

XXIX

TECMUN Jr.

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United Nations Entity  
for Gender Equality  
and the Empowerment  
of Women

XXIX TECMUN Jr.  
Sessions Schedule

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**Miércoles 10 de noviembre**

Ceremonia de inauguración	9:00 – 10:00 h.
Receso	10:00 – 10:30 h.
Primera sesión	10:30 – 12:00 h.
Receso/comida	12:00 – 12:30 h.
Segunda sesión	12:30 – 14:00 h.
Receso	14:00 – 15:00 h.
Tercera sesión	15:00 – 16:00 h.

**Jueves 11 de noviembre**

Ceremonia magistral	8:30 – 9:30 h.
Receso	9:30 – 10:00 h.
Cuarta sesión	10:00 – 11:30 h.
Receso/comida	10:30 – 12:00 h.
Quinta sesión	12:00 – 13:30 h.
Receso	13:30 – 14:30 h.
Sexta sesión	14:30 – 16:00 h.

**Viernes 12 de noviembre**

Septima sesión	8:00 – 9:30 h.
Receso	9:30 – 10:00 h.
Octava sesión	10:00 – 11:30 h.
Receso/comida	11:30 – 12:00 h.
Novena sesión	12:00 – 14:00 h.
Receso	14:00 – 15:00 h.
Ceremonia de clausura	15:00 – 17:30 h.
TECMUN GLOOM	17:30 – 18:00 h.

XXIX TECMUN Jr.  
**General Agenda**

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*Secretary General: Vanessa Arroyo Jerez*

*Chief of General Coordination: Paola Ayelén Hernández Hernández*

**ASAMBLEA GENERAL**

*Subsecretary General: Andrea Michelle Martínez Lozano*

*Coordinating Supervisor: Ximena Serna Mendoza*

**Sesión Plenaria de la Asamblea General**

*President: Jade Artemis Gonzáles Díaz*

- A) Estrategias para contrarrestar la epidemia contra el VIH y el Sida, en América Latina y el Caribe, partiendo desde las desigualdades existentes
- B) Acciones para erradicar la esclavitud sexual de mujeres y niñas en la región de China y Birmania

**Primera Comisión de Desarme y Seguridad Internacional**

*President: Sofía Victoria Solís Uribe*

- A) Contrarresto de la violencia cotidiana y la adulteración económica a causa del tráfico internacional de armas de fuego ilícitas entre grupos narcotraficantes de América Latina, con énfasis en la República de Colombia
- B) Fortalecimiento del desarme y desmovilización en el área del Estrecho de Ormuz, con énfasis en ataques nucleares y de fuego entre Estados Unidos de América y la República Islámica de Irán para prevenir un posible conflicto armado

**United Nations Conference on Trade and Development**

*President: Mariana Cortés Gallardo*

- A) Strategies to ensure safe, affordable, and reliable innovation on nanotechnology in the field of healthcare to developing countries in Latin America and The Caribbean
- B) Strategies for the implementation of renewable energies in sub-Saharan Africa with emphasis on efficiency and reliability for the needs and resources of the area

**United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime**

*President: Elena Ramírez Sandoval*

- A) Strategies to cope with the massive illicit opioids trafficking in the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan through the Balkan Route
- B) Measures to reduce the illegal production of injected drugs on Southeast Asia, focusing on HIV

**Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights**

*President: Chiara Trejo Infante*

- A) Actions to diminish government censorship in Belarus, focusing on the restriction of information and attacks on human rights activists and opposition
- B) Strategies to prevent human rights violations in South-Central Somalia, focused on al-Shabab's attacks on civilians and blockage of humanitarian assistance

**Organización Internacional de Policía Criminal**

*President: Abraham Alejandro Carlos Mendoza*

- A) Acciones para combatir la piratería marítima en el Golfo de Guinea con énfasis en buques de carga y plataformas petroleras
- B) Medidas para combatir el fraude cibernético de suplantación de identidad con énfasis en Europa

**CONSEJO ECONÓMICO Y SOCIAL**

*Subsecretary General: Maria Fernanda Casillas Monrroy*  
*Coordinating Supervisor: Anahí Amairany Pérez Escobedo*

**Counter-Terrorism Committee**

*President: Diego Márquez Sánchez*

- A) Measures to mitigate the financing of the extremist group ISIL in the Middle East focusing on the illegal distribution of petroleum in the black market
- B) Actions to counter the interventions of the terrorist group Hamás in the Belic conflict between the State of Israel and the State of Palestine with a special emphasis on the consequences for the population residing in the Gaza Strip

**United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women**

*President: Kenya Damaris Ruiz Arellano*

- A) Measures to mitigate sexual violence as a form of hatred towards women part of the LGBTQ+ community in the region of South Africa
- B) Measures to address police brutality concerning the feminist movement as a result of the past women's day protests in the region of Mexico and the Republic of Chile

**Comisión de Prevención del Delito y Justicia Penal**

*President: Emilio Díaz López*

- A) Medidas para prevenir los homicidios de civiles por el uso indiscriminado de armas debido a la Segunda Guerra del Alto Karabaj entre Armenia y Azerbaiyán, con enfoque en los Principios Básicos sobre el Empleo de la Fuerza y de Armas de Fuego
- B) Medidas para prevenir cualquier método de tortura y detención indefinida en la prisión de Guantánamo, bajo dirección del gobierno de Estados Unidos de America, con enfoque al respeto de las Reglas Mínimas para el tratamiento de los reclusos de las Naciones Unidas y el Derecho Internacional

### **United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization**

*President: Paula Inclan Villamil*

- A) Actions to ensure education in areas of armed conflict generated by extremist groups of Islamic Origin with a focus on Western Asia
- B) Measures to counter the appropriation of African culture in the United States of America with a focus on capitalisation of the fashion industry

### **United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees**

*President: Regina Montserrat Villalpando Camberos*

- A) Strategies to face the humanitarian crisis in Bangladesh, as a consequence of the extreme migratory measures taken towards the Rohingya Muslim population in Myanmar
- B) Strategies to combat the migratory crisis of refugees in Southeastern Europe due to the civil conflict against the Bashar al-Ásad government in Syria

### **Conseil de l'Europe**

*President: Yunuen Blancas Cruz*

- A) Mesures pour sauvegarder la liberté d'expression et d'information, notamment la liberté de la presse en raison de la pandémie de covid-19 dans les pays d'Europe du sud-est
- B) Stratégies pour assurer une utilisation correcte du certificat COVID numérique de l'UE et éviter les répercussions sur les droits de l'homme de la population européenne

## **AGENCIAS ESPECIALIZADAS Y ORGANISMOS REGIONALES**

*Subsecretary General: Javier Márquez Saucedo*

### **Organización de los Estados Americanos**

*President: Andrea Burgos Mondragón*

- A) Medidas para hacer frente a la violencia en procesos electorales con énfasis en las recientes elecciones de los Estados Unidos Mexicanos
- B) Medidas para frenar las injusticias socioculturales hacia los pueblos indígenas en Canadá con énfasis en el sistema jurídico

## **Comisión Económica y Social para Asia y el Pacífico**

*President: Valeria Loera Gómez*

- A) Estrategias para abordar la crisis social tras el golpe de Estado en la República de la Unión de Myanmar, en el marco de la represión de manifestaciones pacíficas y la ley marcial
- B) Estrategias para contrarrestar las implicaciones económicas provocadas por fenómenos meteorológicos en el Océano Índico y el Sudeste Asiático

## **Comité Internacional de la Cruz Roja**

*President: Ana Lourdes García Nila*

- A) Estrategias para la localización de víctimas de la trata de personas en México con énfasis en el reencuentro de familias y la ayuda esencial
- B) Acciones para mejorar las condiciones de vida en las prisiones de El Salvador con énfasis en la dignidad de los presos

## **Organismo Internacional de Energía Atómica**

*President: Ixtli Zenit Ramírez García*

- A) Medidas para controlar la producción de uranio en la República Islámica de Irán con base en el Plan de Acción Integral Conjunto de 2015 con el objetivo de prevenir el desarrollo de armas nucleares
- B) Acciones para fomentar el uso de energía atómica de forma sostenible con el fin de combatir la contaminación atmosférica por carbonización con énfasis en Asia y el Medio Oriente

## **Security Council**

*President: Gerardo Calderón Huerta*

- A) Measures to stop the criminal cybernetic groups commanded by Darkside based in the Russian Federation and Eastern Europe regarding the recent attacks made to The United States of America
- B) Mechanisms to address the growing crisis regarding naval disputes located in the South China Sea region

## **International Court of Justice**

*President: Fernanda Valentina Martínez Reyes*

- A) Alleged Violations of the 1955 Treaty of Amity, Economic Relations, and Consular Rights (Islamic Republic of Iran v. United States of America)
- B) Alleged Violations of Sovereign Rights and Maritime Spaces in the Caribbean Sea (Nicaragua v. Colombia)

*“Yet, in the face of oppression, plunder and neglect, our response is life. Neither floods nor plagues, neither famines nor cataclysms, not even eternal wars through the ages and centuries, have succeeded in reducing the tenacious advantage of life over death”.*

- Gabriel García Márquez

For the present, the moment you read this,  
Wanting to change the world is a dreamer's idea.

The world is full of monotony, conformism and intolerance. Years of violence, corruption, discrimination, injustice and selfishness have ended up dehumanizing the individuals who make it up, turning us into nothing more than fragments clinging to a concept of life that is far removed from goodness and innocence. We turn what we condemn into our normality, to such a degree that living under the incessant sensation of fear has been the only constant over the years. Wars, crises, inequality, weapons and crimes are just some of the words that make up the topics that you will discuss over the next three days, but today, I would like to ask you that beyond clinging to your position, you become that agent of change that remembers that mistakes are human and that empathy is a concept that can only prevail if we understand that the reality of this world is not limited to a shade of gray, but to a myriad of shades.

