



Women & Disarmament

The Gender Dimension between
Marginalization and Inclusion



Introduction

The international community has recognized the importance of women's participation in peace and security-related issues and the benefits of applying a gender perspective in policy development. The unanimous adoption of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325, and the emergence of the women, peace and security agenda positively impacted the growing international standard that recognizes the gender impact of different weapons systems and the need to include women in policy decisions. However, there is still much work to be done to achieve the goals enshrined in numerous international agreements ranging from the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) and efforts must continue to increase the representation of women in disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control forums and at the negotiating tables. The use of weapons of mass destruction and the misuse of small arms and light weapons affect everyone indiscriminately regardless of gender, age, sexual orientation, political opinions or nationality. Therefore, no single group shall have the right to have jurisdiction over policy decisions governing this issue and all groups must be involved in these conversations. When women are not represented, it is highly likely that their experiences and needs will be ignored and not addressed, which would, in the long term, facilitates and legitimizes violations of women's rights and violence against them and thus undermines sustainable development, peace and security. It is clear that the proliferation of arms and ammunition is a major obstacle to the implementation of the WPS agenda; however, there has been little focus on arms control and disarmament in the WPS agenda either in the multilateral discussions or at the implementation level.

Thus, improving women's participation in peace and security is one of the main objectives of the women, peace and security agenda and this is certainly closely related to arms control and disarmament. Although participation in decision-making mechanisms in the field of disarmament and arms control has increased in recent years, this area is still significantly far from women's participation when compared to other areas of diplomacy.

In light of the above, this research paper focuses on how far international efforts take into account the gender dimension in the field of disarmament and non-proliferation through its study of the impact of the proliferation of weapons on women. This paper also examines the possible causes of this imbalance and explains why the gender disparity persists between experts and practitioners in this field.

First: The Impact of the Spread of Weapons on Women's Rights

Multiple international frameworks and UN resolutions recognize the gender dimensions of disarmament and arms control. For example, according to the ATT, states parties are required by law to assess how the export of conventional arms and ammunition is used to perpetrate acts of gender-based violence, whereas the TPNW recognizes the disproportionate impact of nuclear radiation on women and girls.¹

Women are disproportionately affected by the use of small arms and light weapons. The use of such weapons does not only threaten women's life but also violate and endanger their rights. Sometimes women are used as a tool of war or forced to engage in the illegal arms trade or human trafficking. The situation is the same when it comes to weapons of mass destruction which potential use, production and testing have disproportionate gender effects.

For example, in 2020, a report issued by Doctors Without Borders showed that 60 percent of the victims of sexual violence treated in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) were assaulted by those carrying weapons.² The diversion of arms has also been linked to the abolition of women's rights in Afghanistan where the Taliban's rapid overthrow of the government in 2021 was due to the massive amounts of weapons, ammunition and military technology they were able to seize. These weapons helped the Taliban assert their power at the expense of women's rights. The use or even the threat of

use of these weapons in times of conflict and peace has restricted women's freedom of movement, freedom of expression, and access to education or economic opportunity, which has had a lasting impact on gender equality.³



The proliferation of weapons also increases the rates of sexual violence in all its forms. This is evidenced by the increase in illicit trafficking and smuggling of weapons in Somalia and Yemen has led to a rise in violence against women in general.



In Yemen, 71 women in Houthi prisons from March 2015 until the end of 2020 were violently raped and turned impotent, while detention on the basis of their political affiliation which is against the Houthi ideology. The Houthi, claiming its Hashemite origin and thus its racial superiority, believe that raping the victims purifies them of all sins. The so-called purification of detained women in Sana'a is facilitated by the so-called Zeinabeyyat, who are trained and tasked with searching women and

homes, teaching women the Houthi doctrine, maintaining order in women's prisons, and facilitating the so-called purification against women who refuse to succumb to Criminal Investigation Authority instructions.⁴

