

APC submission to the UN Working Group on discrimination against women and girls

Input to the 2026 Thematic Report on Gender Equality,
the Digital Space and the Age of Artificial Intelligence¹

NOVEMBER 2025

¹ This submission draws mainly in forthcoming research on AI and the governance of technology-facilitated gender-based violence (TFGBV) highlighting elements most relevant to the focus of this call for inputs.

About APC

The Association for Progressive Communications (APC) is an international civil society organisation and a network of members dedicated to empowering and supporting people working for peace, human rights, development and protection of the environment, through the strategic use of information and communications technologies (ICTs). APC has 73 organisational members and 44 associates active in 74 countries, mostly in the Global South.

General: Women's and Girls' Rights in an Era of New and Emerging Technology

1. How would you describe the impact of digital technology and AI on the rights of women and girls? This can include impacts related to the right to privacy, the right to freedom of assembly and freedom of association, the right to freedom of expression and opinion, the right to sexual and reproductive health care, economic and labour rights, rights related to the environment and the impact of AI infrastructure, broader issues around rule of law and good governance, and more. Please provide examples.

Artificial intelligence (AI) systems present significant human rights risks, particularly affecting marginalised communities and individuals. AI systems, especially those involving large-scale data processing, can enable new and more sophisticated forms of technology-facilitated gender-based violence (TFGBV).² These include gendered disinformation campaigns, automated harassment, non-consensual synthetic intimate imagery (deepfakes), and the algorithmic reinforcement of gender stereotypes.³

² There is also a concern of increased instances of TFGBV due to the commercialisation of AI, as AI tools make it easier for perpetrators of violence to generate synthetic but realistic images and videos, for example, as an act of revenge against women exercising their agency in intimate partner relationships. See: <https://genderit.org/feminist-talk/ai-exacerbating-image-based-abuse>

³ <https://blog.witness.org/2025/03/technology-facilitated-gender-based-violence/>

Particular impacts and harms on the human rights of women, girls and gender-diverse people amplified by AI include:

Right to freedom of expression and opinion: The ultimate goal of gender-related disinformation⁴ is to discourage the exercise of freedom of expression by women, gender-diverse individuals and marginalised groups, to force them out of public spaces and discussions, and to manipulate the information ecosystem.⁵ The sophisticated nature of modern AI outputs, including audio, visual and audiovisual content, makes it even more harmful than the traditional and known strategies of disinformation. In many contexts, this goes beyond just violation of freedom of expression, and can quickly lead to a life-threatening situation. Algorithmic news feeds generate personalised, adversarial content that drives engagement and profit while distorting the information ecosystem and amplifying harm against vulnerable groups.⁶

Right to privacy: AI systems rely on large-scale data extraction, often non-consensual, opaque and disproportionately affecting all users, including marginalised and underrepresented communities:⁷ data is taken without their knowledge, and repurposed across systems for commercial or state use. These practices disproportionately harm women, LGBTQIA+ people, and racialised or poor communities, who are more likely to be surveilled. Research included in an edition of APC's Global Information Society Watch (GISWatch) report showed how facial recognition surveillance also impacts differently on women and non-binary individuals.⁸ Some other concerns identified in upcoming APC research include:

- Function creep: where data collected for one purpose (e.g. healthcare) is reused for surveillance or immigration control.
- Reproductive surveillance: instances where apps have handed over sexual and reproductive health data to authorities.

⁴ APC considers gendered disinformation as a specific type of violation of women's and gender-diverse people's rights, in particular their freedom of expression.

⁵ <https://www.apc.org/en/pubs/placing-gender-disinformation>

⁶ <https://www.apc.org/en/pubs/submission-association-progressive-communications-issue-impact-disinformation-enjoyment-and>

⁷ <https://genderit.org/feminist-talk/binary-glitchy-platform-accountability-through-decolonial-queer-lens>

⁸ <https://www.giswatch.org/node/6201>

- Platform opacity: where algorithmic profiling and content moderation are built on training datasets gathered from users without meaningful consent.

