THE ACCELERATOR FOR GBV PREVENTION

ACT to End Violence against Women

FEMINIST FORESIGHT

THE FUTURE OF GBV PREVENTION ADVOCACY: *A FEMINIST FORESIGHT RESOURCE*

Initial insights

Imagining futures to act in the present

What will effective GBV prevention advocacy and communications look like in 2036? Throughout 2026, the Accelerator for GBV Prevention, as Secretariat of the ACT Strategic Advocacy and Communication Working Group, part of the EU-funded ACT to End Violence Against Women Programme led by UN Women, explored this question through a participatory feminist foresight process with advocacy and communications leaders from around the world.

Through horizon scanning, collective sense-making, and scenario planning workshops, the process helped advocates anticipate change, identify emerging risks and opportunities, challenge assumptions, and develop more resilient, future-facing strategies.

220 **signals of change**, scanned across political, economic, social, technological, legal, and environmental shifts through a gender lens

2 **critical uncertainties:**

- Gender equality: achieved or regressing?
- Digital technology: effectively governed or largely unregulated?

4 **possible futures**, offered as provocations to test today's strategies

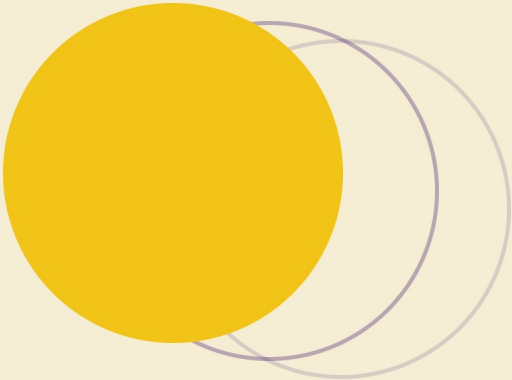
1 **desirable future:** a world free from violence by 2036

These cards share first insights based on the 4 possible futures and what each scenario asks of us now.

Gender equality anchored · High technology regulation

A BITTERSWEET VICTORY

When a job well done looks like a done job.



What this future looks like

It's 2036. Gender equality is the ordinary condition of public and private life, with near-parity in parliaments, courts, boardrooms and households. Technology is governed as a safety matter, with survivors and feminist technologists at the table, and TFGBV is caught and removed fast. Movements have rebuilt on diverse, trust-based funding. The catch is that GBV slips out of public conversation. Survivors fall silent, and gender-specific work dissolves into broader programmes.

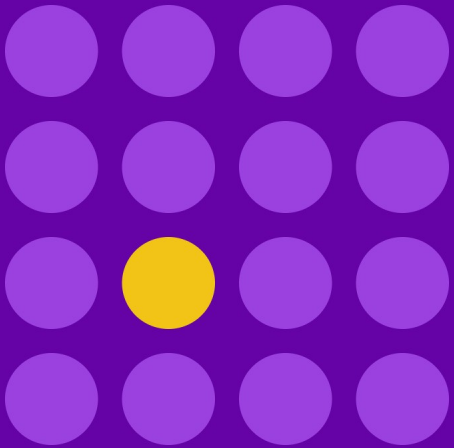
What this future asks of us

- Shift from securing rights to guarding them, staying vigilant without sounding alarmist.
- Keep GBV named and resourced inside climate, economic, and tech programmes.
- Trade fear for aspiration, and reach out with care to survivors who have gone quiet.
- Answer movement fatigue with a new common cause: shared feminist joy.

Gender equality anchored · Low technology regulation

#PROUDFEMINIST AND CAPITALISM

Feminism, The New Hype.



What this future looks like

It's 2036. Feminism is the hype. Diverse women lead everywhere, #ProudFeminist is printed on tote bags, and AI promises an era of abundance. The market has made violence "uncool," and GBV rates fall. Beneath the surface, though, digital infrastructure is privately owned and ungoverned. Abuse persists behind paywalls, survivors blame themselves, and funding flows on corporate terms. Feminism's harder questions about power, wealth, and care go unasked.

What this future asks of us

- Use feminism's popularity as a doorway to its transformative principles.
- Frame GBV as systemic, not a matter of individual choice.
- Help audiences tell the difference between structural change and femwashing.
- Push for digital infrastructure as a commons, and bridge generational divides within the movement.

Gender equality backlash · High technology regulation

THE CAGED NEST

When safety comes at a high cost.

What this future looks like

It's 2036. Life feels orderly at last. Platforms are clean, information is verified, and TFGBV is practically eliminated through surveillance. In the name of order and protection, sexual and reproductive rights and LGBTQI+ rights have been rolled back, and gender advocacy is now a crime in most places. Activists have erased their digital histories and organise in the shadows. They are sustained by feminist servers, Global Majority networks, and those who have long resisted authoritarianism.

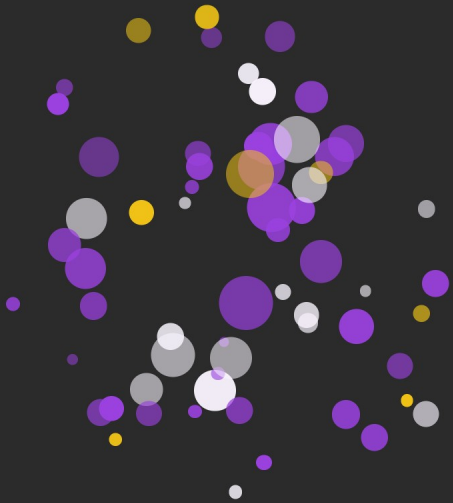
What this future asks of us

- Build autonomous feminist tech and offline channels before they're needed.
- Use the few protected spaces as entry points to widen what is unacceptable.
- Show that care and order can exist without coercion and control.
- Treat advocates' legal, physical, and mental safety as the top priority.

Gender equality backlash · Low technology regulation

ONE REALITY PER PERSON

When there is no shared truth left.



What this future looks like

It's 2036. No two feeds are alike. AI tailors reality to each user, and common ground has dissolved. TFGBV has become banal, with deepfakes, nudifying apps, and sextortion everywhere. When any image can be faked, real evidence is dismissed. Services have been defunded, and awareness content drowns in noise. Feminists retreat to digital sanctuaries and begin to see their work anew: teaching humans how to be human again.

What this future asks of us

- Pair digital disruption with strong offline, in-person spaces.
- Shift from evidence-based persuasion to relational trust.
- Demand safety by design and platform accountability.
- Lead with positive propositions, and keep women's specific needs visible in "all-genders" work.

WHICH FUTURES ARE WE PREPARING FOR?

Across all four futures, three moves held strong: build coalitions across movements, invest in feminist technological capability, and communicate solutions rather than fear. Join our collective thinking - learn more below.

Scan to explore why we use feminist foresight, what we have done so far, and resources to bring foresight into your own strategy.

preventgbv.org/
feminist-foresight

Credits

The Future of GBV Prevention Advocacy: *A Feminist Foresight Resource* – Initial insights

Led by the Accelerator for GBV Prevention, as Secretariat of the ACT to End Violence Against Women Strategic Advocacy and Communication Working Group. Designed and facilitated by Feminist Futures.

More resources coming soon.

THE ACCELERATOR FOR GBV PREVENTION

FEMINIST FUTURES

UN WOMEN

Funded by the European Union