Humanity was condemned to freedom, to the ability to have options and create a criteria about them, implying a responsibility that goes beyond our understanding, since it is not limited to the selfishness of our actions but to the repercussions of this. In a world so full of inequality, frustration and hopelessness, it is easy to forget that the capacity for change still lies in the minds and hearts of those willing to see the truth. Beyond our passion for debate, we work on this model because we are dreamers and we faithfully believe that the world can change if we all dare to rebuild ourselves under the concepts of respect, forgiveness and empathy. We seek to remind you that your voice has value, just as your actions can represent the struggle of thousands of people. After four years in this project, I would like to share with you that my true reason for fighting for a better world lies with you and the people who make up TECMUN. It is here where I have found genuine hope for a better present and future, where I learned the importance of not being indifferent to your context, where I found the strength in my voice and where I found my place in the world. I want to remind you that it is that small spark of inspiration that we find in unexpected places that usually unleashes the greatest revolutions in our hearts and minds, that pushes us to take hold of that capacity for change that we are so terrified to explore and that ends up making us raise our voices against what we believe is right.

Three days are not enough to change the world, but I hope they were enough to make you feel inspired. Don't be afraid to be a dreamer, to wish for a better tomorrow, and don't feel ashamed for being afraid to take the first step. At the end of the day, this is a path that we will walk together and never stop learning from. Today I just want to thank you for inspiring me once again and for being the reason TECMUN remains strong. *Hope*, that's what you and this model represent to me, so thank you for changing my life.



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Vanessa Arroyo Jerez  
Secretary General for the  
XXIX TECMUN Jr.

*"I am not throwing away my shot."*

- *Lin-Manuel Miranda*

Participant,

A couple of years ago I met someone who could talk all day about TECMUN. I didn't really get it, to be honest with you, the way she talked like it was the most inspiring and breathtaking thing ever. I didn't get it for a while, until the very first model I was a part of. Seeing rooms full of delegates, like you, taking on a posture for three days to try and solve a problematic that probably nobody else cares to solve at the moment. Their excited looks, concentrated faces, and their firmness raising their hands to speak out is something that will always stay with me. There is something truly special in the way that hundreds of young people that have never met each other in their lives share ideas and possible solutions, all for a common, incredible end: the one of helping people in need.

I may not know you personally, but you, by reading this, have already given me hope in a better world. A world that can't only change, but that can be changed by people like you. Because, believe it or not, you have one of the greatest powers to ever exist: *courage*. Don't stick to the version of the world that has been sold to all of us. Believe in the power of a single, courageous voice that dares to defy the ones filled with indifference or that are deeply corrupted. Believe in the power of being alive, of being free, despite and *because* of the ones who are not. Be what many others can't or won't be. Believe in your own capacity, desires and goals, because when you want to be a part of change, your post doesn't matter; what matters is what you can do, want to do and dedicate yourself to do, and who you can become with all of that. I fully believe that you can grow to be and do something extraordinary, because you have taken the very first step by joining this model.

I have learned that TECMUN is not only a United Nations model; TECMUN is whatever you take from it. It can be an eye-opening place, an experience of growth, a space of support, and much more. But I can go as far as saying that it is an elemental opportunity. Many of us have gotten to know the pieces that make us up right here, and we put them together a little bit more with every day we spend being a part of it. Maybe the same will happen to you, or maybe not, but there is definitely something that you will take with you from the model.

It's time to stop waiting for the better. It's time to push away all of the doubt, and take a chance. Every single one of us, at some point, has been completely oblivious to the topics debated in this model. But, for you, that ends here and now. I have faith that the next three days will only be the beginning of a journey for you, of becoming a person who is aware of the challenges that surround millions of people in this world every day, and of wanting to do something about it. Lastly, I want you to know that, by being here, you have already inspired me in many ways. Today, at this very moment, you have taken your shot. And I know you will continue to do so.

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Paola Ayelén Hernández Hernández  
Chief of General Coordination for the  
XXIX TECMUN Jr.

*"I would like to see a conscious sense of peace and a feeling of human solidarity develop in all the people, which can open up new relationships of respect and equality for the next millennium, which should be one of fraternity and not of bloody conflict".*

- Rigoberta Menchu

Delegate,

Nothing prevails, history is ephemeral, the only thing that is intangible and ineffable is change. Nowadays any kind of news can be published and distorted, history is in the hands of repression and yellow journalism. The daily life of society is manipulated to favour a few and to prevent society from removing the blindfold they put on themselves is almost impossible. Mentality inside the box, mentality suppressed. Only those who wield power are favoured, swell their pockets while damaging the planet and every living thing that prevents them from expanding their monopolies is eliminated. It is well known that there are times when the ends justify the means, but today that has changed. The means began to be a source of massacres, violence and repression, generating Machiavellian and selfish ends. The human being is repressed and is not even aware of this, materialistic by necessity.

Mass consumption is a necessity, companies began to take over natural resources to profit from basic needs. Technology and the media encourage capitalist behaviours of consumerism and disinformation. Every piece of news, every historical event is imparted by some media outlet influenced by greed and with the sole purpose of manipulating the masses. Whoever wields this power will be able to manipulate time to his or her advantage. A power that was never intended to be in the hands of a few and to affect minorities.

He who adapts to change survives, that says one of the most important laws of evolution and has been the answer to many social problems, but today I invite you to give a historical twist to humanity. Become the change, the world is waiting for you, it is waiting for us to challenge everything we know. Don't let anyone or anything stop you, one day you will achieve the unimaginable. You are about to embark on a path of constant questioning of your ideals and the perspective of the world you live in, you will realize that it is okay to change your mind and rectify every step you take. You are about to understand that you just need to summon up the courage to say a few words and make everyone turn their eyes towards you to understand that your voice can move the masses.

Finally, I want to thank you for being part of something so meaningful to hundreds of people. TECMUN is more than a model of United Nations, it is a life-changing experience. It is three days where you can show how capable you are, facing any adversity; discovering that your dreams, hopes and actions speak. Never give up, make mistakes, make decisions, fight against yourself and learn with every step you take. I am honored to be your Subsecretary and I vow that after this experience you will never be silent in the face of injustice again.

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Maria Fernanda Casillas Monrroy  
Subsecretary for the Economic and Social Council for the  
XXIX TECMUN Jr.

Hoy, me veo reflejada en todxs y cada unx de ustedes. Con sueños, aspiraciones, y deseos. Es por eso que hoy te pido a ti que no cometas el error que la mayoría de humanos cometemos; la indiferencia en todo su esplendor.

Hoy, habita vívida y conscientemente cada segundo de la efímera vida; disfruta de tus logros, de tus seres queridos, de los atardeceres, de la música, incluso de la rutina. Pero también, abraza a tu tristeza, a tus decepciones, a tus lágrimas, y a los días lluviosos. Delegadx, hoy tengo dos palabras para ti, aquí y ahora.

Aquí y ahora tenemos días malos, situaciones difíciles, problemas personales que parecen no tener solución. Aquí y ahora también vivimos cosas maravillosas, con privilegios que debemos reconocer y con los cuales debemos actuar desde la interseccionalidad de individuo a individuo. Porque delegadx, aquí y ahora también nuestras hermanas, madres, amigas, primas y tías viven con miedo de ser una estadística más. Aquí y ahora el amor es limitado para aquellos quienes encajan dentro de lo considerado apropiado. Aquí y ahora la apariencia define el valor y respeto humano. Aquí y ahora la lista podría seguir y seguir. Aquí y ahora vivimos en un mundo roto.

Delegadx, aquí y ahora rechazaste la indiferencia. Aquí y ahora decidiste hablar por todas esas mujeres que fueron silenciadas, por todas las personas de la comunidad LGBTQ que han sido violentadas por amar, por todas las personas que luchan día a día por tener un lugar en el mundo en el cual sean respetadas y valoradas por lo que son, humanas. Igual que tú y yo. Rechazar la indiferencia es el primer paso para contribuir al cambio. Y aquí y ahora, tú ya diste ese paso.

Delgadx, aquí y ahora no te diré que TECMUN cambiará tu vida. Tampoco te diré que saldrás siendo una persona nueva. Lo que sí te puedo asegurar, es que aquí y ahora cargas una responsabilidad con la sociedad por el simple hecho de coexistir en ella. Así que no, TECMUN no va a cambiar tu vida, lo harás tu mismx al quitarte la venda de los ojos. El mundo está pidiendo a gritos que personas como tú y yo, traidorxs de la indiferencia, llevemos esos conocimientos, argumentos, discursos y, por qué no, esa rabia por conseguir justicia fuera de las salas de debate. Llévalas en mente y alma por cada segundo que pase, cuestionando al entorno y a ti mismx, y así, vencer a la indiferencia para darle lugar a la consciencia.

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Kenya Damaris Ruiz Arellano  
President of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of  
Women  
XXIX TECMUN Jr.

# Background

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The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women), pursues to accelerate the process of attending to women's necessities worldwide by achieving gender equality, along with encouraging their participation and empowerment. The United Nations General Assembly created UN Women in July 2010 to meet challenges brought by the pervasive effects of gender inequality and violence against women. The creation of UN Women represented a historic event for the United Nations Member States and the progress to eradicate said problems. Ever since then, the 41 Member States have been attending ordinary sessions that take place in New York in September and December of each year, as well as whenever they are required.

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## Faculties

Women's rights are human rights, yet gender inequalities endure strongly in societies. In spite of the fact that progress has been made over many decades, work has to continue and results have to flourish regarding the rights and liberty of women globally. UN Women main roles and faculties are:

- To encourage the Member States to fulfill global standards for achieving gender equality and contribute with technical and financial support to countries that request it, along with the creation of effective partnerships with civil society.
- Retrieving data and enhance analysis to provide a wider understanding of the background of violence against women.

- Working with governments and civil society to design laws, policies, programs, and services needed to guarantee that the standards are truly benefiting women worldwide.
- Engaging with women's movements to boost their effectiveness through sharing knowledge on women's rights, assisting in communication building, leadership, and different skills to successfully advocate practices and maximize the results.

