



GAC CSW69/Beijing+30
Care Advocacy
Toolkit

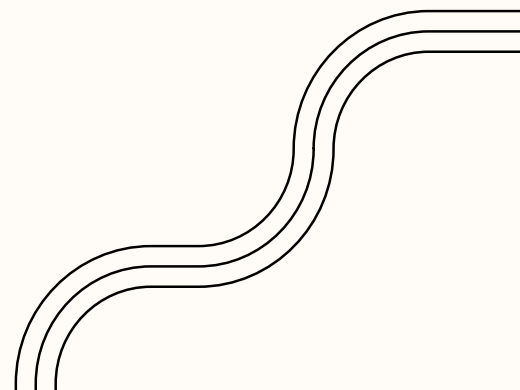
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Introduction

In its 2025–2030 Strategic Priorities, the Global Alliance for Care (GAC) devised several multilateral care advocacy actions and identified key multilateral spaces to promote discussions on care, influence policymakers and other stakeholders to take action on care, and finally, position the cross-cutting nature and centrality of care in the development agenda. The sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women were highlighted as a critical space due to its focus on gender equality and the care agenda's relation to it, and an **opportunity for the Global Alliance for Care** to convene spaces for exchange, conversation, and networking among members.

In 2024, the GAC Secretariat took the initiative to compile and disseminate its members' care-specific events within the CSW framework. As part of the 2025–2030 action priorities, and building on members' efforts, this advocacy toolkit has been designed as an information resource for Alliance members seeking to participate in CSW69/Beijing+30 and promote a transformative vision of care within and beyond the session.



First time at CSW?: What is it and why is it important?

The **Commission on the Status of Women (CSW)** is the principal global intergovernmental body dedicated to promoting gender equality and women's empowerment. Established in 1946 by the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), CSW meets annually at the United Nations Headquarters in New York to discuss policies, programs, and actions that address challenges affecting women and girls worldwide

CSW Composition

The Commission on the Status of Women is composed of one representative of 45 UN member states, elected by ECOSOC for a four-year term based on the following geographical distribution¹:

- 12 members from Africa
- 11 from Asia
- Nine from Latin America and the Caribbean
- Eight from Western Europe and other States
- Four from Eastern Europe

The **CSW Bureau**² is the coordinating body responsible for organizing and facilitating the work of the Commission. It consists of representatives from **five Member States**, elected according to the same equitable geographical distribution as the full Commission. The Bureau plays a key role in setting the **agenda** and **themes** for each CSW session. The **Chair of the Bureau** rotates annually among the geographic groups. Bureau members serve a **two-year term** and work closely with UN Women to ensure the smooth functioning of CSW sessions.

¹ Current members of the Commission [here](#)

² The Bureau for the 69th session of the Commission on the Status of Women (2025) comprises the following members: H.E. Mr. Abdulaziz M. Alwasil (Saudi Arabia), Chair, Asia and Pacific States Group; H.E. Ms. Maritza Chan Valverde (Costa Rica), Vice-Chair, Latin American and Caribbean States Group; Ms. Dúnia Eloísa Pires do Canto (Cabo Verde), Vice-Chair, African States Group; Ms. Robin Maria de Vogel (Netherlands), Vice-Chair Designate (Western European and Other States Group); Ms. Nataliia Mudrenko (Ukraine), Vice-Chair, Eastern European States Group

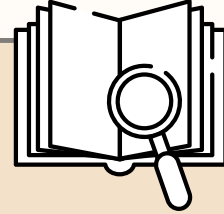
What happens at the CSW sessions?

Every year, the CSW brings together **United Nations member states, civil society organizations, and UN bodies for a two-week session at the UN Headquarters in New York**, focusing on the progress and challenges in advancing gender equality globally. Each session has a specific theme related to gender equality, referred to as the priority theme. Additionally, the CSW assesses the progress made in implementing the agreed conclusions from previous sessions, a process known as the review theme. The session typically results in a set of agreed conclusions, a document that offers a diagnosis, and concrete actions for the priority and review themes.

