

**2025 Washington Model Organization of
American States General Assembly**

Washington Packet

First Committee



Washington Model
Organization of American States

Institute for Diplomatic Dialogue in the Americas



OAS

More rights for more people

April 7-11, 2025

REINFORCING WOMEN CANDIDATES IN FOREIGN POLICY POSITIONS THROUGH FOCUSED TRAININGS

First Committee Topic

No. 3 of the Agenda

Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegations of The United Mexican States and Guyana

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Article 30 of the Organization of American States (OAS) Charter, which declares that, “The Member States, inspired by the principles of Inter-American solidarity and cooperation, pledge themselves to a united effort to ensure international social justice in their relations and integral development for their peoples, as conditions essential to peace and security. Integral development encompasses the economic, social, educational, cultural, scientific, and technological fields through which the goals that each country sets for accomplishing it should be achieved”;

Article 2 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter, which states, “The effective exercise of representative democracy is the basis for the rule of law and of the constitutional regimes of the Member States of the Organization of American States. Representative democracy is strengthened and deepened by permanent, ethical, and responsible participation of the citizenry within a legal framework conforming to the respective constitutional order”;

Article 15 of the Social Charter of the Americas, which affirms that Member States “need to adopt policies to promote inclusion and to prevent, combat, and eliminate all forms of intolerance and discrimination, especially gender...in order to safeguard equal rights and opportunities and strengthen democratic values”;

RECALLING:

The 2022-2026 Strategic Plan of the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM), which states, “the Strategic Plan of the CIM is prepared and carried out, from a conceptual and methodological point of view, with a human rights approach, complemented by gender and intersectional approaches, which includes the interconnection of multiple forms of discrimination, exclusion and inequality...the elimination of gender inequalities and the exercise of rights determine the definition of goals and expected results and the selection of effective strategies and indicators for monitoring and evaluation”;

The Inter-American Program for Democratic Strengthening and Leadership of Women, which consists of “(1) Course for Women Electoral Candidates”, which trains women to be

“presidents, senators, deputies, mayors, vice-mayors, department governors, indigenous governors, councilors, town councilors, mayors, aldermen and syndics”; “(2) Specialization on Leadership and Public Policy; (3) Research on women's political leadership; and (4) the CIM Network of Women Politicians”; and

CONSIDERING:

A 2023 study by the Inter-Parliamentary Union found that although “36.8 percent of Latin American legislators are women, surpassing the global average of 26.7 percent”, and although many countries have introduced gender quotas allowing more women the opportunity to run for political office, the success of those candidates lags behind the quotas, demonstrating a further need to bolster those candidates;

The success of the Course for Women Electoral Candidates in training over 2,000 women in 12 countries since its inception in 2018, including 185 women candidates in Ecuador, Panama, and Trinidad and Tobago in 2024,

RESOLVES:

1. To congratulate the OAS for the implementation of the Action Plan of the “Gender, Rights, and Diversity in the General Secretariat of the OAS.”
2. To encourage OAS Member States to strengthen partnerships with organizations that promote women’s political participation such as Women Deliver and UN Women by:
 - a. Collaborating on women in politics initiatives.
 - b. Developing best practices for including women in leadership roles in government.
 - c. Fostering inclusive policies that advance gender equity in government.
3. To urge the OAS to:
 - a. Allow women to have higher visibility within the organization.
 - b. Establish a resolution to increase women’s representation in leadership across OAS bodies.
 - c. Continue to provide a safe space for women that allow them to express their views on foreign policy.
 - d. Implement quotas that create fair and accessible opportunities for women in foreign policy settings.
4. To charge the CIM to modify the Inter-American Program for Democratic Strengthening and Leadership of Women in conjunction with the 2026 Strategic Plan of the CIM to:
 - a. Modify the Course for Women Electoral Candidates, so that emphasis is placed on women’s leadership in foreign policy and their positions within the Member States.

