

Mr. Jinga (Romania):

I would like to thank you, Sir, for organizing today's open debate on women and peace and security, one year after the high-level review on the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000).

Romania aligns itself with the statement delivered on behalf of the European Union. I would now like to make a few remarks in my national capacity.

Let me also thank the Secretary-General and the Executive Director of UN-Women for their tireless efforts in promoting the role of women in peacebuilding and the gender dimension of conflict resolution.

Last year, resolution 2242 (2015) recognized the need for greater integration of the agenda of resolution 1325 (2000) into the Council's work. In that regard, Romania welcomes the creation of the Informal Expert Group on Women and Peace and Security. Data show that when women are included in peace processes, there is a 20 per cent increase in the probability of an agreement lasting at least two years and a 35 per cent increase in the probability of an agreement lasting at least 15 years. The building of peace is a continuous process that requires broad popular support and the participation of all layers of society. Every generation has to rediscover the value of peace and build on previous generations' achievements in preserving it. Peace is built every day by teachers in schools, by youth on sports fields and by employees in their workplaces.

Resolution 1325 (2000) contributed to adapting the United Nations peacebuilding architecture to new challenges. Consequently, at the end of an extensive intergovernmental process, a new concept — that of sustaining peace — was endorsed by the States Members of the United Nations and formalized by two identical resolutions adopted on 27 April 2016: Security Council resolution 2282 (2016) and General Assembly resolution 70/262. Sustaining peace is understood both as a goal and as a process related to the prevention, stabilization and post-conflict construction and development. Evidence has shown the nexus between gender mainstreaming, sustaining peace and civic engagement. For example, seven out of 10 peace agreements signed in 2015 included gender-specific provisions. Women are now deployed in all areas of peacekeeping and special political missions as part of the missions' police, military and civilian personnel. More security personnel have been trained to prevent and respond to sexual and gender-based violence.

52/90 16-34131 The Romanian Ministry of Defence has adopted a national plan applicable until 2024, aimed at implementing the women and peace and security agenda. It promotes fair and balanced access for men and women, whether military or civilian personnel, to operational, executive and leadership posts at all hierarchical levels. The selection of candidates is a process evaluating professional skills, with no gender specification. A focal point on gender is appointed within all Romanian military units. As a result, we have women who have reached the rank of General, and there is an increased number of military female staff participating in international missions. Gender equality, tolerance, non-discrimination and interdiction of sexual harassment and gender violence are reflected in all military education programmes in Romania. Romania continues to deploy mixed-gender teams, especially within the civil and military cooperation units in Afghanistan. Currently, 15 per cent of Romanian police officers deployed in United Nations missions are women.

Finally, as one participant in the consultations held during the preparation of the global study said, women and peace and security is an agenda that speaks about

preventing war, not about making war safer for women. Therefore, we praise women's leadership and the critical role women play in preventing conflict and sustaining peace.