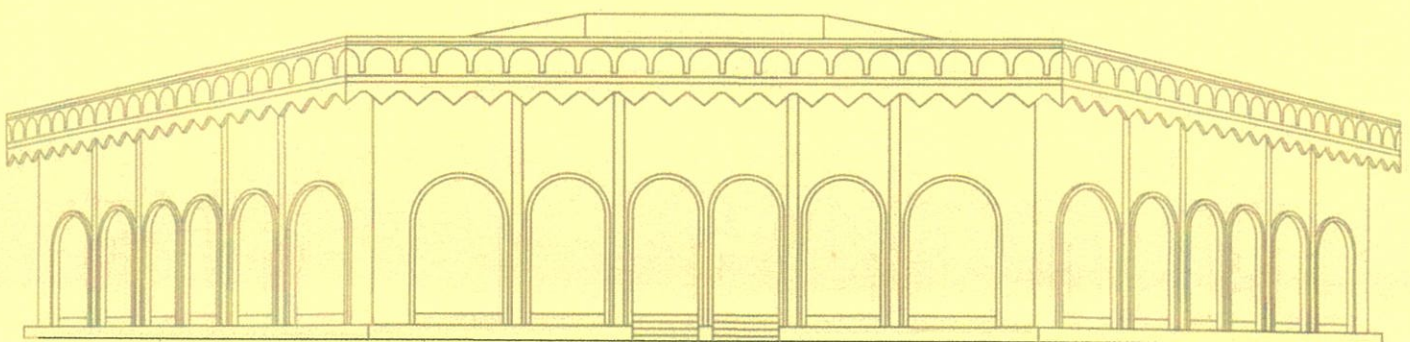
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The path forward requires concrete action; we cannot accept another 25 years of slow progress while conflicts continue to destroy communities and women remain marginalized from solutions.

Sustainable peace is only possible with the full and meaningful participation of women. Colleagues, the Women, Peace and Security agenda is not just a question of rights – it is a question of effectiveness. UN Women’s global study, which analysed 40 peace processes since the end of the Cold War, shows that agreements with female participation are 35% more likely to last at least 15 years.

Further research shows that the likelihood of sustainable peace after 20 years is 70% when women sign the agreements, compared with only 25% when they do not participate.

It is time to turn commitments into concrete legislative action. Let us draw inspiration from the wisdom of the Spanish poet Antonio Machado, who said:





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Wanderer, there is no path, the path is made by walking.
Walking is the path, and looking back you see the path that
will never be walked again.

Thank you.

