



**PERMANENT MISSION
OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN
TO THE UNITED NATIONS
NEW YORK**

NEW YORK, 15 MARCH 2022

COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN
66TH SESSION

SPECIAL EVENT: ENDING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN POLITICS

STATEMENT BY H.E. DOMINIQUE HASLER
MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, EDUCATION AND SPORT

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Mr. President, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Violence against women is a widespread phenomenon from which, unfortunately, no country has been spared, exacerbated by climate disasters and the COVID-19 pandemic. Violence against women in politics is a particularly pernicious form of this scourge. The spread of disinformation and intolerance has further increased the risks for women in politics in particular, and women who act as agents of political change all over the world, striving for democracy, human rights and peace, are systematically targeted, including through violence. We stand with the human rights defenders and peaceful protesters in Afghanistan and Belarus, in Myanmar and in Russia, who are fighting against the repression of their human rights and their civil and political rights in particular. Acts of persecution and intimidation against women in the political sphere are deeply concerning and require our urgent attention and action.

The conflicts on the agenda of the United Nations have one thing in common: They all require the active participation and strong voice of women, both informally and formally. Supporting those who raise their voices is therefore also part of what we need to do to strive for peaceful and inclusive societies, in accordance with the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals.

Only when women's full, equal and meaningful participation in the political sphere is seen as the rule, rather than the exception, will we be able to overcome gender-based violence against them.

I thank you.