My name is Madeleine Wallin, I come from Sweden and am the General Secretary of FEFAF, European Federation of Parents and Carers at Home which main issue is to value the unpaid caregiving work. I am also a mother of 5 children.

The word economy means home, but the value of a home and a strong family isn't included in the economic systems. Unpaid work is not part of the national accounts and in the UN System of National Accounts it's written that it is of little or no importance.

What we measure affects what we do. If we measure the wrong thing, we will do the wrong thing. If we don’t measure something, it becomes neglected, which is exactly the case of the unpaid work, mainly performed by women all over the world.

In many countries we redistribute the unpaid work and force separations between children and mothers just to make the care count.

If another woman care for my child it is suddenly valued. The question is, do we get the same outcome?

It’s time to improve the economic systems so it’s a benefit to people rather than to the system itself.

Or as Magdalena Sepúlveda, a UN Special Rapporteur says;

“Women’s economic empowerment is a mirage if we ignore unpaid work done at home”