

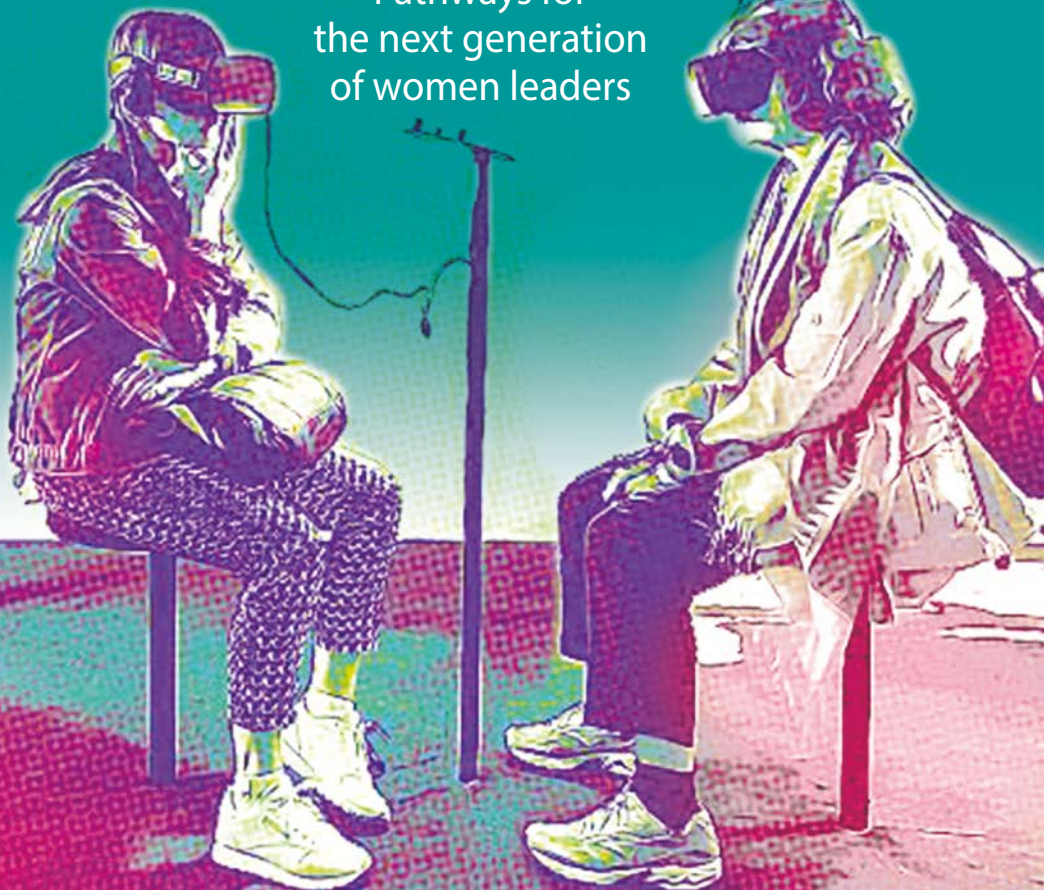


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International Day of **Women**
in **Multilateralism**

INTERGENERATIONAL DIALOGUE

Pathways for
the next generation
of women leaders



25 January 2023

PROGRAMME

UNESCO Headquarters, Room X, 15.00 • 17.30



BACKGROUND

On 25 January, UNESCO celebrates the International Day of Women in Multilateralism with the purpose of advocating for increased representation of women in key decision-making positions that shape and implement multilateral agendas and for ensuring that multilateralism works for women and girls through gender transformative actions and agreements.

To celebrate the 2023 edition of this International Day, UNESCO organizes an intergenerational dialogue bringing together UNESCO Ambassadors who are champions of Global Priority Gender Equality and young professionals working for the Secretariat and for the Permanent Delegations in Paris.

The intergenerational dialogue aims to:

- Mentor a new generation of women as future leaders in global governance; and
- Propose innovative ways and visions for further mainstreaming gender equality in international cooperation and UNESCO's actions.

This intergenerational dialogue is more important than ever. Recent statistics show that women remain underrepresented in global governance and in ambassadorship positions. In 2022, women represented:

1.6% of Heads of States; and
21.6% of Ambassadors around the world.¹

1. *Women in Diplomacy Index*, 2022.