- b. Incorporate these changes into the CIM Strategic Plan at the CIM's 40th Assembly of Delegates in 2025, with the Strategic Plan beginning its implementation in 2026.
5. To encourage all Member States to participate in testing this new course by sponsoring up to 10 candidates from their respective countries to a week-long conference hosted by Mexico or another hosted in Guyana in December of 2027; and to make an additional two-week online training available before the conference for each candidate through the OAS School of Governance website.
6. To evaluate and report the results and processes of these CIM conferences and training to the OAS during the 2029 General Assembly, and to direct CIM to include in this report the metrics that have been established to monitor the success of the trained candidates in their respective elections.
7. To remind Member States they should take responsibility for covering the travel expenses of their candidates to the conferences in Mexico or Guyana, and to note that in cases where sufficient funds cannot be found, the course can be adapted for full online or hybrid meetings.
8. To support this initiative by requesting funding from organizations such as UN Women, Women Deliver, and Women in National Security (WIIS), as this proposal aligns with their missions of increasing women's participation in politics.

Approved for form and substance: _____
(Signature of Faculty Advisor)

Cosignatories: 1. _____
(Signature of Delegate) (Country Represented)

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3. _____

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5. _____

COMBATTING DISCRIMINATION AGAINST INDIGENOUS RELIGIOUS PRACTICES

First Committee

Topic No. 1 of the Agenda

Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Guatemala

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

BEARING IN MIND:

Article 30 of the Charter of the Organization of American States (OAS), which establishes that “The Member States, inspired by the principles of inter-American solidarity and cooperation, pledge themselves to a united effort to ensure international social justice in their relations and integral development for their peoples, as conditions essential to peace and security”;

Article 45 of the OAS Charter, which explains that “All human beings, without distinction as to race, sex, nationality, creed, or social condition, have a right to material well-being and to their spiritual development, under circumstances of liberty, dignity, equality of opportunity, and economic security”;

Article 12 of the American Convention on Human Rights, which proclaims that “No one shall be subject to restrictions that might impair his beliefs, his freedom to maintain or to change his religion or beliefs”;

Article 12 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which claims “the right to maintain, protect, and have access in privacy to their religious and cultural sites”;

CONSIDERING:

That freedom of religion becomes increasingly important in pluralistic societies where Catholicism is declining, and simultaneously recognizing reported incidents of hate against Catholic churches during the IACHR’s annual report in 2023;

That Indigenous communities and spiritual beliefs are vulnerable to geographic and cultural encroachment by religious and political majorities, with Indigenous sacred sites particularly being targets of attack;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:

The Resolution of the United Nations General Assembly A/RES/76/254 (2022) “International Day to Combat Islamophobia”, which affirms that “freedom of religion or belief, freedom of opinion and expression, the right to peaceful assembly, and the right to freedom of association are interdependent, interrelated, and mutually reinforcing”;

The Resolution of the United Nations Human Rights Council A/HRC/RES/49/5 (2022) “Freedom of religion or belief”, which recognizes the “importance of education in the promotion of

tolerance, which involves the acceptance by the public of and its respect for diversity, including with regard to religious expression, and underlining also the fact that education, in particular at school, should contribute in a meaningful way to promoting tolerance and the elimination of discrimination based on religion or belief”; and

RECALLING:

AG/RES. 3028 (LIV-O/24), Strengthening Protection and Promotion of the Right to Freedom of Conscience and Religion or Belief, which emphasizes the protection of all sites of worship and the right to freedom of religion,

RESOLVES:

