

# COUNTERING BACKLASH AND SAFEGUARDING WOMEN'S RIGHTS

THURSDAY, 12 MARCH 2026, 10AM - 11.15AM (EST)  
CONFERENCE ROOM 6, GA BUILDING, UN HEADQUARTERS

## CSW70 side-event

Organised by the Council of Europe Parliamentary Assembly (PACE) Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination and its Network Women Free from Violence.

## KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

- ▶ **Mr Alain Berset**, Secretary General of the Council of Europe
- ▶ **Ms Petra Bayr**, President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe
- ▶ **Ms Milana Rikanovic**, Head of the UN Women Office in Serbia

## PANELISTS

- ▶ **Baroness Lyn Brown** (United Kingdom, SOC), member of PACE
- ▶ **Ms Sevilay Çelenk** (Türkiye, UEL), third Vice-Chairperson of the PACE Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination
- ▶ **Mr Saša Gavrić**, Adviser on Gender Issues, OSCE-ODIHR

## CONCLUDING REMARKS

- ▶ **Ms Despina Chatzivassiliou**, Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE)

## MODERATOR

- ▶ **Ms Zita Gurmai** (Hungary, SOC), member of PACE