Having women in decision-making positions in the multilateral system is crucial and is a priority for UNESCO's Director-General, Audrey Azoulay. On the occasion of International Women's Day 2021, she issued with the Prime Minister of Iceland, Katrín Jakobsdóttir, a challenge to the international community to define a new kind of multilateral leadership to achieve gender equality. In their joint op-ed, entitled "The world not only needs women leaders – it needs feminist leaders", they argued that feminist leaders are not just agents of change, but designers of change. They have the courage to create, report, educate, experiment. Feminist leaders expose injustices and unequal opportunities. They know that gender inequalities stem from discrimination and exclusion and that it is only by lifting these barriers that real change can happen in all fields of UNESCO's mandate. In this context, the International Day of Women in Multilateralism must go beyond counting the number of women in the highest positions of power by addressing the root causes of inequalities in multilateralism.

The intergenerational dialogue is a response to this challenge. It also echoes the call of the UN Secretary General's Report Our Common Agenda, to create a more effective, inclusive and networked multilateralism putting women and girls at the centre of sustainable development. It reflects the commitment of UNESCO's Global Priority in achieving SDG 5 and ensuring women's full participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life. Finally, this dialogue responds to the call of the UNESCO Youth Forum 2021 for the integration of young people in decision-making processes and was organised in consultation with young professionals working at the UNESCO Secretariat.

AGENDA

15.00 •
15.05

Welcome

- **Begoña Lasagabaster**, Director, Division for Gender Equality, UNESCO

15.05 •
15.15

Keynote speeches

- **H.E. Tamara Rastovac Siamashvili**, Chairperson of the Executive Board
- **Nanjala Nyabola**, Writer and member of the UN Secretary General's High-Level Advisory Board on Effective Multilateralism

15.15 •
16.20

Panel 1: Overcoming the challenges faced by women in the pursuit of careers in multilateralism

Moderator: **Yara Al Ghafri**, International Relations Officer, Permanent Delegation of the Sultanate of Oman to UNESCO

- **H.E. Dominique Dupuy**, Ambassador, Permanent Delegate of Haiti to UNESCO
- **H.E. Thi Hong Van Le**, Ambassador, Permanent Delegate of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam to UNESCO
- **Veronica Miyagusuku**, Second Secretary, Permanent Delegation of Peru to UNESCO
- **Julia Negumbo**, Associate Liaison Officer, Sector for Priority Africa and External Relations

Q&A

16.20 •
17.25

Panel 2: New avenues for gender transformative actions and agreements in multilateralism

Moderator: **Guðrún Þorsteinsdóttir**, Policy Officer,
Permanent Delegation of Iceland to UNESCO

- **H.E. Véronique Roger-Lacan**, Ambassador, Permanent Delegate of the French Republic to UNESCO
- **H.E. Souleymane Jules Diop**, Ambassador, Permanent Delegate of Senegal to UNESCO
- **Anne Luterek**, Consultant, Youth Section, Social and Human Sciences Sector
- **Tianyi Liu**, Junior Professional Officer, Section of Education for Inclusion and Gender Equality, Education Sector
- **Alhanouf Almogbil**, Junior Professional Officer, Cultural Policies and Development Entity, Culture Sector

Q&A

17.25 •
17.30

Closing

- **H.E. Rachel Annick Ogoula Akiko Epouse Obiang Meyo**, Ambassador, Permanent Delegate of Gabon to UNESCO

Interpretation will be provided in English and French.



OPENING



Begoña Lasagabaster is Director of the Division for Gender Equality at UNESCO since 2022. After starting her career as a lawyer in Spain and as a Member of Parliament at the Congress of Deputies in Madrid, she became involved in women's rights in 2008 when she joined UNIFEM in New York and then UN Women where she held different positions as Chief of Leadership and Governance and later became Representative in Lebanon and then in Tunisia and Libya until 2022. Begoña Lasagabaster is a graduate in European law from the College of Europe in Bruges, Belgium.



