



The Role of Women in Peaceful Coexistence

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Introduction & Objectives

- My Background
- Session Objectives:
 - Explore women's contributions to peacebuilding and coexistence
 - Understand OIC frameworks and institutional efforts
 - Highlight examples from Member States
 - Identify policy pathways for inclusive peace



What Is Peaceful Coexistence?

- Living together with mutual respect despite differences
- Embracing diversity in religion, culture, ethnicity, and opinion
- Requires:
 - Dialogue and empathy
 - Justice and equity
 - Inclusive institutions



Why Women Matter in Peacebuilding

- Strategic Roles of Women in Peacebuilding
- Global Recognition:
 - UN Resolution 1325: Women, Peace & Security
 - OIC commitment to inclusive peace frameworks
- Evidence-Based Impact:
 - Peace agreements with female participation are 35% more likely to last
 - Women-led initiatives often address root causes of conflict
- Women as:
 - Mediators and negotiators
 - Educators and cultural influencers
 - Community organizers and caregivers



OIC's Commitment to Women's Empowerment

► Institutional Frameworks

- OIC Plan of Action for the Advancement of Women
- Women Development Organization

► Strategic Goals

- Promote women's leadership in peace and development
- Protect women in conflict and humanitarian settings
- Strengthen legal and policy frameworks across Member States
- Facilitate capacity-building and intergovernmental cooperation



How Women Foster Coexistence

- Conflict Prevention:
 - Early warning through community networks
 - Advocacy for tolerance and nonviolence
- Dialogue & Mediation:
 - Bridging ethnic, religious, and political divides
 - Facilitating grassroots reconciliation
- Post-Conflict Healing:
 - Trauma support and psychosocial care
 - Rebuilding trust and social cohesion



Examples from OIC Member States

- ▶ Indonesia
 - ▶ Women-led reconciliation in Aceh
 - ▶ Islamic civil society support for reintegration
- ▶ Tunisia
 - ▶ Women's role in constitutional reform
 - ▶ Civic education and transitional justice
- ▶ Senegal
 - ▶ Female mediators in local disputes
 - ▶ Collaboration with religious leaders and OIC-backed training



In Depth Case Study - Afghanistan

- Challenges to Coexistence:
 - Girls banned from secondary and university education
 - Women excluded from public life and employment
 - Restrictions undermine social cohesion and pluralism
- OIC Advocacy:
 - Calls to restore women's right to education and work
 - Emphasis on Islamic values of dignity, knowledge, and justice
 - Special Representative for Afghanistan appointed
- Humanitarian & Diplomatic Action:
 - Engagement with Afghan authorities
 - Coordination with UN and international partners
 - Support for inclusive governance and minority rights





Challenges Facing Women in Peacebuilding

- Cultural norms and gender stereotypes
- Limited access to formal peace processes
- Underrepresentation in leadership and decision-making
- Security risks in conflict and post-conflict zones
- Legal and institutional gaps across Member States



The Way Forward: Empowering Women for Peaceful Coexistence

➤ OIC's Commitment:

- Advocating for women's rights grounded in Islamic values
- Engaging Member States to promote inclusive governance
- Supporting education, leadership, and protection for women in conflict zone
- Strengthening partnerships with UN and regional bodies

➤ Path Forward:

- Recognize women as architects of peace, not just participants
- Ensure access to education, employment, and civic life
- Embed women's voices in policymaking and peace negotiations
- Build inclusive institutions that reflect diversity and dignity





Thank You for Listening