In Somalia, however, this phenomenon remains persisting and on the rise, according to many observers and experts. In August 2021, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict warned of the alarming increase in sexual violence in Somalia and called on all those responsible for such behavior to stop these abuses. These reports also documented more than 100 cases of sexual violence against girls in the first quarter of 2021, pointing out that the perpetrators often took advantage of the weakness of the displaced girls, and targeted them when they left the camps to perform some housework. The reports indicated that violations committed by clan militias were 3 times the number committed during the past year, with the spread of individual and light weapons in the hands of its elements.⁵



UN reports indicated that in 2020, for example, rates of sexual violence increased by nearly 80 percent in Somalia compared to 2019. Nearly two-thirds of these cases were reported as rape, and the remaining cases included attempted rape, forced marriage and sexual harassment and assault. The United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNSOM) also verified cases of conflict-related sexual violence against 400 girls, 12 women and 7 boys. These violations are attributed

primarily to clan militias and the terrorist Al-Shabaab movement, to which the cases of sexual violence attributed have doubled, as it continues to practice sexual violence and forced marriage against women and girls.

The aforementioned violations are fueled by the proliferation of illicit weapons, especially among terrorist organizations. The number of violent acts committed by clan militias nearly tripled in 2020, with other parties involved in those crimes, such as the Somali Police Force (16 cases) and the Somali National Army (SNA) (25 cases), Jubaland Security Force (9 cases), and Puntland Security Force (PSF) (5 cases). Unfortunately, the majority of perpetrators remained unidentified and impunity for crimes would increase lead to further violations and abuses.⁶



The increasing rates of proliferation of weapons in some areas of the armed conflict also led to an increase in the recruitment rates of women. In Yemen, for example, the Houthis formed a security apparatus for women whose function is to participate in breaking into homes, arresting and luring women, dispersing demonstrations and vigils, spying, monitoring opinions and prosecuting female activists in workplaces, collecting intelligence about opposition, among other security tasks outside the framework of the law. Sites for the arrest and disappearance of women were monitored, including deserted places used for interrogation and psychological torture, homes of citizens whose owners were forced to abandon them, and police stations controlled by the Houthi militia. Reports confirmed that women detainees were subjected to severe torture and cruel treatment, which prompted them to attempt suicide.⁷

According to reports, the Zeinabeyyat military group includes 4,000 members, divided into ten teams. They received combat training in Sanaa, and some of them received training abroad in Lebanon and Iran by experts from Hezbollah and Iran. They also receive training in civilian sites used by the Houthis for military purposes, such as schools, sports stadiums, and government universities. The Houthis authorize the women's security formations to recruit other women, as well as force the kidnapped women to confess against members of the former regime. Zeinabeyyat supervises the central prison in Sana'a, which hides more than 100 women, most of whom were arrested from parks, streets, cafes or their homes. The Zeinabeyyat also supervises the Al-Dar prison, in which the abductees are forced to confess to crimes they did not commit, and then they are placed in the central prison in Amran, which is one of the worst places of detention for women in Yemen due to its overcrowding with dozens of women who were kidnapped and arrested because of their families' political stances against the Houthis.⁸



Hence, the proliferation of weapons and ammunition used in armed conflicts poses significant risks to women, and studies indicate that these risks persist even after the end of the conflict. In this case, it is important for women to participate in consultations and negotiations on disarmament and peace and security, but there are a number of challenges they face in this regard.

Second: The Challenges of Integrating Women into Disarmament Issues

Women's participation in arms control and disarmament is vital because they are directly and indirectly affected by armed violence. The proliferation of weapons is different from using it. In response to the ongoing and protracted demand from civil society for gender equality and the recognition that armed conflict has a strong impact on women, women also have a critical and effective role to play in the pursuit of achieving peace. It is widely recognized that peace and security-related issues, including armed violence and arms control, are largely gendered. Thus, the participation of women in arms control and disarmament is critical. Women face a number of challenges that hinder their participation in this and other areas of peace and security.

1- Challenges related to the status of women in conflict and exclusion from legislation and policies, and those related to discourse and action in arms control, lack of knowledge and gender marginalization.

