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Kosovar Women's Voice

On Its Birthday, UN Resolution 1325 Put to Use

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announcements

KWN Annual Membership..... meeting.....**December 3**

KWN Bimonthly Meeting.....
.....**ATRC, 11:00, February 6**

Come see the new face of the **KWN website:**
www.womensnetwork.org!

KWN Members!
Send us information about your activities for the newsletter and website.



www.womensnetwork.org

This year marked the fifth anniversary of United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325 on Women, Peace and Security on 31 October. The landmark resolution calls for greater involvement of women in conflict resolution and peace-making efforts. As Kosovars enter into negotiations about their final political status, the resolution is of the utmost importance. Kosovar women are using the resolution to demand their legal and democratic right to participate in negotiations that will affect them and the future of their society. In the last few months, discussions about the resolution have arrived in citizens' homes through the Kosova-wide media, on KFOR military bases and to international locales through Amnesty International:

Medica Brings 1325 into the Public Eye

Contributed by Vepore Shehu
Medica Kosova marked the resolution's anniversary by publicly advocating for the participation of women at the negotiation table for Kosova's final status talks. Vepore Shehu and Lindita Juniku-Pula from political party ADK spoke on public television RTK about the contents of UNSCR 1325 and the "urgent need to include women in the negotiating group." The half hour televised program raised awareness about the resolution as an instrument for achieving gender equality at all levels of decision-making. Shehu also informed the audience about the efforts of KWN, Kosova Women's Lobby and other Kosovar women in advocating for UNSCR 1325 implementation both at the UN and local level, especially in relation to status talks.

Swedish KFOR Implements 1325

Swedish KFOR invited KWN to learn more about women activists and their work in Kosova. Representatives from the Swedish military base, Finnish and Czech KFOR, and Kosovo Police Service attended. This followed a preliminary meeting between Swedish KFOR and Kvinna till Kvinna, where KFOR representatives expressed their interest in meeting with women activists.

At the meeting on 22 November, Igballe Rogova spoke on behalf of KWN about the work of women in politics and NGOs before, during and after the war. She also explained the current political, economic and social position of women in Kosova.

Despite the fact that it took six years for such an invitation, KWN welcomes this initiative on behalf of Swedish KFOR and Kvinna till Kvinna. KWN strongly encourages peace-keeping forces around the world to take similar steps towards UNSCR 1325 implementation.

Amnesty International Supports KWN's Call for 1325 Implementation

In a public statement also made on 31 October, Amnesty International called upon "the respective parties" to "include women and minority communities in final status talks." More specifically, the organization stressed the need to include women in the expert working groups. Amnesty International referred to specific articles of the resolution in relation to Kosova and negotiations:

"Amnesty International calls on all UN member states involved in



© Daniel Skoglund/Swedish Armed Forces

KWN meets with Swedish KFOR and other officials on 22 November.

the talks to actively ensure the implementation of Resolution 1325 and guarantee the representation of women in the talks. The organization also urges the adoption of a gendered perspective, as set out in article 8 of the Resolution, which should, for example, 'involve women in all of the implementation mechanisms of the peace agreements' and provide, 'measures that ensure the protection of and respect for human rights of women and girls, particularly as they relate to the constitution, the electoral system, the police and the judiciary'. In particular, such measures should address the ongoing impunity for gender-based violence, including war crimes, committed against women during and after the conflict in Kosova."

Amnesty International went on to voice its support for KWN's earlier calls to involve women in the final status process, towards more sustainable solutions for Kosova's future. For the full text, see: <http://web.amnesty.org/library/Index/ENGEUR700172005?open&of=ENG-YUG>.

November Meeting Notes

o KWN reminded members that all information about their activities should be sent electronically to KWN via the newsletter and website.

o IREX has started supporting local NGOs through FDI, which gives grants ranging from \$5000-\$20,000 and ATRC, which now provides trainings tailored to NGOs' needs.

o With support from World Learning, a KWN delegation of 9 members visited the U.S. for two weeks where they identified new advocacy ideas, especially in relation to women voters (see pg. 2).

o Igballe Rogova represented KWN and presented the network's work at an international conference in New York.

o Oda supported Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian groups in establishing a workgroup to advocate for children's education.

o At an AWID conference in Thailand, the Kosovar women's delegation presented their work and views on the situation in Kosovo. The delegation stressed that Kosovo's indefinite political status is an obstacle to economic and social development (see pg. 3).

