# Women, Leadership and Peacemaking

Mujeres, liderazgo y construcción de la paz

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#### Abstract:

In the framework of its feminist foreign policy and in matters of gender equality, peace and security, this article addresses the commitments of the Government of Mexico. The new national project aims to ensure the full participation of women in resolving their problems, such as living in safe and peaceful environments, a priority objective of Proigualdad 2020-2024. The aim is to increase the representation of women at decision-making levels, to prevent, manage and solve conflicts. For this reason, Inmujeres collaborated in the preparation of the first National Action Plan. Within the framework of Proigualdad and NAP-1325, the Women Peacebuilders (Mucpaz) strategy is underway.

#### Resumen:

En este artículo se abordan los compromisos del Gobierno de México en el marco de su política exterior feminista y en materia de igualdad de género, paz y seguridad. El nuevo proyecto de nación pretende asegurar la plena participación de las mujeres en la solución de sus problemáticas, como la de vivir en entornos seguros y en paz, objetivo prioritario de Proigualdad 2020-2024. A partir de políticas públicas avanzadas se busca aumentar la representación de las mujeres en los niveles de adopción de decisiones, para prevenir, gestionar y solucionar los conflictos. Por ello, en Inmujeres se colaboró en la elaboración del primer Plan Nacional de Acción. En el marco de Proigualdad y del PNA-1325 está en marcha la estrategia Mujeres Constructoras de Paz (Mucpaz).

#### Key Words:

Resolution 1325, women, peace and security, women's leadership, gender equality.

#### Palabras clave:

Resolución 1325, mujeres, paz y seguridad, liderazgo de las mujeres, igualdad de género.

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## Gender perspective in peace and security

When talking about wars and armed conflicts, the first images that most likely come to mind are men on the battlefield being wounded, bombs exploding, while women are often seen as people in need of rescue, as victims, bystanders, populations in need of protection. However, in the face of this androcentric view of war, reality has shown that women are relevant actors in building peace, resolving conflicts and participating as agents of change promoting disarmament, as has happened in New Zealand; activists like Malala in Pakistan; mediators of conflicts between sister communities as they were in Ireland and Colombia.<sup>1</sup>

It is therefore necessary to look at or analyse peace and security issues from a gender perspective, because it enables an understanding of both women's and men's concerns and experiences in order to take their needs into account in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes in all political, economic and social spheres, so that women and men benefit equally and gender inequality

Nadine Gasman, "Mujeres, indispensables en la construcción de paz", La Jornada, May 26, 2020, in <a href="https://www.jornada.com.mx/ultimas/sociedad/2020/05/26/mujeres-indispensables-en-la-construccion-de-paz-4076.html">https://www.jornada.com.mx/ultimas/sociedad/2020/05/26/mujeres-indispensables-en-la-construccion-de-paz-4076.html</a> (date of access: June 23, 2021).

is prevented,<sup>2</sup> especially in contexts of armed conflict and where peace and security are worked on for the people by the state.

In this regard, Jana Krause also stresses that a gender-sensitive peace-building agenda must systematically integrate community violence prevention and women's needs for full autonomy.<sup>3</sup> Indeed, peace is not just about silencing the guns and focusing the state's efforts on fighting organised crime, but about transforming the environment to provide human security for all people.

With the unanimous adoption of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000) "Women, Peace and Security", 4 the specific consequences faced by women and girls in armed conflict were addressed for the first time, and the need for gender mainstreaming at all stages of peace processes was established.<sup>5</sup>

In this way, the approach of Resolution 1325 and nine other Security Council resolutions on women, peace and security<sup>6</sup> constitute the legal and political framework that recognises women as agents of change in conflict prevention and conflict resolution. These resolutions, together with the Beijing Platform for Action (BPfA), the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and the Convention of Belém do Pará—which establishes for the first time the right of women to live

United Nations Economic and Social Council, "Mainstreaming the Gender Perspective into All Policies and Programmes in the United Nations," in *Report of the Economic and Social Council* for the Year 1997, New York, United Nations, 1997, pp. 23-33.

