NEWSLETTER ISSUE 2 MAY-DECEMBER 2021

# GENDER ACCREDITATION PROGRAMME

United Nations Human Rights



### TRANSLATING OUR COMMITMENTS ON GENDER EQUALITY

The programme continued its implementation in 2021 in UN Human Rights Office Colombia and in the Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine (HRMMU) and in our accredited offices (UN Human Rights Office in the oPt and in Cambodia). Our staff have received support through the programme to strengthen their capacities to integrate gender into programmatic and substantive work, as well as to translate our commitments to gender equality into very concrete actions in relation to country offices' composition, culture, structure and processes. Our offices have participated in capacity building activities on gender integration with a focus on gender stereotypes and unconscious bias, and in sessions on gender integration in monitoring human rights work including monitoring sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV). Participating offices have undertaken considerable efforts in their women's human rights and gender equality work and have achieved excellent results. See below our second update!

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WOMEN AND GIRLS UNDER OCCUPATION FIND THEMSELVES MORE VULNERABLE TO MULTIPLE LAYERS OF DISCRIMINATION AND VIOLENCE IN ALL ITS FORMS, IN THE PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SPHERES. DUTY BEARERS MUST PROTECT WOMEN AND GIRLS FROM VIOLENCE, HOLD PERPETRATORS TO ACCOUNT, AND TAKE ALL NECESSARY MEASURES TO STOP GENDER BASED VIOLENCE.

# 16 DAYS CAMPAIGN OF ACTIVISM AGAINST GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE IN UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS OFFICE IN THE OPT

As part of the 16 Days Campaign of Activism against Gender-Based Violence (GBV), this year the UN Human Rights Office in the oPt, in partnership with key GBV service providers in the West Bank and Gaza, WLCAC, Sawa, and Aisha, launched a series of videos to raise awareness about gender-based violence at home, online and in the street.

Online defamation, threats, and incitement constitute a form of violence against women and human rights defenders, which aims to restrict their right to freedom of expression. Duty bearers must take all necessary measures to protect women and girls from online violence, and prosecute and punish

perpetrators.

Women and girls under occupation find themselves more vulnerable to multiple layers of discrimination and violence in all its forms, in the private and public spheres. Duty bearers must protect women and girls from violence, hold perpetrators to account, and take all necessary measures to stop GBV.

Women's voices count, they have equal rights to express their and participate assemblies and political life. Duty bearers have the primary responsibility to protect them from physical violence and any invasion of their privacy, by eradicating root causes of violence against women and holding any perpetrator to account. WCLAC, SAWA and Aisha hotlines and GBV services were promoted in the campaign content, which reached over 850K people.







#ខ្ញុំជានារីម្នាក់នោះ #IAmTHATwoman

ការសម្រេចចិត្តរបស់ខ្ញុំនឹងគឺកាន់តែមុត My decision is even clearer

> ទេគីទេ NO is NO

## 16 DAYS CAMPAIGN OF ACTIVISM IN CAMBODIA: I AM THAT WOMAN

OHCHR Cambodia, the United Nations in Cambodia, the European Union and the Embassy of Sweden in Phnom Penh launched a campaign for the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence (GBV) with a series of videos featuring talented Cambodian women artists and activists, who explain their own experiences with gender-based violence under the hashtag 'lamTHATwoman'. The campaign started with the release of a music video of the song 'My Body', with lyrics in Khmer, sung by a number of young Cambodian women artists. The music video visuals featured a circle of women's support, comprised of local women activists and international delegates with elements of traditional Cambodian dance and mythology. In addition, the Office supported a series of workshops with Cambodian women, including lesbian, bisexual and transgender women and women with disabilities. During the 16 Days campaign, short video clips of conversations were released on the OHCHR Cambodia Office's social media platforms to raise awareness about the international human rights framework on gender-based violence. Four international women dignitaries in Cambodia supported the campaign with video messages and participated in the music video: OHCHR Cambodia Deputy Country Representative Claudia de la Fuente; UN Resident Coordinator in Cambodia Pauline Tamesis; EU Ambassador to Cambodia Carmen Moreno; and the Head of Development Cooperation at the Embassy of Sweden Section Office in Phnom Penh Camilla Ottosson. For further information please see OHCHR Cambodia Facebook page.



