PERMANENT MISSION
OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN
TO THE UNITED NATIONS
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NEW YORK, TUESDAY 27 OCTOBER 2026 CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

SECURITY COUNCIL HIGH-LEVEL OPEN DEBATE ON WOMEN, PEACE, AND SECURITY

STATEMENT BY MR. CLAUDIO NARDI

DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN TO THE UN

President,

The women, peace and security agenda is losing support when it is needed most. In 2025, 20 percent of women and girls lived within 50 km of active conflict. Verified cases of conflict-related sexual violence quadrupled since 2022. Yet fewer than half of all Security Council decisions contained WPS language, the lowest share in seventeen years, despite Resolution 2242 requiring its integration across country situations. Established mandate provisions have been weakened or omitted. Only 21 women civil society representatives have briefed the Council in 2026, compared with a record 16 in a single month in 2021. Liechtenstein deeply regrets these concerning developments and calls upon the Council to match its own commitments with renewed action.

President,

New technologies are reshaping conflict. Artificial intelligence can support early warning, atrocity documentation, mediation and peacekeeping. But at the same time, the increasing operationalization of AI in conflict also carries significant risks if existing WPS commitments are not extended to the systems that inform military decisions. According to a recent study, leading

AI models left women and girls out of their analysis almost entirely when given a realistic operational report with no mention of gender. Some models also helped draft justifications for cutting gender advisor posts when asked to find budget savings. There is a significant risk that the gender digital divide translates into a systematic competence gap in places where the application of WPS is especially critical. In this regard, we welcome the Council's growing engagement with AI and international peace and security. We support more systematic engagement, including through an informal working group, also with regards to the implications for the WPS agenda.

President,

At a moment of growing pushback against the women, peace and security agenda, one truth remains clear: peace is more legitimate, inclusive and durable when women participate fully, equally and meaningfully. Yet the gap between commitments and practice remains stark. Liechtenstein regrets that over the course of the past year, four in five peace negotiations had no women negotiators. Even more alarmingly, only 20 percent of peace agreements referenced women, girls, gender or sexual violence over the last 35 years.

The UN leads only a small share of today's peace processes: of 57 peace processes in 2025, the UN led only three. Yet the UN supports mediation or peacebuilding in at least 45 situations reported to this Council. We call upon the Council to support women's full, equal and meaningful participation in these processes. Women's participation improves the quality and sustainability of peace agreements, broadens agendas beyond power-sharing, and increases the likelihood that agreements address justice, livelihoods, education, and long-term reconciliation.

Women already negotiate humanitarian access, engage in the protection of civilians and the documentation of violations. They belong at the table where peace is decided.

I thank you.