o Open Door organized a handcraft festival (see pg. 3).

o Peja Women's Network Jeta marked "International Day against Violence against Women" on 25 November with a TV debate on violence against women and a performance by youth (see pg. 3).

o Kosovar Gender Studies Center continued work writing the history of Kosovar women in civil society; with KWN members, wrote and submitted a report on the situation of violence against women in Kosovo to the UN (see pg. 3 and 5); and is writing a report to be submitted to the EU on equal opportunities in the workplace (see pg. 3).

www.womensnetwork.org

Day against Violence against Women: Women's Wellness Center Continues Tradition

Contributed by Lumnije Deqani

White Ribbon Week (21 - 25 November) has become an annual tradition for the Women's Wellness Center in Peja where every year many local citizens volunteer, cutting white ribbons and preparing handouts about the history of International Day against Violence against Women. Then, on 25 November, students walk through the streets to institutions, private businesses and local and international organizations to distribute the white ribbons with information about this day. Each year, the student group volunteering to distribute the ribbons changes. This year, students from Odhise Paskali art school participated.

In a related event, local women's NGO network Jeta cooperated with local TV station Dukagjini to organize a TV debate on 25 November called "How to Assist Victims of Violence." Representatives from the judicial system, Kosova Po-



Students pin white ribbons on representatives of the Kosova Protection Corps for International Day against Violence against Women, sponsored by the Women's Wellness Center in Peja.

lice School, shelter and Jeta network spoke on the topic.

On 2 December, Jeta network will organize another meeting to which they are inviting local and international institutions in Peja municipality. At the meeting, they will present Jeta's work and the gender equality

law. Students from Odhise Paskali arts school will do a performance on the topic of violence against women, and Global Motion, a youth group from Istog, Peja and Gjakova, will do a pantomime and short interactive performance on the topic.

KWN Strengthens Advocacy Capacity on U.S. Trip

Through the USAID-funded World Learning Participant Training Program, a 9-member delegation from KWN visited leading women's advocacy groups in the United States from 17 September to 1 October. The trip, organized by PeopleWork and the Center for Women in Government and Civil Society (Albany), sought to enhance the delegation's advocacy skills and develop concrete ways to strengthen cooperation with women leaders from politics and the private sector.

In an important last minute meeting organized by UNIFEM, five members of the KWN delegation met with UNIFEM and top Department of Peacekeeping Operations in United Nations (DPKO) officials, including Wolfgang Weisbrod-Weber, DPKO Director of

the Europe and Latin America Division. KWN representatives presented their concerns regarding the lack of gender mainstreaming in UNMIK and lack of women's participation in status talks. In addition to agreeing to future cooperation, DPKO representatives said that they would influence the agenda of high level missions to ensure that they schedule official meetings with women's organizations in the future.

The groups with which the KWN delegation met included: in Washington, D.C. - Emily's List, the National Women's Political Caucus and League of Women Voters; in Albany, New York, New York State Lieutenant Governor Mary O. Donahue, the New York State Coalition Against Domestic Violence, TV Station WNYT Channel 13, Equinox, The Legal Project,

United Way Foundation, Global Democracy Programs, Women's Fund of Northeastern New York and the Center for Women in Government and Civil Society; and, in New York City, the National Council for Research on Women, the White House Project, Equality Now, Open Society Institute, New York State Representative Deborah Glick, Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children, UNIFEM, Ms. Foundation and the Office of U.S. Senator Hillary Clinton.

The KWN delegation spent one weekend with the Albanian American Women's Organization Motrat Qiriazi at an "Empower Yourself" retreat at Jeronimo Resort Center. This presented an excellent opportunity for them to combine relaxation and healing with professional and personal development.

KWN Brings Kosovar Issues to Local, International Decision-makers' Doorsteps

In the last three months KWN members have been extremely active in bringing the concerns of Kosovar citizens forward to local and international decision-makers.

