What is Feminist Foreign Policy?

Feminist Foreign Policy is a political framework that filters all policy decisions through a feminist lens. It’s focused on rebalancing power inequalities in which meeting the needs of the most marginalised in a society becomes the primary goal of foreign and security policies. In doing so, a Feminist Foreign Policy firstly acknowledges that injustices and inequalities (gender inequality being one of the most prominent examples) exist interconnectedly across both the local and the global. Secondly, a Feminist Foreign Policy demands that all foreign and security policy tools are used to reduce those inequalities. Each and every one of us has the right to have our needs taken seriously by policymakers regardless of gender, race, sexuality, ability, or class.

Research shows that the most significant factor in indicating a country’s level of stability and peacefulness is its level of gender equality. But this is not about simply giving women and political minorities a place at the decision-making table. Instead, Feminist Foreign Policy demands a new table built by all to ensure freedom and human rights for everyone.
What does CFFP do?

A Feminist Foreign Policy encompasses all areas of foreign policy and requires new structures and new priorities which should be informed by civil society. From trade, migration, development, security, climate change, healthcare, to human rights; every aspect of foreign policy must be invested in protecting human rights.

As a non-partisan organisation, CFFP encourages governments to implement feminist values in their policymaking processes. We are working with the governments of Mexico, Sweden, France, Luxembourg, and Canada to advance Feminist Foreign Policy globally, as well as with feminist activists from around the world. We also work with influential forums like the Munich Security Conference to diversify foreign policy events and are part of networks committed to disarmament and arms control, like the Gender Champions in Nuclear Policy and the Campaign to Stop Killer Robots.

Here are some concrete examples of our work:

**Research**

- We produced the first-ever ‘Feminist Foreign Policy for the EU’ study including concrete policy recommendations, commissioned by The Greens/EFA in the European Parliament.
- Funded by the Ploughshares Fund, we produced an insightful report written by activists from around the world on how Feminist Foreign Policy can guide P5 states toward nuclear elimination.
- In partnership with Greenpeace, we are researching the impacts of German arms exports on women and other political minorities, in particular with regard to gender-based violence.
- In collaboration with the Heinrich Böll Foundation, we produce the Feminist Foreign Policy Web Dossier, highlighting feminist visions to change foreign policy from across the world.

**Advocacy**

- We organised and hosted the first ever official side event on Feminist Foreign Policy at the Munich Security Conference.
- We developed the Women Experts’ (WoX) Network, which saw more than 500 registrations by women experts within the first four weeks of its soft launch.
- We are part of the Gender Action for Peace and Security (GAPS) Network which works closely with the UK Government to ensure its strong commitment to the Women, Peace and Security Agenda.
- As an advisor to the German Foreign Ministry, we built the German Foreign Minister’s feminist network between Latin America, the Caribbean and Germany, called Unidas.

**Community**

- Over 200 people are registered as members of CFFP, and our social media following now exceeds 21,000 people.
- We regularly organise events that allow our global community to rethink foreign policy, including our Fireside Chats, which we have hosted in collaboration with the British Embassy in Berlin.
- We produce regular digital advocacy campaigns around different issue areas to raise public awareness about the usefulness of Feminist Foreign Policy.
- We publish briefings on hot-button issues like Brexit and the climate crisis.

www.centreforfeministforeignpolicy.com
Who does CFFP work with?

We have been fortunate enough to work with a variety of partners ranging from governments, foundations, civil society, and activists including the German Foreign Ministry, the Finnish Foreign Ministry, the British Embassy in Berlin, the German Embassy in London, Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom, Carnegie Corporation of New York, Greenpeace, Open Society Foundations, BMW Foundation Herbert Quandt, Heinrich Böll Foundation, Ploughshares Fund, the Campaign to Stop Killer Robots, Jubitz Family Foundation, and many more.

Where does CFFP receive its funds from?

As a women-led organisation with a clear feminist mission and vision, we are sharply aware of the structural barriers that women founders face as they typically receive only a single-digit percentage of funding (2.2% of venture capital in the for-profit sector) compared to male founders. On top of this, hardly any funding goes to feminist work, which means sourcing funding is our biggest struggle to sustainability. We are diversifying our funding as much as possible to ensure our political independence. We receive funds from our own membership programme, our CFFP Visionaries (a group of individuals who financially support us), grants from governments and foundations, fees for speaking and running workshops, as well as through collaborations with the partners mentioned above.

Who is on CFFP’s Advisory Council?

We are very proud of our Advisory Council, through which feminist trailblazers support us. Our Advisors include Madeleine Rees, Director at Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom; Sanam Anderlini, Director at the LSE ‘Women, Peace and Security Centre’ and the International Civil Society Action Network; Michelle Müntefering, State Minister at the German Federal Foreign Office; Rosebell Kagumire, Curator & Editor of African Feminism, among others. See them all here.