2- The main challenge facing women's participation in small arms control and disarmament is their unequal position in patriarchal societies, which hinders their ability to participate in political affairs in general. This is especially true with regard to issues of peace and security.

3- In addition to social and economic obstacles, women may face violence and threats of violence and may not be able to participate safely in security discussions.⁹

4- The study of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) identifies many challenges for women to become technical specialists in arms control. These obstacles that prevent women from participating in technical roles are

- Biased policies against women in security sector institutions

- Discrimination based on deep-rooted stereotypes about women's roles in society

- Lack of adequate infrastructure or support for women when

- working in field sites¹⁰

5- Women also face enormous obstacles when it comes to their participation in decision-making processes in the areas of disarmament and non-proliferation. Despite the increase in global efforts to eliminate weapons of mass destruction and regulate arms transfers, including controls on Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW), in the past four decades, the number of women participating in these efforts remains alarmingly small. The UNIDIR notes that women make up only 32 percent of participants in arms control and NPD forums and that heads of delegations are only men. The participation of women drops dramatically to 20 percent in relevant mechanisms, because states usually send one male representative to disarmament meetings.¹¹



Third: The ATT and Taking into Account the Impact of Arms on Women



The ATT is the first international treaty to formally recognize the link between the arms trade and gender-based violence. The inclusion of gender-based violence in its executive provisions is the result of campaign work conducted by NGOs and civil society organizations with the support of a group of countries that have championed this issue. The inclusion of these principles in an instrument regulating arms exports created tensions during the negotiations. States that opposed direct reference to gender-based violence and violence against women in the text, among other things, argued that there was no legal definition of these terms and that these issues would already be included in treaty provisions on international humanitarian law and human rights. The reference has also been opposed by countries with more traditional views of gender roles. Conversely, proponents have argued that such a reference is important because such human rights violations are often overlooked in arms transfer decisions. Although Article 4(7) of the ATT can be seen as an attempt to find a compromise between these two positions, the way in which this is structured has not resolved this division.



Article 4(7) of the ATT requires states parties, when deciding to approve arms exports, to take into account the risk of these elements being used to perpetrate or facilitate serious acts of gender-based violence or violence against women and children. The inclusion of gender-based violence in the Arms Trade Treaty is particularly important because for the first time it means that the relationship between such acts and weak arms trade regulation is formally recognized by an international and legally binding treaty. However, there remains a lack of agreement on how to implement this provision at the national level due to a poor understanding of the different forms of gender-based violence and how these considerations can and should be taken into account when making arms export decisions. It should be noted that although gender-based violence is only explicitly mentioned in Article 7, the blanket nature of these acts may mean that relevant considerations in the ATT may go beyond this provision and touch upon other obligations, such as those relating to prohibitions. This may be the case for acts of gender-based violence that could amount to crimes against humanity and war crimes, which could result in a transfer ban under Article 6.3. This relationship was also recognized by the Presidency and discussed by the Working Group on Effective Treaty Implementation (WGETI).¹²

Hence, it can be argued that the inclusion of gender considerations in the field of security has led to a recognition of the role that conventional weapons, especially small arms and light weapons play, in facilitating gender-based violence and the disproportionate impact of these actions on women and girls. The ATT has recognized these cases by including specific language that obliges states parties to take gender-based violence into account in their arms transfer decisions. Although these efforts are still being implemented due to the need for further clarification and agreement, the ATT is the first international legal instrument that lists gender-based violence as one of the possible effects of arms proliferation. Despite acknowledging the Treaty provisions, the exporting countries did not explicitly ask importing countries to make commitments on gender-based violence by including a specific reference in the end-use documents they request.