Tamara Rastovac Siamashvili is the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Serbia to UNESCO and current Chairperson of UNESCO's Executive Board. She started her diplomatic career in 1999 as an Attaché in the Directorate General for Multilateral Affairs in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In 2001, she took up the position of Third Secretary in the Permanent Mission of the State Union of Serbia and Montenegro at the United Nations in New York. Thereafter, she rose through the ranks to the position of First Secretary/Counsellor in the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Serbia to the Council of Europe in Strasbourg in 2007 and served in various capacities with Serbian foreign missions in Europe. She returned to Serbia in 2017 when she was appointed Deputy Assistant Minister for Bilateral Relations before becoming Permanent Representative to UNESCO in 2019.



Nanjala Nyabola is Member of the UN Secretary General's High-Level Advisory Board on Effective Multilateralism, writer, political analyst and activist. She writes extensively about African society and politics, technology, international law and feminism. She has been a research associate at the Centre for International Cooperation, the Overseas Development Institute and the Oxford Internet Institute, and has held numerous fellowships. Nanjala is a founding member of the Africa Digital Rights Network and sits on the board of Access Now and The Africa Policy Research Institute.

SPEAKERS • Panel 1

Thi Hong Van Le is Ambassador, Permanent Delegate of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam to UNESCO since 2020. She is a career diplomat serving in different positions in the diplomatic service of Viet Nam since 2002 with extensive experience in multilateral diplomacy and gender equality. She graduated from International Relations, Politics and Public Administration in Viet Nam and the United Kingdom. She has published a number of books and given lectures on economic and political trends in the Asia-Pacific region, Asia-Europe relations and Viet Nam's multilateral diplomacy.



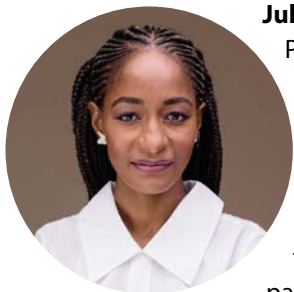
Dominique Dupuy is Ambassador, Permanent Delegate of Haiti to UNESCO since 2021. After studying International Development at McGill University in Canada, she worked in the private sector in Cap-Haïtien, in the North of Haiti. Dominique Dupuy was a member of the Board of Directors of the Organisation de gestion de la Destination Nord d'Haïti. She developed, as research associate at the University of Notre Dame, an innovative assistance programme of psychosocial support dedicated to marginalized mothers for the Global Center for the Development of the Whole Child in 2020.



Veronica Miyagusuku is Second Secretary at the Permanent Delegation of Peru to UNESCO. She previously served as a member of the Chancellor's Advisory Cabinet in Peru, where she covered issues related to Peru's international relations with the Middle East and Asia. She holds a Master's degree in International Relations and is a mentee in the Informal Group on Women's Empowerment at the Peruvian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which connects Ambassadors to mentor new generations of women diplomats and share experiences.



Intergenerational Dialogue



Julia Negumbo is Associate Liaison Officer in UNESCO's Sector for Priority Africa and External Relations since May 2022. As a young Namibian international civil servant, her career has permeated various fields across four continents: Africa, North America, Asia and Europe. Her experience in multilateralism kickstarted with a traineeship at the European Commission's Joint Research Centre in Italy. In addition, she has accumulated three years of experience within the United Nations. Julia was part of the inaugural cohort of the African Union Commission-UNDP African Young Women Leaders Fellowship Programme, which was specifically designed to place African young women at the helm of international development. She holds a Master's of Science degree in Biotechnology and Management from the University of Warwick.

SPEAKERS • Panel 2



Véronique Roger-Lacan is Ambassador, Permanent Delegate of the French Republic to UNESCO since 2019, after having served four years at the OSCE. Previously, she held various positions in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Defence and served for more than six years with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. She has a degree in International Public Law from the University of Paris I Panthéon-Sorbonne and in Hindi Language and Civilisation from the University of Languages and Civilizations. She is also a member and founder of the Women In International Security "Encourage Excellencies" programme and a Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur.

