

OSCE Young Women 4 Peace Initiative:

Empowering Central Asian Young Women Programme



WIN Project

Result 1

- Stakeholders from government agencies and civil society are able to **formulate, implement and monitor** gender responsive normative frameworks.

Result 2

- Increased **capacity and participation of women** in conflict prevention, mediation, and other fora and processes relevant to comprehensive security at local, national and regional levels.

Result 3

- Strengthened **networks of women change-makers and men supporters of gender equality** working in comprehensive security.

SG Networking Platform for Women Leaders, including Mediators and Peacebuilders



Participants of Young Women for Peace Initiative with OSCE Secretary General Helga Maria Schmid.

[OSCE](#)  [Photo details](#)

Introducing the Young Women 4 Peace Initiative in Central Asia

Mapping and needs assessment:

- **Limited opportunities** for young women to participate in decision-making processes related to peace and security
- Persistent **harmful stereotypes** revolving around gender and age
- **Lack of networks** of women peacebuilders and mediators and in particular networks that include young women
- **Low visibility** of the important contributions that young women make to peace and stability in the Central Asian region

YW4P key elements

- € 300,000 contribution from EU/FPI
- Duration: April 2024 to November 2025
- Focus on young women working in women's empowerment, youth engagement, peacebuilding, conflict resolution
- Unique programme including:
 - Training and mentoring
 - Development of and support for cross-border initiatives
 - Social media campaign
 - Engaging young men
- Close cooperation with OSCE Field Operations, Bishkek Academy and EU

Call for proposals

- The deadline for applications is 23:59 CET, 29 February 2024
- Link to the announcement on the OSCE website

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS:
OSCE Young Women 4 Peace Initiative:
Empowering Central Asian Young Women Programme

NOW OPEN **APPLY NOW**



CALL FOR APPLICATIONS:

OSCE YOUNG WOMEN 4 PEACE INITIATIVE:

Empowering Central Asian
Young Women Programme



Duration: April 2024 to November 2025

The OSCE Gender Issues Programme in the Office of the Secretary General under the [WIN project](#) is delighted to announce the call for applications for the Young Women 4 Peace Initiative: Empowering Central Asian Young Women Programme.

This comprehensive capacity-building programme is part of the OSCE's Networking Platform for Women Leaders including Peacebuilders and Mediators launched by the OSCE Secretary General Helga Maria Schmid in December 2021. The programme aims to support and empower 18 young women, aged 18 to 30, from Central Asian countries (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan) and Afghanistan (residing in Central Asia). The programme targets those actively engaged in women's empowerment, youth engagement, peacebuilding, conflict resolution, and related fields, with the goal of enhancing the influence of young women change-makers in Central Asia in the field of development, peacebuilding, mediation and other processes in areas of comprehensive security. This OSCE programme is implemented with support from the European Union.

WHO CAN APPLY?

The OSCE invites applications from young women who are active in local and national-level initiatives in the area of conflict resolution, peacebuilding and gender equality. Do you meet the criteria? Then we look forward to receiving your application!

- ✓ 18 - 30 years of age at the start of the programme on 1 April 2024
- ✓ Citizen of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan or Uzbekistan, residing in the region, OR from Afghanistan: living in Central Asian countries
- ✓ Demonstrated experience working at the community or national level. We encourage in particular members of local or national networks, representing women from rural areas, conflict-affected regions, and disadvantaged groups to apply.
- ✓ Passion for promoting gender equality, peacebuilding, conflict resolution, and/or conflict prevention
- ✓ Good working professional knowledge of English (oral and written)
- ✓ Clear motivation and availability to commit to participating in the entire programme, likely including the following components:
- ✓ Monthly online workshops (2 hours/monthly)
- ✓ Participation in in-person events under the programme

What does the programme offer?

- Tailored comprehensive capacity-building and career coaching sessions
- Peer-to-peer exchanges on relevant gender equality, youth engagement, peace, and security topics
- Opportunities to engage with decision-makers and influential actors in peace processes and conflict resolution
- Training on topics such as funding management, mediation, negotiations, communication strategies, policy development, grant management/donor relations, project management, psychological and mental health, and confidence building (exact topics will be decided based on the needs assessment of the selected participants)
- Networking events with peers and mentors
- Support for the development and implementation of cross-border projects/small-scale initiatives on women's empowerment and inclusion in peacebuilding and dialogue

HOW TO APPLY:

If you meet the criteria and are interested in participating in this programme, please apply [here](#)

The deadline for applications is
23:59 CET, 29 February 2024

For any other information please send an email to
WIN@osce.org

Information on launch of Young Women for Peace Initiative and motivating stories of young peacebuilders on [OSCE website](#)

Target group

- 18 young women
- Age: 18 – 30 years
- From each Central Asian country (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan) and Afghanistan (among Afghan diaspora in Central Asia),
- Members of local or national networks, representation of women from rural areas, conflict-affected areas, and disadvantaged groups
- English speaking (interpretation Russian-English will be provided for activities, but due to international nature of the initiative good English skills are required)
- Focus on sustainability: those who can pass it forward

Project team & Activities



Project team

- Gender Issues Programme in Vienna (senior gender adviser + gender advisers)
- WIN project team in Vienna
- WIN national project officer in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan
- Close collaboration with:
 - Gender focal points and Youth focal points in OSCE FOs
 - International organizations (High-Level Advisory Group of WIN)
 - Local and international NGOs
 - EU

Empowering young women through comprehensive capacity-building programme

- Development of a tailored training programme for young women
- Kick-off event and training program in Kyrgyzstan (15 – 19 April)
- Series of online training and mentoring sessions
- Final in-person closing workshop in second half of 2025
- Pool of expert young women and community of practice

Additional elements:

- Cross-border project proposals for small-scale initiatives on women's empowerment and inclusion in peacebuilding and dialogue with small grants for three most promising projects
- Promoting men's engagement in gender equality
 - Adaptation of the OSCE Toolkit on engaging men to Central Asia
 - Online capacity-building activity for young men and women active in OSCE-supported networks in the fall of 2024
- Social media campaign on young women's contribution to peace & security in Central Asia

Advocacy and involving policy-makers

- Closing conference to focus on exchange between pool of expert young women and government representatives
- Identifying and using opportunities to bring expert young women into relevant consultations

Partnership & cooperation



Concrete steps

- Share the call for applications in your network
- Inform the WIN project team about strong candidates that are active in your networks
- Share opportunities and platforms to increase the visibility and influence of the young women peacebuilders

[#WINGenderEquality](#) [#YoungWomen4Peace](#)



Any questions?
Thank you for your attention