Jana Krause, Women, Peace and Security: Prevention and Resolution of Communal Conflicts, New York/ Stockholm/Oslo, UN Women/Folke Bernadotte Academy (FBA)/Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO) (Joint Brief Series: New Insights on Women, Peace and Security for the Next Decade), November, 2020, p. 5, in <a href="https://www.unwomen.org//media/beadquarters/attachments/sections/library/publications/2020/new-insights-on-wps-prevention-and-resolution-of-communal-con-flicts-en.pdf?la=en&vs=5259">https://www.unwomen.org//media/beadquarters/attachments/sections/library/publications/2020/new-insights-on-wps-prevention-and-resolution-of-communal-con-flicts-en.pdf?la=en&vs=5259</a> (date of access: June 26, 2021).

United Nations Security Council, "Resolution 1325 (2000)", S/RES/1325 (2000), October 31, 2000, in <a href="https://undocs.org/en/S/RES/1325%20(2000)">https://undocs.org/en/S/RES/1325%20(2000)</a> (date of access: May 11, 2021).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> UN Women, "Peace and Security", in https://www.unwomen.org/en/what-we-do/peace-and-security (date of access: May 21, 2021).

Security Council resolutions on women peace and security are: 1325 (2000), 1820 (2008), 1888 (2009), 1889 (2009), 1960 (2010), 2106 (2013), 2122 (2122), 2242 (2015), 2467 (2019) and 2493 (2019).

a life free of violence—are central instruments for the Mexican State that aim to guide the promotion, design, development and evaluation of public policies in favour of gender equality.

It is important to highlight that such resolutions on peace and security are not limited to conflict or post-conflict situations; their value lies in their broad scope, as they allow for the inclusion of diverse actors in their implementation in order to move towards the construction of a lasting peace with justice.

According to UN Women studies, when women are at the negotiating table, peace agreements are more likely to last 15 years or more. However, progress has been slow: peace agreements with gender equality provisions have only increased from 14% in 1995 to 22% in 2019. On average, between 1992 and 2019, women accounted for 13% of all negotiators, 6% of mediators and 6 per cent of signatories in major peace processes.<sup>7</sup>

Therefore, in peace-building processes, the role of women in preventing and resolving conflicts is as important as having the ability to access training in vocational alternatives, policies and actions that allow them to overcome difficulties in advancing towards economic autonomy, as well as having support for autonomous decision-making and strengthening their negotiation skills.

In this sense, Desirée Nilsson and Isak Svensson<sup>8</sup> found that the more empowered women are, the more likely they are to participate in negotiation spaces than those who are less empowered. Therefore, to the extent that women, with their ideas, contributions, concerns, needs and priorities are at the centre of peacebuilding actions, the processes and sustainability of the agreements will be strengthened, as the available evidence has shown.

<sup>7</sup> UN Women, "In Focus: Women, Peace and Security", in https://www.unwomen.org/en/news/in-focus/women-peace-security (date of access: June 26, 2021).

Desirée Nilsson & Isak Svensson, Women, Peace and Security: Women's Organizations in Peace—Making, New York/Stockholm/Oslo, UN Women/FBA/PRIO (Joint Brief Series: New Insights on Women, Peace and Security for the Next Decade), November, 2020, p. 4, in <a href="https://www.unwomen.org/-/media/beadquarters/attachments/sections/library/publications/2020/new-insights-on-wps-womens-organizations-in-peace-making-en.pdf?la=en&vs=5302">https://www.unwomen.org/-/media/beadquarters/attachments/sections/library/publications/2020/new-insights-on-wps-womens-organizations-in-peace-making-en.pdf?la=en&vs=5302</a> (date of access: June 26, 2021).