Fourth: UN Efforts to Take into Account the Gender Dimension and Integrate Women into Disarmament Issues

Women play many roles in the areas of peace, security, conflict, and disarmament. Their lives are often drastically affected by the conflict, and their livelihoods and rights are jeopardized by the conflict, they are often taking care of the family under harsh and unbearable conditions at times. Thanks to their diverse experiences, women can provide valuable insights and make important contributions to decision-making processes on peace and security. Yet, she often acts as an outside spectator of these decision-making processes, including issues of their own security, dispute prevention, arms control policy, peace negotiations, peacekeeping operations, and post-conflict reconstruction efforts. When this happens, it is more likely that their experiences or needs are not taken into account, which may facilitate and legitimize the perpetration of women's rights and acts of violence against women on the long run and can undermine sustainable development, peace and security. But when women are actively involved in decision-making processes, their needs and those of the local community are more likely to be met, and efforts to bring security to be comprehensive efforts for the community, and peace negotiations and peacebuilding efforts will be successful and lasting..

Based on these facts, the United Nations and its concerned bodies have taken a number of steps to enhance women's participation and gender mainstreaming in their work, including:

1. Security Council Resolution 1325 of 2000:

Adopted unanimously in October 2000, the Security Council addresses for the first time specifically the unique impact of war on women and the importance of women's contributions to the processes of conflict resolution and peace. This resolution focused on the gender dimension and the needs of women in times of war and conflict, and the resolution dealt mainly with:



- Prevention of violence and rights violations/protection in conflict situations/participation in decision-making related to peace and security/women's needs in terms of relief and recovery in conflict and post-conflict situations.

The resolution calls on member states to ensure increased representation of women in decision-making positions in the areas of conflict prevention, peace operations, early post-conflict recovery, governance, and peacekeeping operations. The resolution encourages the UN Secretary-General to appoint more women as special representatives and envoys in conflict situations, and urges him to expand the role of women in UN peacekeeping operations.

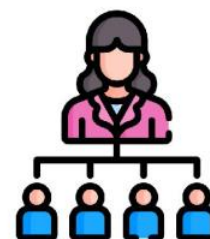
2013 of 2122 Resolution

establishes stronger measures to enable women to participate and take leadership in all stages of conflict prevention, resolution, and recovery, and also encourages Member States to increase the proportion of women in United Nations peacekeeping operations, and calls on Member States in particular to ensure the participation of women in combating efforts to combat the illicit transfer and misuse of small arms and light weapons.



2015 of 2242 Resolution

urges the Secretary-General and United Nations bodies to promote gender perspectives in their work. The resolution calls on the Secretary-General to double the number of women in peacekeeping operations over the five years following the issuance of the resolution, and urges Member States and United Nations entities to ensure the participation and leadership of women's organizations in developing strategies to combat terrorism and violent extremism, and encourages the empowerment of women to participate in the design and implementation of efforts aimed at preventing, combating and eliminating the illicit transfer and misuse of small arms and light weapons.



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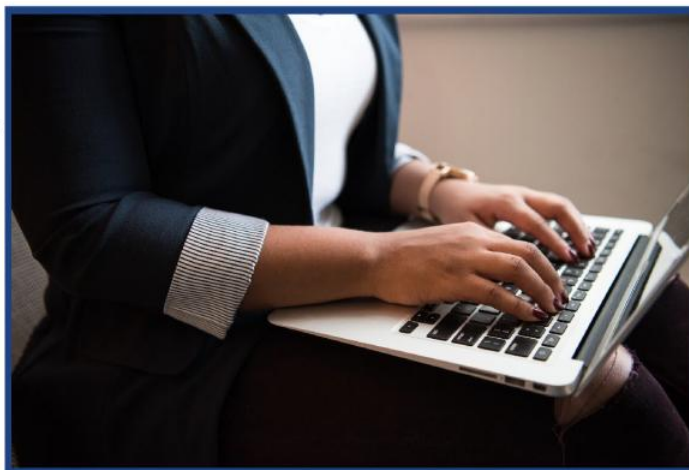
The Security Council adopted these two topical resolutions on small arms and light weapons, through which the Council urges Member States, United Nations bodies and other organizations to facilitate the full and meaningful participation of women in efforts to eradicate the practices of illicit transfers of small arms and light weapons, and their destabilizing accumulation and misuse. Resolution 2220) 2015) also encourages Member States to enhance the collection of sex-disaggregated data in order to better understand the impact of small arms and light weapons on women.¹³