On the other hand, several side events, organized by member states, sometimes in collaboration with other actors, run parallel to the CSW negotiations, allowing broader conversations beyond the fixed program. Similarly, an NGO CSW Forum has been convened since 1972 to create a more open space for civil society and feminist organizations to organize their own parallel events, strategize around CSW, and inform global conversations. Other parallel events may occur in New York or virtually, taking advantage of the physical presence of stakeholders or heightened interest in gender equality.

Every year, high-level policymakers, including officials from several ministries (often including women's or gender-related ministries), feminist organizations, civil society actors, and international organizations, gather in person in New York for this occasion. Thus, the CSW and its parallel activities offer a unique space to dialogue with these actors, delve deeper into gender issues, discuss emerging priorities, influence the multilateral agenda, and establish global frameworks for concrete actions to achieve gender equality.

In **2025, the CSW will hold its 69th session, marking the 30th anniversary of the adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (1995)**. The main focus of this session will be to review and assess the progress made in implementing the commitments outlined in the Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcomes of the 23rd special session of the General Assembly, alongside a review of current challenges affecting the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of women.



Summary:

- **Negotiations on Agreed Conclusions:** Member States discuss and adopt a final document with policy recommendations.
- **High-Level Panels and Ministerial Meetings:** Government representatives, UN officials, and experts share insights on gender-related issues.
- **Side Events:** held within the UN venue and organized by governments, UN agencies, and ECOSOC-accredited CSOs to discuss specific gender-related topics.
- **Parallel Events:** Civil society organizations and other stakeholders host sessions outside the UN venue—at the NGO CSW Forum or elsewhere—to discuss perspectives and advocacy strategies.
- **Networking and Advocacy:** CSW serves as a key space for forming alliances, influencing policymakers, and pushing for gender-related commitments.

What are the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, and Beijing+30?

The **Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action** were the outcomes of the Fourth World Conference on Women. The **World Conferences on Women** were a series of international gatherings organized by the United Nations to address global issues concerning women's rights, gender equality, and the empowerment of women. There have been four **World Conferences on Women**³:

First World Conference on Women (1975)

- **Location:** Mexico City, Mexico
- **Context:** Held within the framework of the International Women's Year
- **Outcome:** World Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Women's Year

Second World Conference on Women (1980)

- **Location:** Copenhagen, Denmark
- **Context:** Aimed to review progress in implementing the goals of the First World Conference, focusing on employment, health, and education.
- **Outcome:** World Programme of Action

Third World Conference on Women (1985)

- **Location:** Nairobi, Kenya
- **Context:** Held within the framework of the Review and Appraisal of the Achievements of the UN Decade for Women
- **Outcome:** Nairobi Forward-Looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women

Fourth World Conference on Women (1995)

- **Location:** Beijing, China
- **Context:** Marked the culmination of two decades of advocacy and international dialogue on the need for gender equality.
- **Outcome:** Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action

³ UN Women (2024) (<https://www.unwomen.org/en/how-we-work/intergovernmental-support/world-conferences-on-women>)

The **Fourth World Conference on Women**, held in **Beijing, China**, in **1995**, stands as a historic milestone in the global pursuit of gender equality and women's rights. Its impact continues to shape international policy and advocacy efforts, setting the foundation for ongoing progress toward gender equality worldwide.