# Mexico pushes the women, peace and security agenda as part of its feminist foreign policy

Mexico is a country that has historically shown interest and commitment to work and collaborate with nations with the aim of protecting, promoting and guaranteeing women's human rights. In 1975, Mexico hosted the First United Nations World Conference on Women, which marked a turning point, as women were no longer seen as mere recipients of assistance, but as key actors in achieving development and world peace.

Two documents were adopted at that conference: the first World Plan of Action to Eradicate Discrimination against Women, in which one of its three main objectives was to achieve a greater contribution by women to world peace—at that time the conference was taking place in the context of the Cold War—9 and the Mexico Declaration on Women and their contribution to development and peace. In the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, the outcome of the 1995 Fourth World Conference on Women, and especially in the 2000 revision in New York, called Beijing+5 "Women 2000: Gender Equality, Development and Peace for the Twenty-first Century", important agreements were reached on women's access to a life free of violence and other forms of violence against women committed in the context of armed conflict.<sup>10</sup>

Twenty-six years after the adoption of the BPfA and 21 years after Resolution 1325, Mexico is in a profound process of transformation of public life, where for the first time in its history it has adopted a feminist foreign policy to have a profound impact on substantive equality and where the women, peace and security agenda is essential to the advancement of the country's peace process.

Oomisión Nacional de los Derechos Humanos, "Se realiza en México la Primera Conferencia Mundial sobre la Mujer", in https://www.cndb.org.mx/noticia/se-realiza-en-mexico-la-primera-conferencia-mundial-sobre-la-mujer-0 (date of access: May 21, 2021).

SRE, La mujer y el derecho internacional. Conferencias internacionales. Organización Internacional del Trabajo, Mexico, SRE, 2004, pp. 11 & 24.

Both internationally and domestically, the current context is conducive to boosting efforts in this area. On the one hand, Mexico is a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council for the period 2021-2022; it is also the first Latin American country to adopt a feminist foreign policy—joining Canada, France, Norway and Sweden—<sup>11</sup> with the conviction of placing women's human rights, autonomy in decision-making and the eradication of discrimination and structural inequalities at the centre in a cross-cutting, intersectional and multisectoral manner to accelerate progress towards substantive equality, which is, towards real and lasting equality.

In addition, Mexico was a promoter and co-organiser together with the Government of France of the Generation Equality Forum, convened by UN Women in collaboration with youth and civil society, with the aim of promoting a renewed commitment and concrete actions, while offering a five-year accelerated action plan, which aims to fulfil the promise of the BPfA and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda. <sup>12</sup> In this global collaborative space, Mexico joined as a catalytic member of the Compact on Women, Peace and Security and Humanitarian Action, one of the key outcomes of the Forum, created to advance initiatives associated with normative frameworks and commitments on women, peace and security, and humanitarian action, in order to strengthen coordination among available mechanisms, systems, networks, partnerships and capacities. Building on this commitment, Mexico will continue to advance the agenda, globally, nationally, regionally and locally with concrete and transformative actions. <sup>13</sup>

Martha Delgado Peralta, "Mexico's Feminist Foreign Policy and the 2030 Sustainability Agenda", in Revista Mexica de Política Exterior, no. 118, 2020, pp. 7-13; Subsecretaría para Asuntos Multilaterales y Derechos Humanos-SRE, La Política Exterior Feminista del Gobierno de México, Mexico, SRE, 2020, in <a href="https://revistadigital.sre.gob.mx/images/stories/numeros/n118/delgadopffp.pdf">https://revistadigital.sre.gob.mx/images/stories/numeros/n118/delgadopffp.pdf</a> (date of access: May 21, 2021).

Generation Equality Forum, "About", in https://forum.generationequality.org/about (date of access: May 21, 2021).

Generation Equality Forum, "Women, Peace and Security and Humanitarian Action (WPS-HA) Compact," in <a href="https://wpshacompact.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/WPS-HA-Compact\_Framework-EN-Webpdf">https://wpshacompact.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/WPS-HA-Compact\_Framework-EN-Webpdf</a> (date of access: July 6, 2021).