Right to participation in political and public life: AI tools are used to spread manipulated narratives that discredit women politicians, academics and human rights defenders.⁹ For instance, deepfakes of women politicians, government opponents, journalists and human rights defenders force them to self-censor or push them out of public spaces, affecting their participation rights. The design and application of AI for surveillance and control purposes can also threaten the existence and work of feminist activists and women human rights defenders (WHRDs).¹⁰

Sexual and reproductive rights:¹¹ In addition to reproductive surveillance, research also showed how machine-learning systems used to “predict teenage pregnancy” that claim to be neutral and objective, instead have been increasingly deployed to support potentially discriminatory public policies that undermine the human rights of underprivileged people such as poor women and girls, including monitoring and censoring their sexual and reproductive rights.¹²

Right to non-discrimination: AI systems are often presented as neutral or objective, but they are built on foundations that reflect and reinforce societal bias and structural inequality. AI and emerging technologies are being designed by people and therefore, they reproduce gender and other intersecting biases, including racial biases.¹³ These biases manifest in different ways:

- Biased training datasets: AI models are trained on datasets that are not neutral, often reflect and amplify historical and societal gender norms¹⁴ and may contain sexual, racial or social prejudice.¹⁵

⁹ See more, for instance, on the impacts of AI on women's participation in politics and public life, including for under-represented groups, in a GenderIT edition focused on the MENA region:

¹⁰ <https://genderit.org/edition/algorithmic-anxieties-feminist-futures-mena>

¹¹ <https://www.apc.org/en/pubs/ai-advance-gender-equality-challenges-and-opportunities>

¹² <https://www.mctd.ac.uk/femtech-high-stakes-tracking-menstruation/>

¹³ <https://www.giswatch.org/node/6203>

¹⁴ <https://www.apc.org/en/pubs/joint-submission-global-digital-compact-gender>

¹⁵ <https://www.globalcenter.ai/research/gender-equality-in-ai-governance-human-rights-and-ai>

¹⁶ <https://genderit.org/articles/women-era-artificial-intelligence-increased-targeting-and-growing-challenges>

- Bias introduced during annotation and training: Even when datasets are more representative, human annotators bring their own societal prejudices, which are often unaccounted for. This can reproduce stereotypes in how content is categorised, moderated or ranked.
- Design choices that reflect gender norms: The “feminisation” of AI tools reinforces negative gender stereotypes by focusing on traditional gender roles through voice and appearance, as is the case with home voice assistants and various AI agents, which by default have female voices and personas.¹⁶
- Compounded discrimination: Intersecting identity markers, such as race, gender identity, class, disability and religion, directly influence people’s experiences with AI.¹⁷ AI systems are frequently biased against all women, but especially those at the intersections of multiple forms of marginalisation.¹⁸
- Language and cultural barriers: AI tools are often designed and trained in the Global North with a focus on English as the primary language, and Western culture as the benchmark. As a result, not only are regional, local and Indigenous languages and culture mostly underrepresented,¹⁹ they are often at risk of misrepresentation, as the available datasets are collected without prior consent or meaningful involvement of community members.²⁰ This becomes a problem when sexist cultural practices and outdated or misrepresented dialects are replicated through AI as facts, leading to an impact on collective memory of communities, especially those who already live on the margins.²¹

¹⁶ <https://genderit.org/articles/women-era-artificial-intelligence-increased-targeting-and-growing-challenges>

¹⁷ <https://policy.org/resource/engendering-artificial-intelligence>

¹⁸ <https://docs.un.org/en/A/HRC/56/68>

¹⁹ <https://nit.com.au/10-03-2025/16681/adobe-slammed-for-use-of-ai-generated-images-of-indigenous-people-and-artworks>