1. To praise the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) for its commitment to protecting all human rights, particularly the freedom of religion.
2. To commend current Member States’ continuing efforts to respect Indigenous cultures and spiritual beliefs.
3. To condemn all forms of discrimination and acts of hatred, intolerance, or violence directed toward individuals or communities on the basis of their religious beliefs or practices recognizing such actions as direct threats to human dignity and the values of equality and respect within the organization.
4. To urge Member States to protect and preserve Indigenous religious practices and cultural heritage by sharing awareness campaigns through multiple media platforms and to promote respect and understanding of Indigenous and other religions by introducing awareness in the educational curricula of schools.
5. To establish an Inter-American Committee on Indigenous Religion (IACIR):
 - a. The IACIR will be a committee formed of OAS officials, Indigenous representatives, and Member States.
 - i. In order for a committee combatting Indigenous discrimination to be effective, members of Indigenous groups must be given a voice at the discussion table.
 - b. To achieve its goals, the IACIR will:
 - i. Conduct a study on the current state of Indigenous religious freedom across the Americas and present it to the Permanent Council, similar to the study conducted by the IACHR on the right to freedom of conscience and religion or belief.
 - ii. Conduct thorough investigations into individual allegations of violations against Indigenous religions or spiritual practices brought forth by Indigenous groups or member states.
 - iii. Affect public policy in member states through the release of study results and investigation results, emphasizing the necessity of religious plurality and diversity.

- iv. Implement a strong mechanism of enforcement against religious freedom violators, such as utilizing the legal systems in the Inter-American Court of Human Rights.
- c. The development of the IACIR will rely on funding from the IACHR and voluntary contributions from Member States.

Approved for form and substance: _____
(Signature of Faculty Advisor)

Cosignatories:

1.	_____	_____
	(Signature of Delegate)	(Country Represented)
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Sources:

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- [HTTPS://CANOPYFORUM.ORG/2025/02/19/FREEDOM-OF-CONSCIENCE-AND-RELIGION-IN-THE-AMERICAS-FOLLOWING-OAS-GENERAL-ASSEMBLY-RESOLUTIONS-TO-PROMOTE-PLURALISM-AND-STRENGTHEN-COMMUNITIES/#:~:TEXT=IN%20ITS%2054TH%20GENERAL,CULTURAL%20AND/OR%20SPIRITUAL%20SIGNIFICANCE.](https://canopyforum.org/2025/02/19/freedom-of-conscience-and-religion-in-the-americas-following-oas-general-assembly-resolutions-to-promote-pluralism-and-strengthen-communities/#:~:text=In%20its%2054th%20general,cultural%20and/or%20spiritual%20significance.)
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- [HTTPS://WWW.USIP.ORG/PUBLICATIONS/2024/03/PROMOTING-PEACE-AND-STABILITY-AMERICAS-THROUGH-RELIGIOUS-FREEDOM](https://www.usip.org/publications/2024/03/promoting-peace-and-stability-americas-through-religious-freedom)

INCORPORATING GENDER PERSPECTIVES INTO FOREIGN POLICY

First Committee

Topic No. 3 of the Agenda

Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Brazil

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Article 9 of the Inter-American Democratic Charter which affirms “the elimination of all forms of discrimination, especially gender, ethnic, and race discrimination, as well as diverse forms of intolerance, the promotion and protection of human rights of indigenous people and migrants, and respect for ethnic, cultural and religious diversity in the Americas contribute to strengthening democracy and citizen participation”;

Article 15 of the Social Charter of the Americas, which emphasizes the “need to adopt policies to promote inclusion and to prevent, combat, and eliminate all forms of intolerance and discrimination, especially gender, ethnic, and race discrimination, in order to safeguard equal rights and opportunities and strengthen democratic values”;

REAFFIRMING:

The commitments made by Member States to advance gender equality and women’s empowerment, particularly through the work of the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM), which has played a significant role in advocating for gender perspectives in policymaking, legal frameworks, and advocacy for women’s rights across the region;

CONSIDERING:

The underrepresentation of women in government and political leadership roles in several Member States and the importance of incorporating gender perspectives into foreign policy to promote inclusive democratic decision-making processes;

