



# UNWOMEN

WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT  
AND GENDER EQUALITY

UNDER SECRETARY-GENERAL  
İKRA ALTINDAŞ

## **LETTER FROM SECRETARY GENERAL**

Dear delegates,

I would like to give a warm welcome to all of you that come to participate CityMUN 2020. I hope to give you an amazing experience that you can look back on with joy.

Over the course of 3 days in total, you are going to be saving our world. I hope that you take this opportunity to widen your horizon to in a respectful manner, challenge and be challenged and form new friendships. Our team worked so much for you, both academically and organizational. During these 3 days, we hope that you'll be pleased.

We can't wait to see you all in CityMUN 2020. Please don't hesitate to ask me anything via email.

[mervekarakulak6@gmail.com](mailto:mervekarakulak6@gmail.com)

Yours Sincerely,  
Merve Karakulak



CITY MUNI 2020

## Letter from the Under Secretary General

Dear delegates,

We are very pleased to welcome you to the UN Women committee at City Model United Nations 2020 ! First of all, it's a great pleasure and honour to be in this committee.

As for our agenda, our agenda item A is "Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment". Our agenda item B is "The Crimes Of Women". And our agenda item C is "Femicide and Rape". I hope our topics will be useful for everyone.

We are preparing for a fantastic three days of committee. We hope, you learn many things and that these experiences lead you to gather an interest in this topic even after the conference is over. And don't forget that if you have any questions, please ask it. Contact me via: [ikra.altindas@gmail.com](mailto:ikra.altindas@gmail.com)

We are looking forward to seeing you all, face to face.

Yours sincerely,

İkra ALTINDAŞ, Under Secretary General

Societies that leave their women back are bound to stay behind.

-Mustafa Kemal ATATÜRK



## Introduction to the Committee

UN Women is the United Nations entity dedicated to gender equality and the empowerment of women. A global champion for women and girls, UN Women was established to accelerate progress a meeting their needs worldwide.

UN Women supports UN Member states as they set global standarts for achieving gender equality and works with governments, civil society to design laws, policies, programmes and services needed to ensure

that the standards are effectively implemented and truly benefit women and girls worldwide.



“The assumption and common practice that women and girls look after the home and the family is a stubborn and very real stereotype that not only discriminates against women, but limits men’s participation and connection within the family and society.”

-Anne Hathaway

UN Women Goodwill Ambassador



## Key Terms

Femicide: The killing of a woman or girl, in particular by a man and on account of her gender.

Rape: Rape is a word for sexual assault. Rape can also mean to plunder or strip sth of resources. There are few words more powerful than rape, which is a horrifying crime.

Gender Crime: A gender crime is a hat evrime committed against a specific gender. Specific gender crimes may include some instances of rape, genital mutilation, forced prostitution and forced pregnancy. Often gender crimes are committed during armed conflict or during times of political upheaval or instability.

Gender: Either of two sexes (male and female) especially when considered with reference to social and cultural differences rather than biological ones. The term is also used more broadly to denote a range of identities that don't correspond to established ideas of male and female.



Women: The female human being, as distinguished from a girl or a man. An adult female person.

Pregnancy: The condition or period of being pregnant.

Gender Equality: Means that women and men, and also girls and boys, have the same rights, resources, opportunities and protections. It doesn't require that girls and boys or women and men, be the same or that they be treated exactly alike.

Sexism: Prejudice or discrimination based on gender. Especially the discrimination against women.

Misogyny: Feelings of hating women or the strong belief that men are much better than women.

Misandry: Feelings of hating men or the strong belief that women are much better than men.





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Objectification: Reducing a human to an object for one's gaze or pleasure. This is done when a person is defined by his or her sexual attributes for example and their character and overall existence is disregarded.

Women's Right Organization: Women's right organizations are women-led organizations working to advance gender equality. Some work at the grassroots level and have strong links with particular communities, while others work at the national or regional level.



United Nations Entity for Gender Equality  
and the Empowerment of Women





## **TOPIC A: Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment**

### **What is the difference between gender equity, gender equality and women's empowerment?**

Gender equity is the process of being fair to women and men. To ensure fairness, strategies and measures must often be available to compensate for women's historical and social disadvantages that prevent women and men from otherwise operating on a level playing field. Equity leads to equality. Gender equality requires equal enjoyment by women and men of socially-valued goods, opportunities, resources and rewards. Where gender inequality exists, it is generally women who are excluded or disadvantaged in relation to decision-making and access to economic and social resources. Therefore a critical aspect of promoting gender equality is the empowerment of women, with a focus on identifying and redressing power imbalances and giving women more autonomy to manage their own lives. Gender equality does not mean that men and women become the same; only that access to opportunities and life changes is neither dependent on, nor constrained by their sex. Achieving gender equality requires women's empowerment to ensure that decision-

making at private and public levels, and access to resources are no longer weighted in men's favor, so that both women and men can fully participate as equal partners in productive and reproductive life.

