



Human Rights Council – 60th Session
Annual discussion on the integration of a gender perspective throughout the work of the Human Rights Council and that of its mechanisms
Theme: Strengthening gender perspectives in transitional justice processes

Oral Statement

Mr. President, Excellencies, Distinguished Panellists,

Make Mothers Matter welcomes this important discussion. Transitional justice can only deliver truth, justice, reparation and non-recurrence if it reflects the full spectrum of gendered harms. Sexual violence, which is often used deliberately as a weapon of war, must be addressed with urgency and seriousness.

Yet women - especially mothers - also face other violations that are too often overlooked: maternal mortality and morbidity, economic dispossession, forced displacement, political exclusion, denial of reproductive rights, and the systemic devaluation of their caregiving roles.

Mothers stand at the heart of families and communities. In times of conflict, they are caregivers, providers, and protectors, holding together the fabric of communities and society while bearing the compounded costs of violence. Their unpaid care work sustains not only survival but also resilience and recovery. Despite this, mothers remain largely invisible in transitional justice processes.

We therefore urge the Human Rights Council and Member States to:

- Collect gender-disaggregated data that captures the lived realities of women and mothers
- Ensure women, and especially mothers', equal participation in all stages of transitional justice
- Design transformative reparations that value care work, restore livelihoods and healthcare, uphold dignity, and address intergenerational impacts.

Recognizing mothers' multiple roles and ensuring their rights is not only a matter of justice, it is essential for rebuilding societies, preventing recurrence, and achieving sustainable peace.

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Since 1947, MMM has been at the forefront of advocating for mothers' rights and recognition worldwide, raising awareness amongst policy makers and the general public on the contributions of mothers towards social, cultural and economic development. MMM has no political or religious affiliations. Working with local partners, MMM advocates on influential global platforms including the European Union, the United Nations (General Consultative Status), and UNESCO, ensuring that the lived realities of mothers are voiced and acknowledged.