The Women’s Global Alliance for Peace is an international network of women philanthropists and leaders working together to advance more enduring and inclusive peace by promoting the crucial work of women as builders of human security and societal well-being. With violent conflict and destabilising crises spreading across the globe, this initiative is not only timely but urgent.
WHAT WE DO

We work together to promote a safer, more inclusive and peaceful world by:

- Aligning with the mission of the International Crisis Group to prevent wars and shape peace;
- Providing a platform for women leaders and philanthropists to collaborate, share ideas and strategies, and be a powerful force for change;
- Advocating for the security of women and girls in conflict, the expansion of gender-transformative analysis, and the championing of women’s inclusion in politics and decision-making, both within their communities and on a wider stage in peace talks and political negotiations;
- Building the capacity of and providing mentorship to early career conflict prevention researchers from regions affected by the world’s worst conflicts, in order to develop the strong empirical evidence base for gender-sensitive policy advice and analysis;
- Encouraging greater gender equality across international organizations and governments, whose own conduct must uphold the principles they advance;
- Drawing upon our personal networks and contacts to advance these values and aspirations and to convey our research findings to a broader audience, recognising that public sentiment carries its own deep influence and shapes the positions of politicians.

Their knowledge of the community makes women key for conflict prevention and early warning. We need to learn how to use women’s networks in their communities to prevent conflict.

HELLE THORNING-SCHMIDT, FORMER CEO OF SAVE THE CHILDREN INTERNATIONAL AND FORMER PRIME MINISTER OF DENMARK, CRISIS GROUP TRUSTEE
WHY WE DO IT

Around the globe, violent conflict, civil wars and rising political extremism is causing human anguish on a scale unseen in a generation.

The security and aspirations of women and girls are disproportionately imperiled by violent conflict: female-headed households make up 80 per cent of the world’s internally displaced people, women and girls are regularly targets of sexual violence by extremists and militaries, and conflict keeps 39 million girls worldwide out of school.

The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic is aggravating and entrenching these inequalities.

We know that women are political actors, that they exercise agency and choice in ways that can both fuel and defuse deadly conflict, and that they have a critical role to play in conflict prevention and recovery.

In one country after another, our research has shown that the most effective peacebuilders are often women. What’s more, by identifying and advocating for gender-sensitive means of peace and reconciliation early in crisis situations, we can reduce the need for humanitarian intervention later.

Read more about our work on gender and conflict at www.crisisgroup.org/gender-and-conflict.

COVER PHOTO: THIS PICTURE FEATURES A WOMAN SMILING AS SHE WAITS FOR THE START OF A MEETING FOR THE ORGANISATION OF THE WOMEN OF CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC (OFCA) IN BANGUI, 14 NOVEMBER 2019. CRISIS GROUP / JULIE DAVID DE LOSSY

#WomensAlliance
The Women’s Alliance for Peace Fellowship Program

The Alliance has launched a Fellowship Program to recruit talented candidates from fields such as journalism, academia and international affairs, to undertake a position at Crisis Group, supporting the field teams in their research and advocacy efforts.

Coached and supervised by Gender and Conflict Project Director Azadeh Moaveni and our Program Directors, they will benefit from working alongside world-class analysts, receive mentoring from experienced peacebuilders, and have access to both grassroots and high-level policy networks.

In addition, the program will enable Crisis Group to collaborate with grassroots women’s organisations and activists; produce and disseminate high quality reports, briefings and commentaries on the intersection between gender and conflict; produce well-grounded and actionable policy recommendations; and craft high-impact media and storytelling products, such as photography and short films, to support our advocacy and outreach.

Our vision is that the Women’s Alliance for Peace fellows will take a more inclusive, expert and empirically-grounded approach into their future work in research or global policy spheres, to ensure that the field, in the next generation, will reflect the progress made by recent grassroots social movements.

This is an important and impactful opportunity for women to support women in a global effort to effect change and peace. Let us empower, and be empowered as, peacemakers.

Megan McGill, Women’s Alliance Co-Chair
The Women’s Alliance sees gender justice at the center of the global struggle for equality and peace, and views advancing the influence of women’s peacebuilding at the heart of its transformative mission.

AZADEH MOAVENI, CRISIS GROUP PROJECT DIRECTOR, GENDER AND CONFLICT

AZADEH MOAVENI, CRISIS GROUP PROJECT DIRECTOR, GENDER AND CONFLICT

WHO WE ARE

Fronted by Crisis Group’s Co-Chair and Former Foreign Minister of Argentina; President of GWL Voices Susana Malcorra, Trustee and former President of Liberia Ellen Johnson Sirleaf and Trustee, former CEO of Save the Children International and former Prime Minister of Denmark Helle Thorning-Schmidt, the Alliance is an international network of women philanthropists who share a desire for a safer, fairer and more peaceful world. The Alliance is led by our Co-Chairs Megan McGill and Kathryn Raphael.

Azadeh Moaveni is a journalist, writer and academic who has been covering the Middle East for two decades. She is the author Lipstick Jihad, Honeymoon in Tehran, co-author, with Nobel Laureate Shirin Ebadi, of Iran Awakening and Guest House for Young Widows: Among the Women of ISIS. She lectures in journalism at New York University, London and directs the Gender and Conflict Project at the International Crisis Group. Her work often appears in The Guardian and The New York Times, among others.
HOW TO JOIN

The Alliance is keen to hear from women that want:

• To connect with a remarkable global community of like-minded people.
• To access Crisis Group’s distinguished network, including our field-based experts, senior team and Trustees, a group which represents 30 countries at the highest levels of government, business and philanthropic institutions.
• To engage in virtual discussions on wide-ranging topics, including feminist foreign policy and women’s political participation, with analysts, thought leaders and experts.
• To maximise the impact of your personal philanthropy by contributing to a pooled fund.
• To witness the impact and progress of your collective support, to engage with the researchers undertaking fellowships and visit the regions where work is being conducted, to meet activists and local Crisis Group staff.
• To partner with a globally recognised and respected organisation to encourage and support women’s involvement in preventing war and shaping peace.

For more information on the Alliance and how to join, please contact Crisis Group’s Philanthropy Team at philanthropy@crisisgroup.org. If you would like to attend an event, meet a member for virtual coffee or hear from Crisis Group staff who are covering active conflict zones, we would be pleased to arrange this for you.

#WomensAlliance