

CONCEPT NOTE
81st session of the UN General Assembly
G77 and Emerging Partners Ministerial Roundtable
Addressing Technology-Facilitated Violence Against Women and Girls

Co-hosted by the Republic of Croatia and UN Women

Date: 23 September 2026

Time: 3 p.m. - 4.30 p.m.

Venue: United Nations Headquarters, New York

Background

Technology and digital transformation are reshaping societies, economies and governance worldwide. While digital tools hold transformative potential for gender equality, they are simultaneously being used to perpetrate and amplify violence against women and girls (VAWG). [Technology facilitated violence against women and girls](#) (TF VAWG)—including online harassment, non-consensual intimate image abuse, doxing, cyberstalking and [AI enabled abuse](#)—continues to increase in scale, reach and severity as digital technologies rapidly evolve, with profound impacts on women and girls’ safety, education, participation in public life, access to justice and economic empowerment.

TF VAWG disproportionately affects [women in public life, including women politicians, journalists, human rights defenders, activists, and young women leaders](#) with 70% of surveyed women in the public sphere reporting experiences of online violence according to UN Women’s latest research, [The Tipping Point](#). Emerging technologies, including generative [artificial intelligence](#) (AI) and immersive digital environments, are creating new risks while amplifying existing forms of gender-based violence and harmful gender stereotypes.

Addressing TF VAWG requires a whole-of-society response that brings together governments, the technology sector, philanthropic organizations, civil society organizations, and international institutions to advance prevention through safety-by-design approaches and social norm change, strengthen legal and policy responses, build digital literacy and resilience, support feminist movements and advocacy, and improve reporting and redress mechanisms. While [important progress has been made](#) through legislative reforms, and survivor-centered programming, an [estimated 1.8 billion women and girls remain without legal protection from online harassment](#) and other forms of TF VAWG. Survivors continue to face barriers to reporting, protection and access to justice, underscoring the need for effective response mechanisms gender-responsive policing and justice responses. Furthermore, [significant gaps remain in prevention, regulation, accountability, research, and investment](#).

As technology continues to evolve rapidly, including through AI and other emerging technologies, there is a critical opportunity to work together to ensure digital transformation protects and advances the rights of women and girls, while fostering innovation, accountability and inclusive online spaces free from violence and discrimination. This also requires a deeper understanding of perpetration and men’s pathways into online misogynistic ecosystems, such as the manosphere, which [promote harmful narratives, condone or justify violence against women and girls and often](#)

[serve as pathways to broader radicalization](#). Understanding these dynamics, including the drivers, ideologies and digital ecosystems shaping men's and boys' online experiences, is critical to develop evidence-based responses and for designing effective prevention strategies that address its underlying drivers before harm occurs.

Building on the momentum generated through global commitments on gender equality, digital cooperation, and safe technology ecosystems, Croatia and UN Women will convene in this Roundtable senior government representatives, corporate leaders, and philanthropic partners to exchange the latest data and evidence, experiences, identify opportunities for collaboration, and mobilize greater commitment to preventing and responding to TF VAWG.

Purpose of the roundtable

- Elevate TF VAWG as a critical challenge to gender equality, women's leadership, and inclusive digital transformation.
- Convene partners to exchange promising practices and lessons learned in preventing and responding to TF VAWG.
- Strengthen political commitment and foster strategic partnerships to advance coordinated, rights-based action to prevent and respond to TF VAWG.

Expected Outcomes

- Increased recognition of TF VAWG as a growing policy priority requiring coordinated, multi-stakeholder action.
- Enhanced knowledge of promising practices and innovative approaches across sectors.
- Identification of opportunities for collaboration, investment, and knowledge exchange to advance safer, more inclusive, and rights-based digital spaces for women and girls.
- Strengthened political commitment to advancing safe, inclusive, and rights-based digital spaces for women and girls.