

Marry Ferreira

The Commission of Status of Women/NY held on November 21st its monthly meeting in New York City. The event focused on violence against women and girls (VAWG), with an overview on how to use data and behavioral insights to prevent and eradicate VAWG, as well as on the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence.

Ms. Houry Geudelekian, Chair of the CSW/NY, started the meeting by highlighting the Women of Distinction Award Nominations for NGO CSW64. In 2020, CSW/NY will commemorate the 25th Anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing +25. In celebration, the organization will honor five women, one from each United Nations Region: Africa, Asia-Pacific, Latin America Caribbean, Eastern Europe, Western Europe, and others. The deadline to nominate someone is December 2nd. More information is available on the [CSW/NY website](#).

Daniela Philipson Garcia, Feminist Task Force, and Women's Economic Justice Program Assistant, moderated a panel conversation with Marta Garnelo, Senior Advisor of The Behavioural Insights Team; Adra Manasi, Campaign Manager of the 16 Days Campaign at the Center for Women's Global Leadership; Mishka Martin, Policy and Advocacy Specialist at Plan International; and Monica Meltis, Executive Director at Data Civica.

Ms. Garcia and Mishka Martin began the conversation remembering the 30th anniversary of the [Convention on the Rights of the Child](#) and the speech of the 15- years- old Millie Bobby Brown about cyberbullying, harmful practices, and bullying against girls at the United Nations General Assembly on November 20th. "I was thrilled to see Brown talking about harmful practices because girls have been strategizing against gender violence for years," said Ms. Martin.

Focusing on adolescents and girls, Mishka Martin's job is to research and design solutions to close the gap in policies and programs related to gender violence. "Yesterday, member states, NGOs and civil society made commitments at the United Nations headquarters in the 30th anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. But it is worth noticing that the adolescent and girls are quite invisible to those international legal frameworks. There is no mention in the Convention to gender or specific position of girls", she said.

During the CSW/NY meeting, Ms. Martin highlighted the intersectional marginalizations that impact girls' rights because of the gap in policies and programs. According to her, invest in international legal frameworks related to adolescents and girls, and in activists on the ground are practices that can secure their protection.

The different definitions of femicide have also impacted public data and strategies to eradicate VAWG in Mexico. Monica Meltis, Executive Director at Data Civica, called attention to how the state's legislations affect the prevention of femicide. "It is hard to compare the data in each state,

however, we know that femicide is not an isolated effect in Mexico. That violence is generated at home, perpetrated by partners and intensified by the presence of guns in the households", said Ms. Meltis.

In terms of behavioral science, Marta Garnelo's research at Behavioral Insights Team is to understand the communities' behavior for not interfering when witnessing domestic violence. "The belief of the violence as a private matter and the lack of knowledge of how to act to help are some reasons that are preventing the community from supporting a person who is in a situation of violence," said Marta Garnelo.

Ardra Manasi, Campaign Manager at the Center for Women's Global Leadership, ended the panel discussion emphasizing that gender violence is a human right issue, and inviting the society to join the 16 Days Campaign. The 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence kicks off on November 25th, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, and runs until December 10th, Human Rights Day. It was started by activists at the inaugural Women's Global Leadership Institute in 1991 and continues to be coordinated each year by the Center for Women's Global Leadership. The campaign is a call for the prevention and elimination of violence against women and girls. The civil society can get involved by joining the conversation on social media through the #16DaysCampaign and sharing the materials available on the [campaign's website](#).