

## The Feminist Foreign Policy (FFP) Movement

### Why in news?

Germany has recently introduced new feminist guidelines that will guide its diplomacy and developmental goals and increasing FFP across the world.

### What is FFP?

- **FFP** - There is no singular, cohesive definition of a “feminist foreign policy” for governments.
- FFP defines that women to be included in foreign diplomacy to promote international peace.
- The FFP calls for the state to promote good practices to achieve gender equality and to guarantee all women their human rights through diplomatic relationships.

*Feminist foreign policy is a concept evolved by Margot Wallstrom, former Swedish Foreign minister*

### What is the need for feminist foreign policy?

- To overcome the Systemic and structural subordination and marginalization of women that characterize the lives of countless women across the world.
- FFP to ensure people “have the same right to representation and access to resources”.
- FBB mandates that gender equality to be corner stone of every diplomatic engagement, reiterating that women, girls and marginalized groups must be protected from violence.
- FBB prioritizes equal treatment and equal opportunity, while being gender-responsive across policies.
- The adoption of FFP by the South Asian nations will enhance gender equality within the region and beyond.

### What is Status of FFP in India?

- Women account for only 16% of the Indian Foreign Service and only 18% of top leadership positions in embassies around the world.
- Indian foreign policy lacks gender-inclusive and need to adopt a feminist foreign policy (FFP) framework.
- An all-woman police force from India was deployed under the aegis of the United Nations (UN) in Liberia back in 2007.
- [Global Gender Gap Index 2022](#) - India ranks 135.

## What is the status of FPP across the world?

- There are currently three countries whose foreign policies are explicitly feminist: Sweden, Canada and France as of march 2019.
- Sweden, Canada, The Netherlands, and Mexico are countries which have adopted FPP framework.

## What are the criticism of FPP?

- Sweden, for instance, faced criticism for its binary focus on women, and not people of all genders
- The countries (Canada, Sweden and Germany) having FPP also carry arms trade in other hand which is against FPP.
- The investments made to promote FPP only benefit the private firms and doesn't yield the intended aims and goals.
- Lack of funds for FPP
- Ambiguity in the definition of FPP.
- Lack of consensus in the international forums about FPP.

*United Nations Security Council Resolutions (UNSCR) 1325 focus on raising the status of women and mainstreaming gender.*

*Sustainable development goals 5 - Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.*

## References

1. [The Hindu| The feminist foreign policy movement](#)
2. [UN DESA | Goal 5](#)