TECHNOLOGY-FACILITATED GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

(digital violence against women and girls)

www.16days.no

CONTENTS

GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

Gender-based violence (GBV) is defined as harmful acts directed at an individual based on their gender. GBV is a constant threat for girls and women around the world regardless of their age, race, or socioeconomic status. This kind of targeted violence is rooted in systemic gender inequality and can be physical, sexual, economic, or psychological. It can look like a child undergoing female genital mutilation, a student assaulted in her dorm, or a stay-at-home mom restricted from accessing financial resources.[1] Gender-based violence covers a wide range of harmful acts that cause physical, psychological, or sexual harm or suffering, threats of such acts, and coercion or other forms of deprivation of liberty. This type of violence is thus a structural problem that effects individuals and women. It is related to attitudes, social norms, and practices, as well as religions and cultures to maintain power structures. Violence against girls and women includes violence, and threats and abuse in the family; sexual abuse; murder by an intimate partner; harmful traditional practices, such as female genital mutilation; trafficking in women, often with a view to sexual exploitation; and rape and other forms of sexual violence in situations of violent conflict and humanitarian crises.[2] Gender-based violence is carried out, tolerated and even justified as a form of protection or legitimate control of women. Gender-based violence prevents women from living full lives, exercising their human rights and taking part in society on an equal footing with men.

A study conducted earlier this year shows that approximately 1 in 10 women (9.9) of women aged 15 and above has over the past year endured physical and/or sexual violence inflicted by their partners. For women between the ages of 15 and 49, this percentage rises to 12.5 percent.

On global average, a women or girl, is killed by someone in her own family every 11 minutes. It is estimated that 736 million women have experienced physical or sexual violence at least once in their lifetime. Given the limitation in data collection, the scope of the problem is likely even more extensive.[3]

With the rise of social media, a new type of violence has appeared in the form of threats and hate speech. When targeted against women, they are often in the form of crude, sexual comments and threats with the aim of scare girls and women into silence, deterring them from expressing themselves in the public sphere. One in ten women and girls in the EU over 15 years report that they have experienced harassment via social media. There has been a significant rise in incidents of online sexual abuse and in sexual violence following contact online.[4]

Women remain the most impacted group within society when it comes to armed conflicts worldwide. Their fundamental rights are persistently violated, subjecting them to marginalization and exclusion from decision-making processes concerning peace and security, despite the adoption of numerous Security Council resolutions aimed at addressing this issue and the growing body of research highlighting women's crucial role in conflict prevention.[5]

---

1) Stand with her: 6 Women-led organizations tackling gender-based violence. By Gabriela Carbo Zack. United Nations Foundation.
2) Action Plan for Women´s Rights and Gender Equality in Foreign and Development Policy – Freedom, empowerment, and opportunities (2016-2020). Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
3) UN Women Explainer: Sustainable Development Goal 5. 7. September 2022.
4) Action Plan for Women´s Rights and Gender Equality in Foreign and Development Policy (2016-2020). Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
5) Letter from the Permanent Representative of Mozambique to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General. United Nations Security Council. 27. February 2023.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals are the foundation of Norwegian development politics. The goals are a universal agenda to which alle countries and relevant stakeholders can and must contribute. This report will present gender-based violence and challenges we are currently facing, considering SDG 9 and 16. SDG 5, gender equality, is relevant to the topic considering that women and men both experience violence, but usually they are subjected to different types of violence. In conflicts and wars, women and girls are disproportionately affected. Women and girls are exposed to gender-based violence, and many experience systematic rape and sexual violence used to terrorize communities.

The 2030 Agenda, encompassing its preamble, goals, targets and indicators, provides a distinct opportunity and platform to enhance the implementation of human rights at the national level. Norway seeks to ensure that national and international efforts to meet the SDGs in line with relevant human rights norms and standards. This includes maintaining a strong focus on women's rights and fostering equality across economic, social and political spheres. Emphasizing equality and non-discrimination is essential to ensure that no one is marginalized in the implementation of Agenda 2030.

The foundation of the international framework for women's rights is based upon the principle of universal human rights, which is enshrined in several instruments. Among these, the two primary instruments are the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. Additionally, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) is particularly relevant.

6) Norway´s follow-up of Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals. Norwegian Ministries.
7) "Violence and abuse". Information about violence and abuse on Helse Norge. Available on:
   https://www.helsenorge.no/en/psykisk-helse/violence-and-abuse
8) A CSW 67 Virtual parallel event report; Women and girls forgotten in Wars". Commission on the Status of Women. 6-17 March 2023.
   Innovation and Technological Change Education in the Digital Age – Progress toward gender equality
9) Norway´s follow-up of Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals
10) Action Plan for Women´s Rights and Gender Equality in Foreign and Development Policy 2016-2020

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 5

Gender equality is a necessary foundation in achieving a sustainable and peaceful world. The world is unfortunately not on track in achieving gender equality by 2030, despite the progress made in recent decades. The aftermaths of the COVID-19 pandemic have further exacerbated the situation, amplifying the challenges. The COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on women's ability to exercise their bodily autonomy and in the first year of the pandemic, an estimated 1.4 million additional unintended pregnancies occurred in lower- and middle-income countries.[11] According to UNFPA, only 57 percent of married women aged 15 to 49 make their own decisions regarding sexual and reproductive health and rights, based on data from 64 countries.[12]

Progress in many areas, including time spent on unpaid care and domestic work, decision-making regarding sexual and reproductive health, and gender-responsive budgeting, is falling behind. Women's health services have faced major disruptions, which is especially unfortunate as it is already poorly funded. According to data reported by 105 countries and areas for the period 2018-2021, only 26 percent of countries have comprehensive systems in place to track public allocations for gender equality.[13]

Violence against women persists as a deeply rooted problem and affects woman of all ages. While data is more limited for the older age groups of women, globally, nearly 25 percent of women aged 60 and above who have ever been in a partnership have experienced physical and/or sexual violence by a male partner or ex-partner in their lifetime.[14] Additionally, despite women's significant contributions to the response to COVID-19, they continue to face barriers in attaining the rightful positions of decision-making authority that they deserve.[15]

Norway still faces gender equality challenges in the form of domestic violence, sexual harassment, rape, female genital mutilation and forced marriage, and for some groups, strong social control of girls and women.

5 GENDER EQUALITY

The Government wishes to give high priority to efforts to prevent and combat violence and sexual abuse, including by implementing a wide range of action plans in this field. Norway also aims at presenting a plan for intensifying efforts to reduce the incidence of violence in close relationships and strengthen measures to address the needs of children who have been subjected to violence and abuse. Recent research shows that Sami women are more often subjected to violence than women in the population as a whole. The Sámediggi (Sami Parliament) and the Government have initiated further research on this topic.