# HUMAN RIGHTS ARE WOMEN'S RIGHTS

AND

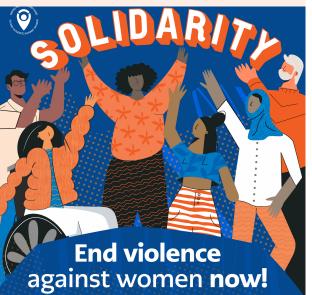
# WOMEN'S RIGHTS ARE HUMAN RIGHTS

## 16 DAYS CAMPAIGN OF ACTIVISM IN COLOMBIA AND UKRAINE

OHCHR Colombia participated in the Symbolic Act: Alliance for elections free of violence against women, organized by the National Electoral Council and the European Union on the occasion of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women.

HRMMU supported the UN in Ukraine in an online event "100 minutes with youth for youth against gender-based violence" to highlight the important work that youth have already done to overcome gender-based violence in their communities. Speakers discussed about building healthy partnerships to prevent violence; human trafficking; how to improve communication between women and medical staff, including how to avoid aggression and violence during childbirth.





## HRMMU SPOTLIGHT ON THE SITUATION OF WOMEN HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS AND LGBTI PERSONS IN UKRAINE



ДЕНЬ З ПРАВОЗАХИСНИЦЕЮ
АННА СМОЛОВИК
ЗОЙМОЕТЬСЯ ЗОХИСТОМ ПОЯКІПЛЯ ВІЛ НЕГОТИВНІ

займається захистом довкілля від негативного людського впливу, правильним поводженням з відходами та екопросвітою



ЮЛІЯ КРАСІЛЬНИКОВА

Допомагає людям, які постраждали від конфлікту на сході України, БО "Восток SOS"



ДЕНЬ З ПРАВОЗАХИСНИЦЕЮ ДАР'Я НАГАЇВСЬКА

допомагає бізнесу поважати права людини, XГНО «Сучасна жінка»



ДЕНЬ З ПРАВОЗАХИСНИЦЕЮ МАРИНА БУБЛИК

Займається працевлаштуванням ромських жінок, доступом до якісної освіти ромських дітей,



ДЕНЬ З ПРАВОЗАХИСНИЦЕЮ

ОЛЕНА РОЗВАДОВСЬКА

захищає права дітей на сході України, БФ «Голоси дітей»



ДЕНЬ З ПРАВОЗАХИСНИЦЕЮ

КАТЕРИНА ШУНЕВИЧ

Проводить правову експертизу законодавства на відповідість принципам ґендерної рівності та недискримінації. ГО "Асоціація жінок-юристок України



ДЕНЬ З ПРАВОЗАХИСНИЦЕЮ

ГАННА РОЖКОВА

захищає права активістів/-ок, правозахисників/-ць, працівників/-ць ЗМІ, Асоціація УМДПЛ



ДЕНЬ З ПРАВОЗАХИСНИКОМ ГЕНРІ ДЕМ'ЯНОВІЧ

ЛГБТІ-активіст та тренер з безпеки правозахисників/-ць

HRMMU launched a year-long initiative on young women human rights defenders (WHRD) via a "social media takeover". Every month, a WHRD is given the opportunity to speak about their work, their key concerns and suggestions through HRMMU's social media channels increasing the visibility of their work. Issues such as contributing to peace building, protecting the rights of people affected by the armed conflict in eastern Ukraine, defending Roma rights, gender equality, the rights of LGBTI people and the environment, are some of the issues that have been explored this year.

