

## **Swipe left for dating violence among adolescents and young adults: Developing a policy framework on the prevention, data collection and eradication of gender-based cyber-violence**

*Wednesday 8 March 2023, 1:15 - 2:30 EST*

*Venue: UN, room CR A*

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***The side-event is organised by the Czech Republic, Sweden, France and Alternative to Violence.  
All CSW67 delegates are invited to attend.***

### **Opening remarks:**

- Mr. Marian Jurečka, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Labour and Social Affairs, Czech Republic
- Ms. Paulina Brandberg, Minister for Gender Equality and Deputy Minister for Employment, Sweden
- Ms. Stéfania Chiru, Head of Unit for International Affairs at the Ministry for Gender Equality, France
- Ms. Klára Šimáčková Laurenčíková, Government Commissioner for Human Rights of the Czech Republic

### **Speakers:**

- Ms. Barbora Jakobsen and Ms. Ingunn Rangul Askeland, researchers and psychologists, Norwegian NGO Alternative to Violence
- Ms. Eva Colledani, NESEHNUTÍ, Czech NGO representative, CWL member organisation
- Ms. Emma Olsson, senior public prosecutor, Sweden
- Ms. Alyssa Ahrabare, Vice-President of French coordination for Lobby européen des femmes, France

### **Moderator:**

- Ms. Taťána Kuchařová, SDGs ambassador, UN, Czech Republic

Gen Z-ers are the first digital natives. One in three internet users is a child or adolescent. In 2021, during the covid-19 aftermath, 95% of young adults in the EU used the internet on a daily basis. The internet has become a platform for (school)work, everyday communication, building relationships and dating. However, the spread of the Internet has also expanded the tools of negative social phenomena such as gender-based cyber-violence including cyberbullying and teen dating violence. New technologies provide new channels through which violence is perpetrated or experienced.



According to research studies, teen dating violence differs from adult intimate partner violence in terms of a higher prevalence and of controlling or monitoring mechanisms which include digital technologies.

The scarce data available indicates that 15% of adolescents have experienced behaviours such as unwanted sexting or uploading of embarrassing photos. 12% of girls and 8% of boys aged 15 across OECD countries reported experiences of cyberbullying. The prevalence is even higher for dating violence – recent studies show that almost 30% of adolescents have been subjected to controlling behaviour by their partner with regards to their friends and whereabouts.

Having experienced teen dating violence may lead to anxiety, depression, substance abuse and re-victimisation, with girls reporting bigger subjective impact. Women and girls may choose to withdraw from the digital sphere, silence themselves and eventually lose opportunities to build their education, professional career and support networks. Speakers therefore shall focus on partner violence among youth and adolescents, its forms and consequences, and how we as a society can help young people to form healthy relationships and become safe partners and parents. Following with examples of good practise with prevention programmes and experience with prosecution of cyberviolence.