



WOMEN AT THE TABLE

4th Ministerial Conference on Feminist Foreign Policy October 2025

Roundtable: "Ensuring women's participation in international peace and security: Towards a Global Partnership for Parity"

Building Peace and Parity Intelligence: The Data Ecosystem We Need

Peace and Parity Intelligence: A Feminist Data Question

The UN measures gender equality by counting women in parliaments. The World Bank tracks gaps in legal rights. National statistics document violence against women. These metrics matter. But here's what they miss: women's organizing power, the economic value of care work, the policy changes won through feminist advocacy.

This isn't an oversight. It's a choice about what counts.

What We Measure

When we change what we measure, we change what becomes politically possible.

Current gender indicators overwhelmingly track deficits and harms: rates of violence, representation gaps, barriers to access. They frame women primarily as victims, not agents. They measure what's done **to** women, not what women **do**.

What if we asked different questions: What percentage of community resources flow through women's networks? Where have women's organizing efforts successfully shifted policy?

When data captures women's organizing capacity and economic power rather than just their victimization, it becomes evidence for different demands. Not "protect us" but to "resource our leadership."

How Data Becomes AI

This is why data governance is the battleground for AI. and for the future Machine learning systems encode the patterns, priorities, and power structures embedded in data. When data treats women as victims rather than agents, when it renders care work invisible, when it measures deficits instead of organizing capacity, AI systems trained on that data amplify these frames.

The patterns in our data become the logic of our systems.

The Difference It Makes

What does a different data ecosystem look like?

It starts with integrating three data streams that currently exist in silos all of which struggle with capturing the data they need but even when they do largely are measuring deficits. : So lets imagine ****Women, Peace and Security data**** tracking women as architects of peace, not just victims of conflict. ****Parity data**** measuring not just representation but power - what authority women exercise, what resources they control. ****Digital governance data**** showing who controls the technology systems mediating our lives.

When you bring these together - peace data, economic power data, and digital governance data - you can create something fundamentally different. You can see how women's organizing in conflict zones connects to their economic power. You can track how digital infrastructure access affects political participation. You can measure how care work sustains economies even as GDP ignores it.

This integrated ecosystem measures agency, not just vulnerability. It tracks power-building, not just gaps. And when these systems are open - accessible, transparent, governed by affected communities - they can become infrastructure for accountability. Movements can track trends in real-time. Governments must explain why women's contributions remain invisible.

This is peace and parity intelligence: AI built on data that captures justice, power-building, and democratic participation, not just vague efficiency gains.

The New Century's Power Question

The companies building AI foundation models have made choices about training data and design without meaningful feminist, or any citizen, input. We can't unwind those choices. But we can fight for governance frameworks that constrain how these systems are used and who has power over them.

This is where the fight is. Not over whether AI develops it is already here. But the issue is over who governs it, what values it serves

Because the question is not whether AI will shape the 21st century, it's whether it will serve democracy. This is a feminist issue - because the fight over who controls AI is inseparable from the fight over who holds power in society itself. We need to build these tools. Feminists who ignore this do so at our peril - and will cede power for yet another century. We need to take this on as our collective issue, to both govern the systems that do exist, and to imagine, create and build our own so that the vision of equality, of parity, and the transformation of power become a reality.