# Topic A

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Measures to mitigate sexual violence as a form of hatred towards women part of the LGBTQ+ community in the region of South Africa

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*By: Kenya Damaris Ruiz Arellano  
Anael Oliveros Aguilar  
Angélica Belén Trejo Lares*

### *The transcendent stigma of sexuality*

Violence against individuals in the wake of their sexual orientation is one of many ways in which sexual stigma<sup>1</sup> is reflected. Sexual stigma is based in the perception of sexual orientation that emerges from a shared belief system created by society in which homosexuality is denigrated in relation to heterosexuality. Said concept works along the same path of stereotyped genders, which means that gender violence towards women is greatly triggered as a consequence of gender oppression from society's point of view. "These attacks constitute a form of gender-based violence, driven by a desire to punish those seen as defying gender norms." (HRC, 2011).

The World Health Organization (WHO) defines sexual violence as "A serious public health and human rights problem with both short- and long-term consequences on women's physical, mental, sexual and reproductive health." (WHO, n.d). The LGBTQ+ community is often exposed to higher rates of poverty, marginalization<sup>2</sup>, and stigma. Moreover, members have a greater risk of facing hate-motivated violence. Among the diversity of the community, transgender and homosexual women overlook the most alarming rates of sexual violence. A report provided in 2010 by The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NISVS) affirmed that 46 % of bisexual women have been victims of sexual assault in comparison with 17 % of heterosexual women in the United States. Homosexual women are sexually assaulted in an intended way to be punitive or corrective since they do not correspond to heteronormativity<sup>3</sup> and defeat certain aspects of masculinity. "He kept saying,

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<sup>1</sup> **Stigma:** A mark of disgrace associated with a particular circumstance, quality, or person. (Oxford Languages, n.d.).

<sup>2</sup> **Marginalization:** The act of treating someone or something as if they are not important. (Cambridge Dictionary, n.d.).

<sup>3</sup> **Heteronormativity:** Denoting or relating to a world view that promotes heterosexuality as the normal or preferred sexual orientation. (Oxford Dictionary, n.d.).

‘I know you are a *lesbian*. You are not a man, you think you are, but I am going to show you, you are a woman. I am going to make you pregnant...’ (Nicholson, 2010).

### ***South Africa’s perception in past and modern times***

From 1948 to 1994, the racial apartheid represented a huge predicament<sup>4</sup> for the dark skin population in South Africa. Although this discriminatory law was over skin colour, it greatly affected the population that encompassed<sup>5</sup> the LGBTQ+ community. During the apartheid, the psychiatrists of the South African Defence Force (SADF) were involved in abuses, torture and discrimination against homosexuals. The SADF medical team started seeking them in troops and subsequently took them by force and through serious punishments to the hospital, including women. In due course, the ideology<sup>6</sup> of homosexuality being a mental illness arose; it was considered dangerous, unnatural and a priority to treat with drugs and therapy. During those years, human rights were tremendously violated and later on exposed in investigations such as “The Aversion Project”. In the 70’s, the treatments started to be considered useless given that they were not delivering the desired results, in fact, in 1973 the American Psychiatric Association’s (APA) eliminated and stopped considering homosexuality as a sickness.

Afterwards, discrimination transcended mainly because of religious ideals. Christianity came into the scene of the region’s education in 1730 as a consequence of colonization. The growing religious belief strongly rejected homosexuality, this belief increased and spread throughout the years and it negatively affected the visibilization and respect towards the

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<sup>4</sup> **Predicament:** An unpleasant situation that is difficult to get out of. (Cambridge Dictionary, n.d.).

<sup>5</sup> **Encompassed:** Surround and have or hold within. (Oxford Languages, n.d.).

<sup>6</sup> **Ideology:** A system of ideas and ideals, especially one which forms the basis of economic or political theory and policy. (Oxford Languages, n.d.).

LGBTQ+ population. Homosexuality did not only went against religious practices but also cultural aspects. “Homosexuality is considered ‘un-African’ and a ‘Western import’ brought by the colonial era as a white phenomenon, a sin, a perversion, a sickness and immorality” (Gontek, 2009).

For the past 40 years, women involved in the LGBTQ+ community have been censored as a result of stereotyped genders and their rejection of gender norms. The perception of homosexual women under the public eye is eagerly<sup>7</sup> invisible due to the classification of them in a society defined by gender and heterosexual norms. In the other hand, homosexuality in the public discourse is commonly focused exclusively in homosexual men. Lesbianism occurred in polygamous<sup>8</sup> households, however, there is scarce information concerning *lesbian* activity during pre-colonial and even during the contemporary times, it was not until the 1960s when homosexual women started to be acknowledged.

Since the dismantlement of the Apartheid regime in the early 1900s, the South African nation emerged into a process of democratisation. This new democratic constitution aimed to guarantee equal opportunities, principles and human rights for all. The early years were defined by efforts in numerous reforms inside the justice system and political arena. Impressive economic growth and a consistent increase in black middle class was achieved. Nonetheless, poverty reduction is slowly advancing nowadays, in fact, it is one of the greatest inequalities present in the nation. The United Nations Human Development Report (HDR) affirmed in 2020 that 1 in 5 South Africans are living in a state of extreme poverty.

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<sup>7</sup> **Eagerly:** Used to emphasize a strong desire to do or have something. (Oxford Languages, n.d.).

<sup>8</sup> **Polygamous:** Married to more than one person at the same time, or relating to this practice. (Cambridge Dictionary, n.d.).

This new liberal democracy brought along progressive legislative changes and improvements in favor of the LGBTQ+ community. For instance, the constitutional protection of sexual orientation adjudges<sup>9</sup> a wide range of opportunities for the definition of political, cultural, social and individual matters in society. South Africa was the first state worldwide that held sexual orientation under the constitutional law's protection. Eventually, in 2006 South Africa became the fifth country and first nation on the African continent to recognize same-sex marriages.

Debates about homosexuality in society had a positive effect on the visibility of homosexual women. Nevertheless, freedom and equality principles that are stated in the constitution, remain merely theoretical for many homosexual women. The conversations about the historical, cultural and social legitimacy of homosexuality are still defined by controversy. Many LGBTQ+ women that freely choose to live their sexual orientation, often find themselves in a reality marked by a homophobic society in which economic discrimination, sexual violence and cultural rejection are part of their daily life. "As I spent my days in the company of *lesbian* women, particularly *black* women in Gauteng, I found myself confronted with their diverse experiences of homophobic discrimination. During my stay I met many *black lesbians* who had already suffered sexual violence, often repeatedly." (Gontek, 2009).

### ***The rules of patriarchy over women***

Social scientists in the nineteenth century defined patriarchy as a complex form of political organization established by male domination "The world historical defeat of the female sex" (Engels, 1884). Although the concept of patriarchy has been defined as politic, most

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<sup>9</sup> **Adjudges:** Consider or declare to be true or the case. (Oxford Languages, n.d.).

feminisms affirm that patriarchy is more than political; it is a day to day unjust social system that subordinates<sup>10</sup>, discriminates and oppresses women. “The patriarchal construction of the difference between masculinity and femininity is the political difference between freedom and subjection” (Pateman, 1998). Feminist and non-feminist thinkers recognize that the roots of patriarchy flourish<sup>11</sup> in the historical origins of family and father’s leadership that is reflected in the whole social order spectrum<sup>12</sup>, an order that is reinforced by several mechanisms:

These mechanisms interconnect not only with each other to strengthen the structures of domination of men over women, but also with other systems of exclusion, oppression and/or domination based on real or perceived differences between humans, creating States that respond only to the needs and interests of a few powerful men. (Facio, 2013).

Through patriarchy, men as a category individually and collectively oppress all women inside the female social category. Nonetheless, women are also individually oppressed outside of their social sphere in different ways, for instance, controlling their bodies, minds, sexuality and spirituality through other “peaceful” patriarchal mechanisms such as law and religion. The reality is, these peaceful means are supported by the use of physical, sexual and psychological violence that are portrayed by misogyny<sup>13</sup>. In societies, misogynistic beliefs demonstrate hatred towards women as a result of male dominance. Ironically, the prevalence of misogyny, as explicit as it could be, is often found as an internalized and implicit behaviour

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<sup>10</sup> **Subordinates:** Having a lower or less important position. (Cambridge Dictionary, n.d.).

<sup>11</sup> **Flourish:** To grow or develop successfully. (Cambridge Dictionary, n.d.).

<sup>12</sup> **Spectrum:** Used to classify something, or suggest that it can be classified, in terms of its position on a scale between two extreme or opposite points. (Oxford Languages, n.d.).

<sup>13</sup> **Misogyny:** Feelings of hating women, or the belief that men are much better than women. (Cambridge Dictionary, n.d.).

among people, especially men. Words, expressions and acts expose disrespect or hostility against women. According to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), in the 2020 Human Development Perspectives “Tackling Social Norms: a game changer for gender inequalities” report, 28 % of the world's population think it is fair and justified for men to beat their wives:

When a person feels hatred or disdain<sup>14</sup> towards women generally, it becomes much easier to commit violence against them. An individual with a misogynistic world view may view the women in their life as property, and harshly control them. They may also react with anger if a woman does not give them what they feel entitled to, such as sex or romantic love, which may result in sexual assault, physical violence, or even *homicide*. (Blackburn Center, 2014).

### ***The roots of Homophobia***

Homophobia, also known as “sexual prejudice”, refers to discriminatory actions such as physical and psychological violence, disrespect of human rights, insults, boosting of stereotypes and other ways of hatred against a person involved in the nowadays denominated, LGBTQ+ community. Violence occurs in a vast variety of scenarios; in public places, school, workplaces, homes, prison cells, and many others. These attacks may be spontaneous or organized, made by individual subjects or by extremist groups. A constant characteristic of anti-LGBTQ+ hate crimes is the brutality present in them; casualties<sup>15</sup> accompanied by mutilation, severe burns, castration and sexual assault. Torture and ill-treatment is an extremely documented matter along the community. Torture takes place as detention in

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<sup>14</sup> **Disdain:** the feeling that someone or something is unworthy of one's consideration or respect; contempt. (Oxford Languages, n.d.).