The empowerment of women and girls, and gender equality, are key sustainable development outcomes overall and Norway has expressed that they are an important priority for the Government. An action plan on gender equality and women's rights in Norway's foreign and development policy (2016) aims at supporting the 2030 Agenda's gender dimension and the full implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action.[16]

---

11) https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/report/2022/Goal-05/
12) https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/report/2022/extended-report/Extended-Report_Goal-5.pdf
13) https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/report/2022/Goal-05/
14) https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/report/2022/extended-report/Extended-Report_Goal-5.pdf
15) 4United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.
16) Norway´s follow-up of Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 9

Sustainable development goal 9 aims to build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation.[17] With the increasing integration of digital technology into our daily lives, it is also enabling the emergence of new and intensified forms of gender-based violence. Online violence targeting women and girls, while not a recent phenomenon, has witnessed a rapid escalation since the onset of COVID-19, leading to severe consequences for women's safety and overall welfare. The impacts of such violence pose a significant threat to the exercise of women's rights beyond the digital sphere.[18] Technology-facilitated gender-based violence (TF GBV) can be defined as any action assisted, aggravated, committed, or amplified by informational communication technologies or other digital tools, resulting in physical, sexual, psychological, political, social or economic harm or other infringements of rights and freedoms, directed at women because they are women, and/or that affect women disproportionately.

The combination of anonymity and the wide-reaching nature of online platforms has created an environment for increased violence in digital contexts. COVID-19 has increased the use of digital technology and the internet, including among women and girls. As daily activities such as work, school, access to services and social activities shifted online, reports emerged of a surge in violence against women and girls in digital contexts.[19] While virtually all urban areas of the world are covered by a mobile-broa band network, gaps persist in rural areas. In the least developed countries, 14 percent of the rural population have no mobile network coverage at all, while another 12 percent have only 2G coverage.[20] Women and girls are 25 % less likely than men to know how to leverage digital technology for basic purpose.[21] Another trend that has increased during the COVID-19 pandemic is traffickers increasingly using technology to profile, recruit, control and exploit their victims as well as using the Internet, especially the dark web, to hide information about their identities and their activities.[22]

9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

«Women and girls are 25 % less likely than men to know how to leverage digital technology for basic purpose.»

---

17) The Global Goals: 9 - Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure. Available at:
   https://www.globalgoals.org/goals/9-industry-innovation-and-infrastructure/
18) United Nations General Assembly. Report of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls.
   Report of the Secretary-General. A/77/302
19) Report from the United Nations Secretary-General. A/77/302
20) https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/report/2022/goal-09/
21) https://en.unesco.org/artificial-intelligence/gender
22) Report from the United Nations Secretary-General. A/77/302

TERMINOLOGY

Violence can involve many different types of acts, including those that are physical, sexual and psychological in nature. Violence and abuse can cause harm in both the short and long term. Both men and women can be victims of violence, but there are differences in the types of violence they are subjected to. Women tend to be the victims of violence perpetuated by a serious partner and sexual assault more often than men. Sexual violence includes all forms of coercion into sexual acts. It includes rape, where a person is forced into sexual activity, such as sexual intercourse, but also other forms of sexual assault or offence, such as groping. Rape and other forms of sexual assault can occur in many different types of relationship, including between partners. Sexual harassment online, such as sharing nude photos of someone else without that person's consent, is also a form of sexual violence.[23]

The term used to describe a form of online gender-based violence, commonly known as "revenge porn", explains the distribution of sexually explicit or intimate images of individuals without their contest. For the purpose of this report, this term will not be applied. It can be perceived as misleading as "revenge" implies that the victim has incited the perpetrator and has done something deserving of an act of revenge. In this way, the term "revenge porn" perpetuates the culture of victim-blaming. Other than that, the term "porn" implies that taking a picture of oneself naked or engaged in a sexual act (or allowing someone else to take such a picture) is inherently pornographic. Creating explicit images within the context of a private intimate relationship should not be considered creating pornography.

Additionally, "non-consensual pornography" could be misunderstood as referring to specific genres of pornography that features the lack of consent, and even abuse.

Furthermore, the term "porn" risks eroticizing the harms of this form of sexual abuse. It also encourages sensationalism in the media when reporting these cases.[24] The term "image-based sexual abuse" will be applied in this report to address non-consensual distribution of intimate images, as well as the creation of deepfake images and/or videos. Labeling and understanding these practices as sexual offenses are essential to ensure appropriate support and protection for victims.[25]

«Women tend to be the victims of violence perpetuated by a serious partner and sexual assault more often than men.»

23) Information about violence and abuse, found at Helse Norge. Available at: https://www.helsenorge.no/en/psykisk-helse/violence-and-abuse/
24) A discussion on the term "revenge porn" and why it is misleading, by Tia Hanifa. Available at:
    https://greennetwork.asia/featured/call-a-spade-a-spade-why-the-term-revenge-porn-is-misleading/
25) Ibid 28

TECHNOLOGY-FACILITATED GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

There is currently a lack of an internationally agreed definition of violence against women in digital contexts. This type of violence is interchangeably referred to as "information and communications technology-facilitated violence", "online violence", "tech-facilitated or related violence", "digital violence" or "cyberviolence".[26] The Special Rapporteur on violence against women and girls defined the causes and consequences of online violence against women in 2018 to encompass any act of gender-based violence against women that is committed, assisted or aggravated in part or fully by the use of information and communications technology, such as smartphones, the internet, social media platforms or email, against a women because she is a women, or affects women disproportionately.[27] For the purpose of this report, the term "technology-facilitated gender-based violence" (TF GBV) will be applied to cover all forms of violence a women or girl experience online, including intimate image abuse, doxing[28], trolling[29], and sharing of deepfakes images. TF GBV also includes gendered hate speech and misogyny, as well as attempts to silence and undermine women in online spaces, which may involve threats of offline violence.[30] TF GBV occurs within a continuum of multiple interrelated types of violence against women and girls, which are often connected to violence in the offline world.[31] New digital spaces have been created for misogyny and sexual violence due to virtual reality and the metaverse, where new forms of violence have emerged and been exacerbated by the growth of artificial intelligence, such as deepfake pornographic videos. Virtual reality and the metaverse are creating new digital spaces for misogyny and sexual violence.

