

Future WILPF Roadmap

Roadmap to future WILPF - *start here!*

WILPF is embarking on a series of reflections and strategy discussions about the work and the values that inspire and bring us together, about the challenges and contexts that surround us, and the priorities and structures that enable us to work together. These debates will shape our next International Programme. They may also result in new ideas and proposals for how we function as WILPF. Our **Future WILPF journey** eventually leads to formal decision making at our International Congress 2022, and then continues on as we move from plans and agreements to actions and practice.

To get to an International Programme that represents and speaks to all of WILPF and the movement we are building, everyone's involvement is needed! There are several tracks that will shape future WILPF and get us ready for Congress. Find out more about each of them here, and be part of the process!

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This note will be updated as the tracks are developed further by the coordinating bodies. To be notified of the next version, be sure to sign up to the [Future WILPF News here!](#)



Roadmap to Future WILPF

HOW I CAN PARTICIPATE

Join these tracks to shape WILPF for the future and get us ready for our International Congress 2022.

Co-create the next International Programme

Overseen by the International Board



Join national, regional and global discussions about our contexts, our visions, our actions, and our values.

Organise and attend Congress 2022

Coordinated by the International Board and the Congress Steering Committee



Prepare reports, submit proposals, and take decisions. Organise and attend exhibition, learning and social events.

Nominate WILPFers to serve as representatives

Overseen by the International Board + Coordinated by the Nomination Committee and the Election Committee



Nominate, stand for office and/or elect committee convenors and international board members.

Build and strengthen the way WILPF works together

Coordinated by the Organisational Development Coordination Group



Share your insights and ideas about how we can work together as One WILPF to stay true to our values and have impact.

International Congress 2022



Future WILPF

UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Track 1: Co-create the next International Programme

The **International Programme** is our forward-looking plan for WILPF. It guides our work from the local to the global level, so that we can achieve a shared vision of all WILPF activists. The International Programme gives a common strategic direction to all our bodies, including the International Congress, the International Board, the National Sections/Groups, and the International Secretariat.

The [current International Programme](#) is in place until the next International Congress, which is planned for the second half of 2022 (dates and format pending decision by the International Board, in view of the COVID-19 pandemic). Now is therefore an ideal opportunity for us to re-group, re-strategise, and plan for the years ahead – together.

WILPF is a diverse organisation made up of many parts. A shared agenda will help us to embrace this diversity, that connects local to global, and that allows room for different realities across our global priorities. All WILPF bodies should be able to see themselves within the International Programme, for it to serve as a basis for all of our own work plans that relate to our specific roles, contexts and priorities.

Developing and validating such a Programme requires the full spectrum of WILPF's membership to get involved – to co-create it and take collective responsibility for its implementation going forward.

How to participate

The Future WILPF roadmap aims to support a bottom-up planning process, reflecting the values of inclusion and diversity that WILPF is striving for. There are several ways in which you can be involved in shaping the next International Programme.

Participate and co-organise:

- Reflections on what we have learned so far
- Political discussions on context and trends
- Reflections on our vision and values
- Strategic planning and priority setting for our work
- Reflections and ideas on what kind of organisation we want to be and how we work together.

How:

- Discuss your experiences and ideas in regional and global calls – virtual meetings open to all WILPF members.
- Organise discussions in your respective Section, Group, Network or Working Group with the help of the Discussion Guide and, if requested, facilitation support.
- Share your thoughts and ideas through the various video, messaging or survey channels that will open up during the Future WILPF process.
- Learn with each other through peer learning and exchange on work areas
- Join the virtual conference (planned for November 2021) where proposed directions for the International Programme will be discussed and validated.

👉 See the Events Calendar to find out the status of planned meeting dates, and sign up to [Future WILPF News](#) to follow as new opportunities to participate open up.

👉 See the [Discussion Guide](#) and [supporting documents](#) to inform your contributions.

Who is in charge

The WILPF **International Board** oversees the development of the International Programme and signs off the final draft before it goes to Congress. The Regional Representatives of the International Board convene discussions at regional level and support the participation of Sections and members in their region.

