

YWCA'S WEEK WITHOUT VIOLENCE

October
20-24
2025

**#WeekWithoutViolence2025 #YWCALeaders #BulletAndDove
#RiseUpForPeace**



RISEUP! FOR PEACE TOOLKIT



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



WELCOME TO THE WEEK WITHOUT VIOLENCE 2025

For over two decades, the World YWCA has mobilised women, young women, and allies across the globe through the Week Without Violence campaign—a dedicated week of global solidarity and action to end gender-based violence and build peace.

In 2025, we come together under the banner ***RiseUp! for Peace***, a collective call to action amidst deepening global conflict, polarisation, and human rights violations. This campaign invites our movement and partners to reaffirm the YWCA vision of a world where every person can thrive in peace, justice, freedom, and dignity.

This year, we partner with [YWCA Canada](#) to centre the intersections of peace, truth, justice, reconciliation, and feminist leadership. Together, we honour 30 years of the [Beijing Declaration](#) and [Platform for Action](#), revisiting our collective progress and confronting the realities of violence that persist—particularly against women and girls living in conflict and crisis zones.

INTRODUCTION TO THE THEME : RISEUP! FOR PEACE

Aligned with the [World Council 2023 Statements](#), and now in 2025, the World YWCA and YWCA Canada invite you to join us for a week-long campaign to actively and in solidarity advocate together by rising up for peace. The World YWCA's toolkit is supported by the generous support of the [Norwegian Church Aid](#).

- “Peace is not the absence of war - it is the presence of justice.”
- In every corner of the world, women and young women are standing at the frontlines, as peacebuilders, mediators, caregivers, and advocates for justice. Yet they continue to face violence, silencing, and exclusion from decision-making spaces.
- The ***RiseUp! for Peace*** campaign celebrates the courage, resilience, and vision of women leading peace efforts in their communities. It challenges us to ask:
 - “What does peace mean in my context—and how can we, as a movement, rise up to make it real?”
 - From Gaza to South Sudan, from the Pacific Islands to Ukraine, from local streets to digital spaces, this campaign amplifies the urgent call for peace, truth, and reconciliation.



This toolkit will help you to:

- Engage with the global theme through storytelling, reflection, and dialogue.
- Organise national and local actions that centre peace, solidarity, and intergenerational leadership.
- Amplify the voices of young women leading peacebuilding efforts worldwide.
- Connect with tools, resources, and actions that support the movement's ongoing advocacy for safety, dignity, and justice for all.

ACTING ON OUR RESOLUTIONS: HOW #RISEUPFORPEACE EMBODIES THE WORLD YWCA COMMITMENTS IN 2023

The 2025 Week Without Violence campaign, “*RiseUp! for Peace*”, is not just a call for solidarity. It is a living expression of the World YWCA Council Resolutions adopted at the 30th World Council (2023). By taking part in this year's campaign, every story shared, every action taken, and every voice raised helps us bring these resolutions to life across our movement.

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Resolution 1: Peace with Justice

This resolution calls the movement to transform power structures that sustain violence and oppression, to practice genuine solidarity with those living under occupation and conflict, and to champion peace grounded in freedom, justice, and dignity for all.

▶ By joining “*RiseUp! for Peace*,” we collectively embody this resolution by amplifying voices from conflict zones, standing with women and young women in Palestine and beyond, and advocating for a world free from military occupation and systemic injustice.

Resolution 2: Building Solidarity for Security and Just Peace in East Asia

This resolution urges the YWCA movement to strengthen civic solidarity, women's leadership, and peace advocacy in regions marked by geopolitical tension, particularly East Asia. It reminds us that peace requires cooperation across borders and generations.

▶ By participating in #WeekWithoutViolence2025, we act on this resolution by fostering interregional solidarity, uplifting youth peacebuilders, and opposing militarisation and conflict in all its forms.

Resolution 3: Promoting Human Rights and Supporting Regional Movements' Sustainability

This resolution emphasises the importance of protecting human rights, supporting regional YWCAs, and empowering young women in fragile contexts to sustain peacebuilding efforts. It calls for the movement to raise awareness, raise their voices and stand in solidarity with those facing displacement, occupation, and socioeconomic inequality.

