



**PERMANENT MISSION
OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN
TO THE UNITED NATIONS
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SECURITY COUNCIL – OPEN DEBATE ON CONFLICT-RELATED SEXUAL VIOLENCE

STATEMENT BY MR. CLAUDIO NARDI

COUNSELLOR, DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF LIECHTENSTEIN TO THE UN

President,

The Secretary-General's latest report evidences the shocking scale, brutality and perseverance of conflict-related sexual violence. Verified cases have more than doubled in 2025, reaching their highest level since reporting began sixteen years ago. The annex to the report now lists 77 parties to conflict credibly suspected of committing these crimes, more than 65 per cent of which are repeat perpetrators. This year's report not only documents a significant increase in verified cases but also changes in patterns of conflict-related sexual violence. It highlights the use of digital technologies to threaten, exploit and silence survivors, as well as growing pressure on humanitarian access, monitoring and survivor assistance. At the same time, and as Special Representative Patten has underlined in her briefing, the figures are an indication of the dangerous pattern of violations that remain widely underreported. Women's protection advisers, whose work consists in monitoring and engaging with conflict parties, remain crucial for the adequate documentation of these crimes. Liechtenstein regrets that these specialists are not deployed to all conflict-affected situations covered in the report, even though their deployment is mandated by the Security Council. In light of the unprecedented rise in verified violations, it is particularly deplorable that the current budgetary crisis risks having a detrimental impact on the safety of women affected by armed conflict.

President,

While women and girls continue to be disproportionately affected, the report illustrates that men and boys are also subjected to these crimes, particularly in settings of detention. Most of the Ukrainian and Palestinian victims of conflict-related sexual violence, for instance, are men and boys subject to sexual torture, rape and other forms of violence during imprisonment. Based on the verified information available, the perpetrators of these crimes – Russian armed and security forces, and Israeli armed and security forces – were listed for the first time as parties to conflict credibly suspected of using sexual violence in situations of armed conflict. Many male survivors of such violence face profound stigma that discourages reporting and limits access to specialized support. In this regard, we commend the pioneering work of the Liechtenstein-based All Survivors Project Foundation on conflict-related sexual violence against men and boys. In collaboration with partner organization across Ukraine, for instance, All Survivors Project has helped to ensure that survivors can access the necessary support services, including health providers and the justice system. Such initiatives constitute important steps to recognize the full spectrum of survivors of CRSV and ensure that their diverse needs are met.

President,

Over the past two decades, the Security Council has developed a comprehensive framework for the prevention of and response to conflict-related sexual violence. The International Criminal Court has continuously made vital contributions the work of the UN Security Council by promoting accountability for rape, sexual slavery, enforced prostitution, forced pregnancy, enforced sterilization and other forms of sexual violence; respectively recognized as war crimes and crimes against humanity under the Rome Statute. The SG's report provides examples of additional progress: in Colombia, the Special Jurisdiction for Peace continues to advance accountability, including through landmark decisions on command responsibility for sexual violence. In Ukraine, sustained international support has strengthened national capacities to investigate and prosecute these crimes. And in Syria, the establishment of transitional justice institutions offers an opportunity

to integrate accountability for conflict-related sexual violence. In order to preserve that progress, it is essential to maintain effective monitoring, specialized expertise and sustained support for survivors as well as accountability mechanisms.

I thank you.