



THE GENEVA CONSENSUS DECLARATION (GCD)

Why Membership Matters

Importance of Membership.

The GCD strengthens the collective voice of nations in order to protect any country from being intimidated, isolated, or muted on priorities that are often central to their national identity. Membership means unity, which accelerates progress toward real and meaningful solutions and provides these benefits:

Defense of Sovereign Principles. As the only coalition of its type, the GCD offers unique solidarity to identify, confront, and defend against multi-national or international threats to national sovereignty.

Increased Confidence, Energy, and Hope. For years, countries have defended their national values – often alone - making them more vulnerable to increased hostility. The GCD strengthens the resolve of nations, because now they no longer need to stand alone. They stand together!

One Voice. The coalition amplifies and multiplies effectiveness, especially in multilateral engagements, where GCD members can unify their positions on policies, speaking with one voice.

Greater Recognition. GCD membership provides a platform for nations to gain international recognition as they highlight progress they have made to support the family and improve well-being for women and girls.

Valuable Resources. The Institute for Women's Health (IWH) is an independent organization that supports the mission, growth, and strength of the GCD. Located in Washington DC, IWH offers all GCD members essential resources to support enhanced thriving for women and families. Partnership in the GCD provides access to a country-specific Protego Model, designed to increase family-communication and education, women's health, and internal protection against external ideological threats. Contact IWH, the only policy organization of its kind that promotes values in line with the pillars of the GCD. Contact IWH at info@theIWH.org for more information.

Join the GCD.

Hungary is the GCD Secretariat and is accepting new members into the coalition. Contact Dr. Arpad Meszaros at meszaros.arpad@koppmariaintezet.hu in the Hungarian Government for more information.

[Map of member countries](#)

Background.

The sovereignty of independent nations has been threatened repeatedly over the past decade. Multinational organizations and agencies create policies and regulations that impact families but often fail to respect the laws and cultural traditions foundational to a country.

In 2020, Brazil, Egypt, Hungary, Indonesia, Uganda, and the U.S. negotiated and created the [Geneva Consensus Declaration](#) on Promoting Women's Health and Strengthening the Family (GCD), a first-ever strategic international coalition of countries representing every major region of the world for the mutual defense and furtherance of optimal women's health, life, family, and national sovereignty. The cultural, ethnic, religious, and economic diversity of the founding nations as well as the current [36 Member States](#) highlights that the GCD remains a joint defense of the sovereignty of nations.

The Declaration.

- The language in the GCD primarily consists of quotes from previous international agreements, adopted by the consensus of UN Member States.
- For example, the GCD cites the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights; International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) & Programme of Action; and other similar documents.
- Consistent with human rights instruments adopted by the Member States, the GCD is a contemporary defender of the historic consensus among nations for previously adopted, common values that support women, families, and life.

Foundational Priorities.

The GCD has a clear focus on promoting women's health and building strong families. In order to achieve these goals, it sets four interrelated priorities:

- Promote the optimal health of women and girls;
- Defend the family as foundational to society;
- Reaffirm that there is no international right to abortion; it is up to the nation to decide.
- Protect national sovereignty and affirm genuine human rights around the world.