The **Organisational Development (OD) Coordination Group**, an ad hoc group composed of a mix of International Board members, International Secretariat staff, and Section members, drafted the participation plan for the Future WILPF process and will be following its implementation as it unfolds. The group and overall process is supported by The Strategy Circle, a team of facilitators based in South Africa.

The finalisation of the International Programme, based on inputs from across WILPF, will be undertaken by a representative group of members and International Secretariat staff, working together through workshops and editorial groups. The results will be presented and discussed in a virtual conference in November 2021 open to all members.

More information

👉 Contact your [Regional Representative](#) to propose activities or to find out what's happening where you are.

👉 Contact the International Secretariat at membership@wilpf.org (Subject: Future WILPF) for more information or support on how to engage in this process.

Track 2: Organise and attend Congress 2022 – *under construction*

The **International Congress** meets every three years to discuss the work of WILPF and set our policies and direction. The Congress is where the eligible WILPF bodies take governance decisions, including voting in the new Board and approving the International Programme. WILPF's programmes and policies evolve from Congress, where different points of view and experiences within WILPF are heard and decisions taken.

WILPF's International Congress is the highest decision-making body of WILPF and the final authority in all matters concerning the organisation. It is also a rare opportunity for members to come together and discuss political issues, to share best practices and knowledge through workshops and other spaces.

WILPF's 33rd International Congress was postponed in 2021 due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, it is now scheduled to take place in the second half of 2022. This Congress will be different from other years and likely take a hybrid format. This presents both challenges and opportunities for participation.

Who is in charge

The coordination of International Congress is organised by the **Congress Steering Committee** (CSC), which is composed of WILPF members, including from the host Section (WILPF Australia), and members of the International Secretariat. The overall organisation, including decision-making, related to International Congress is overseen by the **International Board**.

More information

This track will be updated with information on how you can participate, as the timeline for Congress is developed and approved. Additionally, the webpage specially dedicated to Congress is expected to open in January 2022. All information about Congress will until then be shared in emails to Section representatives, in Membership News and the Future WILPF News.

👉 See WILPF's Constitution and By-Laws among the Future WILPF [supporting documents!](#)

👋 Contact the International Secretariat at membership@wilpf.org or Megan Hutching, convener of the Congress Steering Committee at hutching28@gmail.com.

Track 3: Select WILPFers to serve as a representative – *under construction*

The International Board is composed of the President, the Vice Presidents, Regional and alternative Regional Representatives, and a Treasurer. The Board is responsible for the overall leadership of WILPF. It ensures that WILPF stays true to its aims and principles. It is also responsible for setting the strategic and tactical objectives of the organisation as-a-whole, and approving the International Secretariat's work programme, while safeguarding WILPF's assets and for ensuring WILPF meets its ethical, legal and financial obligations according to the law under which WILPF is incorporated and the governing rules, such as the Constitution and By-Laws.

The **President** provides the political leadership for the organisation, and encourages a spirit of co-operation within WILPF while acting as an ambassador for WILPF. The holder of this position represents WILPF on official occasions; in addition to monitoring and reporting on the ethical and fiscal probity of WILPF. The **Vice-Presidents** support the President in her duties and undertake such duties of the President as she and/or the International Board may delegate. The **Treasurer** is responsible for the financial leadership of WILPF to ensure appropriate financial policies, systems and controls are in place and fully documented.

Regional Representatives are equally responsible for the good governance of WILPF and provide two-way communication (which includes feedback, concerns, experiences, local contexts) between the National Sections in their designated region and the International Board; and encourage cooperation between regions. They currently represent the following regions: Africa, the Americas, Europe, South Asia, Asia Pacific, and the Middle East and North Africa (MENA).

The **Convenors of the Standing Committees** are also appointed by the International Congress. Committees provide guidance and advise the IB to enable WILPF to fulfil its vision and achieve its objectives. WILPF currently has four active Standing Committees, the Standing Finance Committee, the Standing Committee on Risk Management, the Standing Personnel Committee, and the Standing Constitution Committee.

How to participate

More information on who can and how to nominate, stand for office and/or elect convenors and International Board members, as well as timeline to engage in these processes, will be circulated in the first half of 2022 by the Nomination Committee appointed by the International Board.

