



OAS | CIM

Empowering Women and Promoting Gender Equality through Foreign Policy

Continuing the Conversation with Permanent Representatives to the Organization of American States on Climate Change, Migration and Multidimensional Security

Monday, December 6th, 2021

10:00am EST

Link to register: https://www.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_281LHW58TLiWyrL5AGyA9g

Two years ago, on November 18th, 2019, the *Inter-American Commission of Women* (CIM) of the *Organization of American States* in partnership with the *Organization of Women of the Americas* began a timely and critical dialogue among women ambassadors of the Inter-American System. This seminal event highlighted the key role that women leaders play at the diplomatic level in addressing multilateral concerns such as: Socio-economic inequalities, threats to citizen security, economic insecurity, environmental degradation and disasters, and global pandemics – to name a few. It also explored whether there were tangible gender-related differences in the approaches of women ambassadors to negotiating positions on matters of foreign policy. As our women diplomats exposed the enormous pressures that they face in handling these major challenges, the roundtable underscored the importance of transformational and inclusive leadership that is necessary to navigate these uncertain and unprecedented times.

Two years later, the high-level conversation continues with a view to empowering women and promoting gender equality by looking at how foreign policy has been shaped to reflect gender considerations. This dialogue is contextualized by a geopolitical climate which has become even more challenging – and exponentially shifting and changing. In our overburdened hemisphere, our countries continue to grapple with multiplying epidemiological, environmental, and economic threats; a mushrooming multidimensional insecurity among citizens; and slowly eroding democratic rights and freedoms in some countries. Our global vulnerability is the common denominator as countries face our utter interdependence as the actions of each world leader has implications for our very survival.

The *Inter-American Commission of Women* will continue to host these high-level dialogues to increase our footprint for more gender-equitable national, regional, and multilateral spaces. Through these conversations, we hope to chart and assess the progress made as a hemisphere; and make visible the gaps that our women leaders have encountered in foreign policy in their efforts to empower women and girls and steady the balance for gender equality.

Preliminary Agenda

10:00

Welcome and Introductory Remarks

- Alejandra Mora Mora, Executive Secretary of the Inter-American Commission of Women/OAS
- Ambassador Anthony Phillips-Spencer, Vice Chair of the Permanent Council, Permanent Representative of Trinidad and Tobago to the OAS

- 10:15** **Gender dimensions on Climate Change and Multidimensional Security in Foreign Policy**
- Ambassador Lou Ann Gilchrist, Permanent Representative of St. Vincent and the Grenadines to the OAS
 - Ambassador Noel Lynch, Permanent Representative of Barbados to the OAS
 - Ambassador Alejandra Solano, Permanent Representative of Costa Rica to the OAS
- Moderated by Ambassador Jacinth Henry Martin, Advisor and Coordinator, OAS Country Offices in the Member States
- 11.15** **Presentation: The Impact of Women’s Leadership on Foreign Policy in the Americas**
- Her Excellency, Sandra Honore, Former Ambassador of Trinidad and Tobago to Costa Rica, Guatemala and Panama and United Nations Special Representative and Head of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH)
- 11.30** **Gender Dimensions on Migration and Multidimensional Security in Foreign Policy**
- Ambassador Yolande Y. Smith, Permanent Representative of Grenada to the OAS
 - Ambassador Anton Edmunds, Permanent Representative of St. Lucia to the OAS
 - Ambassador Maria del Carmen Roquebert, Permanent Representative of Panama to the OAS
- Moderated by Ambassador La Celia Prince, Chief of Staff to the Assistant Secretary General of the OAS
- 12:30** **Presentation: Making Feminist Foreign Policy, the Case of Spain**
- Her Excellency Carmen Montón, Permanent Observer of Spain to the OAS
- 12:40** **Questions and Answers**
- Moderated by Juanita Lontt, Alternate Representative of Suriname to the OAS
- 12:55** **Closing**
- Deborah Stoute-Lynch, President, Organization of Women of the Americas