²⁰ <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2025-08-23/calls-to-protect-indigenous-intellectual-property-from-ai-cultur/105680182>

²¹ <https://arxiv.org/abs/2409.11404>

Economic and labour rights: AI systems are constantly training on people's years' worth of labour and expertise without their consent or knowledge.²² As a result, technology companies generate profit every time these tools replicate this unique human knowledge.²³ In addition, women make up only 22% of professionals in the AI industry.²⁴ This lack of inclusion at the design and deployment stages means that not only is the data stolen, it is more often than not biased and informed by processes that are devoid of the presence and realities of half of the world's population. The applications of AI in labour industries is also a concern, as it may lead to undue surveillance of workers, and its deployment may negatively impact employment in low-skill sectors.²⁵ The integration of AI in workplaces can also lead to limited professional and economic opportunities for women who were already underrepresented in the workforce due to societal biases and discrimination. Another strand of AI and work, particularly in the Global South, relates to the "hidden ghost work" and the gender aspects of data cleaning and content moderation being performed by back-end workers across developing economies.²⁶

Rights related to the environmental impact of AI: The impact derived from the environmental footprint of AI servers, especially generative AI, must be analysed as a human rights risk. This environmental impact is not only directly linked to the harms of excessive energy consumption on ecosystems and waste management, but also concerns the loose regulations and lack of corporate transparency about this data, including disclosing what population segments will be affected the most, and who is to absorb and be accountable for the costs of these impacts.²⁷

²² <https://www.ilo.org/resource/article/artificial-intelligence-illusion-how-invisible-workers-fuel-automated>

²³ <https://time.com/6247678/openai-chatgpt-kenya-workers/>

²⁴ <https://www.unesco.org/en/articles/unesco-convenes-global-dialogue-break-through-bias-ai-international-womens-day>

²⁵ <https://www.apc.org/en/pubs/apc-submission-un-working-group-business-and-human-rights-issue-procurement-and-deployment-ai>

²⁶ A paper by APC's Namita Aavriti addressed how moderation is also done voluntarily by women of colour, queer and trans people, and racial minorities – "guerilla moderation" and labour, ultimately feminised, devalued and offshored. As Aavriti pointed out, on the one side we have humans, their prejudices and the exhaustion of their labours, and on the other side are algorithms and (not) sophisticated computational and deep learning models that learn largely from the assumptions and biases that humans have, and then reproduce them on a massive scale. See: <https://www.genderit.org/articles/are-we-any-better-judging-right-wrong-automationcontent-moderation>

²⁷ <https://www.apc.org/en/pubs/apc-submission-un-working-group-business-and-human-rights-issue-procurement-and-deployment-ai>

2. Has your organization or entity or have you as an individual engaged with the United Nations or any other national, regional, or international bodies on issues of women's and girls' rights and AI/digital technology? Please describe the relevant details of this engagement, impact, or reflections.

APC has been advancing women's rights online since 1990, moving from capacity building and advocacy to shaping global policy and frameworks on gender and technology. APC's Women's Networking Support Programme was present at the 1995 Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing, where it coordinated the online communications for women's organisations remotely participating in the event. This early work laid the groundwork for what would become a comprehensive feminist approach to internet rights and governance.²⁸

In 2013, APC and partners achieved the first recognition of online gender-based violence (OGBV) in a global policy document related to violence against women (VAW), the Agreed Conclusions of the 57th session of the Commission on the Status of Women,²⁹ in the form of an explicit mention of ICTs, through the visibility and traction that technology-related VAW was gaining.³⁰ In 2014, APC worked for the recognition of OGBV in the UN General Assembly resolution related to women human rights defenders.³¹ Since then, APC has consistently engaged with the UN on issues of women's and girls' rights and AI/digital technologies over time. This submission will only highlight the most recent processes and developments at the global level in Annex 1.

