

## Detailed Concept

### Austria and Jordan – UN HLPF Side Event Linking SDG 16 and SDG 5 in a time of crisis - Women in Peacebuilding and Justice

<b>Date/Time:</b>	14th July 2022 (12:30-14:00)
<b>Location:</b>	Permanent Mission of Austria to the United Nations in New York
<b>Format:</b>	Moderated panel discussion
<b>Hybrid:</b>	Virtual participation upon registration, limited in-person participation by invitation. The event will be live broadcasted and streamed to YouTube and recorded.
<b>Co-organizers:</b>	Republic of Austria and Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
<b>Partners:</b>	UN-Women, SDG Watch Europe, Ban Ki-Moon Centre for Global Citizens,

#### Scope & Objective

This year's High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) will be held from 5<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> July.

Following the review of SDG16 (peaceful, just and inclusive societies) in 2019 and 2021, and in preparation for the HLPF under the auspices of the General Assembly in 2023, Austria and Jordan believe in the importance of keeping SDG 16 on the agenda of this year's HLPF. In order to highlight its fundamental importance for the overall achievement of the 2030 Agenda, Austria and Jordan are organizing a Side Event on SDG 16 linking it to SDG 5 (as well as SDG 14 and 15). Inspired by the statement of Sima Sami Bahous, UN Women Executive Director, that 'crises multiply threats, women are solution multipliers', this side event seeks to explore in a multifaceted discussion how peacebuilding efforts, the rule of law, equal participation and stopping violence against women are essential components to the work on linking SDG 16 and SDG 5.

Peacebuilding and justice are the foundation for creating sustainable equitable development and a safe and secure environment in countries shaken by conflict. Peaceful, just and inclusive societies are the foundation for achieving all SDGs, and the 2030 Agenda recognizes that sustainable development cannot be realized without peace and security. While achieving the 2030 Agenda is already a considerable challenge, recent reports such as the SDG Progress Report 2022 or the World Economic Outlook 2022 underline the devastating global impact of conflict on sustainable development, throwing progress on the SDGs further off-track.

Women's full, equal and meaningful participation in building and maintaining peace is a prerequisite for inclusive and sustainable political and socio-economic development. Evidence shows, that the participation of women in conflict resolution, in a wide range of roles, generates more durable peace agreements. More than 20 years ago, the UNSC resolution 1325 also recognized that women are disproportionately affected by conflict, and to address this, women should play a key role in achieving lasting peace. The resolution further stressed the importance of their equal participation and full involvement in all efforts for the maintenance and promotion of peace and security. Achieving the Women's Peace and Security agenda demands a full commitment by member states to reach SDG 5 as well as SDG 16.

At the same time, the management of natural resources for **sustainable peace** has become the object of growing attention: there are many links between the environment (in particular related to **land, water and natural disasters** that are often caused by climate change), our security and



gender equality.<sup>1</sup> The new field of environmental peacebuilding emphasizes the important role of **women** as **change-makers**, while also seeking to enhance **protection**.

Recognizing the lessons and progress to date, more solutions are needed that integrate environmental, peacebuilding and gender equality goals<sup>2</sup>.

In **Ukraine**, the ongoing war has caused the fastest forced population movement since the Second World War, with over 6 million people forced to flee, while the number of internally displaced persons is estimated at 8 million. Women and girls are disproportionately affected, with multiple forms of gender-based violence being reported. Women are increasingly becoming heads of households and leaders in their communities, yet they remain largely excluded from formal decision-making processes related to humanitarian efforts, peace-making, and other areas that directly impact their lives<sup>3</sup>.

In **Afghanistan**, conflict, economic fallout, and gender inequality are further intensified by climate crisis, drought, and famine. Currently, around half of the population (23 million people) are identified as acutely food insecure, with almost 9 million at risk of starvation, and the situation is expected to worsen. This has created a human catastrophe marked by gender-specific restrictions, threatening to cancel many of the development gains achieved over the past 20 years.