➔ Through this campaign, we act on this resolution by advocating for education, safety, and justice as non-negotiable human rights, ensuring that the movement's solidarity is practical, visible, and rooted in feminist values.

The RiseUp! for Peace campaign translates our shared resolutions into action:

- We amplify voices silenced by conflict.
- We build peace through advocacy and leadership.
- We honour 30 years since the Beijing Declaration by renewing our feminist commitment to equality, freedom, and justice.

LIVING OUR STATEMENTS: "RISEUP! FOR PEACE" IN ACTION

[The World YWCA Statements \(2023\)](#) are powerful declarations of our collective conscience, our voice as a global feminist movement that refuses to remain silent in the face of injustice, violence, and inequality. By participating in Week Without Violence 2025, *RiseUp! for Peace*, every national YWCA, every leader, and every ally brings these statements to life. Together, we act on the movement's deepest commitments to peace, justice, and the protection of life.



Statement 1: Against the Release of Radioactive Water from Fukushima

This statement calls for environmental justice and the protection of women's and girls' health, rejecting economic gain at the cost of ecosystems and future generations.

➔ By joining us on "*RiseUp! for Peace*", we amplify this call: peace is not only between people, but also with the planet. Environmental destruction is violence, and care for creation is an act of peace.

Statement 2: Adoption and Implementation of UNDRIP (Rights of Indigenous Peoples)

This statement reaffirms the YWCA's commitment to truth, reconciliation, and Indigenous leadership in shaping justice and equality.

➔ Through the "Truth and Reconciliation" focus of *#WeekWithoutViolence2025*, we act on this statement, standing in solidarity with Indigenous women and young women, and embedding respect for Indigenous sovereignty and wisdom in our peace work.

Statement 4: Call for Decisive Action for Women's Rights Globally and Against Anti-Feminist Voices

This statement demands global resistance to the growing backlash against women's rights and feminist leadership.

➔ By participating in "*RiseUp! for Peace*," we embody this resistance, claiming digital, physical, and political spaces for feminist truth, agency, and freedom. We rise together to counter hate with solidarity and courage.

Statement 4: Protection of Women and Girls in Armed Conflict (Myanmar)

This statement calls attention to the violence and displacement faced by women and girls in conflict zones, and the urgent need for protection, healing, and empowerment.

➔ When we *RiseUp! for Peace*, we ensure that we advocate for human rights defenders, women, and girls of all ages, towards their safety and support in spaces of conflict. Through *#RiseUp!ForPeace*, we advocate and shine a light on the issues that intergenerational women and girls face and together find, and solutions to support them.

Statement 5: Climate Emergency on Women

This statement highlights how the climate crisis deepens gender inequality, especially for women in the Pacific and Global South. Because climate and peace are intersectionally connected.

➔ When we *RiseUp! for Peace*, we also rise for climate justice, because peace cannot thrive on a dying planet; and wars and conflicts are the breeding ground for irreparable damage to the planet. Women and young women leading climate action are building the foundations of sustainable peace.

Statement 6: Declaration of Latin America Against Femicide and Sexual Violence

This statement demands urgent global action to end femicide and sexual violence, violence that erases lives, silences communities, and violates human dignity.

➔ This *#WeekWithoutViolence2025*, every story shared, every survivor honoured, and every policy challenged is an act of defiance against femicide. By participating, we affirm: women's lives are sacred, and violence has no place in our world.

This *#WeekWithoutViolence2025*, ensure that every post, every dialogue, every safe space we create is a statement in action, proof that our movement's words are alive in the world.

