

February 1, 2013

The Honorable Melanne Verveer
Ambassador-at-Large
Office of Global Women's Issues
United States Department of State
2201 C Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Ambassador Verveer:

With deep appreciation and gratitude, we write to thank you for your historic contributions to improving the lives of women and girls around the world and, in doing so, creating a better future for everyone. Your legacy will have a positive impact on future generations of women, men and children the world over.

In your tenure as Ambassador-at-Large for Global Women's Issues, you have transformed principled aspirations into meaningful action. Under the extraordinary leadership of Secretary Hillary Rodham Clinton, you have introduced the unprecedented United States National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security, United States Strategy to Prevent and Respond to Gender-Based Violence Globally, Secretarial Policy Guidance on Promoting Gender Equality to Achieve our National Security and Foreign Policy Objectives, and have taken some important initial steps toward ending child marriage. We were inspired by your leadership within the U.S. government and with foreign leaders to press for important reforms and actions to prevent and respond to gender-based violence, end child marriage, empower adolescent girls, and include women in every aspect of peacebuilding and conflict resolution.

Our coalitions look forward to your continued engagement after your term ends. As the National Action Plan affirms, the engagement and protection of women and girls as agents of peace and stability will be central to the United States' efforts to promote security, prevent, respond to, and resolve conflict, and rebuild societies. Therefore, we respectfully urge you to continue advocating on behalf of the world's women and girls by encouraging President Barack Obama, incoming Secretary of State John Kerry, and USAID Administrator Rajiv Shah to make them a priority in U.S. foreign policy in the Administration's second term. We will also continue to support the efforts you put in motion and urge the U.S. government to implement and institutionalize these ground breaking initiatives until their goals become realized and are ingrained in the fabric of U.S. foreign policy goals.

We hope that you will join our efforts towards making the rhetoric of women and girls' rights, peace and human security, a reality in the lives of women and girls in Afghanistan and Syria, Congo and Colombia, India, Iran and beyond.

With respect,

Coalition for Adolescent Girls
Coalition to End Violence against Women and Girls Globally
Girls Not Brides USA
U.S. Civil Society Working Group on Women, Peace and Security

Coalition for Adolescent Girls

The membership base of the Coalition for Adolescent Girls is made up of organizations that implement programs to benefit adolescent girls in developing countries, and who work in a variety of sectors including education, health, economic empowerment and humanitarian response, among others.

1. Advocates for Youth
2. AGE Africa
3. American Jewish World Service
4. BRAC
5. CARE
6. Centre for Development and Population Activities
7. ChildVoice International
8. Emerge Global
9. EngenderHealth
10. Equality Now
11. FHI 360
12. Futures Without Violence
13. Girl Scouts
14. Girls Learn International, Inc.
15. Global Fund for Children
16. GreeneWorks
17. Harpswell Foundation
18. International Center for Research on Women
19. International Rescue Committee
20. International Women's Health Coalition
21. International Youth Foundation
22. IntraHealth International
23. Making Cents International
24. Marie Stopes International
25. Mercy Corps
26. National 4-H Council
27. Partners of the Americas
28. Pathfinder International
29. Plan International USA
30. Population Council
31. Population Services International
32. Public Health Institute
33. Save the Children
34. UNESCO
35. Winrock International
36. Women's Refugee Commission
37. Women's World Banking

Coalition to End Violence Against Women and Girls Globally

The Coalition to End Violence against Women and Girls Globally consists of more than 200 organizations whose combined expertise, experience, programmatic work, and collaboration with local activists make it a powerful resource and ally on issues related to the prevention of and response to violence against women and girls.

1. ActionAid International USA
2. Adventist Relief & Development Agency
3. Advocates for Human Rights
4. Advocates for Youth
5. Aga Khan Foundation USA
6. AIDS Institute
7. ALEPH: Alliance for Jewish Renewal
8. Alianza (National Latino Alliance for the Elimination of Domestic Violence)
9. American Bar Association
10. American Center for International Labor Solidarity
11. American Civil Liberties Union
12. American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
13. American Friends Service Committee
14. American Humanist Association
15. American Jewish World Service
16. American Refugee Committee
17. American Romanian Partnership for Gender Equality
18. American University, Washington College of Law
19. American University, Women and Politics Institute
20. Americans for UNFPA
21. Amnesty International USA
22. Anglican Women's Empowerment
23. ArtWorks
24. Asia Foundation
25. Asian American Network Against Abuse of Human Rights (ANAA)
26. Asian Self Help Association for Women (ASHA for Women)
27. Association for Women's Rights in Development
28. Basic Education Coalition
29. Brandeis University, Women's Studies Research Center
30. Breakthrough: Building Human Rights Culture
31. CARE USA
32. Casa Amiga
33. Catholics for a Free Choice
34. Center for American Progress
35. Center for Health and Gender Equity (CHANGE)
36. Center for Inquiry
37. Center for Reproductive Rights
38. Center for Victims of Torture
39. Centre for Development and Population Activities (CEDPA)
40. Chemonics International

