75 godina UN Opće deklaracija o ljudskim pravima: mandat i praksa UN Posebne izvjestiteljice protiv nasilja nad ženama (2015-2021)

# 75 godina UN Opće deklaracija o ljudskim pravima: mandat i praksa UN Posebne izvjestiteljice protiv nasilja nad ženama (2015-2021)

prepared by dr. Dubravka Šimonović, former SRVAW & CEDAW

+ 75 Opće Deklaracije o ljudskim pravima "usvojena i proglašena od OS UN 10. 12. 1948

zajedničko mjerilo za zaštitu ljudskih prava i temeljnih urođeno dostojanstvo te jadnaka i neotuđiva prava svih članova ljudske obitelji = temelj slpbode prave i mira u svijetu

sva ljudska bića rađaju slobodna i jednaka u dostojanstvu i ljudskim pravima, ljudska prava su "urođena i neotuđiva"

jednaka prava muškaraca i žena

svatko ima pravo poštivanje ljudskih prava koja su u njoj utvrđena kako bi se time osigurala slobod, pravda i mir u svijetu.

jednaka prava i nediskriminacija ( rasa, spol itd )

UN Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women, its causes and consequences established in 1994 - by the UN Commission on Human Rights- Human Rights Council (HRC)

HRC Special procedures: 45 thematic and 14 country mandates: Special Rapporteur, Independent Expert, Working group

Mandate holders serve in their personal capacities; they are not United Nations staff members.

Standing invitations, 128 Member States, Croatia 13 March 2003

Special rapporteur on violence against women, including its causes and its consequences

an independent thematic expert human rights mechanism on violence against women, its causes and consequences

#### VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IS A HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATION

CHR Resolution 1994/45. Question of integrating the rights of women into the human rights mechanisms of the United Nations and the elimination of violence against women

"Decides to appoint, for a three-year period, a Special rapporteur on violence against women, including its causes and its consequences."

-renewable once, maximum 6 years

Former Special Rapporteurs Ms. Radhika Coomaraswamy (Sri Lanka), 1994 - July 2003

Dr. Yakin Ertürk (Turkey), August 2003 - July 2009

Ms. Rashida Manjoo (South Africa), August 2009 - July 2015

Dr. Dubravka Šimonović (Croatia) August 2015 -July 2021

**Current Special Rapporteur Reem Alsalem (Jordan) August 2021 -**

### **SRVAW MANDATE:**

- universal mandate
- seek and receive information on violence against women, its causes and consequences from Governments, treaty bodies, specialized agencies, other special rapporteurs, and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, including women's organizations,
- respond effectively to such information;
- to recommend measures, ways, and means at the local, national, regional, and international levels to eliminate all forms of violence against women and its causes, and to remedy its consequences;
  - operate under the human rights framework on women's rights and violence against women and other international human rights instruments
  - to hold States accountable

### **SRVAW MANDATE:**

- Operate under international human rights instruments
- Universal Declaration on Human Rights (UNDHR)
- Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)1979
- Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women (DEVAW) 1993
- other international human rights instruments
  - CEDAW Committee GR No.19 on violence against women of 1992, GR 25 on GBVAW of 2017
  - Beijing Platform for Action (BPA) of 1995
  - Belem do Para Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of VAW 1994
  - Maputo Protocol to the African Charter on Human and People's Rights of 1995
  - Istanbul Convention CoE Convention on preventing and combating VAW and domestic violence 2011

### **SRVAW MANDATE:**

SRVAW reports to the HRC, UNGA, and other organs:

- UN HRC present two country visit reports and a thematic report, hold an interactive dialogue with States, NHRIs, NGOs
- UN General Assembly present a thematic report and hold an interactive dialogue with States
- Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) in March oral report
- Commission on Crime and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ) in May oral report
- Participate at other conferences at the UN, regional (CoE, OSCE, AU, OAS), and national levels.