²⁸ See: <https://www.apc.org/en/apc-beijing-archive>; APC continued to pioneer feminist internet advocacy, conducting research and providing consultative insights about online and technology-facilitated gender-based violence, developing frameworks like the Feminist Principles of the Internet (FPIs), and consistently advocating for policies that recognise and address the gendered impact of digital technologies and communications. APC has also developed a framework for gender-responsive cybersecurity; produced research on cybercrime and gender, gendered disinformation, and the intersections of the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda, cybersecurity and TFGBV; and built knowledge and evidence through initiatives like Take Back the Tech! and the Feminist Internet Research Network. Upcoming research will explore the intersection of AI governance and TFGBV frameworks, focusing on whether and how global, regional and national policy instruments account for the gendered harms emerging from AI systems.

²⁹ <https://www.unwomen.org/sites/default/files/Headquarters/Attachments/Sections/CSW/57/CSW57-AgreedConclusions-A4-en.pdf>

³⁰ <https://genderit.org/articles/introducing-apc-womens-rights-programme-strategic-plan-2025-2028>

³¹ <https://docs.un.org/A/RES/68/181>

3. What immediate steps should be taken – at the national, regional or international level – to ensure that AI is developed and deployed in ways that advance the rights of women and girls?

Future policy development must centre the experiences of those most affected by technology-facilitated societal discrimination in general, and AI systems in particular, while building stronger accountability mechanisms for both states and businesses. This would require building governance models that prioritise collective and participatory development, ownership, transparency and accountability,³² moving beyond technical solutions to address underlying power structures, ensuring meaningful participation of women and systematically marginalised communities in AI governance, as well as developing new frameworks for updated and complete digital rights.³³ Based on APC work and upcoming research, key next steps can include:

- A moratorium on rights-violating AI systems: Expressly ban surveillance applications that cannot be operated in compliance with international human rights law and impose moratoriums on the sale and use of AI systems that carry a high risk for the enjoyment of human rights, unless and until adequate safeguards to protect human rights are in place.
- Equality by design and diverse participation in AI design and oversight: Equality-by-design principles need to be incorporated into the design, development, application and review of AI systems. Support inclusive decision making at all levels, particularly involving marginalised and underrepresented communities in governance, development and accountability mechanisms.
- Multistakeholder governance: Build institutionalised links between AI ethics, digital rights and gender equality bodies, ensuring meaningful participation of civil society, feminist networks and marginalised and underrepresented communities.

³² <https://genderit.org/feminist-talk/resisting-extraction-and-centring-justice-feminist-futures-ai>

³³ <https://www.apc.org/en/pubs/apc-submission-un-working-group-business-and-human-rights-issue-procurement-and-deployment-ai>

- Safety and privacy by design: Ensure that all new technologies, including AI technologies, incorporate safety features from the initial design phase, prioritising user safety as a foundational element.³⁴
- Research and development: Examine how AI impacts diverse communities in reality, challenging its assumed neutrality and purported inevitability, and exposing the biases integrated in the technology itself. It is key to support and promote AI research and development led by communities in the Global South, Indigenous communities, LGBTQIA+ groups, people with disabilities, and other marginalised groups.
- Mandate gender-sensitive risk and impact assessments: Require public and private actors to assess how AI systems may reinforce or create gendered harms, particularly in high-risk sectors such as immigration, law enforcement, healthcare and public services.
- Establish enforceable standards for AI bias mitigation: Develop legal and regulatory mechanisms to detect, prevent and remediate algorithmic bias, through audits, transparency requirements and inclusive oversight structures.
- Integrate TFGBV risks in AI governance: Ensure that AI national strategies and other frameworks identify and address AI-related harms like deepfakes, harassment and algorithmic targeting.
- Set AI safeguards and standards to prevent discriminatory biases: Develop safeguards and standards to ensure that gender stereotyping and discriminatory biases are not translated into AI systems.³⁵