<sup>15</sup> **Casualties:** A person injured or killed in a serious accident or war. (Cambridge Dictionary, n.d.).

which LGBTQ+ people are victimized through involuntary medical treatment to “reverse” homosexuality through sexual abuse, and sexual harassment including anal examinations of homosexual men in order to demonstrate their homosexuality, non-consensual sterilization of transgender people, and electric shock therapy with the purpose of changing sexual orientation. “Homophobia, like racism and xenophobia, exists to varying degrees in all societies, everyday, in every country, individuals are persecuted, vilified or violently assaulted, and even *killed*, because of their sexual orientation and gender identity.” (Pillay, 2010).

### ***Analyzing homophobia***

Psychological investigation on homophobia argues about the correlation between homosexuality and any type of gender identity and/or sexuality inside the LGBTQ+ spectrum and factors as sex, age, education, race, and marital status. “Studies have found that those who are older, less educated, single, or male tend to be more homophobic than those who are younger, more educated, married, or female.” (Yang, 1998). Some psychologists affirm that homophobia is a reaction from repressed erotic desires that acts as a defense mechanism of admitting homosexual tendencies. Many others believe that the fear of not being able to fill up gender roles can lead to homophobia. “Homophobia may also serve an identity-maintenance function for dominant group members afraid of being labeled deviant.” (Britton, 1990). Another defining element concerning the presence of homophobia is the belonging to groups or associations that explicitly stand in opposition to homosexuality, for example conservative religions that enhance their perspectives. These motivations can be described as deriving from different psychological functions triggered by sexual and gender prejudice that travel from one individual to another.

Feminist inclined psychological studies relate sexism with homophobia since the connection of them reveal similar findings. These discoveries suggest that men have stronger homophobic beliefs in comparison to women. “These studies of homophobia find correlations between adherence to traditional sex role norms measured on personality scales and homophobia.” (Raja & Stokes,1998). Moreover, heterosexual men tend to present thougher hostility against homosexual men, than heterosexual women against homosexual women. A report provided by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) estimates that out of 1,402 hate crime offenses based on sexual orientation, 60.6 % were classified as biased against homosexual men perpetrated by heterosexual men in the United States in the year 2013.

### **Heteropatriarchy**

Heteropatriarchy is a colonial construct that narrows and limits both masculinity and femininity in certain ways to maintain a clear binary distinction between subordinate and dominant; female and male. The concept of heteropatriarchy represents control over every individual’s capacities to express and experience their own self, and subsequently, affect the constitution of personality factors socially and sexually. In addition, this ideology through the hierarchy practice boosts sex and gender stereotypes, as well as racism. It inflicts unjustifiable violations on individuals’ human rights, society and the law itself:

Heteropatriarchy serves to naturalize all other social hierarchies, such as white supremacy and settler colonialism. It operates from the assertion that the earth is inherently female and is therefore seen as inherently subservient/available to be consumed and utilized. (AVP, n.d.).

### ***South Africa's context regarding sexual violence towards LGBTQ+ women***

According to the International Crime Police Organization (INTERPOL), South Africa holds the first rank globally of sexual assault towards female victims. The South African Police Service shared dreadful<sup>16</sup> statistics obtained from the years 2015 and 2016 in which 43,000 sexual assaults were reported. Nonetheless, these figures are only half of the problem since 88 % of the crimes against the LGBTQ+ community in South Africa are not being reported by the victims to the correspondent authorities. The crime manager of OUT foundation in defense of the LGBTQ+ rights in South Africa, states:

The fact that 88 % of LGBT hate crime victims did not report these incidents to the police indicates that people generally do not have faith in the system, and that a lot still needs to be done to make sure that LGBT hate crime victims are not further victimised by the police (Phalakatshela, 2016).

Sexual assaults towards LGBTQ+ women are repeatedly justified by the aggressors as a corrective action through sexual assault. Predators believe that if they abuse homosexual women they would be capable of “curing them” by making them heterosexual. This action has not been punished by the South African law in several cases for the past two decades. “Despite growing attention by the media, LGBTI rights organizations, human rights organizations and scholars, the incidence of corrective *rape* does not seem to be curtailing” (Brown, 2012). Homosexuality continues to be a taboo in the region as well as the sexual violence faced by the members of the LGBTQ+ community.

Motshidisi Pascalina, was a 21 year old homosexual women living in South Africa with her family. After going to a party with some other people, Pascalina never came back

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<sup>16</sup> **Dreadful:** Causing or involving great suffering, fear, or unhappiness; extremely bad or serious.

home and subsequently was reported as missing. Two days after her disappearance Pascalina was found beaten, mutilated and allegedly sexually violated and tortured to the point that her face was unrecognizable. The case was being ignored in spite of the manifestations held asking for justice and attention from the local authorities and the media. After several months, four men were arrested for having a connection to the crime, nonetheless they justify their actions as a corrective sexual assault. “At present there is no official monitoring of these types of crimes, with the consequence that it is left out of government statistics” (OUT, 2016).

### ***Sexual violence and its impact***

Sexual violence can be performed in a wide range of representations. This harassment involves the manipulation and intimidation of an individual into unwanted and unconsented sexual activity. The missing presence of consent can come from many factors such as fear, age, any illness or disability, as well as the influence of alcohol and/or drugs. The World Health Organization (WHO) defines sexual violence as “Any sexual act, attempt to obtain a sexual act, unwanted sexual comments or advances, or acts to traffic, or otherwise directed, against a person’s sexuality using coercion, by any person regardless of their relationship to the victim, in any setting, including but not limited to home and work.”. (World Health Organization, 2012).

Studies provided by the World Health Organization have demonstrated that 30 % of women worldwide have suffered from physical and/or sexual assaults at least once in their life. The organization forewarns that this form of violence could lead to serious consequences for the victim in short- and long-term. Among these, mental, sexual and physical health can be identified. The consequences presented in sexual assault victims vary in each individual,

however, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), feelings of guilt and shame, anxiety, depression and substance abuse are commonly faced by victims, stated an article published by Exploring Your Mind in 2019. The outcomes of sexual violence highly depend on the age of the victim when the event happened. Teenagers often overlook feelings of threat and humiliation, insecurity, damaged self image, guilt, and various mental health issues, for instance suicidal thoughts. During adulthood, women survivors tend to go through vaginal problems, urinary tract infections, chronic pain, sleeping problems, fibromyalgia<sup>17</sup>, eating disorders, social anxiety, depression and fatigue.

Regarding women part of the LGBTQ+ community, survivors of sexual assault must contend with the beforementioned aftermath of their experience, while facing systematic discrimination as a result of the biases connected to their sexual orientation or gender identity. “Internalized homophobia or transphobia has detrimental effects on their mental health and might result in self-harm or violence among individuals” (WHO, 2018). In 2006, the American Association of University Women (AAUW) found alarming rates of sexual harassment against LGBTQ+ students. In the report, sexual harassment encompassed noncontact forms of violence such as jokes, and contact forms of violence such as forcing students to participate in sexual acts. Indeed, 73 % of LGBTQ+ population reported experiencing sexual harassment, in comparison with 61 % of non-LGBTQ+ students. “They tell me that they will *kill* me, they will *rape* me and after *raping* me I will become a girl. I will become a straight girl”. (Zakwe, 2015).

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<sup>17</sup> **Fibromyalgia:** a chronic disorder characterized by widespread musculoskeletal pain, fatigue, and tenderness in localized areas. (Oxford Languages, n.d.).

Only in the United States region, 63 % of the total of sexual assaults are not reported to the authorities. Research on incidents of sexual assault indicates that the main reason of female victims not wanting to speak up about their cases is the belief that it was not serious enough to report by not realizing that it was a crime or feeling partially or fully responsible of what happened. Similar reasons contribute to hesitation among LGBTQ+ survivors. The lack of attention to sexual assaults perpetrated against individuals in the community, along with the prejudices based on their sexual orientation or gender identity, may withhold survivors from reporting their assaults. LGBTQ+ victims may avoid the perpetrator or leave behind their experience as a result of trauma, victim blaming, fear and stigma. “These statistics highlight the importance of a multilayered response to sexual assault, including preventative outreach and immediate responses to sexual violence and trauma-informed services designed to meet the long-term needs of victims who experienced sexual violence as children or adolescents.” (Hussey, 2014).

***Pursuing the eradication of hatred towards LGBTQ+ women***

The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) recognizes the specific needs of people that are part of the LGBTQ+ and believes it is an opportunity for the United Nations system to diversify and spread awareness about LGBTQ+ issues. The Generation Equality Forum in Paris will take place from June 30 to July 2 of 2021, this forum will start mobilizing a series of clear, ambitious and transformative actions to pursue gender equality acknowledging people in all their diversity with special attention to LGBTQ+ rights. In 2015, UN Women worked along with other 11 United Nations entities to release an unprecedented joint statement alarming to end violence and discrimination against homosexual, bisexual, transgender and intersex people. The statement

is a call to action to Governments to increase their efforts to tackle homophobic and transphobic violence and discrimination.

UN Women has multiple partnerships with civil society organizations and governments in which together aim to reach advocacy and legislative reform efforts at national level. For instance, in South Africa UN Women has supported high-level advocacy practices on the prevention of the discrimination and violence towards LGBTQ+ women with disabilities regarding Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) and Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS). In Mexico, UN Women has worked along with the International *Lesbian and Gay* Association in encouraging civil society to involve in global meetings to spread awareness. The Rainbow Sky Association of Thailand (RSAT) has also worked along with UN Women with the project “The Empowerment and Capacity Building of *Lesbian* and Transgender Women to Mitigate Violence, Stigma and Discrimination based on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity”. This initiative was partly financially supported by UN Women for three years from the beginning of 2015 to the end of 2017. The goal of the project was to provide homosexual and transgender women from 4 regions of Thailand, a most prominent freedom from discrimination and human rights violations as a consequence of their sexual orientation and gender identity.