Following a workshop for women human rights defenders (WHRDs) in February 2020, HRMMU conducted, jointly with UN Women, a mapping of the situation of WHRDs in Ukraine which identified specific challenges in their work and activism: safety and security; patriarchy, sexism and working conditions. HRMMU organized two webinars in 2021 to present the results of this mapping exercise and discussed how WHRDs can create opportunities for synergies, linkages and increased solidarity by working together. For further information please see <a href="https://example.com/HRMMU's Facebook page">HRMMU's Facebook page</a>.

"THE DESIRE TO BUILD A STRONG DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY WHERE EVERYONE FEELS PROTECTED AND FREE TO STAND UP FOR THEIR FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS IS WHAT MOTIVATES ME IN HUMAN RIGHTS WORK"- HANNA ROZHKOVA

"THE MOMENT CAME WHEN I REALIZED THAT I COULD NOT STAND SEEING THE STEREOTYPES USED AGAINST ROMA, THEIR DISCRIMINATION AND OPPRESSION. THIS WAS THE IMPETUS FOR MY HUMAN RIGHTS WORK". MARYNA BUBLYK.

"IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO JUST STAND BY AND WATCH PEOPLE DESTROYING THE ENVIRONMENT! THE BASIC HUMAN RIGHT TO A CLEAN ENVIRONMENT IS GUARANTEED BY THE CONSTITUTION. HOWEVER, OUR ENVIRONMENTAL LEGISLATION IS QUITE FLAWED, AND GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND STRUCTURES ARE RELUCTANT TO ADDRESS ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES" .ANNA SMOLOVYK



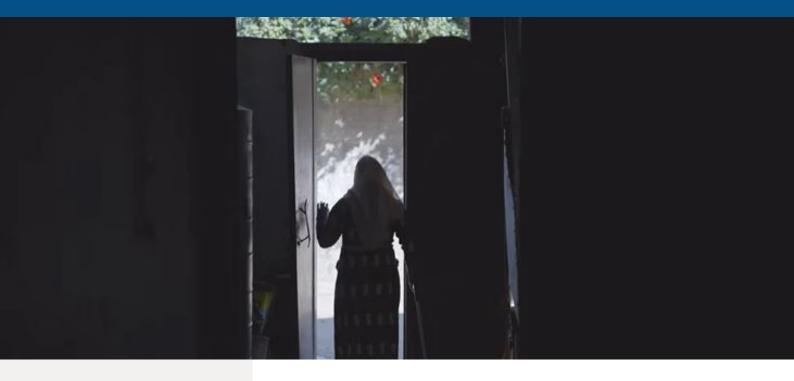
ENFORCED
DISAPPEARANCES ARE
LIVED AND FACED IN
DIFFERENT WAYS BY
WOMEN AND GIRLS DUE TO
GENDER ROLES.

#### **Spotlighting the human rights of women**

**OHCHR Colombia** supported a public presentation of a report by the organizations Fundación Nidya Erika Bautista and Mothers for Life in Buenaventura, submitted to the Special Jurisdiction for Peace in Colombia (JEP). The report "*Dignifying the lives of blacks and the struggle of women*" recognizes the struggle of women in Buenaventura in their search for disappeared persons and their essential contribution in making visible the differentiated impact that enforced disappearances have on women and Afro-Colombian, Raizal and Palanqueras communities. The report is an important step towards the possibility of building a new case against enforced disappearances by the JEP.

The UN Human Rights Office in the Opt in partnership with the Ministry of Women's Affairs of Palestine concluded a series of training sessions with members of the women support committees, including grassroots organizations in the West Bank governorates. The first training session focused on the role of protection mechanisms available to Women Human Rights Defenders in Palestine. The follow-up training sessions focused on advocacy and campaigning on women's rights through social media platforms. In cooperation with the Ministry of Women's Affairs, OHCHR OPT held a working session on international human rights law and on the human rights based approach to planning and programming for staff of Gender Units within Palestinian Government Ministries.





