

# MADRE

## speaks

Fall 2024

### The Feminist Resistance

Committed friends like you have supported MADRE's work over 40 years in 40 countries, uplifting women and providing vital resources for MADRE's grassroots partners around the world.

Our long-established relationships with partners on the ground mean that when a crisis erupts and governments crack down on freedoms, we're uniquely positioned to swiftly get vital funds into our partners' hands so they can take rapid, strategic, lifesaving action.

Today, countries across the globe are facing resurging right-wing authoritarianism on the election ballot. This threat is weakening institutions that uphold human rights and peace. Authoritarian regimes consolidate power by shutting down civic spaces, quashing dissent, extolling xenophobia, and vilifying marginalized groups as the "other." Central to their worldview is the subjugation of women and the erasure of LGBTQIA+ people.

This trend is rising globally; in the US, anti-democratic, conservative leaders are weaponizing attacks on migrant and reproductive rights to cater to their increasingly extremist base. Prolonged or intensifying conflicts further threaten global peace and security — from Ukraine to the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Palestine, Sudan, Syria, and beyond.

We must have bold new approaches to support progressive, impactful change.

(Continued on page 2)





## On the ground in **Guatemala**

When opponents of Guatemala's elected president, Bernardo Arévalo, attempted a power grab last October, MADRE supported our partner MUIXIL to mobilize a group of 108 Indigenous women to join peaceful demonstrations across the country demanding a democratic transition of power. The political

participation of Indigenous women and girls has been a significant priority of both MADRE and MUIXIL for many years.

Thanks to supporters like you, we provided an emergency grant to fund transportation, food, and other resources to make this grassroots action possible.

## The Feminist Resistance (continued from page 1)

With your support, MADRE has resourced partners over the years, bolstering their efforts to lead transformative, intersectional, and intergenerational feminist movements that confront discrimination and infringement on human rights ... pursue climate solutions as peacebuilding strategies to respond

and adapt to accelerating environmental breakdown ... and center the leadership and expertise of those most impacted by crisis in solutions that uphold and advance human rights, the rule of law, and international cooperation.

# Gender Persecution in Afghanistan

A new report from MADRE and CUNY School of Law on Gender Persecution in Afghanistan demonstrates how the Taliban's gender-based edicts have deprived Afghan women of their right to work. This deprivation has drastically worsened women's economic conditions, especially in households where women are the primary or only earners. Read more by visiting: [madre.org/gender-persecution](https://madre.org/gender-persecution).



© Maureen Drennan

## Kenyan LGBTQIA+ Leadership

With MADRE's support, our partner, Innovations 4 Climate Action, is advancing lesbian, bisexual, and queer women in Kenya as climate leaders. Kenya has endured a period of climate chaos, including a prolonged drought that left over four million people in starvation, followed by sudden rainfall and flash floods, which caused

immense destruction. On top of this, the LGBTQIA+ community in Kenya is facing persecution and protests inflamed by religious leaders and politicians. Innovations 4 Climate Actions is equipping lesbian, bisexual, and queer women with the skills to confront these crises.



© Deaf Girls Rescue

Your gift sustains the work of grassroots movements in over 40 countries and allows us to work side-by-side with local leaders on policy solutions, grantmaking, capacity bridging, and legal advocacy to achieve our shared vision for justice.

With your contribution, MADRE is able to partner with local women activists who know their communities, so we can deliver crucial emergency resources where even the largest aid agencies can't reach.

Thanks to your support, MADRE is able to provide our grassroots partners with the tools they need to build new skills, step up as leaders, and mobilize for rights-based policies.



© Green Lion Images

## The Inaugural Feminist Peace Summit

MADRE was one of the main organizers of the inaugural Feminist Peace Summit last May, convening over 200 activists, community leaders, academics, and more. Together, at the Summit, we worked towards advancing a Feminist Peace Agenda, building power and recognition for the role of diasporic communities, and challenging militarism. It is critical to reorient US policymaking from endless wars toward an ethic of human security grounded in justice, peace, and sustainability. In addition,

the voices amplified in a feminist peace agenda must be those most harmed by war and militarism.



© Green Lion Images



© Poppy Miyongwa

## Your gift to MADRE...

As MADRE celebrates our milestone of 40 years of gender justice, we invite you to participate by making a special anniversary gift in honor of an activist in your life and open our circle of supporters by hosting a MADRE speaker.

Your generosity propels the work of grassroots movements in over 40 countries and allows MADRE to continue supporting partner-led solutions to the greatest challenges of our time.

Learn how you can support MADRE at [madre.org/support](http://madre.org/support).

# MADRE

26 Broadway, 3rd Floor • New York, NY 10004 • (212) 627-0444

[MADREspeaks@MADRE.org](mailto:MADREspeaks@MADRE.org) • [MADRE.org](http://MADRE.org)