The main outcome of the conference was the adoption of the **Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action**. Unanimously adopted by 189 countries, it is a comprehensive framework for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women, setting out 12 critical areas of concern:

1. Women and poverty
2. Education and training of women
3. Women and health
4. Violence against women
5. Women and armed conflict
6. Women and the economy
7. Women in power and decision-making
8. Institutional mechanisms for the advancement of women
9. Human rights of women
10. Women and the media
11. Women and the environment
12. The girl child

The Beijing Platform for Action remains one of the most significant international agreements on gender equality. It continues to guide policies, initiatives, and programs aimed at improving women's lives and advancing their rights globally. Since the 1995 Beijing Conference, the General Assembly and the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) have convened multiple sessions to assess progress in implementing the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action:

- 2000: The Five-year Review: [A/55/341](#)
- 2005: The Ten-year Review: [E/CN.6/2005/11](#)
- 2010: The 15-year Review: [E/2010/27](#)
- 2015: Beijing+20: [E/2015/2](#)
- 2020: The 25-year Review: [E/2020/27](#)

This year's CSW69 review theme, **Beijing+30 (B+30)**, refers to the **30th anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action**. It marks a significant moment to assess progress toward gender equality and women's rights over the past three decades, highlighting achievements, ongoing challenges, and the need for renewed global commitment.

In preparation for the B+30 review, experts have provided inputs and papers on outstanding challenges, opportunities, and priority topics. Prior to the session, States, including all 22 member governments of the GAC, produced national-level reviews to assess progress on gender equality and the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action, while the five UN Regional Commissions led regional reviews⁴. CSOs likewise submitted **parallel reports**, and NGOs with ECOSOC consultative status, including ten GAC members, have shared written statements on the session topic. The Secretary-General will compile the results of these efforts and conduct its own review and appraisal of B+30 in a global synthesis report that will be submitted to CSW69⁵.

The Beijing+30 review will result in governments adopting a Political Declaration⁶ (instead of Agreed Conclusions). This declaration will highlight achievements, assess challenges, and outline concrete actions to implement the Declaration and its Platform for Action. A Multi-Year Programme of Work for CSW will also be adopted⁷.

⁴ UN Women (n.d.) <https://www.unwomen.org/en/how-we-work/commission-on-the-status-of-women/csw69-2025/preparations>

⁵ The advance unedited version of the report can be found [here](#).

⁶ The draft of the Political Declaration is available [here](#)

⁷ The draft of the Multi-Year Programme of Work is available [here](#) and proposes "Transforming Care Systems" as the priority theme for CSW70.

How is care related to this year's CSW review theme?

While the Beijing Declaration does not explicitly address care work, it contains several references to eliminating structural barriers to women's economic participation.

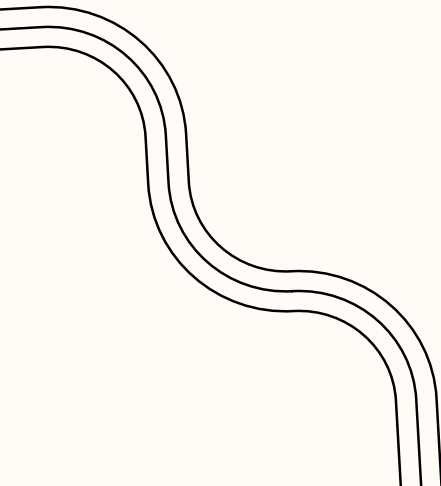
The Beijing Platform for Action, on the other hand, **extensively refers to care work** (sometimes referred to as "household," "unremunerated," or "domestic" work) and highlights women's unpaid care work as a key contribution to the economy. It expresses concern over women's disproportionate responsibility for care work and the gendered division of labor. The document mentions paid and unpaid care work throughout nine of its twelve strategic objectives:

- **Women and poverty:** It notes that social security schemes fail to consider interruptions in employment due to women's unpaid care work responsibilities, which generates poverty. It also calls on national and international statistical organizations to develop data that visibilizes and recognizes this work, while also assessing its relation to poverty.
- **Education and training of women:** It observes that girls' care responsibilities also limit their educational attainment and urges governments to provide childcare facilities and parental education in schooling institutions, support mothers' and pregnant adolescents' caregiving needs, and foster mothers' lifelong education. It also recommends that governments and educational authorities promote equality and men's engagement in caregiving tasks.
- **Women and health:** It recommends that public authorities and other actors foster men's equal engagement in caregiving.
- **Women and armed conflict:** It highlights women's increased caregiving responsibilities during conflict.