The emergence of new forms of violence has been exacerbated by the growth of artificial intelligence such as deepfake pornographic videos. Online sexual harassment can also be connected to gendered hate speech, the intent of which is to spread, incite, promote or justify hatred based on sex.[32]

IMAGE-BASED SEXUAL ABUSE

A widespread form of technology-facilitated gender-based violence is image-based sexual abuse, including the production, distribution or threat of distribution of someone's nude or sexual image without that person's consent. In practical terms, this encompasses actions such as the non-consensual sharing of intimate images, commonly known as "revenge porn", as well as the unsolicited sending of nude or sexual images.[33] Like other forms of sexual offenses, both online and offline, official statistics are likely to underestimate the true magnitude of the issue. This is because victims often hesitate to report incidents, and there is a high rate of attrition, which could be attributed to feelings of embarrassment and fear of facing secondary victimization within the criminal justice system.[34]

The literature shares a widespread agreement that women are significantly more likely than men to be victims of image-based sexual violence.[35] Webpages with the intent to share intimate images consist predominantly pictures of women, where they are more frequently viewed and commented on.[36] These websites are predominately run by young males, where are women are more likely to be pressured to send sexual pictures, increasing their risk

---

26) Report of the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes, and consequences on online violence against women and girls from a human rights perspective. A/HRC/38/47, para. 23
27) Report of the efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls, by the Secretary General. A/77/302
28) The sharing of personal or identifying details
29) Post messages, images or videos and the creation of hashtags for the purpose of provoking or inciting violence against women and girls
30) Further information can be found in UN Women's policy brief and the Secretary General's Report on Intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women (2022)
31) UN Women; Frequently asked questions: tech-facilitated gender-based violence. Available at: https://www.unwomen.org/en/what-we-do/ending-violence-against-women/faqs/tech-facilitated-gender-based-violence
32) Report A/77/302
33) [2] Henry, N., & Powell, A. (2018). Technology-Facilitated Sexual Violence: A Literature Review of Empirical Research. Trauma, Violence, & Abuse, 19(2), 195–208. https://doi.org/10.1177/1524838016650189.
34) Bothamley and Tully, 2018
35) Bloom, 2014; Kitchen, 2015; D'Amico & Steinberger, 2015; Bates, 2017; Griffith, 2016; McGlynn & Rackley, 2017a; McGlynn & Rackley, 2017b; McGlynn, et al., 2017; Pina, Holland & James, 2017
36) McGlynn et al., 2017

of being victims of image-abuse and further to that, becoming victims of online harassment.[37] Various studies have provided estimates regarding the demographics of image-abuse victims. One study suggests that approximately 60-70% of the victims are women[38], while another study found that around 90% of victims were female.[39] This is reinforced by snapshot data collected from a webpage that shares intimate images non-consensually over a 28-day period. The data revealed that out of the 356 new posts, only 18 (5 %) featured men, while the remaining 95 % featured women.[40]

CONSEQUENCES OF IMAGE-BASED SEXUAL ABUSE

In BBC's The She Word, two Zimbabwean women shared their personal experiences of falling victim to someone sharing their intimate images. One of them was disowned, which resulted in her inability to complete her education, while the other women lost her job as a consequence of the incident. In India, journalist Rana Ayyub encountered a distressing incident of a deepfake pornographic slander campaign following her advocacy for justice in the case on an eight-year-old girl who had been subjected to repeated rape and murder. Unfortunately, such experiences are not uncommon, as women have reported the challenges of sustaining or securing employment after becoming victims of image-based sexual violence. To add insult to injury, some of the online service providers where this type of abuse occurs have been slow to acknowledge the problem, making it even more challenging to address and combat such offenses.[41]

Apart from shedding light on the professional consequences, it is important to recognize the intangible impacts of image-based sexual violence. These effects include the loss of personal autonomy, the sense of privacy being violated, the emergence of trust issues, and the silencing effect leading affected women to retreat from active participation in (online) life as a coping mechanism. Individuals who fall victim to someone sharing their intimate images commonly report experiencing

anxiety, depression, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) or substance abuse.[42] Notable, a study revealed that male victims of image-based sexual violence tend to feel less shame and self-blame compared to their female counterparts in similar situations. Male victims also reported a higher percentage of positive responses from law enforcement when reporting their cases, while women often faced more negative responses.[43] It is essential to consider whether the differential police response reflects a broader societal belief that women should have taken more precautions to prevent the abuse, commonly known as victim-blaming. Advocates who aim to redirect the narrative from blaming women for creating or sharing explicit imagery to holding accountable those who publish such images can face online abuse and hostility. When combined with doxing – the act of publicly sharing a person's contact information online – the spreading of intimate images, whether deepfake or real, can pose serious threats to the lives of women. In the case of Rana Ayyb, her phone number was made public following the emergence of a deepfake video, resulting in numerous men contacting her with solicitation for sexual services. In some cases, the combination of doxing and the spreading of intimate images has led to instances where women receive rape threats, experiencing stalking or become victims of violence. Research consistently indicates that women are disproportionately affected by this type of online abuse and harassment.[44]

DEEP FAKE SEXUAL ABUSE

Deep fake videos and/or images are defined as a video or image, sound or video that replaces someone's face or violence with that of someone else, in a way that appears real.[45] A deepfake video is created when artificial intelligence generates a face onto the body of an existing person's video, either by merging one face with another or by superimposing expressions from one face onto another, resulting in a manipulated video. By incorporating voice cloning techniques or employing voice actors, morphing can lead to extremely realistic videos that are entirely fictional.[46] Sexual assault is defined as sexual acts

37) Bloom (2014)
38) Kitchen 2015
39) CCRI 2014
40) Adult Online Hate, Harassment and Abuse: A Rapid Evidence Assessment. Available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/811450/Adult_Online_Harms_Report_2019.pdf
41) "Deepfakes as a Security Issue: Why Gender Matters" By Agnes E. Venema, published on Women in International Security.
42) "Adult Online Hate, Harassment and Abuse: A Rapid Evidence Assessment, by Davidson et al. June 2019
43) Venema, Women in International Security
44) Venema, Women in International Security
45) Definition of the term "deepfake" by Cambridge Dictionary. Available at: https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/deepfake
46) Women in International Security. Deepfakes as a Security Issue: Why Gender Matters.
Available at: https://wiisglobal.org/deepfakes-as-a-security-issue-why-gender-matters/

or behaviors without the explicit consent of the victims, where a deep fake video displaying pornographic content falls within this classification. Deep fake pornographic content constitutes an act of non-consensual sexual violence that is extremely serious, dangerous and damaging for victims.[47]

The growing accessibility and prevalence of deep fakes is gradually leading to a gained interest from a broader range of people. This shift can be attributed to two interrelated phenomena: better quality and proliferation. Deep fake videos are getting rapidly better with time, where the ones surfacing today are better than they were last year. The evolution of deep fakes is remarkable, leading it to reach a stage where well-made deep fakes are nearly impossible to detect. Furthermore, the production of deep fakes previously demanded specialized technical expertise and high-performance hardware. However, we are swiftly approaching a realm where the code for creating deep fakes is easily available online, and fewer images are now required to create a realistic deep fake.

DEEP FAKES; A GENDERED ISSUE
Considering that deep fakes can easily be mistaken for genuine video footage, the potential harm they can inflict can me immense. The 2019 Adult Online Hate, Harassment and Abuse report from the UK identifies six categories of image-based sexual violence, referring to this form of abuse as "sexual photoshopping". While the report does not explicitly mention the term "deep fake", it emphasizes that the resulting harm suffered is equivalent to that experienced in more "traditional" forms of image-based sexual violence. It is worthwhile to note, as mentioned earlier, that most research show that most victims of image-based abuse are women (the report references various studies, indicating prevalence rates ranging from 60 percent to 95 percent). Further, research finds that men are more likely to perpetrate image-based abuse. This reaffirms that the gendered aspect of deep fakes must not be underestimated, especially when it is in sexual nature.