# SRVAW working methods:

- 1. country visits and reports
- 2. thematic reports
- 3. individual complaints -press statement
- 4. initiatives:

Femicide watch SRVAW/OHCHR Database on Femcide watch initiative

**EDVAW Platform** 

Framework for cooperation with the CEDAW Committee - CEDAW GR 35 on GBVAW

### 1. country visits and reports

two county visits per year

- call for information from all stakeholders
- visit of 5-10 days, different provinces -regions,
- meetings with the State officials, judiciary, parliaments, ombudspersons, the academic community, NGOs working on women's rights, visit shelters, women's prisons
- end of the mission statement with preliminary findings
- press conference
- presents the country report with recommendations to the Human Rights Council and holds an interactive dialogue with the State concerned and others

SRVAW D. Šimonovic visited 11 States and presented reports to the HRC: South Africa, Georgia, Israel, the Occupied Palestinian Territory / State of Palestine, Argentina, Australia, Bahamas, Canada, Nepal, Bulgaria, and Ecuador

## 2. Thematic reports

SRVAW D. Simonovic prepared 11	
2021 GA	Taking stock of femicide prevention initiative A/76/132
2021 HRC	Rape as a grave, systematic, and widespread human rights violation and Model law- A/HRC/47/26
2020 HRC	Violence against women journalists A/HRC/44/52
2020 GA	Intersection between the coronavirus and the pandemic of GBVAW with a focus on domestic violence -A/74/144
2019 HRC	Twenty-five years of the SRVAW an analysis of its evolution, current challenges, and the way forward -A/HRC/41/42
2019 GA	A human rights-based approach to obstetric violence against women- A/74/144
2018 HRC	Online violence against women and girls- A/HRC/38/47
2018 GA	Violence against women in politics -A/73/201
2017 HRC	A human rights-based approach to integrated services with a focus on shelters and protection orders -A/HRC/35/30
2017 GA	Adequacy of the international legal framework on violence against women -A/72/134
2016 HRC	Vision-setting report -A/HRC/32/42
2015 GA	Modalities for the establishment of femicides/gender-related killings watch- A/71/398

### 3. communications procedure: urgent appeals and allegation letters (communications)

joint

SRVAW,

Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran;

Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression;

Working Group on discrimination against women and girls,

Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief,

Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health

### **Communications followed by Press Statement**

21 June 2021

# Iran: Jailed for defending women who opposed compulsory veiling, Nasrin Sotoudeh must be freed, say UN experts

GENEVA (21 June 2021) – UN human rights experts\* today condemned the continued imprisonment of woman human rights defender and lawyer Nasrin Sotoudeh and called for her immediate release.

"Nasrin Sotoudeh has been systematically criminalized for her work in defense of human rights, particularly the rights of women who oppose compulsory veiling laws," Dubravka Simonovic, UN Special Rapporteur on violence against women, said.

Ms. Sotoudeh has been detained since June 2018 and was sentenced to a combined 38 years imprisonment on nine charges, including "encouraging corruption and prostitution", in connection to her work defending women arrested for peacefully protesting compulsory veiling laws. Under Iranian law, she will serve 12 years in prison, the longest of her sentences.

### FEMICIDE WATCH INITIATIVE

In 2015, SRVAW on the International Day on the Elimination of Violence Against Women (IDEVAW)

call to all States to establish a "femicide watch" and/or observatories on gender-related killings of women,

- 1. collect and publish each year disaggregated administrative data on :
  - 1) intimate partner femicide and
- 2) family related femicide, with based on the determined relationship between the victim and the perpetrator,
  - 3) other femicides.
- 2. analysis of femicide cases to determine shortcomings and prevent such cases from human rights perspective;
- 3. recommend measures for its prevention and remembrance initiatives for victims (based on emblematic cases)

Data collected through this initiative and the UN Office on Drugs and Crime: among the victims of all intentional killings involving intimate partners – in which there is an established relationship between perpetrator and victim) more than 80% of victims are women.

## **The EDVAW Platform initiative**

2018 establishment of the EDVAW Platform composed of independent expert women's human rights mechanisms on the elimination of discrimination and violence against women and girls = the EDVAW Platform:

- ➤ UN Special Rapporteur on violence against women (SRVAW)
- >UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW),
- >UN Working Group on discrimination against women and girls (WGDAW),
- Committee of Experts of the Follow-up Mechanism to the Belém do Pará Convention (MESECVI),
- ➤ Group of Experts on Action against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (GREVIO)
- ➤ African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Women in Africa (A-SRWHR)
- ➤Inter-American Commission on Human Rights Rapporteur on the Rights of Women (IA- RWHR)