In October, the Kosovar Gender Studies Center (KGSC) in Prishtina learned at the last minute from its partners in the Stop Violence against Women network that the United Nations Division for the Advancement of Women was undertaking a global study on violence against women and soliciting input from local NGOs. When KGSC representatives discovered that no one from Kosova knew about the study, they immediately took the initiative to spearhead a three-day study on the situation of violence against women in Kosova to be submitted by the 15 October deadline. KGSC contacted KWN members that specialize on issues related to violence against women and informed them about this opportunity to contribute to a United Nations report on the issue. All five KWN members contacted rose to the challenge, participating in last minute interviews for compiling the report: the Center for the Protection of

Women and Children, Liria, Women's Wellness Center and safe houses. Through networking and teamwork, KWN members were able to organize and compile a strong report submitted directly to the United Nations Division for the Advancement of Women in New York that includes information about some causes of violence against women in Kosova; data from and good practices on behalf of NGOs working on this issue; and recommendations for future steps to be taken by the UN, UNMIK, local government and NGOs (excerpt below, report on pg. 5). Thus, Kosovar women made their voice heard by decision-makers at the United Nations.

Second, KWN participated in an Internal Security Sector Review (ISSR) Consultative Group meeting on 10 November. The ISSR is an eight-stage process to analyze short and long-term needs for developing internal security for Kosova after its final status is determined. As part of this group, KWN will work with other representatives from different sectors to inform, review, and validate each part of the ISSR process.

Third, KWN continued to meet

with local and international leaders for the network's report examining the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325, in cooperation with UNIFEM and Kvinna till Kvinna. This continued the ongoing effort to raise awareness among leaders regarding the resolution and to encourage them to further implement it in Kosova.

In a fourth effort, KGSC is compiling another report as part of the Central and Eastern Europe Equal Opportunities Network. The monitoring in-country report examines equal opportunities in the workplace, according to law and in practice. The report included recommendations for improving Kosova's legislation and legal practices in this area. The Open Society Institute will publish this report as part of a regional study for EU accession countries and submit the final report to the European Union in 2006.

After more than five years of intensive advocacy, KWN is succeeding in bringing Kosovar women's voices direct to key decision-makers. Congratulations, KWN members, for your achievement!

Recommendations for Better Addressing Violence against Women in Kosova

Excerpt from a study by the Kosovar Gender Studies Center for the UN.

For the Kosovar government:

o Continuing to cooperate with women activists and NGOs in drafting, approving, and most importantly, implementing legislation that addresses violence against women.

o Institutionalizing safe houses and allotting funds from the Kosovo Consolidated Budget for increased space and support to victims. A lack of funding and space has forced safe houses to shorten stays or even turn women away.

o Encouraging municipalities to better support safe houses.

o Allocating funds and cooperating with the police force and safe houses to establish a coordinated witness protection system.

o Cooperating with UNMIK to create a system through which safe house residents can become economically independent. Since they cannot financially sustain

themselves, they often have to return to violent living situations.

For the United Nations:

o Pressuring UNMIK to sign needed legislation that addresses violence against women. More importantly, cooperating with the local government to implement legislation on violence against women.

o In accordance with UNSCR 1325 Article 6, demanding that peacekeeping troops and UN representatives undergo in-depth training in how to prevent violence against women and trafficking.

o In accordance with UNSCR 1325 Article 11, establishing and implementing tougher rules for individuals within UN missions, under which they would suffer severe consequences if found participating in the trafficking of women, harassment or other forms of violence against women.

o While researching the topic, working directly with research institutes within each country, which are aware of the local situation and can provide access to data.

For local and international NGOs:

o Continuing to support and train the local police force, judges, media, and prosecutors so that they can identify situations of violence, know how to work with women who have experienced violence, and provide safety and assistance to victims.

o Using art and culture or other popular communication tools to better explain legal mechanisms against violence against women to the general population.

o Involving both men and women in programs to address trauma after conflicts and war.

For the full report, see pg. 5.

September Meeting Notes

o Check out the new face of the KWN website: www.womensnetwork.org!

o Following interviews with local institutions, KWN and UNIFEM are preparing a report on the degree to which UNSCR 1325 has been implemented in Kosova, (see pg. 3).

o Flora Macula from UNIFEM presented UNSCR 1325, explaining that many local NGOs implement it in their work without being conscious of doing so.

o KWN members and shelter representatives met with the Minister of Labor and Social Welfare.

o Women's Center (Peja) presented their current project "Prevention of the trafficking of human beings - raising awareness by informing parents and children," supported by IOM.

o Women with Disabilities (Prizren) with assistance from the Prizren Gender Officer started assisting women with disabilities to get driving licenses. Swiss Office Kosova supported the project.

o The Center for Protection of Victims of Trafficking developed a project for integrating child victims of trafficking through trainings and professional education.

o Qeliza (Gjakova) described their projects: exhibition of national costumes and Roma Women Can Do It.

o New local women's NGO Jeta from Decan, which applied for KWN membership, was introduced.

