Enhancing the Women, Peace and Security Agenda in the Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian Region

Practical examples of women's participation and leadership in conflict prevention, reconciliation and peacebuilding processes.

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# Content

- Status, progress and perspectives of practical enforcement of the UNSCRs
- Addressing women's needs and role in reconstruction processes
- Examples from Kosovo



# Two selected topics from the UNSCRs on WPS

- ❖ PARTICIPATION Promoting women's full engagement in peace processes and post-conflict reconstruction and governance structures;
- ❖ PROTECTION Mitigating the impact of armed conflict on women in the form of sexual violence, displacement and other hardships, including through a rights-based approach consistent with international humanitarian and human rights law;

# Women's activism





# Issues addressed (1)

#### Participation:

- New constitution based a.o. on CEDAW (Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women)
- Quota system of 40 % in all public functions
- \* Women's Caucus in the parliament
- Agency for Gender Equality in the Prime Minister's Office
- Gender Equality Officers at municipal level

# Issues addressed (2)

#### Protection from violence and injustice

- War rapes: Supportive NGOs and prosecution of suspects
- ❖ Domestic violence: Shelter movement; Victim's Advocate
- Human Trafficking: National Action Plan, Training for police and judiciary
- ❖ Inheritance rights for women: Campaigns and Legal Aid

### Conclusions

- UNSCRs are applied by both government and the women's movement
- UNSCRs on Women, Peace and Security are used as instruments for expanding gender equality principles into governance structures
- UNSCRs on WPS help to address injustices in the patriarchal/gender structure of the society
- UNSCRs on WPS legitimate the focus on addressing violence against women (war rape, domestic violence)

# Conclusions continued

- ❖ The meaning of 'security' is expanded towards the concept of human security (incl. legal security, health security, political security, economic security)
- Creating, supporting and strengthening women's alliances is the precondition for effective participation
- ❖ The notion of violence against women seen as a security threat and women's rights as a security concern allows for new thinking in the governance of war and peace!