



**PERMANENT MISSION
OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN
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CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

SECURITY COUNCIL - OPEN DEBATE ON WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY

TOWARDS THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF RESOLUTION 1325 (2000)

STATEMENT BY MYRIAM OEHRI, DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE

Madam President,

We thank you for convening today's debate and express our sincere appreciation to all the briefers, and especially thank ICRC for their important work. Despite strong follow up resolutions to Security Council Resolution 1325, including on the participation pillar, in many parts of the world women's equal, full and meaningful participation remains the exception rather than the rule. This is particularly unfortunate and unacceptable in light of the evidence we have accumulated over the almost twenty-five years since the initial adoption of the WPS agenda: Women peacekeepers, mediators, lawyers, journalists and human rights defenders, among others, have been key agents of political change and contributed significantly to sustainable peace. Their inclusion in peace talks has proven indispensable for forging lasting peace agreements. Women have also played an integral role in peace movements and disarmament efforts. For decades they have been on the forefront of advocating for a nuclear-free world. With the Doomsday Clock set at 90 seconds to midnight, and "sounding an alarm for the whole of humanity" in the words of Mary Robinson from The Elders, such efforts are more important than ever. Enabling women to be agents of change, including by eliminating patriarchal patterns of decision-making, is thus not only our obligation stemming from the WPS-Agenda and other relevant international law, but urgently needed for a safe and peaceful world.

Madam President,

In Myanmar, women and youth have played a particularly important role in resisting the military coup, peacefully standing up for democracy and the rule of law, and against crimes against humanity committed by the military junta, including extrajudicial killings, arbitrary detention and torture. By doing so they have also challenged long prevailing age and gender norms in their patriarchal society. Rather than receiving recognition for their important role in the opposition movement, however, they remain largely excluded from formal political decision making and face attacks and retaliation. Any efforts to de-escalate violence and to reach a sustainable political resolution and democratic transition of Myanmar necessitates women's equal, meaningful and effective participation in all stages of decision making. Only a fully inclusive civilian Government can be representative of the will of the people and lead towards a peaceful, just and inclusive society. This was stressed in the General Assembly resolution on Myanmar of 2021, and reiterated end of last year by this Council itself. In this regard let me also emphasize once more the urgent need of preventing the flow of arms into Myanmar as called for by the Assembly – as an effective way to stop violence.

Madam President,

Leading up to the 25th anniversary of the WPS Agenda, we must not only do better in its implementation, but also apply it across thematic files and country situations dealt with in the Council and beyond. In this regard we commend the WPS presidencies initiative – a creative, cross-regional and informal way to bring heightened visibility to the agenda and to create further momentum around its implementation. We particularly welcome the promotion of strong representation of women among briefers to the Council as well as the more significant inclusion of gender perspectives in Council meetings and products.