The United Nations has strengthened its efforts to integrate and empower women in many issues related to gender equality in conflict prevention and recovery with the eight-point agenda of its development program for the empowerment of women, these points that focus on :

1. Enhancing women's security during crises by working to end institutional and personal violence against women, strengthening the rule of law, and increasing gender responsiveness within security institutions, in disarmament, demobilization and reintegration activities, and small arms reduction initiatives.

2. Expanding citizenship, participation and leadership among women: by building skills and trust among women, supporting women's representation in the social, political and economic areas, and developing women's networks and institutions for conflict prevention, disaster risk reduction, peacebuilding, and post-disaster and conflict reconstruction.

3. Peacebuilding with the participation of and for women, ensuring the real participation of women in formal and informal peace processes, and taking into account a gender perspective in the design and implementation of peace missions and peace agreements.



4. Promote gender equality in disaster risk reduction activities by integrating gender analysis into disaster risk, impact and requirements assessment as well as addressing the specific needs of women, giving due importance to women's experiences in disaster reduction and recovery policies, plans and programs, and supporting women's networks and organizations to facilitate effective participation of women.

5. Ensure gender responsiveness in recovery operations by incorporating gender analysis into all post-conflict and post-disaster processes and related planning, and ensuring that recovery efforts provide equal economic opportunities for women.

6. Capacity development for social change: by building the will and skills among men and women to prevent violence and responsiveness to its occurrence, reduce vulnerability to natural hazards, achieve equality in post-conflict reconstruction and build social cohesion.

Achieving this agenda requires supporting the full implementation of Security Council Resolution 1325 on integrating gender equality priorities into strategic planning and advocacy activities in the development and humanitarian areas, peace and security building, and strengthening humanitarian resources, policies and programs to ensure responsiveness and accountability on gender issues and building companies to increase the impact of gender priorities to maximum, develop gender responsive financing mechanisms and resource mobilization strategies, respond to the gender aspect and support data collection that takes into account the presence of women and what is in their circle of concern to women and the promotion of thought leadership, knowledge management, monitoring and evaluation regarding the gender aspect and public property resources.¹⁴



United Nations General Assembly Resolution on Women, Disarmament, Non-Proliferation and Arms Control

The United Nations General Assembly adopted Resolution 73/46 on women, disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control on December 2018 ,5, with item 101 of the agenda of the 73rd session, Where the assembly referred to the reaffirmation of the Charter of the United Nations on the equal rights of women and men and also to its resolutions 65/69 of December ,8 67/48 ,2010 of December 33/68 ,2012 ,3 of December 2013 ,5, and 61/69 of December 2014 ,2, and 56/71 of December 2016 ,5. As well as referring to the resolutions of the General Assembly and the Security Council on the issue of women, peace and security, the assembly reaffirmed the sustainable development goals related to the advancement of women, disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control, and recognized that the success of efforts to achieve sustainable development and disarmament depends on the full and effective participation of women in all aspects of these efforts, the assembly also welcomed the call for women to participate fully and meaningfully in efforts to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit transfer of small arms, pursuant to relevant Security Council resolutions.



The General Assembly reaffirmed that the equal, full and effective participation of women and men is one of the essential factors conducive to sustainable peace and security, and recognized that women make a valuable contribution to practical disarmament measures taken at the local, national, sub regional and regional levels in the context of armed violence prevention and armed conflict and limitation and in the promotion of disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control. The General Assembly also recognized the need to further enhance the role of women in the field of disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control, in particular the need to facilitate the participation and representation of women in policy-making, planning and implementation processes related to disarmament and non-proliferation and to identify weapons. The General Assembly noted with appreciation the efforts made by Member States to increase the participation of women in their national and regional mechanisms for coordinating disarmament issues, including their participation in efforts to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects.