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otherwise noted.

www.womensnetwork.org

KWN Attends Global Women's Conference

Drawn from article by Evliana Berani entitled "Women, Wars and Revolutions"

More than 1800 participants from 120 countries gathered in Bangkok on 28 and 29 October to discuss "How Does Change Happen?" at a conference organized by the Association for Women's Rights in Development (AWID). Five Kosovars participated, including Igballe Rogova, Luljeta Vuniqi, Jehona Gjurgjeala, Nora Spahiu and Evliana Berani.

In the special session on women's role and response in conflict situations, Igballe Rogova, KWN Executive Director explained how politics in Kosovo affect women: "Kosova does not have [political] status, lack of status means lack of investment, no investment [means] there is no economy and a region without [an] economy means an increase in domestic violence and overall violence against women."

According to UNSCR 1325, the decision-makers' first step when they enter a post-conflict situation should be to consult with women NGOs. Rogova

stressed that the most concerning problem women faced in Kosovo was the lack of willingness among international community representatives to consult with them and make women's voices heard. She pointed out that in conflict and post-conflict areas, the conditions for a sustainable civil society and women's networks are difficult to imagine because the money reaches those who need it most or can use it best to change the situation, last.

Rogova provided two recommendations for the international community to follow in conflict and post-conflict areas. First, the international community must consult women regarding every important issue, not only those that deal with



Igballe Rogova speaks on panel at AWID Global Women's Conference in Bangkok.

gender. Second, donors should support long-term projects because women NGOs cannot properly function if they know that their project or funding will end in two or three months.

In another session, Luljeta Vuniqi, Executive Director of the Kosovar Gender Studies Center and Jehona Gjurgjeala, the author, presented the center's 2005 publication "How Do Kosovar Women Vote?"

Open Door Hosts Women's Crafts Fair

By Alba Loxha

NGO Open Door organized the Kosovar Women's Handmade Products and Agricultural Products Fair from 21 to 23 October at the Youth and Sports Center in Prishtina. The fair marked War on Poverty Week, an annual international event from 18 to 23 October. Many KWN members who aim to decrease poverty in Kosovo took part in the exhibition.

The crafts displayed included traditional dress from different areas, souvenirs made with an

artistic touch, food products from autumn vegetable processing and sweets made from fruits. Women presented their handmade work, which served two purposes. First, it preserved inherited Kosovar traditions. Second, women suffer disproportionately more from unemployment; according to Rinvest, in 2003 64% of women and 40% of men were unemployed. Therefore the fair generated modest earnings for women to help support their families.

This festival also demonstrated positive cooperation between NGOs and the government, as it received support from the Municipality of Prishtina, Ministry of Culture and Ministry of Economy and Finance.

This was the second such fair, organized with support from KWN and UNDP. Numerous people visited the fair, which was followed by media RTV21 and RTK.



Handmade traditional products similar to these were sold at the fair organized by Open Door on 21-23 October.



Special Report:

Kosovar Civil Society Report to the United Nations On Violence against Women in Kosovo

Prepared by Ilire Rizvanolli, Lauren Bean, and Nicole Farnsworth for the Kosovar Gender Studies Center, Prishtina (1)

I. Background / Problem

Since the war ended in 1999, Kosovars have dealt with the issue of violence against women on three fronts. First, similar to other 20th century conflict situations, violence and war rape - especially towards women - were used by the Serbian regime in Kosovo (2). Second, the Kosovo Force (KFOR) NATO peace-keeping troops, United Nations Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK), and UN Police brought with them a burgeoning market for prostitution, which led to an increase in the number of locally and internationally trafficked women in Kosovo (3). Third, violence against women increased after the war. Lack of social infrastructure such as power outages increased opportunities for violence to occur. Also, the poor economic situation, post-war trauma, and depression among men - whom international humanitarian agencies failed to support as much as women in post-war healing processes - led to an increase in domestic violence. Establishing legal mechanisms to deal with violence against women presented unique challenges in Kosovo. While parliamentary elections in 2001 transferred some power to the Provisional Institutions of Self-Governance (PISG), UNMIK - specifically the Special Representative to the Secretary General (SRSG) - retains ultimate governing power, answering only to the Security Council. This means that all legislation in Kosovo must be first passed by the assembly and then signed by the SRSG (4). With power shared between UNMIK and the PISG, it is difficult to determine which body to hold accountable for implementing legislation, and both often shirk responsibility. Further complicating the situation, if new legislation has not

been passed, Kosovars abide by the old Yugoslav legislation. Thus, Kosovars can be answerable to three different legal systems: international conventions to which the UN adheres (5), newly promulgated legislation, and any withstanding Yugoslav legislation. The ambiguity as to which legal mechanism to use makes it difficult for the average Kosovar to know where to turn for legal assistance (6). Thus, despite all the legal mechanisms in place, the ultimate problem lies with implementation.