WOMEN WITH DISABILITIES
EXPERIENCE HIGHER LEVELS
OF ALL FORMS OF VIOLENCE
AND ARE SUBJECTED TO
SUCH VIOLENCE BY A
GREATER NUMBER OF
PERPETRATORS. DUTY
BEARERS MUST TAKE ALL
NECESSARY MEASURES TO
ENSURE THAT WOMEN WITH
DISABILITIES ARE
PROTECTED, EMPOWERED,
AND INCLUDED IN PUBLIC
AND POLITICAL LIFE.

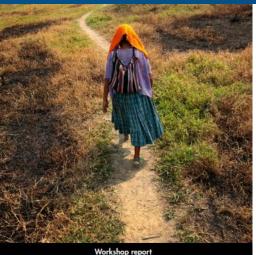
# Marking the International day of Persons with Disabilities

The International Day of Persons with Disabilities aims to promote the rights and well-being of persons with disabilities in all spheres of society. In 2021, the day was devoted to the leadership and participation of persons with disabilities, towards an inclusive, accessible and sustainable post-COVID-19 world.

The Human Rights Office in the oPt marked the International Day of Persons with Disabilities by highlighting a story in social media on the resilience of disability <u>activist Rahab Nofal</u> from Gaza.

**OHCHR Cambodia** marked the day raising awareness about the discrimination experienced by women and girls with disabilities, sharing the stories of Srey Pich, a strong young woman who volunteers to help her community. According to the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, women and girls with disabilities, who make up almost one fifth of the world's population of women, are at least two to three times more likely than other women to experience gender-based violence.





Strategic litigation for sexual and gender-based violence: Lessons learned

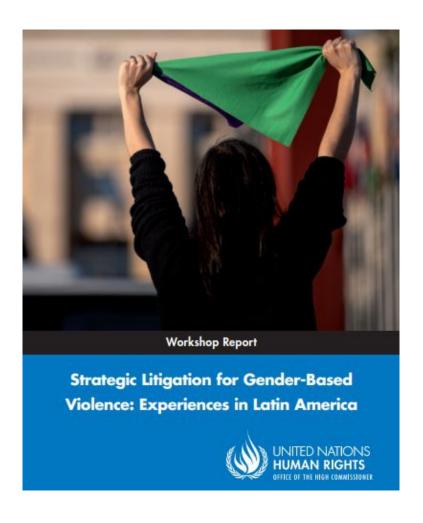


**GENDER STEREOTYPES AND GENDER ROLES** TRADITIONALLY ATTRIBUTED TO WOMEN. HAVE LED TO THEIR LIMITED PARTICIPATION IN PUBLIC AND POLITICAL LIFE AND TO THE DENIAL. INVISIBILISATION, RELATIVISATION, AND MINIMIZATION OF THEIR EXPERIENCES.

### **OUR LATEST PUBLICATIONS: STRATEGIC** LITIGATION FOR GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE. **EXPERIENCES IN LATIN AMERICA**

On 21 and 22 October 2020, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), together with the American University Washington College of Law, through its War Crimes Research Office and its Academy on Human Rights and Humanitarian Law, and Leiden University, through its Grotius Centre for International Legal Studies, organized an online workshop on strategic litigation for gender-based violence in Latin America.

The workshop report, now available in English and Spanish, summarizes the main points of discussion, and draws on the experiences, challenges, and good practices shared by the legal practitioners. Although the workshop focused broadly on strategic litigation processes for gender-based violence cases, many of the discussions revolved around cases of sexual violence committed against women within the context of armed conflicts. dictatorships, state terrorism, or other forms of mass political repression, drawing on the experience of those present. Cases from Argentina, Colombia, El Salvador, Guatemala and Peru are included in this report.





For further information about the Gender Accreditation Programme please see <a href="https://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Women/WRGS/Pages/GenderAccreditation.aspx">https://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Women/WRGS/Pages/GenderAccreditation.aspx</a>





