

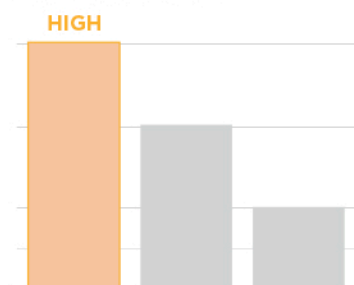
# Women's role in the Democratic Republic of Congo's peace process (2001-2003)



## BACKGROUND ON THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO'S PEACE PROCESS (2001-2003)

The **Inter-Congolese Dialogue** that took place from 2001 to 2003 formally ended the civil war in the DRC. The dialogue was inclusive, with participants from the main armed conflict parties, unarmed political parties, and civil society. However, while the agreement has to a large degree been implemented, it did not prevent the recurrence of violence, particularly in the eastern part of the country.

## WOMEN'S INFLUENCE



## WOMEN'S INCLUSION IN THE PROCESS

High-level problem-solving workshop organized by international, regional, and local women's organizations (2002)

**64 women**, among whom government officials, members of armed groups, and members of civil society organizations



Pushed for the greater inclusion of women in the negotiations and shared gender-responsive recommendations

Official negotiations between the government of DRC, armed groups, political parties, and civil society in Sun City and Pretoria (2001-2003)

*Mandate: End the Second Congo War*



- **11% women** (40 out of 362 delegates)
- **No official quota** or dedicated women's delegation
- Women were included as individual members in the **5** delegations



## WOMEN'S ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE PROCESS

- ➔ After sending an open letter to the facilitator and meeting with him, women managed to increase the number of women delegates in the dialogue from 8% to 11%
- ➔ Women delegates safeguarded the signing of the agreement in Sun City by forming a human chain to block the exits to the negotiation room

- ➔ Women delegates achieved the inclusion of gender-related provisions in the agreement, including a modification of laws discriminating against women; a 30% quota for women in decision-making sectors at the national level; an increase of the marriageable age of girls
- ➔ Women delegates successfully pushed for the creation of a Ministry of Women and Family Affairs in the transitional administration

### + FACTORS ENABLING WOMEN'S INFLUENCE

  
Coalition-building among women across party lines

  
Effective advocacy strategies

  
UN Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security

### - FACTORS CONSTRAINING WOMEN'S INFLUENCE

  
Exclusive selection criteria and procedures

  
Patriarchal attitudes towards women's involvement

  
Limited support from the facilitator

  
Co-optation of decision-making by armed actors

This infographic is based on a case study published by the Inclusive Peace & transition Initiative (IPTI) as part of the series "Women in Peace and Transition Processes" that analyzes the conditions under which women participated in and influenced peace, political reform, and constitution-making processes worldwide. To discover other infographics and our case study series, visit our website: [www.inclusivepeace.org](http://www.inclusivepeace.org)

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