# Women, peace and security in the National Programme for Equality between Women and Men (Proigualdad), 2020-2024

The transformation promoted by the government of President Andrés Manuel López Obrador is the construction of peace. The National Development Plan (NDP) 2019-2024 promotes changing war measures for a policy of peace and security, <sup>14</sup> addressing the structural causes of corruption and inequality, with full respect for human rights, guaranteeing employment, education, health and welfare, giving priority to groups in situations of vulnerability or those historically discriminated against, and through the establishment of national, state and regional coordination to articulate national security, public safety and peace.

The current administration is directing its efforts towards the pacification of the country with the full participation of women. The roadmap for advancing towards substantive equality is the National Programme for Equality between Women and Men (Proigualdad), 2020-2024, <sup>15</sup> drawn up by the National Institute for Women (Inmujeres) through a participatory consultation process carried out in 2019, in which a direct, frank and horizontal dialogue was established with almost five thousand women in all the diverse 32 states, who demanded as one of the main priorities to feel safe, free from harassment and to recover the tranquillity of their communities.

For this reason, one of the priority objectives of Proigualdad is to "build safe and peaceful environments for women, girls and adolescents". This objective is made up of five strategic lines: 1. strengthen normative frameworks and disseminate knowledge related to the causes and effects of social violence to improve citizen and environmental security with a gender perspective; 2. strengthen community cohesion and organisation with women's leadership for peace-building, citizen and environmental security; 3. promote

Gobierno de México, Plan Nacional de Desarrollo (2019-2024), pp. 20 & 23, in https://lopezobra-dor.org.mx/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/PLAN-NACIONAL-DE-DESARROLLO-2019-2024.pdf (date of access: May 21, 2021).

Inmujeres, "Programa Nacional para la Igualdad entre Mujeres y Hombres 2020-2024", Diario Oficial de la Federación, December 22, 2020, morning edition, pp. 432-521, in http://dof.gob.mx/nota\_detalle.php?codigo=5608467&fecha=22/12/2020 (date of access: June 16, 2021).

the transformation of socio-cultural behaviours and norms in order to foster a culture of peace, sustainability and climate resilience with a gender perspective; 4. Incorporate a gender perspective in the design, planning and improvement of public spaces to generate conditions guaranteeing the safety, freedom, mobility and enjoyment of women and girls in a healthy environment; and 5. promote comprehensive care, reparation of damages and access to justice for specific groups of women who require special protection measures due to some condition of risk or social or environmental vulnerability.

Within the framework of Proigualdad, Inmujeres establishes inter-institutional coordination to not only raise awareness of the disproportionate impact of situations of insecurity faced by women, but also to ensure the protection of their rights, recognising their key role in stability and peace.

# National Action Plan for the implementation of resolution 1325

The government of Mexico is committed to building peace in Mexico and the world. For this reason, on January 11, 2021, the Ministries of National Defence (Sedena), the Navy (Semar), Security and Citizen Protection (SSPC), Foreign Affairs (SRE) and Inmujeres presented Mexico's first National Action Plan for the implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security-1325 (NAP-1325). The development of the Plan follows up on the CEDAW Committee's General Recommendation 30 on women in conflict prevention, conflict and post-conflict situations.

NAP-1325 was developed with the support of the Mexico office of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) and is the result of the actions of the Working Group for Peace-keeping Operations (WG-PKO), in charge of developing Mexico's participation in these operations.