Several non governmental organizations (NGOs) have dedicated their voice in defense of the LGBTQ+ community members. For instance, Human Rights Watch (HRW) carries out extensive research and subsequently publishes reports about worldwide predicaments. HRC writes with the purpose of reaching governments or local authorities and persuading them to take actions until pursuing a solution. Human Rights Watch published a report about the LGBTQ+ community in South Africa in 2011 after several cases of human

rights violations were held against members of the community. They titled it as “*South Africa: LGBT Rights in Name Only?*”, this document includes the results the organization obtained with its research about the violence homosexual people suffer every day and how it leads to be irrelevant for the authorities or even the victims. Lastly, some recommendations to solve the problematic were written to different authorities or organizations, such as The South African Police services.

Finally, the government of South Africa recognized the huge problematic for women in the region, therefore, they called for a meeting in September of 2015 with the Global Leaders on Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment with UN WOMEN as host. In this conference, South Africa discussed, wrote and signed a commitment stating that great efforts will be made to achieve gender equality and in that way, complying with one of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for 2030; SDG number 5, Gender Equality. In said document, four aspects of the commitment are mentioned, which are: Women and Health, Ending Violence Against Women, Equal Representation and Women Empowerment. Among these four different sub-themes actions or policies are included in order to implement actions to reach the goal. For instance, we can find the Promotion of Equality and Prevention of Unfair Discrimination Act 4 of 2000 (PEPUDA) and campaigns such as *#CountMeIn* which is joined with the initiative of UN WOMEN known as *He4She*, both of them intended to include men and children in the inclusion and empowerment of women in society.

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## **Topic B**

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Measures to address police brutality concerning the feminist movement as a result of the past women's day protests in the region of Mexico and the Republic of Chile

## Introduction

Policing institutions play an essential role in both democratic and authoritarian settings. The police forces are in charge of keeping order, and security within the context of protecting human rights. The transition to democracy in many countries of the Latin American region demanded the reform of policing institutions to facilitate the promotion of law under democratic rules, as well as guaranteeing the efficiency of them. Police misconduct<sup>18</sup> is often constituted by a violation of basic criminal statutes<sup>19</sup> and it is strictly related to a mindset of authority abuse towards civilians.

Surveys provided by the *Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Geografía* (INEGI) showed that in Mexico, out of 64,150 surveyed mexicans, 75 % claimed to have suffered psychological violence and abuse such as being undressed and suffocated during the process of arrest. Almost 64 % of the participants of the survey affirmed to have experienced physical aggressions, for instance, kicking, punching, crush injuries<sup>20</sup>, electrical discharges and sexual assault towards women perpetrators. Despite the frequency of police violations of individual rights, the legal mechanisms that control this harmful behavior to others, criminal and civil laws, have proven ineffective at policing the police.

The International Amnesty published in 2020 a report regarding five feminist protests for women's day in Mexico in which authorities violated women human rights during the protests. The document claims arbitrary<sup>21</sup> detentions, threats, stigmas<sup>22</sup> and sexual

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<sup>18</sup> **Misconduct:** Unacceptable or improper behavior, especially by an employee or professional person. (Oxford Languages, n.d.).

<sup>19</sup> **Statutes:** A rule of an organization or institution. (Oxford Languages, n.d.).

<sup>20</sup> **Crush Injuries:** Occurs when force or pressure is put on a body part. (MedicinePlus, n.d.).

<sup>21</sup> **Arbitrary:** Based on random choice or personal whim, rather than any reason or system. (Oxford Languages, n.d.).

<sup>22</sup> **Stigmas:** A mark of disgrace associated with a particular circumstance, quality, or person. (Oxford Languages, n.d.).

violence. The NGO has demanded the Mexican Government to guarantee the right of free union for women to manifest while being protected. Subsequently, more than 20,000 women reunited in Cancún to protest against three femicides that occurred in the state of Quintana Roo. The protesters marched in the city, and before they could arrive in the city hall, a group of police agents opened fire towards the women and exercised physical aggressions in order to dissolve the demonstration. Eventually, some protesters were arrested. “During the arrests and transfers of the detained women, several women and girls suffered physical violence of different kinds, such as threats and verbal abuse based on gender stereotypes” (Amnesty International, 2020).

In the Republic of Chile feminist protests are also subject of police brutality given that these type of strikes are not permitted by the Metropolitan Administration. More than 500,000 women participated in the 8M movement at a national level in 2020 to raise their voices for justice. “Today we will raise up in a feminist general strike because the movement its giving one step forward in this process of popular revolt and we want to say that nowadays our lives are a political problem” (Manz, 2020).

### **The Cradle of Machismo; Mexico**

The colonization period between 1519 and 1521 shaped the foundations of the new order in the freshly discovered territory of the Nueva Espaa regime. Inside this new organization, white men ruled over indigenous people, however, it had a different and greater impact on indigenous women. The population of Spanish men in the territory affected the patterns of society by adding the possibility of creating unions between Spaniards with indigenous women. However, the relationships between them were merely considered as part of the conquest of the New World. Based on this point of view, this union represented non-

consented and unwanted sexual activity involving violence. “From this perspective, be seen as the *rape* of indigenous women, a violent act that seeks to subjugate and oppress” (Burkett, 1985, p.128).

After the period of conquest in the early 1800s, violence transcended into diverse forms of oppression. For instance, the demand for legal and illegal labor imposed by conquerors who were now in charge of *encomiendas*.<sup>23</sup> Furthermore, Spaniards demanded indigenous women to provide many personal services that varied from stereotypical actions adjudged to the female sex; ranging from activities such as cooking or sewing, all the way to the participation in sexual acts. “*Ni las mujeres, ni la tierra son territorio de conquista*” (González, 2021).

The western patriarchal and colonial trace is reflected as a hierarchical system that organizes genders by ranking male over female. For women, there are specific values, norms and stereotypes that highly condition their lives under the patriarchal spectrum. The identity of women was firstly created by the dominant social mandates imposed by conquerors. Subsequently, this male dominance transcended into the concept of *machismo*. This ideal is well known and commonly practiced in the Latin America region, indeed, it has become one of the key aspects of the culture. As a matter of fact, Mexico is considered to be “the cradle” of *machismo*. The National Commission to Prevent and Eradicate Violence Against Women (CONAVIM) defines it as “The set of attitudes and behaviors that unjustly violate the dignity of women compared to men” (CONAVIM, 2016). Machismo is built via the polarization of

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<sup>23</sup> ***Encomiendas***: A grant by the Spanish Crown to a colonist in America conferring the right to demand tribute and forced labor from the Indian inhabitants of an area.

roles and stereotypes that trace the line between male and female through the practice of certain behaviors and ideals that boost and reinforce oppression towards women.

### **Revolutionary and post-revolutionary Mexico**

In the 1900's, The Mexican Revolution came to change the scene for women. The beginnings of mexican feminism started to arise in favor of equal rights for women as a result of the roles that they started to assume; as soldiers, nurses and propagandists during the revolutionary chaos. Women gained important advances, such as the right to divorce, the right to alimony<sup>24</sup> and child custody. As liberal ideas flourished<sup>25</sup>, feminist leagues and organizations were created by high-class women regarding the destigmatization<sup>26</sup> of their roles and status in society. In 1917, the First Feminist Congress in the country was established, which consequently allowed women to obtain rights on the 1917 Constitution, including equal pay and quality education. However, the political discourses in post-revolutionary Mexico were male directed. This does not mean women were not important; women were respected because of their reproductive capability instead of being respected as active individuals. To be said in the words of president Miguel de la Madrid: "Depositaries of our nationality, our nationality is strong because we have a strong family that we owe to an admirable and responsible woman" (Madrid, 1982). It was common to refer to women as "the woman" in a generic term that deprived<sup>27</sup> their individuality and plurality found in their social, cultural and ethnic differences "The woman", inside the nationalist machista argument

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<sup>24</sup> **Alimony:** Financial support that a person is ordered by a court to give to their spouse during separation or following divorce. (Oxford Languages, n.d.).

<sup>25</sup> **Flourished:** Grow or develop in a healthy or vigorous way, especially as the result of a particularly favorable environment. (Oxford Languages, n.d.).

<sup>26</sup> **Destigmatization:** To remove associations of shame or disgrace from something. (Oxford Languages, n.d.).

<sup>27</sup> **Deprived:** not having the things that are necessary for a pleasant life, such as enough money, food, or good living conditions. (Cambridge Dictionary, 2021)

regardless of their indigenous, mixed race, urban or rural identities, were reduced to two social functions; motherhood and submission. Women didn't have a personal life, personal wishes, personal will, nor personal decisions. The well known essay by the mexican writer Octavio Paz *El Laberinto de la Soledad (1959)*, synthesized<sup>28</sup> the role of women in Mexico's background:

The woman embodies<sup>29</sup> the will of life, which is by essence impersonal, and in this fact lies her impossibility of having a personal life. To be herself, the owner of her desire, her passion or her whim, is to be unfaithful to herself. [...] Undifferentiated manifestation of life, it is the channel of cosmic appetite. In this sense, she has no desires of her own. (Paz, 1959, p. 33).

### **Mexico nowadays**

Important improvements have been made since the context of post-revolutionary Mexico for women, nevertheless, violence and discrimination have continued throughout the years portrayed in diverse ways; Mexican women face day to day *micromachismos*, street harassment, domestic violence, laboral discrimination, sexual violence and many other ways of expressing misogyny.

