

FEMINIST SCORECARD 2018

WHAT ACTION has THE GOVERNMENT TAKEN to ADVANCE WOMEN'S RIGHTS and GENDER EQUALITY?



REPRESENTATION & LEADERSHIP

The government continues to be a staunch advocate for women's leadership and feminist approaches to policy-making. Increased investments in women's movements at home and abroad, greater capacity for Status of Women Canada and a heightened commitment to gender-based analysis demonstrate strong progress.



GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT

Canada has made significant progress on global development through its Feminist International Assistance Policy and strong commitments on sexual and reproductive health and rights. The government also announced the biggest boost in international aid in more than a decade. Now the government needs a plan to achieve the UN aid target of 0.7% of GNI.



CLIMATE CHANGE & EXTRACTIVES

The government has made good progress incorporating gender equality into its efforts to tackle climate change at home and abroad. The creation of a Canadian Ombudsperson for Responsible Enterprise is a welcome step. Now is the time to ensure the Ombudsperson focuses on women's rights and that gender-based analysis is incorporated into environmental laws and regulations.



CARE WORK

Unpaid care responsibilities and paid care work are grossly undervalued in today's economy. The government launched a new child care framework and introduced second caregiver leave, but investments in child care are too low. Without significant investments in the care economy, the government will not be able to meet its goals of boosting Canada's female labour participation rate and economic growth.



GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

The #MeToo movement has illuminated the pervasiveness of violence against women across society. Sexual harassment legislation for federal government workers and the national strategy to prevent and address gender-based violence are encouraging steps. But Canada is still lacking a national action plan and the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls has been plagued with setbacks.



TAX

The government has made great strides in integrating gender analysis into the budget process. It continues to crack down on tax avoidance at home and internationally. Corporations enjoy significant tax breaks around the world while governments struggle to make investments that would support gender equality and women's rights because of low levels of resource mobilization.



CONFLICT & CRISIS

Canada has rebuilt its reputation globally as a leader on women, peace and security. The government has integrated gender-based analysis into various new policies and committed to investing in humanitarian and peacebuilding programs that promote gender equality. But Canada must do more to help the world's most vulnerable refugees and ensure trade and defence policies do not undermine progress in peacebuilding.



JOBS & PAY EQUITY

Women in Canada and around the world are concentrated in the lowest-paid and most precarious work. While the government's promise of pay equity legislation is encouraging, details and investments are yet to be made public. Few other concrete actions have been taken to ensure women have work that pays decent wages and is safe. Action is needed this coming year to ensure women's work is equally paid and valued.