The successful creation and implementation of feminist foreign policies in Mexico and Argentina, which prioritize gender equality, human rights, and intersectionality in diplomacy and international relations that can serve as an example for Member States; and,

RECOGNIZING:

That gender-sensitive foreign policy is essential to promoting democratic governance, economic development, and security within the hemisphere;

That several OAS member states have already adopted or are developing feminist foreign policies that prioritize gender equality, human rights, and diverse perspectives in diplomacy and international cooperation,

That despite progress in political representation, women remain significantly underrepresented in executive leadership positions, particularly in foreign affairs, defense, and economic policy making;

That feminist foreign policy frameworks provide a comprehensive approach to addressing systemic gender inequalities, ensuring that issues such as gender-based violence, economic empowerment, and women's participation in peace and security efforts are central to regional and international policymaking,

RESOLVES:

1. To commend existing efforts taken by Member States in advancing human rights through gender equality.
2. To encourage Member States to consider the adoption of feminist foreign policy frameworks that promote gender equality and human rights in diplomacy and international relations, considering existing feminist foreign policy (FFP) in select Member States, while recognizing that the structure and focus of such frameworks may vary based on each country's political, social, and economic contexts.
3. To request the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM), in collaboration with the OAS Secretariat for Multidimensional Security and the OAS Department of International Affairs, develop flexible recommendations on FFP for interested Member States, incorporating guidance on gender parity in diplomatic engagements, gender-sensitive peacebuilding strategies, and inclusive economic diplomacy.
3. To strengthen CIM's role as a center for coordination, capacity-building, and monitoring of FFP efforts across the OAS, by:
 - a. Facilitating dialogue and knowledge exchange among Member States on gender-inclusive foreign policy approaches, ensuring participation of both men and women in policy discussions;
 - b. Developing training programs for diplomats and policymakers on integrating gender perspectives into international negotiations and agreements and agreements; and
 - c. Monitoring and assessing the progress of Member States in implementing gender-sensitive policies in their foreign affairs ministries, while respecting national sovereignty.
4. To recommend that Member States allocate resources to strengthen the participation of women in foreign policy decision-making processes, ensuring equitable representation in regional negotiations and peace-building initiatives by:
 - a. Creating committees within foreign affairs ministries that include men and women to ensure that women's perspectives are integrated into foreign policy decisions.
 - b. Expand recruitment and retention programs to increase the representation of women in diplomatic and security related positions.
5. To encourage Member States to report their progress of gender integration in their foreign policies during OAS General Assembly sessions, fostering accountability and regional collaboration.
6. To call upon international institutions and partners to provide financial and technical support for Member States implementing feminist foreign policy initiatives, notably in areas such as:
 - a. Institutional reforms, including revising diplomatic training to incorporate gender-sensitive approaches.

- b. Regional cooperation and exchanges to enhance knowledge-sharing on gender-inclusive foreign policy practices.
 - c. Funding for research that assesses the impact of FFP measures and identifies best practices for gender equality in diplomacy.
 - d. Technical assistance for data collection and reporting mechanisms to track Member States' progress in gender parity within their foreign affairs ministries.
7. To request the OAS General Secretariat to present a report within five years on the feasibility and impact of integrating gender perspectives into foreign policy across the Americas, providing recommendations for further action.
8. To emphasize that feminist foreign policy frameworks should be adaptable, ensuring that each OAS Member State can tailor policies to align with their national priorities, capabilities, and institutional structures while upholding core principles of gender equality and human rights.