According to the *Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Geografía (INEGI)*, 66 % of women in Mexico have suffered gender-based violence in their lives, varying from street harassment all the way to sexual abuse. "He asked me to get out of the car and I did. Then he took out a gun that he had hidden in a bush<sup>30</sup> and grabbed me by the neck, pointed it at my

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<sup>28</sup> **Synthesized:** to produce a substance by a chemical reaction in plants or animals. (Cambridge Dictionary, 2021).

<sup>29</sup> **Embodies:** to represent a quality or an idea exactly. (Cambridge Dictionary, 2021).

<sup>30</sup> **Bush:** a plant with many small branches growing either directly from the ground or from a hard stem, giving the plant a rounded shape (Cambridge Dictionary, 2021).

head and said: ‘Now who is scared? You asked for it’. I tried to get it off me and pushed him, I tried to open the car's door and get in. Then he shot me.” (Gloria, 2018). Statistics indicated that just in the first six months of the year 2020, 1,844 women were victims of femicide. 10 femicides per day. "We do not want to continue counting *murdered* women, we want it to be a reality that women live in a country free of violence and be free, not brave". (Cartagena, 2020).

### **The transcendent Chilean society**

The rooted values in the conquest and the colonization of Hispanicamerica have founded the transcendency of hierarchical systems, including patriarchy. The colony deconstructed and modified the lifestyle and the relationship between the population, the way of ruling was influenced by statements of european societies, as a consequence of this, sexism<sup>31</sup> and *machismo*<sup>32</sup> was intensified when the conquest was formally installed. The masculine domination was imposed as a social and theological violence towards indigenous women and time after, to mestizo women. Just as in Mexico, the main role of women in society was the one to submit to the home related activities as well as motherhood. Based on studies made by *Centros de Estudios Públicos* (CEP), 45 % of the surveyed people believe that the most ideal job for a woman is to stay at home with children.

It was not until 1949, when the proposal of the law for women’s suffrage came to change their reality. The law was accepted by the Chilean congress and women obtained the public vote after three decades of fighting for the recognition of their political, social and

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<sup>31</sup> **Sexism:** the belief that the members of one sex are less intelligent, able, skilful, etc. than the members of the other sex, especially that women are less able than men (Cambridge Dictionary, 2021).

<sup>32</sup> **Machismo:** male behaviour that is strong and forceful, and shows very traditional ideas about how men and women should behave (Cambridge Dictionary, 2021).

civil rights. Women entered the labor field and within this, a public life in which they started to identify the inequalities and injustices that they face as oppression<sup>33</sup>. This awakening<sup>34</sup> created an alternative discourse that went against their situation of subordination; feminist women developed associations, groups and clubs in which they confronted the effects of the traditions and history ruled by patriarchy<sup>35</sup>.

Today, the figures regarding women's oppression in the region are parlous. *Machismo* has transcended with strongly rooted values, causing that 42 % of the total of men and 40 % of the total of women in Chile agree with the phrase "nobody knows how to raise their children like women" as claimed by an analysis developed by the UC Center for Longitudinal Studies and Surveys. In addition to machismo, the safety in the country for women is uncertain, it is in fact considered by its citizens as deplorable<sup>36</sup>. As a proof of this, the Development Bank for Latin America and Women on the Move presented a report on 2020 which states that 85 % of Chilean women have been sexually harassed in public transportation which provokes that 9 out of 10 women do not feel safe anymore traveling in such means of transport. "Living in a neighbourhood where there is no efficient public transport, where the bus and the subway are crowded and I am harassed and I cannot access it when I need it, limits my access to study and work, and my freedom. And that is violence" (Segovia, 2020).

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<sup>33</sup> **Oppression:** a situation in which people are governed in an unfair and cruel way and prevented from having opportunities and freedom (Cambridge Dictionary, 2021).

<sup>34</sup> **Awakening:** the act of starting to understand something or feel something (Cambridge Dictionary, 2021).

<sup>35</sup> **Patriarchy:** a society in which the oldest male is the leader of the family, or a society controlled by men in which they use their power to their own advantage (Cambridge Dictionary, 2021)

<sup>36</sup> **Deplorable:** very bad (Cambridge Dictionary, 2021).

## Latin American Feminism

As a result of the vast variety of dreadful<sup>37</sup> realities that women have been facing for decades, the feminist movement was born. Around the year 1968, European and North American women began to dispute<sup>38</sup> the situations that the patriarchal system attributed to them. This movement quickly took force in said regions; media communications, political parties and other institutions started to make important efforts to study gender related issues. “The feminist movement in these countries has been taken into account with all the seriousness that one of the most original social movements of this century deserves.” (Mérola, 1985).

Latin American countries however, face oppression and injustice in a way that reflects a sharper portrait of gender-based violence and discrimination in contrast to other regions of the World. The United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and the United Nations for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) carried out a report in 2016 where it was announced with concern that in the region of Latin America and the Caribbean 1.831 women were victims of femicide yearly. Indeed, Lara Blanco, the UN Women’s Deputy Regional Director for the Americas and the Caribbean confirmed that this region possesses the highest femicide rates worldwide.

Latin American feminism firstly emerged between high-class academician women that shared their influences mainly in the intellectual circles they were a part of. Nonetheless, the reality of most women in Latin America was a extremely far approach to the feminist arguments that academicians were developing and discovering. On one side of the coin, the participation of women in feminism was successful since it benefited many women.

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<sup>37</sup> **Dreadful:** causing fear, shock, or suffering (Cambridge Dictionary, 2021).

<sup>38</sup> **Dispute:** an argument or disagreement, especially an official one between, for example, workers and employers or two countries with a common border (Cambridge Dictionary).

However, the generalization and inexistent intersectionality<sup>39</sup> postulated feminism in a plain representation of women without giving further specifications in the discourses about the diversity of realities found in the population. “Very homogeneous in its composition: as in the first hours of feminist groups, it is almost exclusively mestizo, white women, and scholars. The urban middle and upper classes.” (Lang, 2003). In the last few years, feminism in Latin America has taken a great power in society. The almost immediate access to internet has opened a great opportunity for feminist women to express their ideals and the patriarchal oppression they face daily independently of their social and economic status. During the 60s, feminist women were barely organized since they were still making sense of their fights, interactions and actions; today feminism is formalized, feminists reached legitimacy as new members of the political field as a consequence of enacting international policies in favor of women.

Inside the courts, one of the most vigorous<sup>40</sup> fights for women’s human rights nowadays is the one to demand the legalization of abortion. In Latin America, legal abortion is a reality only in 4 countries, within them, the Eastern Republic of Uruguay, French Guiana and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. Some other countries such as the Republic of El Salvador, Republic of Honduras, and Dominican Republic, prohibit without exception the termination of a pregnancy. The rest of the countries in the region have specific exceptions to carry out abortions, such as sexual abuse or any danger that could compromise the health of the carrier.

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<sup>39</sup> **Intersectionality:** the way in which different types of discrimination (= unfair treatment because of a person's sex, race, etc.) are linked to and affect each other (Cambridge Dictionary, 2021).

<sup>40</sup> **Vigorous:** very forceful or energetic (Cambridge Dictionary, 2021).

Feminism unmask the mechanisms that enhance<sup>41</sup> oppression in societies. It is an autonomous<sup>42</sup> social movement that provides women with tools to detangle and recognize the injustice performed against them along with all the variants of the deconstruction of the self-criterion distorted by the pre-established gender standards. “Feminism is a movement of rebellion against an unnatural order, therefore modifiable.” (Mérola, 1985). Latin American feminists have accomplished many important goals that sum up the steps towards the transformation of the Latin America society and its normalized culture of machismo:

Latin American feminists will continue to sow<sup>43</sup> restlessness where we can, in our environment, in the environment in which our existence and daily life take place, demanding and demanding of ourselves, now with that certain serenity that experience gives, the time of tearing has passed. The pioneers were fewer a hundred years ago, now we are more, and they will be many more later. One day there will be no more feminism, the movement will be remembered as a stage in the evolution of humanity. (Mérola, 1985).

### ***Mexican Feminism***

For more than four decades, femicides have been a harsh reality in many cities in Mexico; Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua, Mexico State, Veracruz and Guerrero are often at the top of the list. In recent years, femicide statistics have aggressively grown and spread throughout the country. The Femicide Observatory of Mexico in 2020 reported 724 femicides only counting

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<sup>41</sup> **Enhance:** to improve the quality, amount, or strength of something (Cambridge Dictionary, 2021).

<sup>42</sup> **Autonomous:** an autonomous organization, country, or region is independent and has the freedom to govern itself (Cambridge Dictionary, 2021).

<sup>43</sup> **Sow:** to cause a bad emotion or condition to begin somewhere so that it will grow or continue (Cambridge Dictionary, 2021).

until the month of September, also, it was in this year when the social organization “Common Cause” apprised<sup>44</sup> that the country reached the highest rate of femicides in its history.

In Mexico, a country where on average 10 women per day are victims of femicide and around 97 % of the femicides remain unpunished according to *Mexicanos Contra la Corrupción y la Impunidad* (MCCI), women have taken the fear of knowing that they could be part of a statistic and turned it into rage. Over the last few years, the streets of Mexico have been taken many times by feminists to speak up and manifest against femicides, sexual violence and discrimination. Feminists march together singing mottos<sup>45</sup>, holding posters and protesting through iconoclasm<sup>46</sup>. "That's why I'm here. For that girl who couldn't speak because the system silenced her". (Matancera, 2021).

In 2020, members of different feminist collectives took the headquarters of the *Comisión Nacional de los Derechos Humanos* (CNDH) in the historical center of Mexico City as a protest against the unsolved demands of victims of gender-based violence. Feminists stated that they were not going to leave the place until said demands would be followed up and subsequently, for perpetrators to receive their respective charges. “The CNDH has already been taken. There are many cases of disappearance and femicides, more families are coming here, and until their cases are resolved, we will not leave” (Esmeralda, 2020). During the takeover, there was a strong presence of police forces outside the property. “They sent police to repress<sup>47</sup> us and they have us super surrounded. We hope that there will be no aggression.” (Esmeralda, 2020). Along with the follow up of individual cases, the

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<sup>44</sup> **Apprised:** to tell someone about something (Cambridge Dictionary, 2021).