As these multiple crises show, our multilateral system is put to the test from many angles at the same time. Coupled with fading trust in multilateralism and increasing pressures on democracy, international cooperation and our multilateral institutions cannot be taken for granted. In this context, maintaining our focus on SDG16 and prioritizing the participation of women in peacebuilding efforts and justice is ever more essential to ensure that our multilateral system delivers inclusive and sustainable solutions to the current global challenges.

This HLPF side event aims to explore the linkages between SDG 5 (Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women and Girls) and 16 (Peace, Justice and strong Institutions) in current peacebuilding and justice efforts supporting women in Ukraine, in Afghanistan and in environmental peacebuilding. The discussion aims to underscore the essential function of both SDGs for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda as a whole.

#### Speakers:

- **H.E. Ms. Karoline Edtstadler**, Minister for EU and Constitution, Austria
- **H.E. Ms. Wafa' Bani Mustafa**, Minister of State for Legal Affairs, Jordan
- **H.E. Ms. Sima Sami Bahous**, UN Women Executive Director
- **H.E. Ms. Adela Raz**, Director, Afghanistan Policy Lab at SPIA
- **Ms. Maria Victoria "Mavic" Cabrera Balleza**, CEO Global Network of Women Peacebuilders
- **Mr. Carl Bruch**, President of the Environmental Peacebuilding Association

Moderation: **Monika Froehler, CEO BKMC**

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<sup>1</sup> Smith (2022)

<sup>2</sup> UNEP, UN Women, UNDP, UNDPPA (2020)

<sup>3</sup> UN Women, CARE International (2022)



**Format:**

- The HLPF side event is a hybrid moderated high-level panel discussion with Ministers, Heads of International Organisations, high-level officials such as acting and former Ambassadors, experts and changemakers.
- The event will be live-streamed from NY on Youtube and thus, shall provide an opportunity to the public to deep dive into the topic of women, peacebuilding and justice.


**Event Structure:**

**Tentative Agenda**  
**14.07.2022 – 12:30 - 14.00**

*Moderated Event in person at the Austrian Permanent Mission to the United Nations in New York  
 Online participation and Link/Youtube livestream managed by the BKMC*

<b>12.30 – 12.35 (5 min)</b>	<b>Welcoming remarks</b>	<b>Ambassador Alexander Marschik</b> , Permanent Representative of Austria to the United Nations
<b>12.35 – 13.05 (30 min)</b>	<b>Statements by High level representatives of member states and United Nations</b>	<p>Moderation: <b>Monika Froehler, CEO BKMC</b></p> <p><b>H.E. Ms. Karoline Edtstadler</b>, Minister for EU and Constitution, Austria (10 min)</p> <p><b>H.E. Ms. Wafa' Bani Mustafa</b>, Minister of State for Legal Affairs, Jordan (10 min)</p> <p><b>H.E. Ms. Sima Sami Bahous</b>, UN Women Executive Director (10 min)</p>
<b>13.05 – 13.35 (30 min)</b>	<b>Interventions by other stakeholders</b>	<p><b>H.E. Ms. Adela Raz</b>, Director, Afghanistan Policy Lab at SPIA</p> <p><b>Ms. Maria Victoria “Mavic” Cabrera Balleza</b>, CEO Global Network of Women Peacebuilders</p> <p><b>Mr. Carl Bruch</b>, President of the Environmental Peacebuilding Association</p>
<b>13.35-13.40 (5 min)</b>	<b>First respondent</b>	<b>Ambassador Fabio Cassese</b> , Director-General for Development Cooperation - Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Italy
<b>13.40 – 13.52 (12 min)</b>	<b>Q&amp;A Session</b>	Questions from the in-persona and virtual audience
<b>13.52 – 13:55 (3 min)</b>	<b>Wrap-up Statement</b>	<b>Bernhard Zlanabitnig</b> , SDG Watch Europe
<b>13.55 – 14.00 (5 min)</b>	<b>Closing remarks</b>	<b>H.E. Mr. Sudqi Atallah Abd Alkadetr Al Omoush</b> , Deputy Permanent Representative of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to the United Nations