### Why Is Gender Equality Important?

Gender equality is intrinsically linked to sustainable development and is vital to the realization of human rights for all. The overall objective of gender equality is a society in which women and men enjoy the same opportunities, rights and obligations in all spheres of life. Equality between men and women exists when both sexes are able to share equally in the distribution of power and influence; have equal opportunities for financial independence through work or through setting up businesses; enjoy equal access to education and the opportunity to develop personal ambitions, interests and talents; share responsibility for the home and children and are completely free from coercion, intimidation and gender-based violence both at work and at home.

Within the context of population and development programmes, gender equality is critical because it will enable women and men to make decisions that impact more positively on their own sexual and reproductive



health as well as that of their spouses and families. Decision-making with regard to such issues as age at marriage, timing of births, use of contraception, and recourse to harmful practices (such as female genital cutting) stands to be improved with the achievement of gender equality.

However it is important to acknowledge that where gender inequality exists, it is generally women who are excluded or disadvantaged in relation to decision-making and access to economic and social resources. Therefore a critical aspect of promoting gender equality is the empowerment of women, with a focus on identifying and redressing power imbalances and giving women more autonomy to manage their own lives. This would enable them to make decisions and take actions to achieve and maintain their own reproductive and sexual health. Gender equality and women's empowerment do not mean that men and women become the same; only that access to opportunities and life changes is neither dependent on, nor constrained by their sex.

### **What Is Gender Equality ?**

Equality of the sexes, is the state of equal ease of access to resources and opportunities regardless of gender, including economic participation and decision-





making; and the state of valuing different behaviors, aspirations and needs equally, regardless of gender.

To avoid complication, other genders (besides women and men) will not be treated in this gender equality article.

Gender equality is the goal, while gender neutrality and gender equity are practices and ways of thinking that help in achieving the goal. Gender parity, which is used to measure gender balance in a given situation, can aid in achieving gender equality but is not the goal in and of itself. Gender equality is more than equal representation, it is strongly tied to women's rights, and often requires policy changes. As of 2017, the global movement for gender equality has not incorporated the proposition of genders besides women and men, or gender identities outside of the gender binary.

### **What Is Women's Empowerment ?**

Women's empowerment is the way or a social action in which women elaborate and recreate what it is to be in a circumstance that they previously were denied.





When talking about women's empowerment, empowerment means accepting and allowing people (women) who are on the outside of the decision-making process into it. “This puts a strong emphasis on participation in political structures and formal decision-making and, in the economic sphere, on the ability to obtain an income that enables participation in economic decision-making.” Empowerment is the process that creates power in individuals over their own lives, society, and in their communities.

Alternatively, it is the process for women to redefine gender roles that allows for them to acquire the ability to choose between known alternatives whom have otherwise been restricted from such an ability. There are several principles defining women's empowerment such as, for one to be empowered, they must come from a position of disempowerment. Furthermore, one must acquire empowerment themselves rather than have it given to them by an external party.

## **Introduction to the Agenda Item B: The Crimes Of Women**





## What Is Crime?

In ordinary language, a crime is an unlawful act punishable by a state or other authority. The term crime does not, in modern criminal law, have any simple and universally accepted definition, though statutory definitions have been provided for certain purposes. The most popular view is that crime is a category created by law; in other words, something is a crime if declared as such by the relevant and applicable law. One proposed definition is that a crime or offence (or criminal offence) is an act harmful not only to some individual but also to a community, society, or the state ("a public wrong"). Such acts are forbidden and punishable by law.

## What Is Violence?

Violence is "the use of physical force so as to injure, abuse, damage, or destroy." Less conventional definitions are also used, such as the World Health Organization's definition of violence as "the intentional use of physical force or power, threatened or actual, against oneself, another person, or against a group or community, which either results in or has a high likelihood of

resulting in injury, death, psychological harm, maldevelopment, or deprivation." One in every three women is exposed to physical abuse from her husband or lover at home. Violence against women is among world's most widespread human rights violation.