<sup>45</sup> **Mottos:** a short sentence or phrase that expresses a belief or purpose (Cambridge Dictionary, 2021).

<sup>46</sup> **Iconoclasm:** strong opposition to generally accepted beliefs and traditions (Cambridge Dictionary, 2021).

<sup>47</sup> **Repress:** to not allow something, especially feelings, to be expressed (Cambridge Dictionary, 2021)

feminist collectives also demanded the resignation of the president of the CNDH Rosario Piedra as a result of the mismanagement of the cases. Nationally, many collectives and women organized to carry out symbolic takeovers<sup>48</sup> in other states. Takeovers were performed in the states of Michoacan, Veracruz, Aguascalientes, Puebla and the State of Mexico. Until today, feminists are still resisting in the headquarters of Mexico City, they have been there for 10 months fighting for justice. “I will keep sowing rebellion until I harvest freedom, because while I cover my face, you cover reality... I am the fist that rises, I am the voice that will never be silenced, I am the warrior with whom you did not count with” (Ixchel, n.d.).

Furthermore, some other important results accomplished through feminism are laws such as *Ley Olimpia* and *Ley Ingrid*. Said laws were approved in December of 2017 and in May of 2020 respectively by the corresponding State Congress. Both laws were named after victims of gender violence; Olimpia Melo was a victim of digital violence which was committed by her ex-boyfriend when he shared intimate photos of Olimpia Melo on his social media without her consent. *Ley Olimpia* was firstly approved in Mexico City, nevertheless, so far in 2020 it has become valid in 29 out of 32 states of the country. The ordinance<sup>49</sup> now protects women from digital violence by considering it as a felony<sup>50</sup>. Sharing intimate content without consent, as well as digital harassment are now crimes. On the other hand, *Ley Ingrid* was named in memory of Ingrid Escamilla, victim of femicide committed by her then partner Érick Robledo in 2020. The day after the casualty, media communications insensitively

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<sup>48</sup> **Takeovers:** a situation in which a company gets control of another company by buying enough of its shares (Cambridge Dictionary, 2021).

<sup>49</sup> **Ordinance:** a law or rule made by a government or authority (Cambridge Dictionary, 2021).

<sup>50</sup> **Felony:** serious crime that can be punished by one or more years in prison (Cambridge Dictionary, 2021).

published explicit<sup>51</sup> photographs and videos of the crime scene. “It’s been a year since the femicide of Ingrid Escamilla committed by her partner in Mexico City. Today we remember you Ingrid, we name you and demand justice.” (*Me Cuidan Mis Amigas*, 2020). Nowadays, *Ley Ingrid* has allowed the protection of any kind of data connected with the victims of femicide. It also penalizes the distribution or dissemination<sup>52</sup> of images, audios or videos of the crime scene or the corpse<sup>53</sup>. “Because every day they murder one, and another, and another. They still can’t solve my daughter’s case and now there are 10, 100, 1,000 more.” (Anonymous, 2020).

In addition to these recent regulations, the legal and safe abortion matter in the country has also progressed due to feminist movements. 4 states in Mexico have decriminalized abortion before the 12th week of gestation<sup>54</sup> regardless of women’s motivations to take this decision. The City of Mexico was the first entity to remove the penalization in 2007, then the state of Oaxaca in 2019. The states of Hidalgo and Veracruz were recently added to the list in the year 2020.

### ***Chilean Feminism***

The levels of violence towards women firmly persist in the country of the Republic of Chile. The policies to report gender violence, reforms to strengthen criminal prosecution and the expansion of the classification of the crime of femicide have been insufficient when responding to said cases. A total of 42 femicides were registered in 2018, followed up with

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<sup>51</sup> **Explicit:** showing or talking about sex or violence in a very detailed way (Cambridge Dictionary, 2021).

<sup>52</sup> **Dissemination:** the act of spreading news, information, ideas, etc. to a lot of people (Cambridge Dictionary, 2021).

<sup>53</sup> **Corpse:** a dead body, usually of a person (Cambridge Dictionary, 2021).

<sup>54</sup> **Gestation:** (the period of) the development of a child or young animal while it is still inside its mother’s body (Cambridge Dictionary, 2021).

46 in 2019, 43 in 2020 and 7 cases in the year 2021 as in the month of March. The sum of three years and three months equals 138 victims of femicides according to the report provided by the official National Women's Service. In comparison to Mexico, the rates of femicide are meaningfully low, however, one of the most present and common flaws<sup>55</sup> in the Chilean justice system is the one of not recognizing these crimes with gender perspective. This means that many femicide cases are avowed<sup>56</sup> as *homicides* by invisibilizing the issue of gender-based violence. Many cases that seem to be unclear or that pretend to be suicides are closed without the likelihood<sup>57</sup> of investigating a possible femicide. Additionally, attempted femicides have been exponentially growing. During 2020, the Republic of Chile reported the highest toll of attempted femicides since 2013. In said year, 151 women were victims of this crime. Over the last three years, 381 attempted femicides have been reported.

Regarding the geographical distribution, 29 % of registered femicides in the last three years were located in the metropolitan area; The communes of Colina, Puerto Montt and Valdivia concentrate the highest number of femicides, with four cases each between 2018 and 2020. They are followed by Maipú, Santiago and Valparaíso, which have registered three femicides in the last three years. "The only way for women victims of violence to be safe is for the perpetrators to be in prison." (Ministry of Women, 2020).

Chilean feminism has achieved significant accomplishments. For instance, feminists have acquired a change in the Constitution in order to allow women and men equally be part of the Constituent Assembly, a huge step in favour of political gender equality. "After a long

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<sup>55</sup> **Flaws:** a fault, mistake, or weakness, especially one that happens while something is being planned or made, or that causes something not to be perfect (Cambridge Dictionary, 2021).

<sup>56</sup> **Avowed:** That has been asserted, admitted, or stated publicly. (Oxford Languages, n.d.).

<sup>57</sup> **Likelihood:** the chance that something will happen (Cambridge Dictionary, 2021).

struggle regarding the recognition of our rights, eradicating discrimination and having the same opportunities to participate in decisive environments inside our country, are finally going to be possible in the drafting of the future Constitution.” (Galaz, 2021). In addition to political gender equality, equal payment has also improved since nowadays this is guaranteed by the updated *Carta Magna*. Appraising legal abortion, even though the practice is not totally prohibited, certain specifications must be completed in order to carry out this medical procedure. For an abortion to be legally approved, the case must check at least one of these 3 causes; the unfeasibility<sup>58</sup> of the fetus, sexual abuse or danger to the mother’s life. “This is a quite significant failure in the possibility of moving on, both in legal and social terms, in the reproductive rights of women in Chile” (Dragnic, 2021).

A series of gender based violence in the region in the year 2018 unshackled<sup>59</sup> a tremendous feminist wave. Between the cases, the passing by sexual abuse of a one year old girl and a grupal sexual agression towards a 28 year old woman. Chilean university students unleashed the beginning of a sequence of feminist protests, the mobilizations started in April with the Austral Univerisity and in the Law faculty of the Univeristy of Chile. Students protested against the recent cases of violence against women along with the abuse cases linked to academic authorities. A few weeks later, many faculties of at least 15 universities were paralyzed or taken over as a form of protest against violence. "It is a new impulse of the women's movement in Chile, but unlike what has happened in other times, now it is clearly defined as a feminist" (Andrade, 2018). Law students from the Pontifical Catholic University

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<sup>58</sup> **Unfeasible:** not feasible (= able to be done or achieved) (Cambridge Dictionary, 2021).

<sup>59</sup> **Unshackled:** release from shackles, chains, or other physical restraints (Oxford Languages, n.d).

of Chile also joined the demonstrations by protesting through a signed letter by 127 female students with some of the sexist<sup>60</sup> phrases that they often hear in the faculty classrooms:

"Miss, what are you doing with that cleavage<sup>61</sup>? Did you come to give an oral test or to be milked?", "You have to demand more from ugly women because the pretty women, although *stupid*, still find a husband. On the other hand, there is no one who can put up with the ugly and *stupid* woman.", "When a man sees a woman and feels like *raping* her, it is nothing more than a disorder of her natural inclinations." (Pontifical Catholic University of Chile students, 2018).

Later on in 2018, the movement *#NiUnaMenos* summoned<sup>62</sup> a protest in Santiago against the sexual violence culture. About 20,000 women arrived to the main street of the Chilean capital in defense of sexual and reproductive rights, violence against women and the lack of female political representation."What the people need is a feminist Chile. Because the people are tired of the violent patriarchy." (*#NiUnaMenos*, 2018).

### **Iconoclasm**

The Royal Spanish Academy defines iconoclasia as "The religious doctrine that rejects the worship of sacred images and attitude of those who reject the inherited tradition and the authority of the figures representing it" (Royal Spanish Academy, 2005), which in greek is translated as "rupture of images". Iconoclasm is often used in feminist manifestations through graffiti on monuments or walls, pasting posters on different places and damages to objects such as fences and windows. The practice of iconoclasm is one of the most controversial

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<sup>60</sup> **Sexist:** suggesting that the members of one sex are less able, intelligent, etc. than the members of the other sex, or referring to that sex's bodies, behaviour, or feelings in a negative way (Cambridge Dictionary, 2021).

<sup>61</sup> **Cleavage:** the narrow space between a woman's breasts, that is seen when she wears a piece of clothing that does not cover the top of them (Cambridge Dictionary, 2021).

<sup>62</sup> **Summoned:** to order someone to come to or be present at a particular place, or to officially arrange a meeting of people (Cambridge Dictionary, 2021).

factors about the feminist movement protests inside society nowadays. A proof of this is a report by *El Heraldo de México* which informed in the year 2020 that 47 % out of 628 people who participated in a poll do not support this type of demonstration in the feminist mobilizations.

