

Reflections on the Political Declaration CSW69

Dutch civil society
CSW69 Debriefing
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Institute on
Gender Equality and
Women's History



Introduction

- Global pressure on human and women's rights
- Rise of conservative, far-right, and anti-gender movements
- Civil society confronted with restrictions, Visas rejected, uncertainty of future funding

Political shifts

- Tried to remove “gender equality” references
- Under Trump, the US no longer an EU ally in negotiations
- Argentina (under Milei): conservative stance, against abortion & CSE
- Latin America and Africa acted as unified blocs
- EU remained relatively progressive despite internal political shifts

Positive developments

- Language is more concrete and positive
- Better inclusion of marginalized groups:
Rural women, Indigenous women, women with disabilities
Women in armed conflict, displaced and refugee women

Stronger language and implementation

- Reference to survivors of sexual and gender-based violence
- Role of civil society is acknowledged
- Progress on labor rights
 - *Mention of ILO conventions*
 - *Right to organize and collective bargaining*

Remaining challenges and setbacks

- No reference to SRHR (sexual and reproductive health and rights)
- No mention of:
 - *Gender-transformative approaches, intersectionality, women and girls in all their diversity*
- Climate change mentioned, but no broader climate language included

Language and negotiation tensions

- Reference to ILO was not retained
- Examples of weakened language:
 - *“Diversity” changed to “diverse”*
 - *“Discrimination and violence” reversed to “violence and discrimination”*
 - *“Youth” replaced by “current and future generations”*

Conclusions & Call to action

- Despite progress, previously agreed language is under debate
- Political alliances are shifting – new partnerships are needed
- NGOs must work together strategically with unified advocacy