41. Chicago Foundation for Women
42. ChildFund International (formerly Christian Children's Fund)
43. Church Women United
44. Church World Service
45. Citizens for Global Solutions
46. City of New York, Washington Office
47. Colorado Coalition Against Sexual Assault
48. Columbia University Law School
49. Communications Consortium Media Center
50. Concern America
51. Council on Foreign Relations
52. Creative Associates International, Inc.
53. DevTech Systems, Inc.
54. Domestic Violence Consulting Group
55. Domestic Violence Report & Sexual Assault Report
56. EMILY's List
57. En Avant Congo
58. ENOUGH Project
59. Episcopal Church
60. Equality Now
61. Expansion Human Development Agency-Hungary
62. FAIR Fund
63. Father and Daughter Alliance
64. Feminist Majority Foundation
65. Florian Solutions
66. Food for the Hungry
67. Free the Slaves
68. Freedom House
69. Futures Without Violence (formerly Family Violence Prevention Fund)
70. General Federation of Women's Clubs
71. Georgetown University Law Center, International Women's Human Rights Clinic
72. Global Business Coalition on HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria
73. Global Fund for Women
74. Global Rights
75. Good Works Group
76. Guatemala Human Rights Commission, USA
77. Guttmacher Institute
78. Hadassah, Women's Zionist Organization of America
79. Health Policy Associates
80. Heifer International
81. Henry L. Stimson Center
82. Holy Angels Church
83. Human Rights First
84. Human Rights Watch
85. Institute for Global Communications, Center for Women's Programs
86. Institute for Inclusive Security
87. Institute for International Law and Human Rights
88. InterAction

89. International Association of Women Judges
90. International Center for Research on Women
91. International Crisis Group
92. International Disciples of Women's Ministries
93. International Justice Mission
94. International Labor Rights Forum
95. International Medical Corps
96. International Relief and Development, Inc.
97. International Rescue Committee
98. International Women's Health Coalition
99. International Women's Rights Action Watch
100. Intersect Worldwide
101. Ipas USA
102. Islamic Relief
103. Islamic Social Services Association, USA
104. Jewish Institute Supporting an Abuse Free Environment (JSAFE)
105. Jewish Women International
106. Jewish World Watch
107. John Snow International
108. Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)
109. Karamah
110. League of Women Voters
111. Leadership Council on Human Rights
112. Legal Aid Society, Employment Law Center
113. Legal Momentum
114. Legal Services Alabama
115. Lutheran World Relief
116. MADRE
117. Massachusetts CEDAW Project
118. Men Can Stop Rape
119. Men's Resources International, Inc.
120. Miles Foundation
121. Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights
122. Miss Christian International Pageants and Miss Christian United Mission Life Center
123. Ms. Foundation for Women
124. Mujeres Unidas y Activas
125. Na'Amat USA
126. National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd
127. National Alliance to End Sexual Violence
128. National Association of Social Workers
129. National Center for Victims of Crime
130. National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NCADV)
131. National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA
132. National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW)
133. National Council of Research on Women
134. National Council of Women's Organizations
135. National Democratic Institute (NDI)
136. National Immigration Project (NLG)
137. National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV)
138. National Organization for Women (NOW)
139. National Organization of Sisters of Color Ending Sexual Assault (SCESA)

140. National Resource Center on Domestic Violence
141. National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of the United States
142. Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
143. ONE Campaign
144. Open Society Institute
145. Opportunity International
146. Oxfam America
147. PACT
148. Pan American Health and Education Foundation (PAHEF), Global Violence Prevention Advocacy
149. Project PATH
150. Peace X Peace
151. Peaceful Families Project
152. Physicians for Human Rights USA
153. Plan USA
154. Planned Parenthood Federation of America
155. Population Action International
156. Population Institute
157. PR Solutions
158. Presbyterian Church USA, Washington Office
159. Ramsay Merriam Fund
160. Rape, Abuse, & Incest National Network (RAINN)
161. Rebecca Project for Human Rights
162. Refugees International
163. Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Center for Justice and Human Rights
164. Rocky Mountain Peace and Justice Center
165. RTI International
166. Rutgers University
167. Save the Children
168. Second Chance Employment Services
169. Sexuality Information and Education Council of the United States (SIECUS)
170. Shalit/Ericson
171. Sisters of Mercy of the Americas
172. Soroptimist International
173. STITCH
174. Stop Rape in War Campaign
175. Stop Rape Now
176. Stop Family Violence
177. Tahirih Justice Center
178. U.S. Fund for UNICEF
179. U.S. National Committee for UNIFEM
180. UN Information Center
181. UNAIDS
182. Unitarian Universalist Association
183. United Methodist Church, General Board of Church & Society
184. United Methodist Church, Women's Division
185. United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
186. United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations

