

# XV International Congress WOMEN'S WORLDS 2026

## *Women\* and peaces*



### **THEMATIC PANELS**

In a global context of increasing securitization and militarized war peace-making, the XV edition of the international conference Women's Worlds will center on *Women\* and Peaces*. In the plural. Firstly, to reflect the plurality of women\* in all their intersectionalities, and with an \* to encompass the diversity of sexual and gender identities. On the other hand, *peaces*, as a grammatical insubordination of the concept, which invites a broader comprehension of peace beyond the absence of direct violence, proposes alternative approaches where care for life and the place we inhabit together is paramount.

This Congress aims to be a space for gathering and mutual learning about diversity. Therefore, the **eight thematic areas** described below are a starting point for the imagination of each and every participant. They are not intended to be rigid, everything is interrelated. As such, there is room for freedom to make proposals that complement and enrich each of these areas, in addition to the topics proposed here.

#### **Panel 1: Demilitarization, de-securitization, and global disarmament**

The traditional approach to peacebuilding is related to silencing weapons and ending direct violence in contexts of war and armed conflict.

From the perspective of ***physical demilitarization*** (of armed life), we seek to exchange knowledge, experiences, and practices of women\* and women's\* groups who:

- actively participate in peace processes as negotiators and/or mediators at international, national, and community levels,
- are ex-combatants who have transitioned from war to peace through DDR processes.
- women's\* organizations, especially grassroots organizations, that have supported peace initiatives with armed groups, including victims' groups, civil society organizations, action platforms, etc.,
- feminist groups that advocate for global disarmament, the promotion of the international agenda for women\*, peace, and security, and the restriction of militarization and securitization policies.

In the context of ***mental demilitarization***, special focus will be placed on feminist initiatives that promote the dismantling of:

- the culture of violence and symbolic violence.
- violent behaviors,

- authoritarian and aggressive masculinities and their intimate connections with all types of patriarchal regimes, past and present,
- the role of the media and social networks.

*Economic demilitarization* encompasses all processes and initiatives that address war economies:

- criminal violence,
- violence caused by drug trafficking, human trafficking, and arms trafficking,
- the commodification of women\*'s bodies and systems of sexual slavery in war contexts,
- the development of the arms industry and other industries that provide logistical and infrastructural support for wars,
- the intensification of eco-social extractivism.

### Panel 2: Memory and guarantees of non-repetition of violence

At this thematic panel, we propose to exchange knowledge, practices, and experiences on two main topics. On the one hand, the *rights to truth, justice, reparation, and non-repetition of violence*, with aspects such as:

- policies and experiences for the recovery of memory and guarantees of non-repetition,
- recognition of the harm and pain caused to assume responsibility,
- education for peace,
- promotion of intergenerational, intercultural, interreligious dialogues, etc.

On the other, *other forms of justice*: restorative, transformative, anti-punitive, reparative, such as:

- situated justice,
- feminist genealogies: memory circles, women's\* cycles as memories of their ancestors, family cycles, community cycles,
- healing, both individual and collective,
- the right to silence to protect oneself and others,
- safe spaces for open and honest dialogue and fear-free expression,
- art and other forms of remembering, healing, and not leaving wounds open.

### Panel 3: Migration, exile, and forced displacement

We invite women\*, women's\* organizations, and feminist collectives working for peace on issues related to:

- forced displacement, illegal occupation, and land expropriation in contexts of armed conflict, war, climate change, and/or the connection among them,
- migration chains and the reconstruction of lives and everyday life/normality in other contexts,
- new conflicts due to cultural incompatibility amongst social groups (displaced and host communities), difficulties in maintaining their languages and ways of life, intergenerational conflicts, impoverishment, brain drain,
- peacebuilding from exile and/or diaspora.

#### Panel 4: Common goods

At Panel 4, we aim to exchange knowledge, practices, and experiences on common goods, that is, all the indispensable elements of community life that enable life in all its forms. Among other topics, we will discuss:

- alternatives of hope, which emanate from the collective, the inclusive, and the community, to maintain and regenerate forests, waters, subsoils, air...
- caring for the land in harmony with all living and non-living organisms that inhabit it (the interdependencies of life),
- the governance of common goods in a world of power asymmetries,
- resistance to the privatization of land and the extreme exploitation of resources,
- the protection of communities' rights to common goods,
- the interconnections between capitalism, patriarchy, and the expropriation of common goods.

#### Panel 5: Bodies – territories - peaces

Bodies are territories, and territories are bodies. How does this interconnection favor peace? Liberate the body. Liberate the territory. This thematic panel invites reflections, experiences, and practices around:

- agroecological alternatives for land and territory occupation,
- alternatives for the production, distribution, and consumption of goods and services produced in the territory,
- territory governance systems based on comprehensive respect for democracy and for all bodies that inhabit the territory,
- peacebuilding based on bodies-territories,
- the persecution and murder of women\* leaders who fight for the integrity and dignity of their territories,
- the daily safety and free movement of women\* and non-normative bodies in their territories,
- patriarchal domination of territories based on the ideas of tradition, identity, and religion, which shape systems of submission, commodification, and exploitation of women\*'s and girls' bodies and their pleasure,
- agri-food systems based on intensive agriculture and agrochemicals that destroy the land and territories and kill bodies.

#### Panel 6: Sovereignty and autonomy

Within the scope of this panel, we intend to hear the knowledge, reflections, practices, and experiences of women\* and their collectives on:

- how to manage community sovereignty and autonomy in a context of profound inequalities and global interdependencies,
- the diverse worldviews on autonomy and sovereignty within territories and the cultures that structure them,
- how autonomy and sovereignty are resisted and built in territories of sacrifice: intensive mining and agriculture, war and armed conflict, severe environmental and ecological degradation, endemic impoverishment, air and water pollution...

- the disarming of sovereignties and autonomies through contemporary forms of colonialism: conquest, occupation, domination, and exploitation,
- resistance for autonomy in scarcity contexts,
- the liberation struggles of peoples and the role of women\* in them,
- alternative economic systems for sovereignty and autonomy, such as women\*'s economies, feminist economies, solidarity economies, community economies, among others,
- food sovereignty.

#### Panel 7: Care and everyday peaces

The aim of this panel is to emphasize care networks with and for life, which involve people, groups, and other living and non-living beings. We strive to share ideas, reflections, practices, knowledge, and experiences on:

- what it means to care for and be cared for,
- care in the most delicate moments of human life: childhood, illness, and old age,
- physical and emotional illnesses and fatigue as expressions of oppression and patriarchal control over women\*'s bodies,
- the difficulties of self-care,
- the commodification and medicalization of self-care,
- domestic and family care as an obligation of women\*\*,
- care from institutions: resources, processes, teams,
- the redistribution and valuation of care in all spheres of life,
- public care policies.

#### Panel 8: Feminist methodologies for peace

This thematic panel focuses on peacebuilding approaches from a feminist perspective:

- pedagogies, methods, and strategies for feminist dialogue, exchange, and action,
- feminist resources and tools as agents of change and transformation,
- feminist agendas for peacebuilding based on internationalist and active solidarity,
- strategies for mobilization, coordination, and organization to confront the violence we denounce,
- creative formats beyond writing and speaking: art, weaving, sounds, sensory and spiritual experiences,
- resistance through intimacy, chosen silence, and care,
- formal and informal feminist education for peacebuilding,
- feminist practices based on doing-feeling-thinking.

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