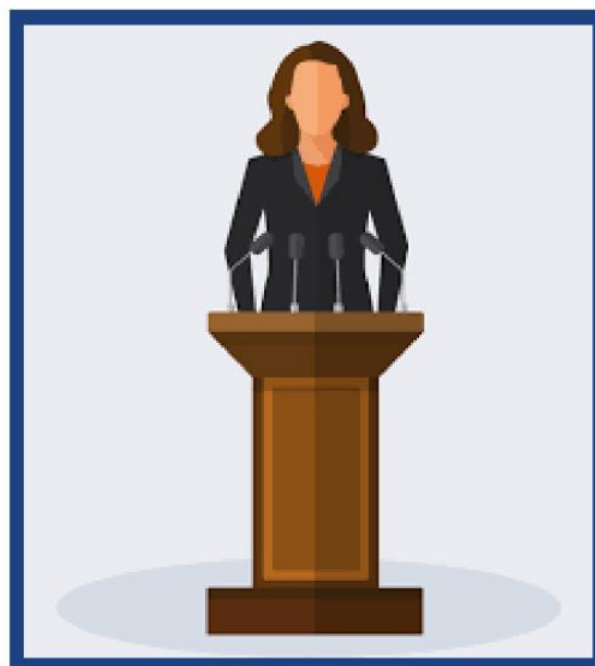
The General Assembly also recognized the important role played by civil society organizations in advancing the role of women in the field of disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control. The General Assembly called upon all States to work to support and strengthen the effective participation of women in organizations working in the field of disarmament at the local, national, sub-regional and regional levels. The Assembly also encouraged States to seriously consider increasing funding for policies and programs that take into account the differential impacts of illicit small arms and light weapons on women, men, girls and boys. The Assembly also emphasized that all states should develop appropriate and effective national risk assessment criteria in order to facilitate the prevention of the use of weapons in perpetrating violence against women and children. The Assembly called on the relevant United Nations organs, agencies, funds and programs to assist states, upon their request, to enhance the role of women in the areas of disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control, including preventing, combating and eliminating the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons. The Assembly requested the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States on ways and means of enhancing the role of women in the areas of disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control, and to submit a report to the General Assembly at its 75th session on the implementation of this resolution.¹⁵



The Gender Dimension in Achieving Sustainable Peace



Subsequent UN General Assembly resolutions on “Women, disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control” called on states to include women in national and regional coordination mechanisms related to disarmament and arms control. This includes the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in 2015 with related goals and targets such as SDG 5.2 on eliminating all forms of violence against all women and girls and SDG 16.4 to reduce illicit financial flows and arms. In addition, more explicit efforts are made to link both goals by refraining from states allowing arms exports in light of the risks of gender-based violence, as well as integrating a gender perspective into the development of national legislation and policies related to disarmament and arms control. Most recently, the Outcome Document of the 3rd Review Conference of the United Nations Office of United Nations Organs in 2018 included ambitious language on gender and recognition of the key role of eliminating the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in combating gender-based violence.¹⁶



The Assembly stressed the importance of women's equal participation and full participation and the need to increase their role in decision-making with regard to conflict prevention and resolution, given that full participation in the peace process can



contribute significantly to maintaining and strengthening international peace and security. For the first time, a United Nations Security Council resolution recognized that women are actors in maintaining security and sustaining peace and established a formal standard against gender discrimination in negotiations, policy-making and decision-making procedures as well as at all stages of peace processes, especially that peace is only sustainable if women are fully included and that peace is closely linked to equality between women and men.