Souleymane Jules Diop is Ambassador, Permanent Delegate of Senegal to UNESCO since 2019. A philosopher by training, writer, journalist, he was Head of the Economic Office of Senegal in Brussels, Special Advisor to the President of the Republic of Senegal, Secretary of State in charge of Senegalese abroad then Minister to the Prime Minister in charge of the Emergency Community Development Program. He is a graduate Analyst in International Strategy from Iris and PhD candidate in International Relations from the Center for Diplomatic and Strategic Studies in Paris (CEDHS). He also holds a Master's degree in Engineering the Transformation of Public Organisations from the Université Paris Dauphine (Paris), a Master's degree in Management of Public Organisations from the Université de Bretagne Ouest and a Diploma in Negotiation from Harvard Business School (HBS). Ambassador Diop is the author of several books and essays.



Anne Luterek is Consultant in UNESCO's Social and Human Sciences Sector in the Youth Section. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Social and Human Sciences and a Master's degree in Social Psychology from the University of Paris. During her academic years and through her scientific studies, she explored the impact of gender stereotypes on women in the workplace and the obstacles they are facing to access positions of high responsibility and power. She has been actively engaged in NGOs and charities to improve school interventions on gender equality and to empower Indian women from marginalized communities.



Tianyi Liu is Junior Professional Officer in UNESCO's Education Sector in the Section of Education for Inclusion and Gender Equality. Tianyi has over seven years of experience working on gender equality in education at UNESCO, with international NGOs and intergovernmental organizations. She has supported multiple programmes including girl's education, STEM education and rural community development in Southeast Asia, Africa and Central and Eastern European Countries. She holds a Master's degree in International Social Work and Community Development from Durham University in the UK, and a Bachelor's degree in Public Administration from Beijing University of Posts and Telecommunications in China.



Intergenerational Dialogue



Alhanouf Almogbil is Junior Professional Officer in UNESCO's Culture Sector in the Cultural Policies and Development Entity, where she is involved in various projects that leverage the role of culture towards advancing sustainability, resilience and inclusion, with a special focus on the Arab States Region. She majored in English Literature and Linguistics and has been particularly working on initiatives that recognize culture's contribution to diverse areas of development, whilst supporting gender equality, youth empowerment and social cohesion at large. She previously presided Women's Voice Toastmasters club that served as a platform for women residing in Riyadh to share knowledge and experiences on growth and leadership.

CLOSING



Rachel Annick Ogoula Akiko Epouse Obiang Meyo is Ambassador, Permanent Delegate of the Gabonese Republic to UNESCO since 2015. A diplomat by training, she successively held the position of Personal Advisor to the late Omar Bongo Ondimba and Advisor to President Ali Bongo Ondimba, until her appointment as Ambassador of Gabon to UNESCO. As Ambassador to UNESCO, she has taken on various distinguished roles such as the Presidency of the Central Africa Sub-Group, the Presidency of the Africa Group and the Presidency of UNESCO's Africa Week. She initiated the resolution for the creation of an Entity for equality between men and women, rights and empowerment of women and girls at the Francophonie in 2016 and drafted a decision in 2021 declaring the International Day of Women in Multilateralism, celebrated every 25 January. She was awarded the Gabonese National Order of Merit.



MODERATORS

Yara Al Ghafri is International Relations Officer at the Permanent Delegation of the Sultanate of Oman to UNESCO. She is an official from the Omani Ministry of Education and has also served as an Advisor to the United Nations Economic and Social Council Affairs at the Omani mission to the UN from 2021-2022. Alongside diplomatic representation, she covers various UNESCO-related developmental issues and has been collaborating for several years with the Division of Gender Equality in UNESCO, as Oman co-chairs the Group of Friends of Gender Equality, created in 2015. Yara holds a Master's degree in Communication for Development from the University of Malmö in Sweden.



Guðrún Þorsteinsdóttir is Policy Officer at the Permanent Delegation of Iceland to UNESCO. She covers various topics, including culture and education and oversees the delegation's work on gender equality, as Iceland co-chairs the Group of Friends of Gender Equality. She previously worked as a researcher at the UNESCO Category 2 Centre GRÓ GEST (Gender Equality Studies and Training Programme) and has a Master's degree in International Relations of the Americas from University College London and is currently completing a degree in Gender Studies.





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Building equality through multilateralism implies, as we are doing today, recognizing the role of women in multilateralism and making them a source of inspiration for all those who wish to work for change.

Audrey Azoulay, Director-General of UNESCO



Learn more
about this
International Day



www.unesco.org/en/gender-equality

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Graphic design Corinne Hayworth