



PERMANENT MISSION  
OF THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

**STATEMENT**

**by**

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**Permanent Representative of Slovakia  
to the United Nations**

**Security Council Arria Formula Meeting**

**on**

***Call to Lead by Example: Ensuring the Full, Equal and Meaningful Participation  
of Women in UN-led Peace Processes***

**8 March 2021  
New York**

**-Check against delivery-**

Thank you Madam Chair,

Happy International Women's Day!

We thank the Permanent Missions of Ireland and Mexico, as well as other supporting missions for organizing this meeting. In addition to the EU statement, allow me to present few remarks in national capacity.

As reflected in our National Action Plan for the implementation of UN SC Resolution 1325 for years 2021-2025, Slovakia strongly supports an equal and full participation of women in all efforts to create and maintain international peace and security, while adopting and supporting concrete and targeted measures with the aim of increasing the percentage of women in our armed forces, their representation in military structures and decision-making positions. Currently, servicewomen comprise nearly 12 % of our Armed Forces and the increasing trend is set to continue.

Slovakia has been active troop and police contributing country since its admission to the UN. I would like to highlight that members of the Armed Forces of the Slovak Republic in Cyprus, one of our biggest presence in UN missions, has already exceeded the targets set in the Uniformed Gender Parity Strategy 2018-2028, whereby almost 10 % of our military contingent personnel and 80 % of police personnel are uniformed female peacekeepers. Overall, more than 44% of all contingents' uniformed female personnel in UNFICYP is from Slovakia.

Madam Chair,

Role of national action plans and regional frameworks in ensuring tailored and context-specific approaches for advancing this agenda is essential. However, women's contributions remain outside the mainstream of formal efforts and too often are undervalued. We, the members states, need to take bold steps, and the UN needs to clearly show its leadership by urgent concrete action to fulfil its promise.

I'd like to stress the need for dedicated funding for gender responsive peacebuilding and allow me to highlight that the UN Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) has allocated 40% of its resources for that purpose. We also need dedicated partnerships with regional organizations, IFIs and other relevant stakeholders.

More than two decades after the adoption of landmark Resolution 1325 much remains to be done in implementing WPS agenda and finally walk the talk. Only that way we can ensure women's full, equal and meaningful participation in peace processes.

Thank you for your attention!