However, the number of women participating in the delegations participating in the peace negotiations around the world was not promising. In 2018, women were included in only 14 of the 19 delegations of the six active UN-led or co-led peace operations and their number remained very low. The situation is even worse with regard to the Blue Helmets: “Only %3 of the military in UN missions are women and the majority of them work as support workers.”¹⁷

The Integration of Gender Dimension in Disarmament on the Ground

At the multilateral level, the United Nations has expressed its commitment and support for the greater visibility of the role of women in the field of arms control. Women have been appointed to leadership positions including that of High Representative for Disarmament Affairs, Head of the Office for Disarmament Affairs in Geneva, and Secretary of the Conference on Disarmament. The Secretary-General has set quotas for women's participation in the groups of governmental experts; this had an immediate impact on participation.

Although in 2019-2018 the expert groups on verification of nuclear disarmament and outer space witnessed participation of less than **7 percent and 17 percent**, respectively, the number of women participating in the upcoming expert group on ICTs and international security is **44 percent**. A similar effect is expected for the working group on ammunition.

The extent of the delay in arms control in gender equality can be attributed to the number of women in leadership positions much less than males. Although the gap between women and men may narrow, it has not yet been reflected in the number of women heading delegations. **In 2018, for example, 76 percent** of heads of delegations to the First Committee of the United Nations General Assembly, Conference on Disarmament (CD), and NPT Preparatory Committee meetings were men, a higher proportion than the



overall proportion of 66 male delegates in cent. **24 percent of women heads** of delegations at these meetings were less than the overall proportion of female delegates present, which was **34 per cent**. Moreover, the chances of women's voices being heard are also

slim. **In 2018, only 21 percent** of the statements were made by women in the first panel's general debate. The women may have entered the weapon control room, but they weren't even seated at the table, not to mention the platform.

Hence, to achieve the full and meaningful participation of women, gender mainstreaming must go beyond numbers to include the assumptions and ways in which the world defines, manufactures and implements arms control. Introducing a gender perspective in arms control can broaden the way arms control is viewed and pursued. Gender analysis frameworks can offer new ways to formulate the targets and goals of specific weapons organizations, while sex-disaggregated data and budgets can open new ways to assess their impact and effectiveness. As society struggles to navigate the security implications of dual-use technologies, exploring new ways of understanding and framing gun regulation may provide new paths for the profession to advance progress.¹⁸

Based on the previous analysis, the **Global Coalition for the Limitation of Armaments (GCLA)** affirm that with so much progress in the field of women's rights at the **global level**, members of the international community urgently need to prove that they are serious about women's equal participation in peace and security and their protection, and the prevention of armed conflict. The international community should also realize that arms control plays a crucial role in this process, as it can prevent the proliferation of illegal weapons and contribute to an effective way to protect women and protect their rights and prevent armed conflict completely.

GCLA also commend the international community's growing awareness of the relationship between the illicit trade, the proliferation of conventional weapons and gender-based violence, especially in connection with the issuance of the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) for a summary note assessing the links between small arms issues and gender perspectives. In addition, the 2001 United Nations Program of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons acknowledged in its preamble the negative impact of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons on women, as the proliferation of arms and ammunition used in armed conflicts poses significant and specific risks to women, and studies indicate that these risks persist until after the conflict ends.



Hence, the GCLA recommend :

- Providing equal opportunities for women's representation in all decision-making processes on disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control issues, particularly those related to the prevention and reduction of situations of armed violence and armed conflict

- Women's participation must be looked at through a different lens that goes beyond the original approach to gender-sensitive arms control and disarmament actions centered on the four pillars of Women, Peace and Security (WPS) of Participation, Prevention, Protection, Relief and Recovery

- Effective monitoring of the operations of exporting and importing weapons, especially small and light weapons, to reduce the increasing rates of gender-based violence, especially sexual violence, kidnapping and human trafficking

- All countries should work to empower women by making efforts to build women's capacities, to ensure their effective participation in designing and carrying out efforts in the areas of disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control

- Evaluating civilian firearms licensing legislation or regulations on how to secure and store firearms and ammunition

- Reviewing the processes related to the transfer of weapons to private security companies, as well as the regulations and procedures in place to determine when and whether members of the security forces are allowed to take service weapons into their homes, in order to work to reduce the rates of violence against women (domestic violence).



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