Sedena, Semar, SSPC, SRE & Inmujeres, "México presenta su primer Plan Nacional de Acción para el seguimiento de la resolución 1325 del Consejo de Seguridad de la ONU", Joint press release, January 11, 2021, in <a href="https://www.gob.mx/sre/prensa/gobierno-de-mexico-presenta-su-primer-plan-nacional-de-accion-para-el-seguimiento-de-la-resolucion-1325-del-consejo-de-seguridad-de-la-onu-so-bre-mujeres-paz-y-seguridad (date of access: June 22, 2021).</p>

The NAP-1325 is structured according to the four areas recommended in the U.N. Secretary-General's reports on the Women, Peace and Security agenda: prevention, participation, protection, and relief and recovery. It includes 10 strategic objectives, 16 lines of action, 23 specific indicators, a monitoring and periodic evaluation mechanism, and ensures inter-agency coordination to guarantee greater impact of the proposed activities. In relation to this point, the implementation of the Plan contemplates incorporating other Mexican governmental agencies and entities in order to work in coordination with other national actors, especially with civil society organisations and academic institutions.<sup>17</sup> It is worth highlighting the national implementation elements included in the NAP-1325 regarding the inclusion of women in national peace initiatives through the Women Peacebuilders programme.

Within the framework of Proigualdad and NAP-1325, the Inter-institutional Panel of Gender Liaisons (GIEV), headed by the Ministry of the Interior (Segob), promotes the Agenda for the prevention, attention and punishment of violence against women and girls of the National Strategy for Peace and Security, which aims to prevent and address gender-based and femicide violence, and to promote actions aimed at reducing the backlog of cases and guaranteeing women's access to justice.

It has been proposed that this strategic agenda be incorporated into the 32 state roundtables and 266 regional roundtables for Peacebuilding and Security, <sup>18</sup> in which authorities from the three levels of government participate, as it is an ideal space for coordination. <sup>19</sup>

<sup>&</sup>quot;Plan Nacional de Acción para el seguimiento de la resolución 1325 (2000) del Consejo de Seguridad de las Naciones Unidas sobre Mujeres, Paz y Seguridad (PNA-1325)", in https://drive. google.com/file/d/10Ep7J-EhhNTZIa8Rl\_6tUAFzndCr-IJZ/view (date of access: June 22, 2021).

SSPC, "El papel de las mujeres en los procesos de mediación y construcción de la paz", press release, April 15, 2021, in <a href="https://www.gob.mx/sspc/prensa/el-papel-de-las-mujeres-en-los-procesos-de-mediacion-y-construccion-de-la-paz">https://www.gob.mx/sspc/prensa/el-papel-de-las-mujeres-en-los-procesos-de-mediacion-y-construccion-de-la-paz</a> (date of access: June 22, 2021).

The Peacebuilding and Security Roundtables bring together state authorities, among them: commanders of the military zones stationed in the capitals of the states, the head of the Ministry of the Interior, representatives of the federal and state police, representatives of the Attorney General's Office, as well as state prosecutors, delegates of social programmes, among others, who meet every day to present the progress and results of the actions proposed during the meetings.

The installation of the Technical Tables for the Review of Crimes against Women and Girls, coordinated by the National Commission for the Prevention and Eradication of Violence against Women (Conavim), has also been promoted.

In addition, Inmujeres promoted in the National Conference of Governors (Conago) that at least once a month, the Women's Instances in the Federal Entities (IMEF) participate in the state roundtables on peace and security, an ideal space for the IMEF to promote pending issues in their states and actions for the prevention and attention to violence and the reduction of the judicial backlog, with the aim of contributing to reducing crime rates in general.<sup>20</sup>

Likewise, through this strategy, the IMEFs have found an opportunity to strengthen state systems to prevent, address, punish and eradicate violence against women by presenting their state programmes and by joining allies and contributing to federal, state and municipal coordination to improve public safety.