YWCA'S WEEK WITHOUT VIOLENCE

Social
Media
Activation



RISEUP! FOR PEACE

#WeekWithoutViolence2025 #YWCALeaders #BulletAndDove
#RiseUpForPeace



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CANADA

Timeline & Suggested Actions

Date	Theme / Focus	Description & Actions
Mon, Oct 20	Campaign Launch: <i>RiseUp! for Peace</i>	Introduce the global campaign. Share videos, graphics, and messages on peace, feminist leadership, and global solidarity. Invite YWCA members and allies to post their <i>#RiseUpForPeace</i> commitments.
Tues, Oct 21	Truth and Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples	Honour Indigenous women and young women leading justice and healing work. Encourage national YWCAs to reflect on their own histories and responsibilities in reconciliation. Share resources, dialogues, and art that celebrate Indigenous leadership.
Wed, Oct 22	Solidarity and Peace in Conflict Zones	Share statements and testimonies from YWCA members and partners in Gaza, South Sudan, Ethiopia, DRC, Myanmar, the Pacific, and Japan. Host a <i>#BulletAndDove Listening Session</i> - a virtual safe space to hear directly from young leaders working for peace amid conflict.



Timeline & Suggested Actions

Date	Theme / Focus	Description & Actions
Thurs, Oct 23 (Morning)	Youth and Young Women's Leadership for Peace	Spotlight young feminist leaders driving peacebuilding at the grassroots and policy levels. Share intergenerational mentorship stories and showcase youth advocacy in local and global spaces. Sharing stories around <i>#ThursdayInBlack</i> campaign.
Thurs, Oct 23 (Evening)	Digital Advocacy and Safety in Conflict	Explore how censorship, misinformation, and online hate affect women's activism. Share digital safety tools, advocacy strategies, and testimonies from activists using online platforms to demand justice.
Fri, Oct 24	Gender-Based Violence in Conflict Zones & Campaign Close	Elevate survivor stories and local efforts supporting women in post-conflict recovery. Share World YWCA's statements towards on-going conflicts in the world.

Throughout the week, we will spotlight powerful stories from women and young women in conflict-affected contexts, those rebuilding communities, offering humanitarian support, and advancing reconciliation.

Solidarity is strength, and so, exploring actions of YWCAs around the world and sharing updates and information from their work is how we can showcase and highlight solidarity of the movement, take proactive actions for collaborations towards Strategic Framework 2023-27 and [Goal 2035](#). These stories remind us that peace begins with listening, truth, and local leadership.

Tag us using *#WeekWithoutViolence2025* - @worldywca on [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [Instagram](#) for us to share your stories with the wider movement.

EXPLORE WORLD YWCA'S SIGNATURE TOOLS



WE RISE, WE LEAD: FEMINIST CONSULTATION METHODOLOGY



OUR SPACES, POWER SPACES SAFE SPACE GUIDE



RISEUP!: YOUNG WOMEN'S TRANSFORMATIVE LEADERSHIP GUIDE



BLOOMING WILDFLOWERS: STORYTELLING GUIDE



THE INTERGENERATIONAL TRIANGLE: A GUIDE TO SHARED LEADERSHIP

LINKS TO TEMPLATES FOR SOCIAL MEDIA

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Links to Resources:

1. [World YWCA Calls for Urgent Global Solidarity to Denounce and Act Against Human Suffering in Gaza](#)
2. [World YWCA – YWCA Palestine: Statement on the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People](#)
3. [World YWCA Action Alert Regarding the Escalation in the Middle East](#)
4. [YWCA Korea and World YWCA Statement on Support for Democracy in South Korea](#)
5. [World YWCA Statement of Support of YWCA Korea Call for Solidarity for the Victims of Japanese Military “Comfort Women”](#)
6. [World YWCA Statement of Support of YWCA USA on the United States One Beautiful Bill Act \(H.R. 1\)](#)
7. [World YWCA Statement of Support of YWCA Aotearoa New Zealand on Dismantling of Pay Equity Legislation](#)
8. [YWCA Haiti and World YWCA Statement on the Crisis in Haiti](#)
9. [The YWCA Lebanon and World YWCA Statement on the Attacks on the People of Lebanon](#)
10. [YWCA DRC and World YWCA Call For Action Toward Peace in The Democratic Republic of Congo](#)
11. [#BulletandDove Listening Sessions](#)
12. [#BulletAndDove Listening Sessions: Under Genocide: An Intergenerational Crisis in Palestine](#)
13. [Casey Harden: “Name gender-based violence for what it is”](#)
14. [Joint Message of Thursdays in Black Ambassadors on Gender-based Violence, Sexual Abuse and Faith Communities](#)



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