

# HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON

February 10, 2015

Dear Friends:

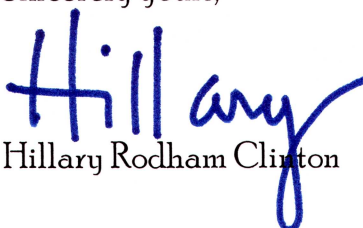
I am so delighted to send greetings to all those gathered at the London School of Economics today to mark the creation of the United Kingdom's first ever academic center on Women, Peace, and Security. While I regret that I am unable to be with you on this momentous occasion, I am so pleased to join in celebrating the launch of this exciting new project.

It also gives me great pleasure to thank my friend, William Hague, for his leadership and dedication to ending sexual violence and advancing the rights and opportunities of women and girls worldwide. Indeed, from the UK to the United Nations Security Council, to the G8 and the highest levels of governments around the world, he has brought his trademark commitment and determination to make sure that everyone is aware of the importance of standing up for women and girls. And as he understands so well, this is not a "women's issue." Rather it cuts to the very core of who we are as human beings, what kind of societies we choose to have, and what kind of world we want to live in and leave for our children. When women are excluded and marginalized, we all suffer. We miss out on their experience, their knowledge, their skills, and their talents. However, when women and girls have a chance to participate fully alongside men and boys in making peace, in growing the economy, in political life, and in every facet of existence, the evidence is clear that we all benefit.

I look forward to the great work and contributions that the London School of Economics will make through this new center. Giving women the tools and resources to break the barriers that keep them from contributing and participating fully in their governments, economies, and societies remains the unfinished business of the 21st century. Thank you for the research, partnerships, and academic contributions you will make to this vital cause. You have my best wishes for great success in the years to come. Onward!

With good cheer and warm regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

  
Hillary Rodham Clinton