Millions of people across the world stand on the right side of history every day. They speak up, mobilize and take big and small actions to advance women’s rights.

Peggy Antrobus
Caribbean feminist activist, author and leader of the Jamaican delegation to the First World Conference on Women.

“At the UN Women’s conferences, women from around the world first encountered each other in a sustained and ever deepening process... (that) was to nurture and expand this movement in a way that not even its strongest protagonists could have imagined.”

Sana Afouaiz
Director of Womenpreneur, which advances women’s entrepreneurial and roles in technology and innovation in the Arab States.

“Women’s rights are not a charity nor a privilege, they are human rights.”

Vanessa Nakate
Ugandan climate activist and Founder of the Rise Up Movement.

“Climate change does not just cause floods and disasters, many girls’ dreams are destroyed as well... Climate change is a social issue, it’s a gender issue.”

Racha Haffar
Founder and president of ‘Not 4 Trade,’ the first anti-trafficking NGO in Tunisia.

“I want to create a better world where everyone is living equally and is respected, regardless of their gender, sex and sexual orientation, I can’t believe that we are in the 21st century and we are still fighting for gender equality. We have to smash the patriarchy.”

Pip Gardner
LGBTI leader and activist in the United Kingdom.

“Homophobia and transphobia are driven by gender discrimination, it’s the same forces and arguments that have been used to discriminate against all women. We need to come together and realize that we are fighting the same fight: for our human rights to be respected and defended regardless of gender or sexuality.”

Ana Peláez Narváez
Spanish disability rights activist and the first woman with a disability to be represented on the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW).

“There are 600 million women with disabilities in the world, but many disability rights organizations do not pay attention to the gender dimensions, and many women’s organizations don’t include women with disabilities... Nothing about disability should be done without women with disabilities.”

Ana Peláez Narváez
Spanish disability rights activist and the first woman with a disability to be represented on the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW).

“Gender equality is not only about women, it’s about everyone. Every single person joining the movement for women’s rights makes it stronger and better.”

Sharon Bhagwan-Rolls
Pacific women’s rights activist and Chair of the Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict.

“Almost 20 years since the adoption of UN Security Council resolution 1325, we don’t just need to be at the peace table. It’s time to redesign the table.”

Wazhma Frogh
Afghan women’s rights activist, and co-founder of the Women and Peace Studies Organisation, Afghanistan.

“We are not going to be beneficiaries any longer... We need positions of power. We see improvements when young people decide enough is enough and make moves to influence decision-making.”

Pip Gardner
LGBTI leader and activist in the United Kingdom.

“We must work with religious and traditional leaders, communities of men, boys and parents who think differently. We must listen to and understand their rationale and belief systems respectfully... This approach would create an enabling environment for dialogue, and breakthroughs in social norms, mindset and behaviour change.”

Jaha Dukureh
UN Women Regional Goodwill Ambassador for Africa, survivor of female genital mutilation and child marriage.

“We want to create a better world where everyone is living equally... Climate change does not just cause floods and disasters, many girls’ dreams are destroyed as well.”

Jaha Dukureh
UN Women Regional Goodwill Ambassador for Africa, survivor of female genital mutilation and child marriage.

“Homophobia and transphobia are driven by gender discrimination, it’s the same forces and arguments that have been used to discriminate against all women. We need to come together and realize that we are fighting the same fight: for our human rights to be respected and defended regardless of gender or sexuality.”

Wazhma Frogh
Afghan women’s rights activist, and co-founder of the Women and Peace Studies Organisation, Afghanistan.

“Women are pushing to be part of the peace process. And when it becomes inclusive, it doesn’t only bring women, but also many men who haven’t had an opportunity to be heard... We talk about the needs of the communities, justice, schools, health, education, not just about men deciding which power positions to hold.”

Maria Alejandra Rodriguez Acha
Co-Executive Director of FRIDA, the Young Feminist Fund, in Peru.

“The fight for social justice is not separate from the fight for environmental sustainability. The most impoverished people, rural indigenous women, for example, are the most impacted by natural disasters.”

Natasha Wang Mwansa
Zambian activist on health and gender equality and youngest-ever recipient of the WHO Global Health Award.

“We are not going to be beneficiaries any longer... We need positions of power. We see improvements when young people decide enough is enough and make moves to influence decision-making.”

Maria Alejandra Rodriguez Acha
Co-Executive Director of FRIDA, the Young Feminist Fund, in Peru.

“The fight for social justice is not separate from the fight for environmental sustainability. The most impoverished people, rural indigenous women, for example, are the most impacted by natural disasters.”

Ana Peláez Narváez
Spanish disability rights activist and the first woman with a disability to be represented on the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW).

“Gender equality is not only about women, it’s about everyone. Every single person joining the movement for women’s rights makes it stronger and better.”

Ana Peláez Narváez
Spanish disability rights activist and the first woman with a disability to be represented on the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW).

“There are 600 million women with disabilities in the world, but many disability rights organizations do not pay attention to the gender dimensions, and many women’s organizations don’t include women with disabilities... Nothing about disability should be done without women with disabilities.”

Ana Peláez Narváez
Spanish disability rights activist and the first woman with a disability to be represented on the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW).

“Gender equality is not only about women, it’s about everyone. Every single person joining the movement for women’s rights makes it stronger and better.”