



Concept Note CSW 67 Side Event

HOW CAN FEMINIST DEVELOPMENT POLICY SUPPORT WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS AND ACTIVISTS IN THE DIGITAL SPHERE?

6 March 2023, 2-3.30pm EST, German House, 871 United Nations Plaza, NY 10017

The digital transformation generates major opportunities to promote gender equality and women's empowerment by granting increased access to knowledge, income, employment, or support services. At the same time, digital tools have created new spaces for perpetuating and amplifying existing forms of discrimination and exploitation of women and girls in all their diversity. Feminist and women's rights activists continue to face harassment, surveillance, and censorship in the digital sphere, which in turn prevents them from fully taking advantage of ICTs.

On a national and multilateral level, several countries have announced to pursue a feminist development and foreign policy. Bringing together a wide range of experts from activist, civil society, and policy contexts, the envisioned event aims at bridging the gap between growing challenges in the digital sphere and feminist approaches to development policy. At its core, the event will create space to critically assess how a feminist development and foreign policy can support feminist and women's rights organizations or activists and their cause in the digital sphere.

Agenda

I. Words of Welcome

/// Svenja Schulze, Minister of Development, Germany:

Launching a feminist development policy in the digital age

/// Maren Heltsche, Ambassador for Digital Gender Equality, National Council of German Women's Organisations, Germany:

Challenges and opportunities for a feminist development policy in the digital age

II. Keynote

/// Solafa Magdy, Journalist and Woman Human Rights Defender, Egypt:

Women's rights activism and repression from cyberspace to real world

III. Panel

/// Mabel Bianco, Women's Major Group, Argentina:

The role of the G20 und G7 in bridging the digital gender gap

/// Nandini Chami, Deputy Director IT for Change, India:

Fostering rights and opportunities for women in the digital transformation

/// Priscila Bellini, Communications Co-Lead at Whose Knowledge, Brazil:

Feminist perspectives on decolonizing the internet

/// Dr. Hnin Shwe Zin Hlaing, Head of Policy and Advocacy Gen Myanmar, Myanmar:

Women's rights activism in the digital space

/// N.N., International Working Group on Indigenous Affairs:

Digital censorship and repression of indigenous human rights activism

IV. Q+A Session

Moderator: **Juliane Rosin**, Head of Division, National Council of German Women's Organizations

RSVP [here](#) by 3 March 2023 at 12pm.