\*Physical Violence: Punching, slapping, hitting, biting, pinching, kicking, hair pulling, hustling, burning, shrugging, hitting with a tool.

\*Economic Violence: Restrictions on economic freedom, not leaving money for household expenditures or leaving very small amount of money, constantly bringing to account, trying to insult by using money.

\*Verbal Violence: Destructive criticism, shouting, teasing, blame, name calling.

\*Sexual Violence: Forcing to engage in unwanted sexual activity, forcing to have sexual intercourse, trivializing your behaviors regarding sexual attitude, sexual abuse, using force during sexual intercourse.



### **Crimes Against Women's :**

Violence against women and girls takes many different forms, including domestic violence, sexual assault and harassment, child, early and forced marriage, sex trafficking, so called 'honor' crimes and female genital mutilation. It is rooted in the gender inequality that women face throughout their lives from childhood through to old age.

Many perpetrators believe that violence toward women and girls is normal or appropriate behavior, supported by society. They feel that they can commit violence without disapproval.



It is one of the most widespread violations of human rights and has long-term devastating effects on the lives of women, their communities and wider society. It is time to say 'enough is enough'. We want violence against women to end.

### **Violence On A Massive Scale :**

35 percent of women will experience violence at the hands of their current or former partners in their lifetime, up to 70 percent according to some national studies.

Around 650 million women alive today were married as children. Of those women, more than one in three got married before 15.

200 million women and girls have undergone female genital mutilation - the majority of girls are cut before the age of five.





Women and girls together account for 71 percent of all human trafficking victims detected globally, with girls

representing nearly three out of every four trafficked children.

## **Introduction to the Agenda Item C : Femicide and Rape**

### **What Is The Femicide?**

Femicide or femicide is a sex-based hate crime term, broadly defined as "the intentional killing of females (women or girls) because they are females", though definitions vary depending on its cultural context. Feminist author Diana H. Russell was the first person to define and disseminate this term in modern times, in 1976. She defines the word as "the killing of females by males because they are female." Other feminists place emphasis on the intention or purpose of the act being directed at females specifically because they are female; others include the killing of females by females.

Often, the necessity of defining the murder of females separately from overall homicide is questioned. Intimate partner violence affects 3 in 10 women over a lifetime,



and it is estimated that 13.5% of homicides globally involved intimate partners, and these percentage of killings are gendered. Opponents argue that since over 80% of all murder victims are men, the term places too much emphasis on the less prevalent murder of females; however, a partner is responsible in almost 40% of homicides involving a female victim, compared with 6% partner responsibility for homicides involving a male victim. In addition, the study of femicide is a social challenge.

An alternative term offered is *gendercide*, which is more ambivalent and inclusive. However, some feminists argue that the term *gendercide* perpetuates the taboo of the subject of the murder of females. Feminists also argue that the motives for femicide are vastly different than those for androcide. Instead of centering in street violence, much of femicide is centered within the home

### What Is The Rape?

Rape is a type of sexual assault usually involving sexual intercourse or other forms of sexual penetration carried out against a person without that person's consent. The act may be carried out by physical force, coercion, abuse of authority, or against a person who is incapable of giving valid consent, such as one who is unconscious, incapacitated, has an intellectual disability or is

below the legal age of consent The term *rape* is sometimes used interchangeably with the term *sexual assault*.

The rate of reporting, prosecuting and convicting for rape varies between jurisdictions. Internationally, the incidence of rapes recorded by the police during 2008 ranged, per 100,000 people, from 0.2 in Azerbaijan to 92.9 in Botswana with 6.3 in Lithuania as the median. Worldwide, rape is primarily committed by males against females Rape by strangers is usually less common than rape by people the victim knows, and male-on-male and female-on-female prison rapes are common and may be the least reported forms of rape.<sup>[7][8][9]</sup>

Widespread and systematic rape (e.g., war rape) and sexual slavery can occur during international conflict. These practices are crimes against humanity and war crimes. Rape is also recognized as an element of the crime of genocide when committed with the intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a targeted ethnic group.

People who have been raped can be traumatized and develop posttraumatic stress disorder. Serious injuries can result along with the risk of pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections. A person may face violence or threats from the rapist, and, in some cultures, from the victim's family and relatives.



## Types of Rape

\* Date rape



- \*Gang rape
  - \*Spousal rape
  - \*Rape of children
  - \* Prison rape
  - \* Statutory rape
  - \* Serial rape
  - \* Payback rape
  - \* War rape
  - \* Rape by deception
  - \* Corrective rape
  - \* Custodial rape
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