The impact of deep fakes, particularly those of a sexually explicit nature, varies across different countries and is contingent upon the prevailing societal attitudes towards women. As deep fakes are becoming hard to distinguish from real videos, the consequences from them could be as catastrophically as women experiencing image abuse, where intimate images have been spread. People can become target for image abuse without the publisher being in possession of sexually explicit or intimate images and/or footages of the target. Deepfakes can be created using a wide range of casual photographs or images obtained from the internet. Consequently, virtually anyone who has taken a selfie or shared their photo online is potentially vulnerable to the hypothetical creation of a deepfake created in their image.[48] Women are disproportionately affected by the exposure of sexually explicit content in comparison to men, and they are more frequently targeted with threats to their physical safety. As a result, these experiences have lasting effects on their mental and overall well-being.[49]

THE EXTENT OF THE ISSUE
The lack of universally agreed definitions and methodologies for measurement, combined with significant underreporting, presents a challenge in understanding the actual extent of violence against women and girls in digital contexts. According to a global study, 38 per cent of women have personally encountered online violence, with 85 per cent of women who are active online have witnessed instances of digital violence against other women. Among the most prevalent types of online violence, misinformation and defamation accounted for 67 per cent, followed closely by cyber harassment at 66 per cent, and hate speech at 65 per cent. It is alarming to note that only one in four women reported such behaviors to the relevant online platform(s). Additionally, nearly three quarters of the surveyed women expressed concern about the online abuse potentially escalating into offline threats.[50] Research revealed that over half of the girls and young women surveyed globally had encountered online violence. The majority of girls reported their initial experience of social media harassment between the ages of 14 and 16. Alarmingly, 47 per cent of girls who experienced online harassment were subjected to threats of physical or sexual violence.[51] While men can also be subjected to online violence and abuse, women and girls are more likely to experience unique forms of gendered violence in digital context, reflecting patterns to violence against women and girls in the physical world. Women from eth-

47) The Berkeley Beacon. Deep Fake AI Pornography is Sexual Assault and Here´s Why.
   Available at: https://berkeleybeacon.com/deep-fake-ai-pornography-is-sexual-assault-and-heres-why/
48) Deepfakes as a Security Issue: Why Gender Matters. Women in International Security.
49) Ibid 46, 48
50) Report from the United Nations Secretary-General. A/77/302
51) Report from the United Nations Secretary-General. A/77/302

nic minorities, indigenous women, lesbian, bisexual and transgender women, as well as women with disabilities, face even greater risks in this regard.[52] Where these identities intersect, the exposure to online violence becomes heightened. In the United States, researched conducted by the Pew Research Center demonstrated that individuals who identify as lesbian, gay, or bisexual are more prone to encountering online harassment due to the intersection of their gender and sexual orientation. Women with intellectual or cognitive disabilities particularly may be highly vulnerable to experiencing technology-facilitated violence. Effectively tackling violence against women in digital contexts poses challenges, especially when dealing with cases involving multiple offenders, victims and platforms spread across various jurisdictions.[53]

CONSEQUENCES OF DEEP FAKE SEXUAL ABUSE

Survivors of violence in digital contexts endure substantial harm to their health and overall well-being, and the cumulative impact of both offline and online violence can escalate to self-harm, depression, and suicide. Young women and girls are significantly impacted by online violence, resulting in profound psychological effects, encompassing feelings of physical insecurity, diminished self-esteem and confidence, mental and emotional stress, and difficulties in academic settings. Studies indicate that online abuse can leave women with symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder, especially when the abuse is persistent and recurrent. Findings from a study conducted in Latin America by the Follow-up Mechanism to the Belém do Pará Convention and UN-Women emphasize that the consequences of online violence can be as serious as offline violence.[54] Violence against women in digital realms not only hinders their equal and meaningful engagement in public life but also undermines it through tactics of humiliation, shame, fear and silencing. Online violence frequently silences, discredits and censors' women's voices, discouraging women from actively participating in public life.

Studies indicate that digital violence forces women and girls to limit their online presence, leading to restricted access to the internet and exacerbating the digital gender divide. Additionally, the intergenerational repercussions of digital violence are evident, as the online abuse faced by women in public life, especially those from marginalized communities, acts as a deterrent for young women considering careers in fields like politics and journalism, due to the fear of encountering similar forms of abuse. The consequences of online and ICT-facilitated violence extent to educational environments and workplaces. Finding from a study released in 2022 reveal the pervasiveness of online abuse targeting women in professional settings, with 51 per cent of those who experienced such abuse reporting a significant negative impact on their career or professional life as a result. Technology-facilitated gender-based violence can intensify offline manifestations of violence, including sexual harassment, stalking, intimate partner violence, and human trafficking or sexual exploitation.[55]

«Online violence frequently silences, discredits and censors' women's voices, discouraging women from actively participating in public life.»

52) Report of the Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women, its causes, and consequences on online violence against women and girls from a human rights perspective. A/HRC/38/47, para. 28
53) Report from the United Nations Secretary-General. A/77/302
54) Report from the United Nations Secretary-General. A/77/302
55) Report of the Secretary-General. A/77/302

FEMALE HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS

In many countries, especially those affected by conflict, women play a leading role in protests authoritarian leaders and are firm in their refusal to accept political settlements that do not ensure their rights. In some countries, women are making progress, such as achieving more equal laws and increased representation in decision-making roles. Women expect concrete actions towards their inclusion and reject superficial meetings with women's or the insertion of language in deals without their direct participation.[56]

Women human rights defenders worldwide are facing a growing wave of attacks aimed at silencing their advocacy and prevent them from participating in public life.[57] The rise of extremist political actors and the resurgence of military coups and unconstitutional changes of government have further exacerbated the risks faced by these defenders. In recognition of this concerning trend, the Security Council has responded by urging the implementation of protective measures of women's rights activists and their organizations. In 2022, the Security Council held its first-ever formal meeting focusing on reprisals against women participating in peace and security processes. However, when it comes to providing sustained support for civil society actors to enhance their own safety measures or extending emergency assistance for protection or relocation during times of heightened risk, both their own Governments and international partners frequently fall short in their response.[58]