II. Good Practices: Kosovar Women in Civil Society Combat Violence against Women

Kosovar women in civil society advocate for legislation against violence against women; provide counseling and aid to support women who suffer from violence; and raise awareness about the issue. A few examples of good practices follow.

Good Practices on Behalf of Safe Houses

Immediately following the war, CPWC assisted 1,960 victims of war rape, including 29 young women who were helped to abort forced pregnancies from the war (7). Kosovar women in civil society have successfully established and maintained five safe houses in different regions of Kosovo. While some data has been published (8), little data exists at the Kosovo-wide level because the safe houses are so new. Based on a study by KGSC, to be published in early 2006:

- o 90% of women in safe houses are from Kosovo. 10% are from the Balkans or other regions.
- o 60-70% of residents return to their spouses due to a lack of financial independence.
- o 90% of residents are unable to secure employment after leaving the safe houses.

- o 82% of internally trafficked victims are minors from Kosovo who do not attend school or dropped out of school.

The safe houses have succeeded in:

- o Securing strong support from their communities in not revealing their locations.

- o Establishing a number of services for victims, which include health, psychological and HR counseling, legal support, vocational training, childcare, and programs in local schools to educate boys and girls about domestic abuse and gender-based violence.

- o Cooperating closely with the police force, KFOR, and Social Welfare Centers in combating trafficking and violence against women.

KWN Campaign against Violence against Women

In 2001, KWN - a network of more than 77 women's NGOs across Kosovo - coordinated a "Campaign against Violence against Women" (9). The campaign utilized art and theatre to increase public knowledge about the problem of violence against women, including domestic violence, rape during wartime, date rape, trafficking, and prostitution. Kosovar activists composed eight songs and wrote six monologues based on true stories, which were performed by famous actors and singers throughout Kosovo. By raising awareness, KWN sought to curb the increase in trafficking of women, help women gain courage to break out of violent situations, and explain services available to victims of violence. Rather than end in tragedy, the pieces empowered "victims" to overcome social prejudices, find support from people or institutions, and become "survivors." The campaign led to an increase in police reports against violence as

well as a decline in harassment in the workplace. KWN organized a similar campaign in 2005 to increase the general population's awareness of their legal rights under different gender equality mechanisms.

Lilja Forever Campaign (10)

In 2004, a coalition of local and international organizations coordinated the "Lilja Forever" awareness-raising campaign about the trafficking of women and girls. The campaign was based on the film "Lilja Forever" by Swedish Director Lukas Moodysson, which describes the life and experiences of a young woman from Central and Eastern Europe who became a victim of sex trafficking. The film was screened throughout Kosovo and followed by discussions. The campaign increased awareness of the sex trade among politicians, police officers, authorities, social workers, journalists, and the public.

Legal Support

In Kosovo, women in civil society have organized legal support for victims of violence. At first, when suspects for committing violence against women were sent to trial, judges were "blaming the victim." For example, a young girl testified against a man who had raped her. The first question asked in the trial was, "What did you wear that day?" Activists reacted by creating a system through which witnesses received women lawyers who knew the law and could provide assistance. Women in civil society, such as Norma Lawyer's Association and Women's Association in Gjakova, continue to provide free legal assistance to victims of violence.

Kosovar women's activists also organized to send women who were raped during the war to testify at The Hague.

Victims / witnesses were not provided protection after the trial against Milosevic on Kosovo. Kosovar women's NGOs networked globally to send witnesses to third countries for protection (11).

Addressing Post-War Trauma among Men and Women

Following the war, Kosovar activists provided psycho-social support to victims of violence. Activists noticed significantly lower levels of violence against women in areas where activists made a concentrated effort to work with traumatized men as well as women after the war. For example, in one region, a women's organization brought men from around the world to speak with Kosovar men to heal trauma. In this region, there were and still are noticeably lower numbers of domestic violence (12).