Approved for form and substance: _____
(Signature of Faculty Advisor)

Cosignatories:	1.	_____	_____
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**INCORPORATING GENDER PERSPECTIVES INTO FOREIGN POLICY BY
ESTABLISHING A PIPELINE FOR YOUNG WOMEN INTO INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
CAREERS**

First Committee

Topic No. 3 of the Agenda

Draft Resolution Presented by the Delegation of Bolivia

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING SEEN:

Charter of the OAS, Chapter II, Article 3 (j) “Social justice and social security are bases of lasting peace”;

Charter of the OAS, Chapter II, Article 3 (l) “The American States proclaim the fundamental rights of the individual without distinction as to race, nationality, creed, or sex”;

Charter of the OAS, Chapter II, Article 3 (n) “The education of peoples should be directed toward justice, freedom, and peace”;

Article 1 of the Inter-American Convention on the Granting of Political Rights to Women which states, “The High Contracting Parties agree that the right to vote and to be elected to national office shall not be denied or abridged by reason of sex”;

NOTING WITH SATISFACTION:

The increased political participation and leadership of women in the hemisphere after the United Nations launched its Decade for Women in Mexico City in 1975. According to the UN Dept of Economic and Social Affairs, “Women’s participation in political and public life has steadily increased: women’s representation in parliament has more than doubled globally, reaching 25% of parliamentary seats in 2020, mainly as a result of the adoption of gender quotas and milestones achieved in countries in Latin America and the Caribbean”;

The international community’s commitment to women’s equality was reaffirmed in UN Sustainable Development Goal 5 to “achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls”;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT:

The Resolution of the United Nations 58/142 (2003) “Women and political participation,” which urges states, “To institute educational programmes, as appropriate, in the school curriculum that sensitize young people about the equal rights of women, teach civic responsibilities, promote confidence-building and counter negative societal attitudes that discourage women’s political participation...To encourage greater involvement of indigenous and other marginalized women in decision-making at all levels and to address and counter the barriers faced by marginalized women in accessing and participating in politics and decision-making... To promote the participation of young

people, especially women, in civil society organizations to enable them to acquire experience, skills and capacities that are transferable to the field of political participation... [and] to intensify efforts to increase the number of women in public bodies, including through research into barriers to women's access to high-level public appointments”;

DEEPLY CONCERNED:

That discrimination against women and lack of educational development closes many doors of opportunity to young women and limits their professional aspirations. This limitation also translates to great financial cost for nations. A 2018 World Bank study estimates that the “limited educational opportunities for girls, and barriers to completing 12 years of education, cost countries between US\$15 trillion and \$30 trillion in lost lifetime productivity and earnings”; and

RECALLING:

CIM/DEC. 17 (XXXIX-O/22), Declaration of Panama on “Building bridges for a new social and economic pact led by women” which declares their commitment to “promote the actions, alliances and spaces necessary to build new arrangements for gender equality led by women in the social, cultural, economic and political spheres, which have as a starting point the recognition of the various leaderships of women and solidarity between them (sisterhood) as a cross-cutting political ethic”;

RESOLVES:

1. To commend member states for their leadership in working towards women's equality.
2. To reaffirm the commitment to progress toward a more just and equitable world by correcting the exclusion of women in the policymaking process.
3. To recommend the member states generate awareness of and interest in international studies for primary and secondary school students by:
 - a. Establishing youth programs to promote careers in diplomacy and international affairs.
 - b. Hosting junior models of the OAS regionally.
 - c. Endorsing immersive study abroad programs, grants, and scholarships.
 - d. Requesting development of educational modules that can be added to civic studies curricula at various educational levels.
4. To engage post-secondary scholars interested in foreign affairs careers by:
 - a. Inviting women scholars and fellows to present research findings on social and political issues;
 - b. Inviting fellowship programs to partner with delegations from their respective countries
 - c. Endorsing programs that educate women in foreign affairs or related fields; and

- d. Celebrating and promoting groundbreaking research through professorship awards for international affairs educators.
5. To invite indigenous women's participation by:
- a. Recommending implementation of cross-cultural language classes in localities where large populations of indigenous peoples are present to improve relations and civic participation; and
 - b. Creating a subcommittee for indigenous women's issues within the Inter-American Commission of Women.

Approved for form and substance: _____
(Signature of Faculty Advisor)

Cosignatories:

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