³⁴ The safety-by-design principles proposed by UNFPA include service provider responsibility, so that tech companies take responsibility for safety on their platforms, instead of placing the onus on the user; user empowerment and autonomy, including making safety tools easy to find and effective, to put power back in the hands of users and preserve fundamental consumer and human rights; and transparency and accountability demanded from technology corporations who are building and selling AI to ensure that their development and deployment are rooted in existing international human rights frameworks and do not erode democracy, rights and labour standards. See <https://www.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/A%20Framework%20for%20TFGBV%20Programming.pdf> and <https://www.apc.org/en/pubs/ai-advance-gender-equality-challenges-and-opportunities>

³⁵ https://www.apc.org/sites/default/files/feminist_principles-gdc-september2023.pdf

- Prioritise strategies that reduce the environmental impact of new technologies: The consequences of climate change are not experienced evenly, and women in the Global South are likely to be disproportionately affected.³⁶
4. What are the existing legal and policy frameworks for the governance of AI development and use in your country/region, if any? Has your organization or entity or have you as an individual identified any best practices or challenges related to national and international regulation of AI?

The processes to develop AI governance, as well as to develop technical implementations, may lead to further human rights risks if intersectional impact assessments are not duly undertaken, and if the rights holders are not involved, through consultation and active participation.³⁷ Some gaps identified in upcoming APC research include:

- Insufficient gender-specific safeguards in AI governance frameworks: Most AI governance frameworks include broad references to fairness and non-discrimination, but do not explicitly address AI-enabled TFGBV, such as deepfakes, non-consensual distribution of intimate images, profiling, algorithmic targeting, or surveillance-based abuse.
- AI governance and gender equality policy operating in silos: AI and TFGBV policy domains operate largely in parallel, leading to fragmented protection, unclear mandates, and few coordinated enforcement mechanisms.
- Absence of intersectionality: Race, disability, migration status, sexual orientation, religion and caste are rarely acknowledged in AI frameworks, despite strong evidence of compounded vulnerability.

³⁶ <https://www.apc.org/en/pubs/feminist-principles-including-gender-global-digital-compact-0>

³⁷ <https://www.apc.org/en/pubs/apc-submission-un-working-group-business-and-human-rights-issue-procurement-and-deployment-ai>

- Commitments often lack enforceability or implementation mechanisms: Many global and national frameworks make normative commitments to fairness, inclusion or gender equality, but few translate these into actionable steps, funding structures or accountability tools and processes.

In terms of best practices, the Global Digital Compact (GDC) process represents an opportunity to establish international guidelines for rights-respecting AI governance.³⁸ The UNESCO Recommendation on the Ethics of AI calls for ethical principles that apply to AI procurement, including respect for human dignity and rights; fairness and non-discrimination; and accountability and transparency. The Recommendation provides for specific gender- and environment-related ethical concerns that could be applied to frame AI governance.³⁹

³⁸ The GDC emphasises transparency, accountability and human rights due diligence, and the need for human rights assessments, with particular attention to the rights of women in all their diversity, and it calls on the private sector to be accountable for and take measures to mitigate and prevent abuses, and to provide access to effective remedy in line with the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and other relevant frameworks.

³⁹ <https://www.apc.org/en/pubs/apc-submission-un-working-group-business-and-human-rights-issue-procurement-and-deployment-ai>

Governance of AI and Content Moderation of AI-Generated Content

17. In conflict contexts, has your organization or entity observed or interacted with processes related to AI? This includes surveillance, predictive threat analysis, autonomous weapons systems, and drone targeting that deploy algorithmic decision making as well AI-generated content in conflict settings related to the rights of women and girls? If so, please describe the purpose and/or process.