In 2021, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) verified 29 instances of killings targeting women human rights defenders, journalists, and trade unionists in eight conflict-affected countries. This, however, is widely believed to be a significant underestimation. For instance, in Colombia alone, OHCHR received 1,116 reports of threats and attacks against human rights defenders and organizations, with nearly one-third of them targeting women.[59] Additionally, OHCHR documented the killings of 12 women human rights defenders in Colombia, seven of whom were indigenous women. In Yemen, the warring parties persistently persecuted politically active women and individuals belonging to sexual and gender minorities. Syrian activist has distressingly reported instances where their colleagues have considered suicide after fake pictures of them have been sent to their families. In Sudan, numerous women have been targeted with violence, arbitrary arrest, and detention as they participated in protests following the coup. Similarly, in Afghanistan, activists have been subjected to harassment, detention, and even tragic incidents of killing and disappearance. In early 2002, four women activists, along with their family members, were arrested after participating in protest advocating for women's rights.[60] They were eventually released after being held incommunicado for several weeks, thanks to sustained pressure from the United Nations and the wider international community. Myanmar has witnessed horrifying acts of violence perpetrated by the military against women protesters, including women human rights defenders, university students, LGBTQ+ rights activists, journalists, and influencers. Thousands of women activists have been detained, with several reported cases of abuse and ill-treatment during their confinement.[61]

The attacks on women human rights defenders suffer from severe underreporting and are often anonymized in official United Nations statistics. In general, women are disproportionately targeted with sexual and gender-based violence and are more likely to experience verbal abuse, surveillance, and online violence compared to men. While all activists are targeted with defamation, smear campaigns and hate speech both online and offline, attacks against women human rights defenders often focus on their personal behavior, moral conduct, or intimate lives. Defenders of sexual and reproductive health and rights encounter exceptional stigma and violence, as their work is perceived as challenging traditional social and gender norms. The presence of restrictive laws regarding sexual and reproductive health informa-

---

56) United Nations Report of the Secretary-General "Women and peace and security", S/2022/740
57) Information Series on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights. Women Human Rights Defenders.
    United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner
58) United Nations Report of the Secretary-General "Women and peace and security", S/2022/740
59) United Nations Report. S/2022/740
60) Report of the Secretary-General S/2022/740
61) Report of the Secretary-General S/2022/740

tion and services can significantly exacerbate these risks. Discriminatory legislation often emboldens those who target women's rights activists. Furthermore, defenders of the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queen and intersex individuals can face specific targeting for their activism, as well as due to their gender identity, sexual orientation, or sex characteristics. Certain women rights defenders, especially those with disabilities, are particularly vulnerable to being falsely diagnosed with psychological disorders and being forcibly placed in psychiatric institutions to silence them.[62]

CONCLUSION

This report has examined several current challenges related to gender-based violence, in regard to SDGs 9, industry, innovation and infrastructure. This kind of violence is deeply connected to systemic gender inequality and can manifest as physical, sexual, economic or psychological harm.[63]

On the 67th session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW67) it was recognized that adolescent girls are part of the most digitally connected generation in history, and disproportionately face discrimination and violence that occurs through or is amplified using technology.[64] While the patterns and forms of violence against women in digital spaces can be distinct, it should be recognized that they are interconnected with various forms of violence that occur repeatedly and interrelated forms of violence across online and offline spaces. Numerous forms of violence present in offline settings are replicated and intensified within digital spaces. These online environments reflect, reinforce and exacerbate systematic structural gender inequality, entrenched cultural and social norms, and harmful patterns of masculinity that underlie all forms of violence against women.

Existing laws addressing digital violence lack clear and consistent definitions, failing to keep up with rapid technological advancements and the evolving nature of violence in digital contexts.[65] It is crucial to tackle the challenges related to the misuse of new and emerging digital technologies, which can be intentionally designed or utilized to provoke violence, hatred, discrimination and hostility. These technologies contribute to various harmful practices, such as racism, negative stereotyping, and stigmatization specifically targeting women and girls.[66] Women and girls are often at greater risk of being exposed to and experiencing various forms of discrimination and gender-based violence and harmful practices, including using information and communications technology and social media. The increasing prevalence of technology-enabled gender-based violence emphasizes the importance of developing and reinforcing legislation that explicitly prohibits violence against women and girls facilitated or intensified using technology. It is crucial to ensure adequate protection for women and girls against all forms of violence in both public and private spheres. Additionally, there is a need to enhance policy coherence to eliminate and prevent all forms of violence, including gender-based violence that occurs or is amplified through technology. These efforts should be centered around victim and survivor empowerment, prioritizing human rights, access to justice, transparency, accountability, and proportionality.[67]

«Online violence frequently silences, discredits and censors' women's voices, discouraging women from actively participating in public life.»

---

62) Report of the Secretary-General S/2022/740
63) "Stand with her: 6 women-led organization tackling gender-based violence" United Nations Foundation
64) UN Women. CSW67 closing statement: Game-changing agreed conclusions for a more equal and connected world for women and girls.
65) «Intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls» Report of the Secretary-General A/77/302
66) UN Women: CSW67 closing statements.
67) UN Women: CSW67 closing statements.

REFERENCES

"A CSW 67 Virtual parallel event report; Women and girls forgotten in Wars". Commission on the Status of Women. 6-17 March 2023. Innovation and Technological Change Education in the Digital Age – Progress toward gender equality.

"Accountability as Prevention: Ending Cycles of Sexual Violence in Conflict", Open Debate on Conflict-Related Sexual Violence. United Kingdom Mission to the United Nations. United Nations Security Council 13.04.2022. Available at: https://www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/accountability-as-prevention-ending-cycles-of-sexual-violence-in-conflict-open-debate-on-conflict-related-sexual-violence/20220413-UK-Concept-Note-Open-Debate-1.pdf

"Adult Online Hate, Harassment and Abuse: A Rapid Evidence Assessment". Report by Davidson et. Al. June 2019. Available on: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/811450/Adult_Online_Harms_Report_2019.pdf

"Beijing Declaration and Platform for Actions", Beijing+5 Political Declaration and Outcome. UN Women. Reprinted by UN Women in 2014. Available at: https://www.unwomen.org/sites/default/files/Headquarters/Attachments/Sections/CSW/PFA_E_Final_WEB.pdf

Bothamley, S., & Tully, R. J. (2018). Understanding revenge pornography: Public perceptions of revenge pornography and victim blaming. Journal of Aggression, Conflict and Peace Research, 10(1), 1–10. https://doi.org/10.1108/JACPR-09-2016-0253

Bloom, 2014; Kitchen, 2015; D'Amico & Steinberger, 2015; Bates, 2017; Griffith, 2016; McGlynn & Rackley, 2017a; McGlynn & Rackley, 2017b; McGlynn, et al., 2017; Pina, Holland & James, 2017. The Malevolent Side of Revenge Porn Proclivity: Dark Personality Traits and Sexist Ideology

"Call a Spade a Spade: Why the Term "Revenge Porn" is Misleading" By Tia Hanifa. Green Network. Last updated 21. March 2022. Available on: https://greennetwork.asia/featured/call-a-spade-a-spade-why-the-term-revenge-porn-is-misleading/

Cambridge dictionary. Definition on "deepfake". Available on: https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/deepfake

"Conflict-related sexual violence. Report of the Secretary-General". United Nations Security Council, 29. March 2022. S/2022/272. Available at: https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N22/293/71/PDF/N2229371.pdf?OpenElement

"CSW67 Agreed Conclusions", Innovation and technological change, and education in the digital age for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls. 20. March 2023.