Feminism has been manifested in several ways, women advocating<sup>63</sup> for the social movement have tried national strikes, campaigns on social media, artistic expressions such as songs, dances, poems, paintings, and more. These forms of protest are repeatedly disrespected by many people. Indeed, anti-feminist groups often tease<sup>64</sup> about these forms of expression, not only at the protests on the streets but also on social media, through memes, remixes, mocking stickers and hate on media.

### **Women's Day Protests; 8M**

Feminist women have taken the international women's day celebration on March 8th and transformed it into a day of rebellion and resistance against the patriarchal mandate. This date now means more than gifting flowers to women, it is a symbol of resilience<sup>65</sup> and unity of Latin American women to fight against oppression. The Mexican singer and writer Vivir Quintana released on March 8th 2020 the song *Canción Sin Miedo*, a song that has united women in Latin America through powerful lyrics that empower them to remain resilient. "*Hoy a las mujeres nos quitan la calma, nos sembraron miedo, nos crecieron alas (...) gritamos por cada desaparecida, que resuene fuerte ¡Nos queremos vivas! Que caiga con fuerza el feminicida.*" (Quintana, 2020). Since the song was released, many singers and

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<sup>63</sup> **Advocating:** to publicly support or suggest an idea, development, or way of doing something (Cambridge Dictionary, 2021).

<sup>64</sup> **Tease:** to laugh at someone or say unkind things about them, either because you are joking or because you want to upset that person (Cambridge Dictionary, 2021).

<sup>65</sup> **Resilience:** the ability to be happy, successful, etc. again after something difficult or bad has happened (Cambridge Dictionary, 2021).

feminist collectives from some other Latin American countries have released different versions of the song regarding the cases or situations of gender based violence in their countries:

Pain unites us, pain and injustice. So when they change the names of the *murdered*, when they change the name of the victims, when they put the context of each country. I say good, because something is being done. It is a seed that you throw to the ground and you did not know it was fertile and I think we will continue to fight for that. (Quintana, 2020).

In Mexico, the protests generally consist of mobilizations in which attendants march together pronouncing feminist hymns<sup>66</sup>, artistic performances in honor of femicide victims, wearing purple which represents the feminist movement and green which represents a pro-choice posture on abortion, speeches with megaphones in which women tell their stories both personal and testimonies from femicide victims' families, posters with messages of protest, and the use of iconoclasm in walls, monuments or barriers placed by the government around monuments. This last form of protest is often dissolved by the use of violence from police forces by throwing gas, body barriers, physical violence, and in some cases, shooting. The president Andrés Manuel López Obrador sends police troops to protect monuments at all cost nationally in feminist manifestations. "If only they protected us women as they protect monuments. They can clean and paint monuments and walls tomorrow, but our sisters, mothers, friends, they are not coming back..." (Ruiz, 2021).

Days before the 2021 women's day protest in Mexico City, authorities fenced the National Palace to protect it against the feminist demonstrations. Feminists responded to this by using a projector to screen different messages such as "Legal Abortion now" and "S.O.S

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<sup>66</sup> **Hymns:** a song of praise (Cambridge Dictionary, 2021).

they are *killing* us” in the front of the building. Feminists also used the fences as altars dedicated to femicide victims by writing their names and leaving offerings. Eventually, March 8th arrived and the protests started. Before the demonstration even began, a group of women that were arriving at one of the starting points of the mobilization were encapsulated for more than three hours. According to *Brigada Marabunta* when they were able to escape from being encapsulated, police threw rocks and gases against them. "They beat and slapped us, this is how the 8M march begins. It has not started yet and they are already repressing the protesters". (Sashenka, 2021).

The government completely surrounded the city zocalo with policial forces, even on the inside part of the fences. More than 80 people were injured in the 8M demonstration, police used tear gas towards protesters, physical violence and verbal abuse. The president Andres Manuel López Obrador later on stated about the use of fences that "It is better to put a fence in front of the women who are going to protest than the grenadiers". (López, 2021). The president also denied the use of tear gas.

In the year 2020, the Republic of Chile also experienced 8M protests. Women reunited around the *plaza italia*. Although the demonstration began in a pacific way, security forces got into action when women were marching in front of *Palacio de la Moneda*. "There were a significant number of people affected by tear gas and pepper spray. Unjustifiably, the police began to act, it is something that has been repeated as a modus operandi since October 18 when the first demonstrations began." (Cáceres, 2020). A year later, according to *Coordinadora Feminista 8M* around 500,000 women participated in the 8M protests at national level, in which a use of authoritarian force from policial bodies was present again.

Women were gassed, chased and soaked<sup>67</sup> with the purpose of stopping the protest. “Unacceptable behavior from the authorities, however, we were not surprised since it is just another proof that the state provides militarized police that has absolute control and authority over civilians and their human rights.” (Varela, 2021).

### **Police brutality**

The unlawful<sup>68</sup> use of force by police consists in the unwarranted<sup>69</sup> and illegal use of strength against civilians exercised by security forces. These actions result in the violation of human rights including the right to liberty and security, right to be free of discrimination, right of equal protection under the law and in some cases, the right of life. Police brutality also encompass<sup>70</sup> torture and ill-treatment, intimidation, verbal abuse and false arrest. The perception of this authority abuse is often justified by the conduct of the responsible institutions in charge of dealing with the situation; state and federal government, police commands, review boards and the courts. “The import of these statistics is clear: the criminal justice system punishes officers engaging in misconduct so rarely that it could not be expected to deter potential future offenders.” (Miller, 1998). As a consequence of this perspective, police brutality has the opportunity to expand and flourish in varied ways which leads to a wider exposure for individual cases to happen.

A database provided by the Americas Barometer in 2008 showed that gender, age and territory are all socio-demographic variables related with the frequency of police abuse. Moreover, aspects such as corruption, crime victimization, citizen participation and political

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<sup>67</sup> **Soaked:** extremely wet (Cambridge Dictionary, 2021).

<sup>68</sup> **Unlawful:** Not conforming to, permitted by, or recognized by law or rules. (Cambridge Languages, n.d.).

<sup>69</sup> **Unwarranted:** Not justified or authorized. (Cambridge Languages, n.d.).

<sup>70</sup> **Encompass:** Cause (something) to take place. (Cambridge Languages, n.d.).

engagements are also linked with misconduct by security forces. Regarding citizen participation and political engagement, the results affirm that those who are more active in civic participation and more politically engaged are most likely to be sufferers of police brutality. This prompts that political ideologies trigger the susceptibility towards abuse; people that identified as political leftists are more exposed than those of centrists and rightist ideologies. Taking into accountancy the factors mentioned before, the connection between police repression and feminist protests is a clear pathway. Feminism rejects the conservative established order that certainly oppresses women. During the women's day protests, women demand justice and a change in the general view of the machismo culture in the region, these rebellious arguments often bother the male supremacy regime. "Our societal desire to grant police officers the discretion to exercise force, coupled with our inability to define bright-line standards for this practice, diminishes our willingness to pursue convictions of erring police officers." (Miller, 1998).

### **Towards an alteration in the Latin American society**

UN Women worked along with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the International Association of Women Police (IAWP), to create the "Handbook on Gender-Responsive Police Services for Women and Girls Subject to Violence" as a response to law enforcement when attending violence against women and girls. This initiative pursues to reach a positive initial contact experience with police so that the provided response is ruled by justice and accessibility to all women, especially those who are in a more exposed posture of marginalization and are at a higher risk of undergoing violence. "It covers in depth areas such as: gender-responsive police investigations; prevention; intersectionality; survivor-centred approaches; promoting positive masculinities; coordination; institution-building; and

emerging issues such as online and ICT-facilitated violence against women and girls.” (UN Women, 2021).

In addition to this, UN Women is associated with the Global Focal Point (GFP) in the program of Rule of Law which makes sure that the government of each country fulfills their ordinances about gender equality and women security. Specifically in Chile, this organization is looking for the eradication of gender violence and the understanding of the current problematic, all this by the promulgation of legal reforms following the international norms along with the chilean government. Referring to Mexico, the United Nations called on the government in the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against women to halt assaulting women and instead protect and support them. “The violence can not be used at all to repress women that just want to live a life free of violence and that protest against femicide, the most letal way of violence against women that demand justice for the victims” (UN, 2020).

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***Preambulatory Phrases***

*Preambulatory Phrases are used at the beginning of every Resolution Paper in order to give context about the resolutions made for the topic. Preambulatory Phrases must be written in italics followed by a sentence that gives said context. For each Resolution Paper there must be five sentences beginning with a Preambulatory Phrase.*

Affirming	Desiring	Noting with deep concern
Alarmed by	Emphasizing	Noting with satisfaction
Approving	Expecting	Noting further
Bearing in mind	Expressing its appreciation	Observing
Believing	Fulfilling	Reaffirming
Confident	Fully aware	Realizing
Contemplating	Further deploring	Recalling
Convinced	Further recalling	Recognizing
Declaring	Guided by	Referring
Deeply concerned	Having adopted	Seeking
Deeply conscious	Having considered	Taking into consideration
Deeply convinced	Having examined	Taking note
Deeply disturbed	Having received	Viewing with appreciation
Deeply regretting	Keeping in mind	Welcoming

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***Operative Clauses***

*Operative Clauses are used at the beginning of every resolution within the Resolution Paper on the debated topic. It must be written in italics and bold.*

Accepts	Endorses	Notes
Affirms	Draws the attentions	Proclaims
Approves	Emphasizes	Reaffirms
Authorizes	Encourages	Recommends
Calls	Expresses its appreciation	Regrets
Calls upon	Expresses its hope	Reminds
Condemns	Further invites	Requests
Confirms	Further proclaims	Solemnly
Congratulates	Further reminds	affirms
Considers	Further recommends	Strongly
Declares accordingly	Further requests	condemns
Deplores	Further resolves	Supports
Designates	Has resolved	Takes note of
		Transmits
		Trusts