



78th session of the UN General Assembly, Third Committee, Interactive Dialogue with Ms. Reem Alsalem, Special Rapporteur on violence against women and girls, its causes and consequences, 3 October 2023

Malta Statement delivered by Ms Emma de Gabriele, Youth Delegate

Thank you, Chair.

Malta aligns itself with the statement of [to be delivered by] the European Union and thanks Ms Alsalem for her presentation.

Special Rapporteur,

Your findings demonstrate how women and girls experience statelessness in a distinctively gendered manner. Gender-discriminatory nationality laws and practices increase their risk of statelessness and institutionalise patriarchal and colonial legal values and power structures that are at the root of discrimination and violence against women and girls.

In conflicts, stateless women and girls without citizenship-based protections are particularly vulnerable to human rights violations, including early and forced marriage, trafficking, gender-based violence and exploitation.

For children, gender-discriminatory laws also contribute to statelessness, which can restrict their access to education, healthcare, and social services.



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Special Rapporteur,

While the very existence of statelessness evidences a human rights problem, your report clearly illustrates that gender-discriminatory nationality laws are often rooted in long-standing and intersecting forms of discrimination.

In this regard, can you share good practices concerning collection of reliable data on stateless persons, including disaggregated by age, gender, disability status, gender identity and sexual orientation, and other identities?

I thank you.