Notes

1. This input on behalf of Kosovar women in civil society was initiated and written by the Kosovar Gender Studies Center (KGSC) and submitted to the United Nations Division for the Advancement of Women in New York on October 15. However, the center benefited greatly from the input it received from experts in this area from Asebe, the Center for Protection of Women and Children (CPWC), Kosova Women's Network (KWN), Safe House, Liria, and Women's Wellness Center, NGOs in Kosovo.
2. CPWC estimates that at least 20,000 women and girls were victims of war rape.
3. See Amnesty International report, Kosovo (Serbia and Montenegro) "So does it mean that we have the rights?" Protecting the human rights of women and girls trafficked for forced prostitution in Kosovo. May 6, 2004.
4. Women in civil society have played a large role in drafting and successfully advocating for the passage of a number of important legal mechanisms in Kosovo:
 - o Regulation No. 2003/12 - 7 May 2003 on Protection against Domestic Violence
 - o Regulation No. 2004/32 - 20 August 2004 on the Promulgation of the Anti-discrimination Law. Adopted by the assembly, Kosovo Assembly Law No. 2004/3 against Discrimination, but not yet signed by the SRSG.
 - o Law on Marriage and Family Relations (Official Gazette of SAP of Kosovo 1984 No. 10)
5. Since UNMIK ultimately governs Kosovo, Kosovo is party to international conventions, including:
 - o Convention Eliminating Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) - in Kosovo's constitutional framework.
 - o The Protocol to Suppress and Prevent Trafficking of Women and Children
 - o The Charter of the United Nations
6. To address this problem, KWN recently led a "Know Your Rights" campaign that used culture and theatre to simplify the legal mechanisms so that the average Kosovar could understand his or her rights. For more information, please see www.womensnetwork.org.
7. See Relationships Between ICTY and NGOs: A bitter experience, published by CPWC, 2003.
8. See CPWC annual reports and studies.
9. For more information about this campaign, see the KWN website: www.womensnetwork.org.
10. Immediately after the war, local activists informed the UN of the increase in trafficked women, but they were ignored. Activists lobbied for UNMIK to design a code of conduct forbidding employees to visit brothels. UNMIK created a list of places employees were not allowed, but employees using sex services identified new bars or went through pimps instead. With ongoing demand, the trafficking of women has continued in Kosovo.
11. CPWC advocated and developed campaigns to ensure protection to victims after trials because they and their families were not safe to return home.
12. Based on yearly reports by Motrat Qiriaz. One expert disagreed, based on her experience with CPWC.

III. Recommendations

Kosovar Government

The Kosovar government can better address violence against women by:

- o Continuing to cooperate with women activists and civil society organizations in drafting, approving, and most importantly, implementing legislation that addresses violence against women.
- o Institutionalizing safe houses and allotting funds from the Kosovo Consolidated Budget for increased space and support to victims. A lack of funding and space has forced safe houses to shorten stays or even turn women away.
- o Encouraging municipalities to better support safe houses.
- o Allocating funds and cooperating with the police force and safe houses to establish a coordinated witness protection system.
- o Cooperating with UNMIK to create a system through which safe house residents can find jobs and become economically

independent. Since they cannot financially sustain themselves, they often have to return to violent living situations.

United Nations

As a governing authority in Kosovo, the United Nations could assist this process by:

- o Pressuring UNMIK to sign needed legislation that addresses violence against women. And, more importantly, to cooperate with the local government to implement legislation on violence against women.
- o In accordance with Security Council Resolution (SCR) 1325 Article 6, demanding that peace-keeping troops and UN representatives undergo in-depth training in how to prevent violence against women and trafficking.
- o In accordance with SCR 1325 Article 11, establishing and implementing tougher rules for individuals within UN missions, under which they would suffer severe consequences if found participating in the trafficking of women, harassment, or oth-

er forms of violence against women.

- o While researching the topic, working directly with research institutes within each country, which are more aware of the local situation and can provide better access to data.

NGOs

Based on Kosovar women in civil society's experience, local and international NGOs can address violence against women by:

- o Continuing to support and train the local police force, judges, media, and prosecutors so that they can identify situations of violence, know how to work with women who have experienced violence, and provide safety and assistance to victims.
- o Using art and culture or other popular communication tools to better explain legal mechanisms against violence against women to the general population.
- o Involving both men and women in programs to address trauma after conflicts and war.