

## Qualifications for the Ambassador-at-Large for Global Women's Issues

### U.S. Department of State

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Empowering women and girls is central to U.S. foreign policy. Investing in gender equality advances the U.S. Government's standing as a moral leader, strengthens its national security, and creates economic opportunities both abroad and at home in the United States.

The Ambassador-at-Large for Global Women's Issues (GWI) leads the Department of State's work to promote the rights and empowerment of women and girls in U.S. foreign policy. The Office of Global Women's Issues, which has had long-standing, bipartisan support, leads the Department's efforts to include women and girls in U.S. diplomacy, partnerships, and programs. This Senate-confirmed position is the highest-ranking official with this mandate in the State Department.

Any nominee for this post should, at a minimum, be a champion for the equality, rights, and empowerment of women and girls. Candidates for this important post should be carefully considered throughout the nomination and confirmation process, and should have at least the following qualifications:

### Qualifications and Experience

#### Commitment to gender equality and advancing the rights and opportunities of women and girls

- Commitment to working with a broad range of governments, civil society, private sector, grassroots women's and community-based organizations that represent various backgrounds and perspectives
- Experience working in international affairs
- Track record of advancing women's empowerment
- Commitment to opposing all forms of discrimination and violence, and to empowering vulnerable populations, including religious, racial and ethnic minorities; indigenous peoples; people with disabilities; LGBTQI; people living with HIV or AIDS; migrants, refugees and internally displaced people; older persons, married or unmarried adolescents and youth; widows; or people who are economically disadvantaged

#### Understanding of U.S. foreign policy and mechanisms used to implement commitments to gender equality

- Knowledge of the Global Women's Issues Office and a commitment to the Office's mission and role within the U.S. Department of State
- Understanding of the suite of current U.S. Government strategies for women and girls empowerment, such as the National Action Plan on Women Peace and Security, the U.S. Strategy to Prevent and Respond to Gender-Based Violence, U.S. Department of State Strategy for Women's Economic Empowerment, the U.S. Global Strategy to Empower Adolescent Girls, and a willingness to implement and leverage those strategies within U.S. foreign policy
- Commitment to U.S. government leadership in the global community and leveraging the UN system and other multinational institutions as a positive force for change for women and girls
- Experience in applying non-partisan research, evidence and data as the basis of setting priorities and making decisions
- Commitment to holistic and human-rights based programming approaches that advance the policy imperative of gender equality and female empowerment
- Commitment to supporting and promoting women's autonomous decision making over their bodies and their lives
- Ability to bring about consensus to advance shared values and interests

**\*NOTE:** The statement is not to be used to imply that any signatory endorses or opposes a specific candidate for the GWI Ambassador nominee.

Endorsing Organizations (list in formation):

Action for Women and Children Concern (AWCC) Somalia  
Advancing Girls' Education in Africa  
Advocacy, Research, Training and Services (ARTS) Foundation  
Advocates for Youth  
AJWS  
Alliance for Peace and Human Rights  
American Academy of Nursing Expert Panel on Violence  
ART WORKS Projects  
Ba Futuru  
CARE USA  
Catholics for Choice  
Coalition pour le Développement et la Réhabilitation Sociale, CODR UBUNTU  
Collaborative Centre for Gender and Development (CCGD)  
Council for Global Equality  
Development Action Association  
Equality Now  
Femmes- Sante-Developpement (FESADE)  
Forum for African Women Educationalist Kenya Chapter  
Friends of the Global Fight Against AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria  
Futures Without Violence  
Girl Up  
Global Rights for Women  
Global Women's Institute  
GreeneWorks  
Heartland Alliance International  
U.S. National Committee for UN Women  
Himiza Social Justice  
Hope for the Needy Association (HOFNA) Cameroon  
Human Rights Campaign  
Human Rights Watch  
The Hunger Project  
Inclusive Security  
Institute for International Law and Human Rights  
InterAction  
International Action Network for Gender Equity and Law  
International Center for Research on Women  
International Rescue Committee  
International Women's Health Coalition  
International Youth Foundation  
Islamic Relief USA  
Malkia Foundation  
Men's Story Project  
Mercy Corps  
MSASI  
National Organization for Women

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OutRight Action International  
Oxfam America  
PAI  
Peace is Loud  
Plan International USA  
Planned Parenthood Federation of America  
Population Council  
Population Institute  
Project Concern International  
Promundo-US  
Regional Alliance for Fostering Youth - RAFY  
Sahiyo  
Save the Children  
Shamwariyemwanasikana  
Solidarity Center  
Too Young To Wed  
United States International Council on Disabilities  
U.S. National Committee for UN Women  
Vanuatu Young Women For Change  
V-Day  
Vision Spring Initiatives  
Vital Voices Global Partnership  
VOICE 4 Girls  
The Voices and Faces Project  
Women for Women International  
Women LEAD Nepal  
Women-Concern Liberia  
Women's Consortium of Nigeria (WOCON)  
Women Graduates-USA  
Women's Refugee Commission  
Women Thrive Alliance  
WOUGNET  
Youth Coalition Against Gender-based Violence - SEMERERA  
Youth Empowerment and Leadership Initiative (YELI-Burundi)  
YWCA USA

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