

# Grading the United Nations

2025 Peacebuilding Architecture Review Consultation  
with Local Women Peacebuilders

The GPPAC logo is a circular emblem with a colorful, faceted design. The letters 'GPPAC' are prominently displayed in white across the center of the emblem.

## SUMMARY NOTE

This summary note provides an overview of the perspectives of local women peacebuilders on the effectiveness and impact of the UN System and the donor community in advancing **peacebuilding and sustaining peace at the field level**. The perspectives were shared by local women peacebuilders participating at ICAN's 10th Annual Forum titled ['Peacebuilding in a Time of Pessimism'](#).



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The 2025 Peacebuilding Architecture Review (2025 PBAR) consultation aims to...

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### 3. Financing for peacebuilding requires structural change towards quality financing.

Meaningfully supporting women peacebuilders entails scaling up existing resources for women-led peacebuilding work and ensuring that women peacebuilders can actually utilise these resources to advance locally-determined priorities.

In the past, such allocations have been extremely low. For instance, between 2017 and 2018, a mere 0.2% of the total bilateral aid targeting fragile countries went directly to women's rights organisations, and this percentage has not changed in a decade. The COVID-19 pandemic and the global political shifts further aggravated the situation, with women-led organisations reporting cuts and delays in funding<sup>5</sup>. *Providing direct*

*looking at gender-equality as a target.*

It's important to change the ways the money is accessed by women peacebuilders.

There are several opportunities to provide more <sup>6</sup> .act

- Local women peacebuilders report that consistent demand for delivery on selected, often predetermined, project outputs creates anxiety and limits their creativity and ability to react to ad-hoc changes on the ground. Donors should break with the presumption of an inherent risk in working with local organisations, and endorse women peacebuilders' own assessment of risks and mitigation measures as these are likely to be the most efficient solutions. Donors should also consider loosening restrictive logframes that often diminish creativity and, instead, embrace the unknown to test local capacities to enhance the possibility for impact of local action.
- In many contexts, women peacebuilders are unable to access funding due to the registration requirement and/or the requirements of an approval by the government, which is simply not possible in authoritarian contexts. Donors should support innovative funding mechanisms with lighter compliance requirements, whether established internally or through intermediary organisations, to test options for advancing meaningful support to women peacebuilders.
- Many grants available



**5. The understanding of the UN Peacebuilding Architecture needs to extend beyond New York-based entities.**

Currently, the UN Peacebuilding Architecture is primarily understood to include the Peacebuilding