- **Women and the economy:** It stresses the negative impacts of women's care work responsibilities and a lack of flexible work arrangements or care services on women's economic opportunities and notes that women's increased labor force participation has not changed the gendered division of labor. It affirms that women compensate for a lack of public care services and emphasizes migrant domestic workers' contributions to the economy. It notes unpaid care's undervaluation in national accounts and recommends that governments better measure and research this work. It calls on them to provide high-quality, accessible, and flexible care services, address girls' care responsibilities, and improve wages in paid care sectors. Finally, it recommends policies that transform the gender division of labor, facilitate care work, and provide childcare and flexible arrangements in the workplace.
- **Women in power and decision-making:** It points out that women's care work responsibilities also limit their potential and time to participate in decision-making spaces.
- **Institutional mechanisms for the empowerment of women:** It recommends considering women's paid and unpaid work in economic policy and planning and improving data collection on care work and its incorporation into National Accounts Systems.
- **Women and the environment:** It draws attention to the deterioration of natural resources and how it exacerbates women's care responsibilities.
- **The girl child:** It touches on girls' responsibilities for care work and its impact on their schooling while calling for measures that promote girls, pregnant adolescents, and young mothers' return to or completion of their education by supporting their care needs.

The Beijing Platform for Action thus offers a powerful narrative on care, as well as a set of concrete steps to address women's disproportionate responsibility for care work and its impacts. The Beijing+30 review offers resources and allows stakeholders to assess progress on this front at the national, regional, and global levels. However, **the care agenda itself has evolved considerably since 1995.**

This implies that the B+30 review will also be an opportunity to position more recent concepts and policy models, including those discussed within the framework of the Global Alliance for Care, such as the 5Rs of care, comprehensive care systems, care and support, and decent work for care workers. It will also provide a critical space to delve deeper into critical intersections between care and other agendas, such as climate action, labor rights, migration, and others.



What is the GAC transformative vision that members bring to CSW69?

The Global Alliance for Care is a global multi-stakeholder community launched in 2021 during the Generation Equality Forum. It facilitates and fosters spaces for collective action, advocacy, communication, and learning about care—its recognition as a need, as work, and as a right. The Alliance currently brings together over **250 members** from diverse regions worldwide, including local and national governments, civil society organizations, philanthropic entities, union associations, the private sector, international organizations, and academia. These members also address care from different perspectives and angles, including gender equality, labor rights, climate justice, disability inclusion, and many others.

During 2022 and 2023, Alliance members collaboratively defined a "[Transformative Vision on Care](#)." This vision seeks to create societies that recognize the centrality of care, guarantee the rights of care workers and receivers, and advance gender justice and the well-being of all persons.

Individual GAC members bring a wealth of expertise, resources, and evidence to conversations on gender equality, care, and beyond, which will be particularly relevant to the Beijing+30 review. The Global Alliance for Care's transformative vision and 2025-2030 strategic priorities also offer a set of collectively created key principles and messages that can be amplified, positioned, and connected to other issues during CSW69:

- **Care is essential to our societies and economies.** It allows individuals to be fed, clean, and participate in their communities in a healthy environment. However, this labor is largely unrecognized and undervalued.