Two fundamental aspects of the Peace and Security Agenda are to make gender perspective a more mainstream idea, with a territorial and intersectional vision in the promotion of peace, as well as to train all actors involved in the activities (including security forces and police) in the various pillars of governance, security and humanitarian efforts.<sup>21</sup>

## Peacekeeping operations

With regards to gender-sensitive training for the armed forces and the promotion of women's leadership, including expanding their participation in international peacekeeping operations, within the framework of NAP-1325, the Mexican Joint Training Centre for Peace Operations (Cecopam) of the Ministry of Defence, provides courses on gender, women,

Inmujeres, "Inmujeres presenta a gobiernos estatales agenda estratégica contra la violencia hacia las mujeres", press release, April 15, 2021, in <a href="https://www.gob.mx/inmujeres/prensa/inmujeres-presenta-a-gobiernos-estatales-agenda-estrategica-contra-la-violencia-hacia-las-mujeres">https://www.gob.mx/inmujeres/prensa/inmujeres-presenta-a-gobiernos-estatales-agenda-estrategica-contra-la-violencia-hacia-las-mujeres</a> (date of access: June 22, 2021).

Elisabeth Rehn & Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, Women, War and Peace: The Independent Experts' Assessment on the Impact of Armed Conflict on Women and Women's Role in Peace-building, New York, United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), 2002, p. 22.

peace and security for military and police personnel deployed in U.N. peace operations. Women in the armed forces are now gaining ground in decision-making positions and participate as military observers, international observers and staff officers in missions in Colombia, the Central African Republic, Western Sahara, India and Pakistan.<sup>22</sup>

At the national and subnational levels, gender-sensitive training is provided to police and public security forces, so that the main actors in the security sector carry out their task of protecting citizens with a new perspective that promotes peaceful coexistence, respect for human rights and a gender perspective, but also the recognition of the leadership and contributions of women in the communities to develop joint strategies for the recovery of public spaces, and to act promptly in cases of violence against women and girls. In short, citizens and authorities build peace and strengthen the social fabric.

### Women peacebuilders model (Mucpaz)

To reinforce women's participation in peace and security processes, and to strengthen or create new measures to prevent, address and tackle discrimination and violence against women in communities and municipalities, NAP-1325 integrates actions related to the Networks of Women Peacebuilders (Mucpaz) model, a strategy launched in 2019 by Inmujeres and the Executive Secretariat of the National Public Security System (SESNSP), with the aim of promoting the reconstruction of the social fabric and the social prevention of violence and crime, and, in particular, to promote the participation of women in peace-building processes and conflict resolution.

The Mucpaz strategy has three essential elements:

■ It is integrated into the NAP-1325, through concrete actions at the municipal level and is also included in the Comprehensive Strategy for the

Ana Cisneros Rabell, "Plan Nacional de Acción de México para la agenda de Mujeres, Paz y Seguridad", in Las Relaciones Internacionales de México [podcast], Mexico, Instituto Matías Romero-SRE, February 10, 2021, in https://soundcloud.com/imatiasromero/plan-nacional-de-accion-demexico-para-la-agenda-de-mujeres-paz-y-seguridad (date of access: July 20, 2021).

Prevention of Family and Gender Violence, in order to identify risk factors, promote gender equality, create violence-free environments and promote a culture of peace.

- Promote women's participation in decision-making in peacebuilding processes in the municipalities and communities where they live.
- Rebuilding the social fabric from the local level and promoting peaceful conflict resolution with the active participation of women.

To date, 217 Mucpaz networks have been created, with the participation of 3510 women, in 107 municipalities in 27 states, with an investment of more than 123 million pesos, through the Social Prevention of Family and Gender Violence Project of the Grant for Strengthening Public Security Performance (Fortaseg). Likewise, through the pooling of resources for the social prevention of violence and crime from the Fund for Contributions to Public Security in the States and the Federal District (Mexico City) (FASP), 40 women's networks were set up in nine states with an investment of nine million pesos.

Through the implementation of Mucpaz, it has been possible to strengthen the capacities of the female members of the networks while providing greater social cohesion, interaction and neighbourhood links, which make it possible to build support networks, have a greater capacity for dialogue with the various authorities, allow for the manifestation of women's own initiatives related to their community, create joint networks with the security forces, strengthen the protocols for dealing with violence, while improving infrastructure and equipment in the neighbourhoods previously identified as vulnerable, among others.