In humanitarian and conflict settings, AI-generated and AI-distributed disinformation can fuel escalation, destabilise communities and contribute to conflict-related sexual violence. Feminist digital rights advocates have documented how this kind of information warfare is used to discredit peacebuilders, incite ethnic conflict and justify gender-based prosecution.⁴⁰ In these volatile contexts, where extreme gender- and sexual-based violence are widespread and unaccountable, the framing of TFGBV needs to be revisited so it can better respond to how these issues manifest.⁴¹

⁴⁰ Examples include coordinated disinformation campaigns targeting women politicians from minority groups and church-based women's networks in Asia and Africa. See: <https://www.apc.org/en/pubs/placing-gender-disinformation>

⁴¹ In February 2025, the Feminist Internet Research Network (FIRN), alongside the Association of Progressive Communications (APC), hosted a satellite event at RightsCon, in Taipei, Taiwan. The satellite event, titled "Expanded Notions of Technology-facilitated Gender-based Violence (TFGBV)", was an extension of FIRN's efforts to broaden the current framing of TFGBV by forefronting the current socio-political realities, particularly in contexts of war, conflict and repression, in the larger part of the world. At this event, discussants from Ethiopia, Myanmar, India, Pakistan and Yemen spoke of how AI-generated content is drastically polluting and spamming our information ecosystem, significantly exacerbating the threat of mis- and disinformation. See: <https://firn.genderit.org/blog/reimagining-broadening-and-expanding-tfgbv-and-transnational-solidarity>

Technology-Facilitated Gender-Based Violence

18. How does your organization or entity or you as an individual understand or define technology facilitated gender-based violence (TFGBV)?

Technology-facilitated gender-based violence (TFGBV) – such as cyberstalking, online harassment and doxxing – encompasses acts of gender-based violence that are committed, abetted or aggravated, in part or fully, by the use of information and communication technologies (ICTs), such as phones, the internet, social media platforms and email.⁴²

Online and offline gender-based violence do not happen in vacuums separate from each other, as women and gender-diverse people's lives online intersect frequently and in various complex ways with other areas of their lives, and violence in any one domain can often produce harm across other domains.⁴³ As explained above, AI has both introduced new forms of TFGBV, as well as intensified the scale, reach and automation of existing ones.

⁴² <https://www.apc.org/en/glossary/technology-facilitated-gender-based-violence>

⁴³ <https://genderit.org/FPI-paper-on-violence>

Annex 1. Recent APC engagement with international bodies and processes on gender, AI and digital rights

Human rights treaties

- Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW): Building on its earlier work, APC's Women Rights Programme pursued the recognition of online gender-based violence (OGBV)⁴⁴ in General Recommendation No. 35 (2017), which affirms that GBV – including TFGBV – is a form of discrimination that states are obligated to prevent, investigate, and punish.

UN resolutions and Special Procedures

- Human Rights Council (HRC): In 2018, APC and other advocates working against OGBV claimed a milestone victory, which was the recognition of online gender-based violence in the HRC resolution “Accelerating efforts to eliminate violence against women and girls: preventing and responding to violence against women and girls in digital contexts”.⁴⁵ APC has contributed to HRC resolutions on the impact of new technologies, including online violence and TFGBV.⁴⁶
- Special Rapporteur reports: APC has contributed to the work of various UN experts by bringing gender perspectives and issues related to women's and girls' rights and AI/digital technologies into their mandates. This has included close engagement with the UN Special Rapporteur on violence against women and girls, who has addressed TFGBV as a priority area; the Special Rapporteur on freedom of expression, who has underscored how online harassment chills women's participation in public discourse and requires protection measures

⁴⁴ <https://genderit.org/articles/introducing-apc-womens-rights-programme-strategic-plan-2025-2028>

⁴⁵ <https://www.genderit.org/editorial/editorial-recognition-online-gbv-international-law-highs-and-lows>

⁴⁶ <https://www.apc.org/en/news/digital-milestone-new-resolution-human-rights-defenders-and-new-technologies-adopted-un-human>

without infringing on expression rights;⁴⁷ the Special Rapporteur on privacy;⁴⁸ the Special Rapporteur on racial discrimination, to whom issues related to AI and gender discrimination were brought;⁴⁹ and the Independent Expert on sexual orientation and gender identity.⁵⁰