- **Care consists of the activities undertaken to ensure the day-to-day physical, economic, and emotional well-being and development of persons.** It includes the provision of elements essential to human life, such as food, shelter, sanitation, cleanliness, health, and company. Care work comprises two overlapping activities: direct, personal, and relational care activities, such as feeding a baby or nursing an ill partner; and indirect care activities, such as cooking and cleaning. Care can be unpaid, as in the case of housework or community caregiving, as well as paid, such as domestic work or workers in other care sectors (health, education, among others).
- **Women and girls assume the lion's share of care work**, dedicating three times more time to this labor than men globally. This is a **significant hurdle to achieving gender equality**, as it generates time poverty and limits women's economic participation and security, their educational attainment, and their time for self-care and recreation.
- The **current social organization of care** is also unsustainable for persons who require care and support because it fails to provide quality, accessible, and sufficient services or guarantee the right to autonomy and independent living.
- **Paid care workers, who are also mostly women, also face precarious labor conditions, low wages, and a lack of social security.** Many such workers are migrants and face multiple discriminations due to nationality, migration status, and/or ethnic and racial identity.
- Care is a **cross-cutting issue central to development, and it intersects with many other agendas, including labor rights, the environment and climate action, migration and forced displacement, demographic trends**, including population aging, trade, combatting violence, housing and urban development, health, debt restructuring, fiscal justice and austerity, education, technology, and conflict, among many others.
- Care must be recognized as **work, as a right, and as a public good.** All individuals and sectors of society **share responsibilities** for care work. While States are the primary duty-bearers for the provision of public care services, the private sector, households, and communities also have a role to play. Men must also be equally engaged in caregiving.

- Stakeholders should be guided by the **5Rs of care framework**: Recognize, reduce, and redistribute care work, and reward and represent care workers. Several policies must be implemented in order to achieve this:
 - **Data and research** must be generated on care inequalities and care work must be captured in national accounts.
 - Governments must develop **universal and progressive comprehensive care systems and policies** including care-supporting infrastructure, childcare, long-term care and others.
 - Governments must also sustainably **invest and finance these policies** and expand fiscal space. Other co-responsible sectors, such as philanthropies, donors, and international cooperation agencies, should also provide funding opportunities and support projects directed toward transforming care systems.
 - Workplaces must be **care-friendly**, with flexible work arrangements, leave policies, and on-site care facilities.
 - Care workers must enjoy **decent work conditions and social protection**, and their right to collective bargaining and organization must be guaranteed. Their formalization, certification and skills development must be prioritized.
 - **Civil society**, including caregivers' and receivers' organizations, must participate in designing, implementing, and monitoring care policies, and social dialogue must be maintained.
 - Persons with disabilities, older persons, people with illnesses, as well as children and adolescents must be seen as **subjects of rights and agents of change** by care policies, rather than dependents or mere receivers of assistance.
 - Policies must be **localized** and adopt an **intersectional perspective**, considering needs and interests arising from gender, age, ethnicity, income, and disability, among other factors.

The Global Alliance for Care at CSW69

The **Global Alliance for Care** is a unique platform for members to collaborate, co-create, and generate collective advocacy, learning, and communications strategies to advance the care agenda. CSW is also a critical opportunity for Global Alliance for Care members to convene and discuss progress, achievements, challenges, and opportunities for advancing the care agenda. Since 2023, the Alliance has convened spaces for exchange, conversation, and networking among members around CSW. It has also sought to connect CSW's priority and review themes to the care agenda, exploring its relation, implications, and the measures needed to promote gender equality and a more just social organization of care.

During CSW69, there will be several advocacy, networking and outreach opportunities⁸ for GAC members. Attending, participating in, or consulting the GAC's multiple CSW69/B+30 initiatives and resources will foster collaboration, promote dialogue on care, and build on the collective efforts of members:

- **GAC flagship side event:** Main GAC official side event, addressing the priority theme and its connection to care.
- **GAC-supported events and workshops:** Activities led by GAC members, supported by the Secretariat, tackling multiple facets of the care agenda, including time use, financing for care policies, and care and climate change.
- **Other members' events and initiatives:** GAC members' care-related convenings and activities in diverse fora and spaces.
- **GAC breakfast:** Opportunity to meet other members and share ongoing work and priorities.

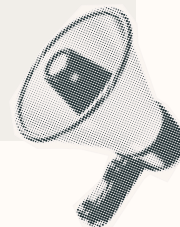
⁸Find the full list of GAC activities and initiatives [here](#).

