



The Honorable Michael Waltz, US Ambassador  
United States Mission to the United Nations  
799 United Nations Plaza  
New York, NY 10017

March 17, 2026

Dear Ambassador Waltz,

The US Women's Caucus representing civil society organizations across the United States advocating on women's issues, wishes to express its deep concern and utter dismay regarding the United States' position taken during negotiations on the Agreed Conclusions at the Commission on the Status of Women at the UN last week.

The effort of this Administration to weaken and in some cases, erase language grounded in previously established UN human rights frameworks, which reflected decades of negotiated commitments supporting the rights and dignity of women and girls has only served to alienate women not only in the US, but around the world.

Most advocates view these positions along with the US's plans to delay paying its UN dues, withdrawing from UN agencies like UN Women and refusing to support the Beijing Platform for Action and the Convention to End All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) as signaling a very dramatic and serious departure from the United States' historic leadership in advancing gender equality and strengthening international cooperation at the UN.

Such perceptions are now undermining progress built through longstanding global partnerships. By rejecting the US's proposed modifications to the Agreed Conclusions, most countries showed they are not prepared to turn the clock back on women's rights. With these backward-looking perspectives, the US will remain an outlier on this issue. These are hard-won rights, and women will not go back nor support efforts that encourage that.

The US Women's Caucus remains hopeful that the United States will continue to engage constructively with the international community at the UN and once again reclaim its historic role in promoting women's equality, dignity, health, and human rights. At this critical moment, rather than erecting barriers, we respectfully encourage a renewed commitment to the collaborative spirit that has long defined the CSW process and the global effort to advance the rights of women and girls.

Reaffirming these commitments would send a strong signal of principled leadership and help sustain confidence in the shared goal of gender equality worldwide. The US needs to reassure women that the government is working for, not against, the rights of women and girls.

Most Respectfully,

Pamela Perraud, President, US Women's Caucus

Member- European/ North American Caucus and NGO /CSW NY Committee