"CSW67 closing statement: game-changing agreed conclusions for a more equal and connected world for women and girls". Closing statement to the Commission on the Status of Women, by Ms. Sima Bahous, UN Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director of UN Women. 17.March 2023. Available at: https://www.unwomen.org/en/news-stories/statement/2023/03/csw67-closing-statement-game-changing-agreed-conclusions-for-a-more-equal-and-connected-world-for-women-and-girls

"CSW67 (2023)", UN Women. Commission on the Status of Women. Accessed at 08.06.2023. Available at: https://www.unwomen.org/en/csw/csw67-2023

"Conflict-Related Sexual Violence. Report of the United Nations Secretary-General". S/2022/272. 2021. Available at: https://www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/auto-draft/SG-Report2021for-web.pdf

"Conflict-related sexual violence", United Nations Peacekeeping. Accessed at 10.06.2023. Available at: https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/conflict-related-sexual-violence

"Conflict-related sexual violence", report of the Secretary-General. United Nations Security Council. 29.March 20220. S/2022/272. Available at: https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N22/293/71/PDF/N2229371.pdf?OpenElement

"Countering Sexual Violence in Conflict. Council on Foreign Relations, Center for Preventative Action Women and Foreign Policy. September 2017, Jamille Bigio and Rachel Vogelstein. Available at: https://cdn.cfr.org/sites/default/files/report_pdf/Discussion_Paper_Bigio_Vogelstein_Sexual_Violence_Conflict_OR_1.pdf?_gl=1*1irt5ss*_ga*NjQ1MjkxODM3LjE2ODc4NjQxOTg.*_ga_24W5E70YKH*MTY4Nzg2NDE5OC4xLjEuMTY4Nzg2NTgxNi4wLjAuMA

"Deepfakes as a Security Issue: Why Gender Matters" by Agnes E. Venema. Women in International Security. Available on: https://wiisglobal.org/deepfakes-as-a-security-issue-why-gender-matters/

"Deep Fake AI Pornography is Sexual Assault and Here´s Why". By Em Vitale. The Berkeley Beacon. March 2, 2023. Available on: https://berkeleybeacon.com/deep-fake-ai-pornography-is-sexual-assault-and-heres-why/

"Explore the Data; Women´s Participation in Peace Processes", Council on Foreign Relations. From 1992 to present. Available at: https://www.cfr.org/womens-participation-in-peace-processes/explore-the data?_gl=1*4z6sd7*_ga*NjQ1MjkxODM3LjE2ODc4NjQxOTg.*_ga_24W5E70YKH*MTY4Nzg2NDE5OC4xLjEuMTY4Nzg2N-TQxNC4wLjAuMA

"Evaluation of Norwegian efforts for women, peace and security", Department for Evaluation. NORAD. Report 3/2022.

"Explainer: Sustainable Development Goal 5", UN Women. 7. September 2022. Accessed at 23.05.2023. Available at: https://www.unwomen.org/en/news- stories/explainer/2022/09/explainer-sustainable-development-goal-five?gclid=CjwKCAjwvdajBhBEEiwAeMh1UynLVZgmYOdu0ePY74k6NjJg3h-I1e1fCHfhsMwu61q1368r2cTwuBoCiMsQA-vD_BwE

"Freedom, empowerment, and opportunities. Action Plan for Women´s Rights and Gender Equality in Foreign and Development Policy 2016-2020". Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Available on: https://www.regjeringen.no/globalassets/departementene/ud/vedlegg/fn/womens_rights.pdf

"Frequently asked questions: Tech-facilitated gender-based violence". UN Women. Available on:https://www.unwomen.org/en/what-we-do/ending-violence-against-women/faqs/tech-facilitated-gender-based-violence

"Gender-based violence", United Nations Population Fund. Accessed at 08.06.2023. Available at: https://www.unfpa.org/gender-based-violence

"Gender-based Violence". The UN Refugee Agency. Accessed: (06.06.2023). Available at: (https://www.unhcr.org/us/what-we-do/safeguard-human-rights/protection/gender-based-violence)

"Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls". Sustainable development goals. Available on: https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/gender-equality/

"Goal 16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions", United Nations Development Programme. Accessed at 10.05.2023. Available at: https://www.undp.org/sustainable-development-goals/peace-justice-and-strong-institutions?gclid=CjwKCAjw9J2iBhBPEiwAErwpecJBSQ1TLr9XV_wjrKn-lXLxAXTfB2GQQ5Kdk1cgVvlnm97b--PalnxoC0w4QAvD_BwE

"Goal 16: Promote just, peaceful and inclusive societies." Sustainable Development Goals. Available on: https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/peace-justice/

Henry, N., & Powell, A. (2018). Technology-Facilitated Sexual Violence: A Literature Review of Empirical Research. Trauma, Violence, & Abuse, 19(2), 195–208. https://doi.org/10.1177/1524838016650189.

"Human Rights Topics - Gender equality and women´s rights" United Nations Human Rights, Office of the High Commissioner. Accessed on: 16.06.2023. Available on: https://www.ohchr.org/en/topic/gender-equality-and-womens-rights?gclid=Cj0KCQjwnMWkBhDLARIsAHBOftqGBYCxi990pxfqR0vQpVOy-Sy7pdMi8SPDwKnLsPqk1bBoHwBiKhfMaAo1qEALw_wcB

"Inkludere kvinner I fredssikkehetsarbeid". United Nations Association of Norway. Accessed (07.06.2023). Available at: (https://www.fn.no/norge-i-sikkerhetsraadet/inkludere-kvinner-i-fred-og-sikkerhetsarbeid).

"9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure" The Global Goals. Available on: https://www.globalgoals.org/goals/9-industry-innovation-and-infrastructure/

"Intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls". Report of the Secretary-General. United Nations General Assembly. 18.08.2022. A/77/302 https://www.unwomen.org/sites/default/files/2022-10/A-77-302-SG-report-EVAWG-en.pdf

"Implementing Norway's National Action Plan 2019-2023 Women, peace and security". Norwegian Ministries. Annual report 2021. Accessed (07.05.2023). Available at: (https://www.regjeringen.no/contentassets/5eca93d3e7154914a75fe134a24fd543/arsrapport-2021-kvinner-fred-og-sikkerhet.pdf)

"Just and Inclusive Institutions", Strengthening the Evidence-based for Achieving Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies. United Nations Development Programme. Oslo Governance Centre. Available at: https://www.undp.org/policy-centre/oslo/just-and-inclusive-institutions.

"Landmark resolution on Women, Peace and Security", Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women. Accessed at 23.05.2023. Available at: https://www.un.org/womenwatch/osagi/wps/

"Letter dated 24 February 2023 from the Permanent Representative of Mozambique to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General", 27. February 2023. United Nations Security Council. S/2023/146. Available at: https://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65B-FCF9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/2023.02.24%20S.2023.146%20OD.pdf

"Makt, rettigheter, ressurser", Strategi for Forum for Kvinner og Utviklingsspørsmål (FOKUS) for the period 2022-2026.