In addition to these activities, GAC members may want to leverage heightened conversations around gender equality at CSW, within the framework of Beijing+30, and the presence of key stakeholders and decision-makers to advance the care agenda and fulfill the 2025–2030 GAC strategic priorities:

- **Influence policy and decision-makers to take action on care:** connect with States and policymakers advocating for care policies, financial sustainability, and increased investment in the care agenda.
- **Advocate for the inclusion of care in strategic documents and international frameworks:** in addition to the political declaration to be adopted during CSW69, also the inclusion of strong commitments to care policies, financing, and gender-responsive care systems in multilateral agreements and policy documents.
- **Increase the visibility of the care agenda:** Heighten awareness of care-related issues and position them as central to gender equality and a key aspect of conversations.
- **Connect with other stakeholders and GAC members working on care:** Meet, network, and explore opportunities for collaboration with actors advancing the care agenda attending CSW69, and encourage them to join the Alliance.
- **Explore technical aspects of the care agenda:** Convene stakeholders to reflect on specific aspects of the care agenda from a technical and practical point of view.

In order to achieve these objectives, GAC members may want to take advantage of the following mechanisms:

- **Engagement with National or Subnational Government Officials:** Invite them to your events, engage with government officials and representatives from one or more institutions, and highlight key care-related priorities.
- **Side and/or Parallel Events:** Plan and participate in GAC or other side and parallel events, panel discussions, or workshops during CSW69 to highlight the importance of care in advancing gender equality. These events can serve as platforms to share research, policies, and best practices.
- **Evidence and Data:** Compile, share, and/or publish data and innovative research that illustrate care inequalities, demonstrate the social and economic benefits of transforming the care economy, and showcase how investments in care systems contribute to gender equality, sustainable development, and the well-being of people.
- **Social Media Campaigns:** Use hashtags, stories, and campaigns on platforms like Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook to cover GAC and care-related conversations at CSW69. Disseminate the GAC message to engage broader audiences and mobilize global support around the centrality of care and support.
- **Media Engagement:** Reach out to journalists and media outlets to cover CSW69, and GAC or care-related activities. Promote media coverage of care as a central issue for the session and beyond, pushing for more visibility of the topic in the news and public discourse.



Further resources

- ✓ **GAC Statistics Sheet**
Click [here](#) to download
- ✓ **GAC CSW Care Calendar**
Click [here](#) to download
- ✓ **Commission on the Status of Women: Sessional Reports (1947–current)**
Click [here](#) to download
- ✓ **Review of the implementation on the Commission on the Status of Women (1946–current)**
Click [here](#) to download
- ✓ **Summary Records: CSW sessions (1947–current)**
Click [here](#) to download
- ✓ **GAC Members’ Advocacy Resources:**
 - **Center for Global Development, the Asia Foundation, CIPPEC, Women Deliver, and the International Center for Research on Women: The Global Roadmap for Action on the Care Economy** [here](#)
 - **Data 2X: A Feminist Care Economy Needs A Gender Data Agenda** [here](#)
 - **Early Childhood Development Action Network: At a Glance: Childcare** [here](#)
 - **Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean: The Care Society: A Horizon for Sustainable Recovery with Gender Equality** [here](#)
 - **Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific: Investing in our Common Future, Building “Caring” Societies** [here](#)
 - **International Trade Union Confederation: Key Trade Union Demands for Beijing +30** [here](#)
 - **Overseas Development Institute: Building caring societies: how states can shift the gendered norms of care** [here](#)
 - **UNI Global Union: Winning Rights: The Path to Empowering Care Workers** [here](#)
 - **United Nations: Transforming care systems in the context of the sustainable development goals and our common agenda** [here](#)
 - **Wellbeing Economy Alliance: Policy recommendations for a wellbeing economy** [here](#)

If you have any additional resources you’d like to add to this toolkit, kindly send them to info@globalallianceforcare.org.



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