187. United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) (Now part of UN Women)
188. United Nations Foundation
189. United Nations Office for the Coordination of Human Affairs (UN OCHA)
190. United Religions Initiative
191. University of California-Hastings, Center for Gender and Refugee Studies
192. University of Iowa, Women's Health Clinic (UIHC)
193. University of Kansas, School of Social Welfare
194. Urgent Action Fund
195. V-Day | Until the Violence Stops
196. Victims Rights Law Center
197. Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU), Institute for Women's Health
198. Vital Voices Global Partnership
199. Washington Office on Latin America
200. Waitt Institute for Violence Prevention
201. Weidemann Foundation
202. Wetland International Forum
203. White House Project
204. Winrock International
205. Women for Women International
206. Women of Color Network
207. Women of Reformed Judaism (WRJ)
208. Women Organizing for Change in Agriculture and Natural Resource Management Youth Activism Project
209. Women Thrive Worldwide
210. Women Watch Afrika
211. Women's Actions for New Directions (WAND)
212. Women's Collective
213. Women's International League for Peace and Freedom
214. Women's Learning Partnership
215. Women's Refugee Commission
216. Women's Environmental and Development Organization (WEDO)
217. World Conference of Religions for Peace
218. World Hope International
219. World Learning
220. World Pulse Magazine
221. World Relief Next Project
222. World Vision
223. Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA)

Girls Not Brides USA

Girls Not Brides is a global partnership to end child marriage, bringing together non-governmental organizations from around the world that work to tackle child marriage at the grassroots, national and global levels.

1. 10x10 The Documentary Group
2. Adolescent Girls' Advocacy & Leadership Initiative
3. Advocates for Youth
4. BRAC USA
5. Breakthrough
6. CARE USA
7. EngenderHealth
8. Equality Now
9. Every Mother Counts
10. FHI 360
11. Fistula Foundation
12. For Girls GLocal Leadership
13. Friends of UNFPA
14. Futures Without Violence
15. Girl Up
16. Global Rights
17. Human Rights Watch
18. International Center for Research on Women
19. International Women's Health Coalition
20. IPPF Western Hemisphere
21. Kakenya Center for Excellence
22. Landesa
23. Maasai Girls Education Fund (MGEF)
24. Management Sciences for Health
25. Men's Resources International
26. Message Global
27. National Council of Jewish Women
28. One by One
29. Pathfinder International
30. Plan USA
31. Population Council
32. Population Media Center
33. School Girls Unite
34. Tahirih Justice Center
35. Tostan
36. U.S. Fund for UNICEF
37. U.S. National Committee for UN Women (USNC)
38. Unchained At Last
39. United Methodist Church
40. Vital Voices
41. White Ribbon Alliance
42. Women Deliver
43. Women for Afghan Women
44. Women's Refugee Commission
45. Women Thrive Worldwide
46. Yellitaare

U.S. Civil Society Working Group on Women, Peace and Security

The U.S. Civil Society Working Group (CSWG) is a network of experts, NGOs, and academics with years of experience working on issues involving women, war, and peace. Inspired by and building upon the international Women, Peace, and Security agenda, the CSWG informs, promotes, facilitates, and monitors the meaningful implementation of the U.S. National Action Plan on Women, Peace, and Security.

The U.S. Institute of Peace acts as secretariat for this working group.

1. Alliance for Peacebuilding
2. Amnesty International-USA
3. CARE USA
4. Center for Health and Gender Equality
5. Church World Service
6. Creative Associates International
7. Equality Now
8. Futures Without Violence
9. Gender Action
10. Georgetown University
11. The George Washington University
12. Global Initiative of Women Religious and Spiritual Leaders
13. Harvard Humanitarian Initiative
14. Independent Development Consultants
15. Institute for Inclusive Security
16. Institute for Multi-Track Diplomacy
17. International Center for Research on Women
18. International Civil Society Action Network
19. International Committee of the Red Cross
20. International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES)
21. International Rescue Committee
22. International Research and Exchanges Board (IREX)
23. John's Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies
24. Men Can Stop Rape
25. National Council for Research on Women
26. National Democratic Institute
27. OXFAM America
28. Peace Co. and Global Systems Initiative
29. Peace X Peace
30. Promundo U.S.
31. Protect the People
32. Search for Common Ground
33. Sorooptimist International of the Americas
34. Stockholm International Peace Research Institute-North America
35. Strategy for Humanity
36. United Nations Association USA
United Nations Association of the National Capital Area
37. U.S. National Committee for UN Women
38. Vital Voices
39. WomenEnabled, Inc.
40. Women for Women International
41. Women, Peace and Security Resources
42. Women in International Security

43. Women, Peace and Security Working Group at U.S. Africa
44. Women's Action for New Directions (WAND)
45. Women's Campaign International
46. The Women's Democracy Network (WDN) at the International Republican Institute
47. Women's Refugee Commission
48. Women Thrive International
49. 4Girls GLocal Leadership