McGlynn, C., Rackley, E. & Houghton, R. Beyond 'Revenge Porn': The Continuum of Image-Based Sexual Abuse. Fem Leg Stud 25, 25–46 (2017). https://doi.org/10.1007/s10691-017-9343-2

"Norway´s Role and Interests in Multilateral Cooperation". Meld. St 27 (2018-2019) Report to the Storting (white paper). Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
"Voluntary National Review 2021 Norway, Report on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development". Norwegian Ministry of Local Government and Modernization, Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

"Norwegian National Action Plan (2019-2022)", Inter-Ministerial Working Group, consisting of Ministries of Foreign Affairs; Defense, International Development; Justice, Security, and Immigration; And Children and Equality. Available at: http://1325naps.peacewomen.org/index.php/norway/

"Press release: UN Commission on the Status of women reaffirms the role of technology and innovation, and education in the digital age in accelerating gender equality". UN Women, the 67th session of the

Commission of the Status of Women (CSW67). 18. March 2023. Available at: https://www.unwomen.org/en/news-stories/press-release/2023/03/press-release-un-commission-on-the-status-of-women-reaffirms-the-role-of-technology-and-innovation-and-education-in-the-digital-age-in-accelerating-gender-equality

"Protection against sexual and gender-based violence", The Norwegian Government. Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Last updated 20.11.2019. Available at: https://www.regjeringen.no/en/topics/foreign-affairs/humanitarian-efforts/protection_violence/id2666936/

"Protecting Women's Participation: Ministerial-level Open Debate." Security Council Report, January 2022. Accessed (10.05.2023) Available at: (https://www.securitycouncilreport.org/whatsin-blue/2022/01/protecting-womens-participation-ministerial-level-open-debate.php)

"Press release: UN Commission on the Status of Women reaffirms the role of technology and innovation, and education in the digital age in accelerating gender equality". UN Women, March 2023. Accessed (07.05.2023). Available at: (https://www.unwomen.org/en/news-stories/press-release/2023/03/press-release-un-commission-on-the-status-of-women-reaffirms-the-role-of-technology-and-innovation-and-education-in-the-digital-age-in-accelerating-gender-equality)

"Report of the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences on online violence against women and girls from a human rights perpective". A/HRC/38/47. Last updated: 18. June 2018. Available on: https://www.ohchr.org/en/documents/thematic-reports/ahrc3847-report-special-rapporteur-violence-against-women-its-causes-and

"Resolution 2467 (2019)". Adopted by the United Nations Security Council at its 8514th meeting, on 23 April 2019. S/RES/2467. 23. April 2019.

"Resolution 1325 (2000)", Adopted by the Security Council at its 4213th meeting, on 31 October 2000. United Nations Security Council. S/RES/1325. Available at: https://peacemaker.un.org/sites/peacemaker.un.org/files/SC_ResolutionWomenPeaceSecurity_SRE-S1325%282000%29%28english_0.pdf

"Reimaging Peacemaking: Women´s Roles in Peace Processes", International Peace Institute. Marie O´Reilly, Andrea Ó Süilleabháin and Thania Paffenholz. June 2015. Available at: https://www.ipinst.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/IPI-E-pub-Reimagining-Peacemaking-rev.pdf

"Reimagining Peacemaking: Women's Roles in Peace Processes." International Peace Institute. Accessed (16.06.2023). Available at: (https://www.ipinst.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/IPI-E-pub-Reimagining-Peace-making-rev.pdf)

Report from the Norwegian ministries. "Norway´s follow-up of Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals". Available on: https://www.regjeringen.no/globalassets/departementene/ud/vedlegg/utvikling/sdg_rapport_full_en.pdf

"Resolution 2493 (2019)". Adopted by the United Nations Security Council at its 8649tg meeting, on 29 October 2019. S/RES/2493 (2019). Available at: https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N19/339/37/pdf/N1933937.pdf?OpenElement

"Resolution 2594 (2021). Adopted by the Security Council at its 8852nd meeting, on 9 September 2021". United Nations Security Council, 9. September 2021. S/RES/2594. Available at: https://documents-dds-ny.un-.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N21/247/56/PDF/N2124756.pdf?OpenElement

Sarah Bloom, No Vengeance for 'Revenge Porn' Victims: Unraveling Why this Latest Female-Centric, Intimate-Partner Offense is Still Legal, and

Why We Should Criminalize It, 42 Fordham Urb. L.J. 233 (2014).
Available at: https://ir.lawnet.fordham.edu/ulj/vol42/iss1/

"Stand with her: 6 Women-led organizations tackling gender-based
violence". United Nations Foundations, November 2022.
Accessed at (08.06.2023) Available at (https://unfoundation.org/blog/
post/stand-with-her-6-women-led-organizations-tackling-gender-
based-violence/?gclid=Cj0KCQjwnMWkBhDLARIsAHBOftq5LOCR-
S2QjxkTcODH1r3QESM4QI1hgaa1oIU8jgmq2UnXELMgGcR0aAh-
qPEALw_wcB)

"Setting the course for Norwegian foreign and security policy", Meld. St.
36. (2016-2017) Report to the Storting (white paper). Norwegian
Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Available at: https://www.regjeringen.no/
contentassets/0688496c2b764f029955cc6e2f27799c/en-gb/pdfs/
stm201620170036000engpdfs.pdf

"UN Frameworks", WPS Focal Points Network. Accessed at 17.06.2023.
Available at: https://wpsfocalpointsnetwork.org/un-frameworks/

United Nations Population Fund. Norway donor page.
Accessed at 05.06.2023. Available at:
https://www.unfpa.org/donor/norway-0

Jana Krause, Werner Krause & Piia Bränfors (2018) Women's
Participation in Peace Negotiations and the Durability of Peace,
International Interactions, 44:6, 985-1016, DOI:
10.1080/03050629.2018.1492386

"Veileder for utenrikstjenestens arbeid med kvinner, fred og sikkerhet
(2019-2022). Instruction by The Norwegian Government, regarding
the National Action Plan (NAPs).

"Violence and abuse". Helse Norge. Last updated: 05.09.2022. Available on:
https://www.helsenorge.no/en/psykisk-helse/violence-and-abuse/

"Women, Peace and Security". Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Norwegian
Government. Last updated 19.05.2021. Available at: https://
www.regjeringen.no/en/topics/foreign-affairs/the-un/wps/id660488/

"Women´s Participation in Peace Processes", Council on Foreign
Relations. Accessed at 12.06.2023. Available at: https://www.cfr.org/
womens-participation-in-peace-processes/

"Women's participation in peace processes." The Norwegian Government,
July 2022. Accessed (16.06.2023) Available at: (https://www.regjeringen.
no/en/topics/foreign-affairs/peace-and-reconciliation-efforts/
innsiktsmappe/women_peace/id2344498/)

"Women's Participation". United Nations Peacemaker.
Accessed (07.06.2023). Available at: (https://peacemaker.un.org/wps/
womens-participation).

