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It is great honor for me to present you the results of the research "Women's Role in Georgia's Security Sector, Issues, Best Practice and Recommendations", which was done in November-December 2009 by the association "Justice and Liberty" with the financial support of ODIHR. The main goal of the research was to elucidate the women's problems in the Georgia's security sector. Also, our objective was to suggest government the recommendations according to the UN Security Council Resolution 1325 and suggest our further help.

At first I would like to say, that this research was carried out for the first time in Georgia and displayed the issues unknown for us. In fact, our organization is the only organization in Georgia, which protects the rights of security sector personnel and we were the first organization who focused on those issues.

So, I shall try to make the presentation briefly because we are pressed for time.

As for the methodology – during the research we concourse the statistics of women in security sector, analyzed the legislative base regulating the rights of women in security sector, questioned women serving in security sector and tried to systematize the existed problems to prepare the recommendations according to the UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women Peace and Security. Before I shall start to speak about the women's role and problematical issues in Georgia's security sector, I would like to review the statistics briefly.

Starting from 2004, when the new government occupied its place with "democracy flag" in its hand, the security sector was very corrupted and correlation of women in co-called men's professions was extremely poor. The amount of women serving in security sector considerably increased because of existed necessities, women's skills and reforms. Although, according to the existed statistics the amount of women is about 8-10 % of the total amount of employees, but I have here to mention, that the most part of them are working on administrative issues. As for the women on the leader positions in security sector – that is about 3-4 %. As I have already mentioned above, the amount of women increased, but this index was considerably low till 2004.

Now I would like to speak about the problems, which the research about the women's role in security sector showed:

1. Georgia's legislative base regulates women's issues rarely – mainly issues related to the women's family status. In other cases women's issues are not regulated. We think that is insufficient;

2. The legislation establishes some limits for women because of some stereotypes existed in Georgia, for example: women can not be on a combat positions, correspondingly their career development is interrupted;
3. That is why we have a small amount of women on leading positions in security sector.
4. Correspondingly women participate in decision-making process rarely, for example: they rarely participate in meetings and cannot ensure their interests.
5. According to the traditional and gender stereotypes, the security sector's positions are fit especially for men's professions and the government doesn't see the necessity of a reform in this direction;
6. In fact, Georgian women don't participate in peace-keeping and international operations. That fact is a reason of many problems, which you can understand very well and I shall not discuss that issue in details.
7. During the research we also displayed several facts of sexual harassment and other forms of discrimination.
8. As a reason of those facts we consider that in our country there is no effective educational politics, in the limits of which the issues of harassment and discrimination prevention could be more heeded. Although, it should be noted, that several international organizations carried out the trainings for military forces – that fact is very welcomed, but it is not expressed in the governmental educational politic.
9. In these problems we have discovered one of the main problems in my opinion, which hampers the strengthening of women's role in security sector. The serious problem is that women serving in Georgia's security sector do not have any trade-union or network protecting and expressing their rights. Unfortunately, in civil sector, also, there are no nongovernmental organizations working on such issues. Correspondingly,
10. in the situation when there is a very small amount of women on the leading positions, there are no organizations protecting women's rights in these systems and the governmental politic is not appropriately formed in that way – it is clear that strengthening the women's role in security sector has no perspectives, although we know that women's active participation can bring many positive results in security sector.

Correspondingly, when at the end of the research we started to make the recommendations, we considered as a priority to strengthen the elements of women's self organization and form the better strategy and politic, that will help policymakers receive more information and opportunities to make the adequate and effective steps in this direction.

For that purpose, our association established the separate group in the organization expressing the rights of women. On this stage we carry out just the free legal aid for the women serving in security sector. In future we plan to carry out some activities to create the network for women serving in security sector. So we are trying to form the NGO coalition, which, on the one hand, shall support security sector's leader women to create the network expressing their interests, such trade-union. On the other hand, the coalition shall try to demand from the government to ensure the UN Security Council Resolution 1325 and support them to implement it. We hope our collaboration shall help us in achieving our goals.

My speech was brief because of the pressed time, but if you have any questions, I hope I can answer more concretely about the main issues.