Similarly, the strengthening of the abilities of local actors and women who make up the networks, which can be replicated in other neighbourhoods and municipalities, provides for, and promotes a reflective process on their own environment while facilitating the possibilities of collective action, thus contributing to the reconstruction of the social fabric, based on common projects, dialogue and the participation of women to transform their communities and spaces.

For the implementation of these citizen networks, the actors involved have a participatory and documentary diagnosis, carried out by the community in collaboration with local authorities, allowing them to have a general map of violence in that area, as well as a route for action to follow with specific problems expressed by the population itself. This provides information

on the circumstances of violence, the incidence of crime, as well as the progress made in each of the municipalities. In addition, with exploratory marches and mapping of actors, it has been possible to identify risk areas and factors that generate violence.

In 2021, the capacities of women coordinators of the Mucpaz Networks in the country will continue to be strengthened. The topics they address are the importance of the community in public and citizen security; conflict resolution and restorative justice mechanisms; prevention of violence against women; and the appropriation of public space through a training and support programme. In addition, the "Guide for early warning and appropriation of space" is being developed, aligned with the guidelines of Resolution 1325 and, specifically, with the actions of NAP-1325.

The aim is for women to learn about their rights and promote gender equality, as well as to identify the main problems in their communities, propose solutions, and promote solidarity and community work. They are also encouraged to become multipliers of strategies for the generation of peace and to sit at the tables where decisions related to local and national security strategies are made, which implies supporting their initiatives, while taking into account their professional needs and aspirations, entrepreneurship and political and social participation.

#### Final conclusions

Society in general, and women in particular, are eager to move towards peace processes. They are the ones who bear the brunt of the consequences of the social decomposition generated by violence, but they are also the ones who, through their individual or collective efforts, seek to improve their communities, search for the disappeared, for their daughters and sons, sisters, brothers and partners; they are the ones who cry out and demand justice; they are the ones who demand and fight for lives free of violence. These realities are not alien to the Government of the Fourth Transformation, which is why it is working to rebuild the social fabric through the implementation of new models of access to justice, the promotion of a culture of peace and the recovery of citizens' trust in the authorities. It also recognises, promotes and encourag-

es women's leadership in the reconstruction of the social fabric and in peace-building processes.

On the one hand, it promotes their participation in the Mucpaz Networks where they work on the ground to identify the factors that cause the problems of insecurity and violence in their communities and municipalities in order to work with the authorities to recover spaces, improve public services and also generate new opportunities for employment, access to government programmes and other actions aimed at increasing the well-being of women and the population in general. On the other hand, it is also fundamental for this administration, which for the first time is adopting a feminist foreign policy, to generate the conditions that will allow women to take part in international peace negotiations.

As part of the new national project, Inmujeres will continue to focus its efforts on building safe and peaceful environments for women and girls, through concrete actions that include promoting the strengthening of normative frameworks, promoting the transformation of behaviours and socio-cultural norms that impede progress towards a culture of peace, as well as supporting women's leadership in peacebuilding and security processes and, in general, making gender perspective more mainstream in all initiatives, programmes and actions related to security and peacebuilding.

Inmujeres must continue its work to strengthen spaces for dialogue with women and the various feminist activisms, and consider the results of this dialogue so that all the instruments, techniques and forms of organisation used in the territories allow peace processes to be designed with a gender perspective, with cultural and intersectional relevance, and with a human rights approach in mind.

Inmujeres will continue to promote the recognition, appreciation and support of women's will and efforts to establish peace and rebuild the social fabric by mobilising resources and building skills that enable women to be in decision-making positions, as well as positions of power. In doing so, we show commitment to achieving a profound transformation in which no one is left behind and no one is left out.