"Women, Peace and Security." The Norwegian Government, May 2021.
Accessed (10.05.2023) Available at: (https://www.regjeringen.no/en/
topics/foreign-affairs/the-un/wps/id660488/)

"Women and peace and security". Report of the Secretary-General
(S/2022/740). Accessed: (08.06.2023) Available at: (https://docu-
ments-dds ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N22/614/86/PDF/N2261486.
pdf?OpenElement)

"Women's rights and gender equality". Ministry of Foreign Affairs, March
2021. Accessed at (10.05.2023) Available at: (https://www.regjeringen.no/
en/topics/foreign-affairs/the-un/innsikt/womens_rights/id439433/)

"Women, Peace and Security. The Norwegian Government's Action Plan".
Norwegian Ministries. (2019-2023) Accessed: (08.05.2023). Available at:
(https://www.regjeringen.no/globalassets/departementene/ud/dokument-
er/planer/actionplan_wps2019.pdf)

"Women, Peace and Security: Ministerial-level Open Debate*"
Security Council Report. Accessed (02.06.2023). Available at:
https://www.securitycouncilreport.org/whatsinblue/2023/03/
women-peace-and-security-ministerial-level-open-debate.php

"Women and peace and security. Report of the Secretary-General".
United Nations Security Council, 5. October 2022. S/2022/740.
Available at: https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/
N22/614/86/pdf/N2261486.pdf?OpenElement

"Women´s participation in Peace Processes: Colombia", from Women
and Foreign Policy Program and Women Around the World. Council on
Foreign Relations. December 15, 2017. Available at: https://www.cfr.org/
blog/womens-participation-peace-processes-colombia

"Women, Peace and Security: Towards the 25th anniversary of
resolution 1325". International Committee of The Red Cross.
Last updated: 07.03.2023. Available on:
https://www.icrc.org/en/document/women-peace-and-security-to-
wards-25th-anniversary-resolution-1325

"Women and peace and security", Report of the Secretary-General.
United Nations Security Council. 5. October 2022. S/2022/740.
Available at: https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/
N22/614/86/pdf/N2261486.pdf?OpenElement

"Women and girls who become pregnant as a result of sexual violence
in conflict and children born of sexual violence in conflict", Report of the
Secretary-General. United Nations Security Council. 31. January 2022.
S/2022/77. Available at: https://www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/
wp-content/uploads/2022/02/report/auto-draft/N2223437.pdf

"Women, Peace and Security", Article by the Norwegian Government.
Last updated: 19. May 2021. Available at: https://www.regjeringen.no/en/
topics/foreign-affairs/the-un/wps/id660488/

"Women´s Participation", United Nations Peacemaker. Accessed on
15.06.2023. Available at:
https://peacemaker.un.org/wps/womens-participation
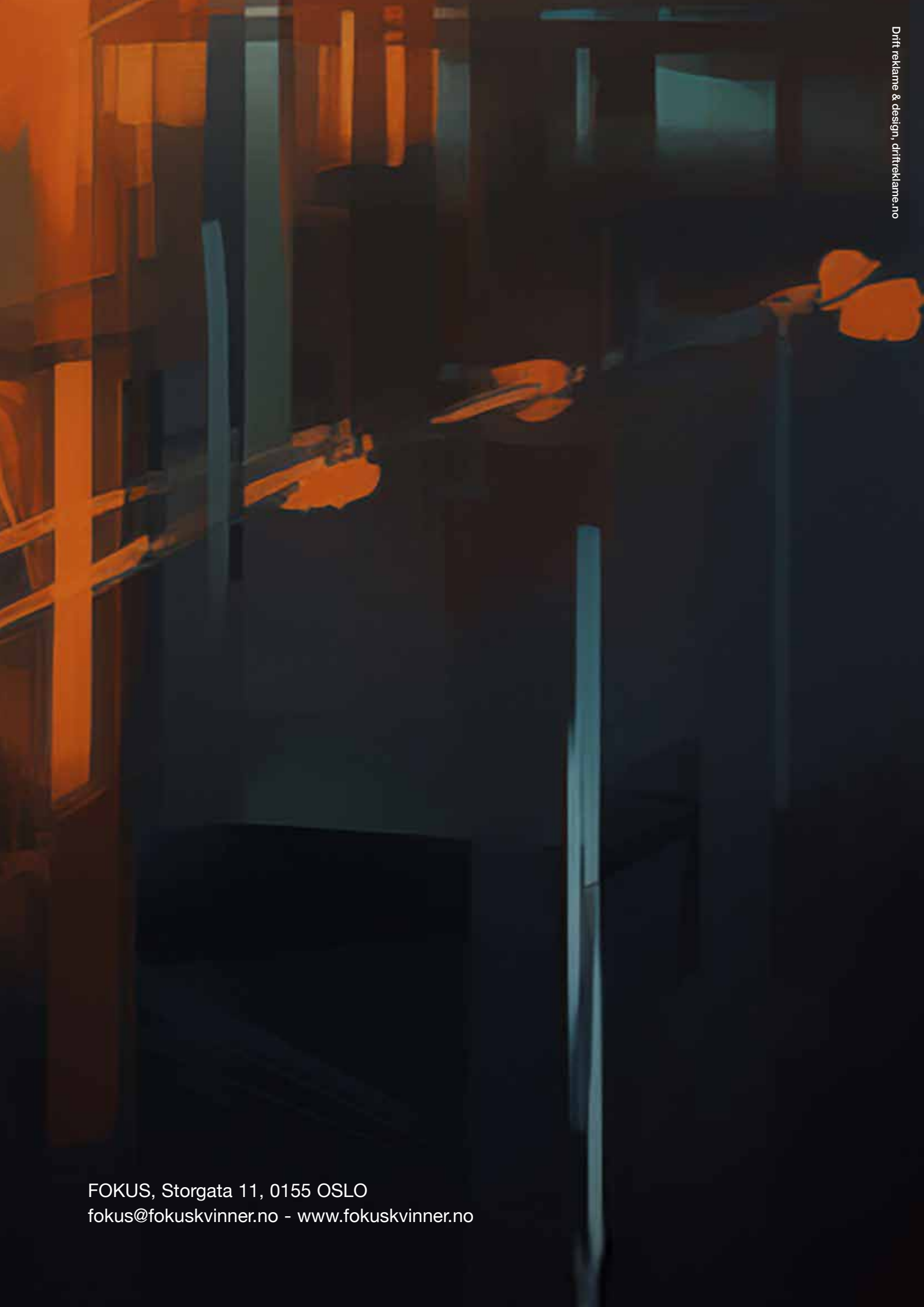
FOKUS, Storgata 11, 0155 OSLO
fokus@fokuskvinner.no - www.fokuskvinner.no