Who is in charge

The **Nomination Committee** is established by the International Board months before the International Congress. It should reflect the geographical and other diversities of WILPF, and is composed of seven members. The Nomination Committee coordinates nominations for all elected International Board positions. The Committee contacts national sections seeking nominations for the positions of President, two Vice-Presidents and Treasurer, Regional Representatives, and Alternate Regional Representatives.

The **Election Committee** is constituted at the beginning of each International Congress. It ensures that all candidates can introduce themselves to Congress participants, and recommends a slate from the list of nominees for each of the elected International Board positions: President, Vice-Presidents and Treasurer. It also presents for endorsement by the International Congress, the report prepared by the Nomination Committee advising nominees for Regional Representatives and alternate Regional Representatives.

More information

👉 See WILPF's [Constitution and By-Laws](#) among the Future WILPF supporting documents.

👋 Contact the International Secretariat at membership@wilpf.org to get in touch with the International Board and with Megan Hutching, convener of Congress Steering Committee.

Track 4: Build and strengthen the way WILPF works together

WILPF is growing, and so we need to find ways of working that are appropriate for all of us to achieve our vision together. For example, at the last WILPF International Congress, which took place in Ghana in 2018, a number of governance changes were made with the agreement that the organisation would take stock of how the new structures were functioning.

The way we work together as an organisation is both **personal** and **political**. To what extent are we as WILPFers able to practice the feminist principles and values that we hold dear and advocate for in our work and activism? This is so we can safeguard WILPF as a space of trust and solidarity for existing members, as an inviting and relevant space to welcome new people in, and where we can together model feminist alternatives to conventional patriarchal structures.

The Future WILPF discussions are an opportunity to connect and reflect on our organisational culture and model, to surface new ideas and proposals to our Standing Committees and Congress in 2022. For example, topics that could be explored include:

- Honouring all the parts of the organisation; the roles and mechanisms that enable solidarity, exchange, collaboration and complementarity
- Paying attention to inclusivity and diversity
- Holding each other accountable to our values
- How we take decisions
- Working it out when we don't agree with each other - peacefully
- Values-based leadership and how to build the next generation of leaders
- Building and supporting membership
- Other issues that you may bring to the discussions.

How to participate

Participate and co-organise:

- Reflections on our vision and values
- Reflections and ideas on what kind of organisation we want to be and how we work together
- Learning exchange on organisational practice and development of proposals.

How:

- Discuss your experiences and ideas in regional and global calls – virtual meetings open to all WILPF members.

- Organise discussions in your respective Section, Group, Network or Working Group with the help of the Discussion Guide and, if requested, facilitation support (note: If you apply/ied for a WILPF small grant under the 'Feminist Practice' theme your project can feed into broader regional and global exchanges!).
- Share your thoughts and ideas through the various video, messaging or survey channels that will open up during the Future WILPF process.
- Host a discussion or participate in peer learning and exchange on issues that matter to you and your Section/Group.
- Join the virtual conference (planned for November 2021) where proposed directions for the International Programme will be discussed and validated.

👉 See the [Discussion Guide](#) and [supporting documents](#) to inform your contributions.

Who is in charge

The **Organisational Development (OD) Coordination Group**, an ad-hoc group composed of a mix of International Board members, International Secretariat staff, and Section members, drafted the participation plan for the Future WILPF process, and will be following its implementation as it unfolds. The group and overall process is supported by [The Strategy Circle](#), a team of facilitators based in South Africa. This team is also working with the **International Board**, which has the overall responsibility for organisational matters.

The **Standing Constitution Committee** is responsible for coordinating possible proposed amendments to WILPF's Constitution and By-Laws. The International Board might also decide to ask the Committee to propose constitutional amendments to reflect organisational changes that might emerge from the strategy process.

More information

👉 See the Events Calendar to find out the status of planned meeting dates, and sign up to [Future WILPF News](#) to follow as new opportunities to participate open up!

👋 Contact the International Secretariat at membership@wilpf.org, WILPF Membership Manager Jenny Aulin on jenny.aulin@wilpf.org, or mignon@thestrategycircle.co.za to get in touch with Mignon Keyser, Jerushah Rangasami and Antonia Porter at The Strategy Circle.