



European Women's Lobby
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**Social Development
Department**
Taskforce Women's Rights &
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Contact

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Date 6 March 2026
Subject Your letter

Dear Ms. Loghin,

With reference to your letter addressed to Minister Berendsen, I would like to inform you as follows.

While the Netherlands has a long-standing commitment to gender equality and non-discrimination, we recognize that achieving these objectives remains an ongoing process. Persistent inequalities, intersecting forms of discrimination, and emerging societal challenges require continuous reflection, monitoring, and policy development.

In recent years, the Netherlands has made significant progress in advancing gender equality, despite political challenges and changes in government. Gender mainstreaming in the Netherlands has been strengthened through the introduction of a mandatory gender assessment within the Policy Compass in 2023. This instrument ensures that new policies are systematically evaluated for their impact on gender equality at an early stage of development.

At the foundation of all national gender equality efforts lies the Gender and LGBTIQ+ Equality Policy Plan, which provides a coherent and comprehensive framework for action. With its fourth National Action Plan 1325 on Women, Peace and Security the Netherlands remains committed to the WPS agenda.

In early February 2026, the Kingdom of the Netherlands engaged in a constructive dialogue with the CEDAW Committee in Geneva as part of the review of its seventh periodic report. On 23 February, the Committee published its concluding observations and recommendations on its website (see tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CEDAW%2FC%2FNLD%2FCO%2F7&Lang=en)

A new cabinet has taken office on 23 February this year and has explicitly identified the protection of women's rights, gender equality, and the LGBTQI+ community as priorities both nationally and as part of our foreign policy.

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I wish you every success in your continued engagement in advocating and campaigning for women's rights and equality between women and men in all areas of life.

Yours sincerely,

The Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation,
For the Minister,
The Director for the Social Development Department,
For the Director,



Brechtje Klandermans
Head Taskforce Women's Rights & Gender Equality
Social Development Department (DSO)