

**NORGES**  
**KVINNELOBBY**

NORWEGIAN  
WOMEN'S LOBBY

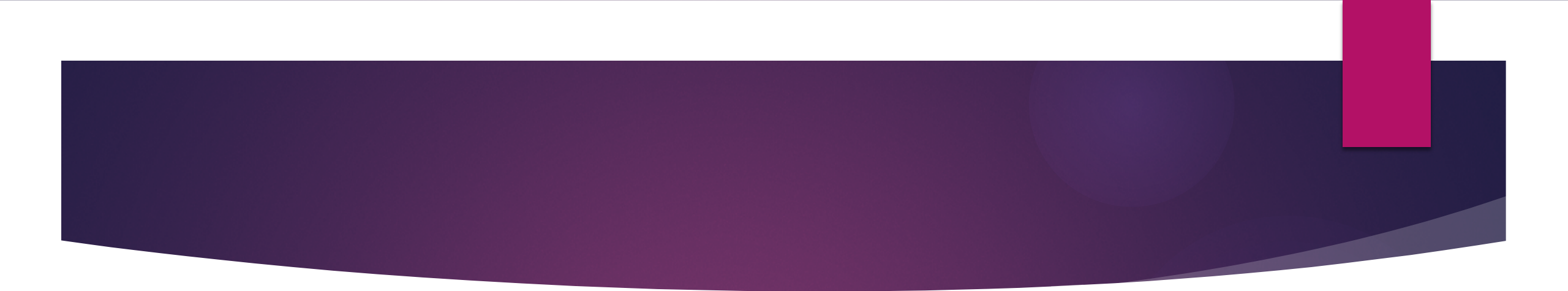
PRE-SESSION OF NORWAY:

PROPOSED DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS  
FOR CONSIDERATION

KRISTIN HETLE – NWL BOARD MEMBER

# 1. Violence Against Women

- ▶ Last review: Denmark recommended to “develop an action plan against domestic violence, especially gender-based violence, in accordance with articles 7 and 8 of the Istanbul Convention” - Several recommendations: Continue to step up efforts to combat domestic violence and sexual abuse
- ▶ New developments: - A new national escalation plan against domestic violence for the period 2024-2028 was presented in December 2023. - The plan contains a separate section on violence and abuse in Sami communities. - A permanent National Intimate Partner Homicide Commission is being established, which shall continuously review all cases.

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- ▶ New developments, cont:
  - ▶ Violence against women, including rape, has increased. Almost every fifth woman (19%, up from 9 % in 2014) has been subject to rape in her lifetime. One in ten women has experienced intimate partner violence.
  - ▶ Norway is revising the law of shelters/crisis centers. While the State is the main duty bearer, the responsibility to provide shelter is outsourced to municipalities with no earmarked funding. The quality and accessibility of the shelters vary greatly among municipalities.

## Proposed Recommendation:

- ▶ Norway must, as the main duty bearer, ensure that funding of and access to shelters, and the quality of other support services for victims of violence, remain a national responsibility and not be subject to local budgetary priorities.



## 2. Gender-neutral Language in Legislation

- ▶ (Not previously reviewed by the UPR)
- ▶ Norwegian legislation is intentionally framed in a gender-neutral manner
- ▶ In its concluding observations in 2017 and 2023, the CEDAW Committee is critical of Norway's gender-neutral framing of legislation and programmes
- ▶ The Committee calls for information and documentation to substantiate that this practice does not result in an inadequate protection of women against direct and indirect discrimination

## Proposed Recommendations:

- ▶ Norway must investigate whether gender-neutral legislation has an adverse effect on women's rights.
- ▶ Norway must introduce gender-sensitive legislation as needed to achieve genuine equality.

# 3. Financing of Women's Rights Advocates

- ▶ (Not previously reviewed by the UPR)
- ▶ The Equality and Anti-Discrimination Act covers several grounds for discrimination: sex, ethnicity, disability, age, sexual orientation, gender identity and others.
- ▶ The women's movement advocates for legislative measures and monitors how Norway upholds its obligations towards women's rights, non-discrimination and gender equality.
- ▶ Norway provides funding for civil society organizations to support their work on behalf of right holders related to different types of discrimination.
- ▶ Funding allocated to women's rights organizations is one quarter of what other organizations receive per member.

## Proposed Recommendation:

- ▶ Norway must ensure that to the extent it provides funding for civil society organizations representing right holders under the Equality and Anti-Discrimination Act, it must not financially discriminate against women's rights organizations (or other specific mandates).





Thank you!