

Flash Cards

The Flash Cards are short easy-to-read cards that introduce our campaign theme to a younger audience in a fun and accessible way. The cards are grouped under a common theme: *Ten words for peace*.

You can use them with our youth activity guide to organize educational activities that help young people to understand the importance of women in peacebuilding and conflict prevention.

Women and peace

Beyond the absence of violent conflict, positive peace is rooted in respect for human rights, social justice, equity and equality between women and men. As outlined in Security Council Resolution 1325, women's involvement is effective for peacebuilding. The empowerment and meaningful participation of women activists and leaders in peace processes throughout the world is essential to creating a peaceful and just world.



Equality Between Women and Men

The principle of equality between women and men means that all individuals, regardless of their gender, must have access to the same rights, resources and opportunities. This universal right applies to all areas, including education, employment and political participation. Equality between women and men and the protection of women's rights are factors that provide social stability and, therefore, peace.



Resolution 1325

Adopted in the year 2000, Security Council Resolution 1325 recognizes violence committed against women in armed conflicts, including sexual violence and forced displacement, as crimes. Resolution 1325 also calls for women's representation and their active contribution in all efforts relating to security, conflict resolution and peacebuilding.



Empowerment

Empowerment is a process whereby an oppressed group, in this case women, gains personal and collective power. This happens by providing access to methods that strengthen their capacity, and build their leadership and power to participate in the social, political and economic life of their communities. In 1995, the Beijing Declaration presented women's empowerment as a key strategy in favour of equality and peace.



Meaningful Participation

Meaningful and equal participation of women in decision-making bodies faces significant social and cultural barriers. However, in addition to bringing different perspectives to the negotiating table, the participation of women dramatically reduces the risk of conflict recurring. Perceived as honest and unifying intermediaries, women identify social justice and gender equality as priorities in peace processes.



Human Rights

The 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights lists the rights to which everyone is entitled, from access to education to freedom of speech. However, in many parts of the world these fundamental rights are not respected. Women everywhere risk their lives to defy misogynous and unjust customs, and demand respect for human rights, in particular women's rights.



Positive Peace

The sociologist Johan Galtung proposes a nuanced approach to peace, where positive peace is not only the absence of violent confrontation, but also a state of equity and dialogue. For peace to take root, we must overcome social injustice and promote the individual and collective development of all, without discrimination. Therefore, positive and lasting peace is at its core inclusive.



Peace Processes

Political actors and representatives of civil society engage in peace processes to end wars, form peace agreements, and begin reconstruction. These negotiations, which can take years, address dispute resolution and redress for injustices. The equal participation of female negotiators, mediators and gender experts is crucial to ensure that everyone is consulted.



Social Justice

By recognizing societal injustices such as sexism, defenders of social justice promote equal rights for all. This understanding of justice is based on equity because social justice must benefit those who are most disadvantaged and must compensate for inequalities. A more socially just society must be defended as a pillar of peace through the establishment of processes that promote equality between women and men.



Inclusiveness

The principle of inclusiveness calls for the involvement of all stakeholders in decision-making processes that concern them. Despite efforts by the international community, the right of women to participate in peace negotiations is rarely recognized. When they are included, female negotiators have a greater tendency to address issues that are priorities for women, families, and the civilian population, which favours the establishment of lasting peace.



Equity

The pursuit of equity seeks to redistribute social power in a more egalitarian manner. Equity is established through corrective measures which compensate for the historical disadvantages that women have faced, to give them access to the same opportunities as men. In peace processes, the adoption of resolutions and equal quotas contributes to the development of women's participation, even if often it is only symbolic.