



Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality  
The Chair

D 300402 22.01.2025

IUST-SEC/FEMM-COMMITTEE D (2025) 2098]

To the Chairperson(s) of the Committee(s) concerned

Dear Colleague,

On behalf of the Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality (FEMM), I would like to invite Members of the National Parliaments of the EU to attend the Interparliamentary Committee Meeting (ICM) organised in collaboration with the Directorate for Relations with National Parliaments on the occasion of **International Women's Day 2025** on the theme:

***“Strengthening the Women, Peace and Security Agenda –  
Upholding Women's Rights in Defence, Security and Peace Building”***

This year's theme highlights several priorities starting with the need to ensure women's full participation in decision-making processes, particularly in defence, security, and peacebuilding, where their leadership leads to more inclusive and lasting peace. Furthermore, it is crucial to protect women and girls in conflict and post-conflict settings from trafficking, exploitation, and the use of rape as a weapon of war, while preventing gendered impacts of conflict, including violence against women and domestic violence. Gender-responsive relief and recovery efforts must prioritize women's access to justice, healthcare, and psychosocial support. Mainstreaming gender in security institutions is also a priority because it fosters accountability, equity, and resilience, creating a more effective and inclusive peace process.

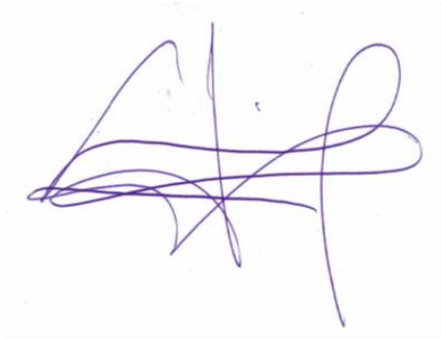
This interparliamentary committee meeting will hear from exceptional women, including women in leadership roles in the military, academics and researchers, activists and civil society regarding their experiences, the hurdles they overcame and those yet to be overcome.

I am therefore very pleased to invite up to four Members of the corresponding committee(s) of each National Parliament (two from each chamber in the case of bi-cameral Parliaments) to attend this event on **Thursday, 6 March 2025, from 9.00 to 12.30 in the European Parliament in Brussels.**

The updated draft programme and practical details regarding this meeting will be sent in due course to your Parliament's representatives/services responsible for relations with the European Parliament.

I sincerely hope that you will be able to accept our invitation and I am looking forward to welcoming you in person in the European Parliament on this important occasion.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a vertical line, enclosed in a thin black rectangular border.

Lina Gálvez  
Chair  
Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality

Annex: Draft agenda