- Universal Periodic Review (UPR): APC has played an essential role in utilising the UPR, from its inception as a human rights mechanism, to raise awareness of the impact of the internet and digital technologies on human rights and to promote digital rights. APC was the first civil society group to focus on issues related to digital rights such as gender and women's rights online, including TFGBV.⁵¹
- General Assembly resolutions: APC has engaged in the "Privacy in the digital age" resolution discussions to bring in issues of gender and women's and girls' rights.

UN cybersecurity and cybercrime processes

- UN General Assembly's First Committee OEWG:⁵² APC engaged with the 2019-2021 and 2021-2025 OEWGs since the outset of these processes, bringing gender perspectives to cybersecurity, including in addressing ICT threats.⁵³
- Ad Hoc Committee on Cybercrime: APC, together with member Derechos Digitales, advocated to mainstream gender perspectives into the discussions of

⁴⁷

https://www.apc.org/sites/default/files/APC_submission_on_gender_justice_and_the_right_to_freedom_of_opinion_and_expression.pdf

⁴⁸ <https://www.apc.org/en/pubs/gender-perspectives-privacy-submission-united-nations-special-rapporteur-right-privacy> and <https://www.apc.org/en/pubs/hrc43-apc-statement-privacy-and-gender>

⁴⁹ <https://www.apc.org/en/pubs/apc-submission-un-special-rapporteur-contemporary-forms-racism-racial-discrimination>

⁵⁰ <https://www.apc.org/en/pubs/apc-submission-protection-against-violence-and-discrimination-based-sexual-orientation-and>

⁵¹ <https://www.apc.org/en/tags/upr> and <https://www.apc.org/en/tags/universal-periodic-review>

⁵² <https://www.apc.org/en/news/new-global-cybersecurity-process-begins-apc-presents-statement-un-open-ended-working-group>

⁵³ <https://www.apc.org/en/tags/oewg>

the Comprehensive International Convention on Countering the Use of Information and Communications Technologies for Criminal Purposes.⁵⁴

Commission on the Status of Women (CSW)

- APC engaged with the CSW67 on thematic priorities related to online gender-based violence, freedom of expression, the gender digital divide, disinformation and cybersecurity. The 2023 session was groundbreaking in placing digital gender justice and TFGBV at the centre of global commitments, and the Agreed Conclusions recognised TFGBV as a key barrier to achieving gender equality. APC was also part of the expert group in 2022 and 2024 to inform the thematic agenda of the CSW and contributed with expert papers both years.⁵⁵

Global Digital Compact

- APC and partners developed and advocated for the integration of Feminist Principles in the Global Digital Compact, including demanding strict action against harmful surveillance applications and high-risk AI systems.⁵⁶

World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS)+20

- APC called for the integration of concrete measures connected with gender in the WSIS+20 review, such as the inclusion of gender-specific indicators and targets, increasing women's participation, and a comprehensive approach to TFGBV.⁵⁷

⁵⁴ <https://www.apc.org/en/pubs/derechos-digitales-and-apc-contribution-ad-hoc-committee-elaborate-comprehensive-international>

⁵⁵ https://www.unwomen.org/sites/default/files/2022-12/EP.14_Jan%20Moolman.pdf and <https://www.unwomen.org/sites/default/files/2024-10/csw-69-expert-group-meeting-expert-paper-hija-kamran-en.pdf>

⁵⁶ <https://www.apc.org/en/pubs/feminist-principles-including-gender-global-digital-compact-0>

⁵⁷ <https://www.apc.org/en/pubs/statement-gender-wsis20-review-process>

Other relevant UN processes

- APC submission to the UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights on the issue of procurement and deployment of AI systems by states and business enterprises.⁵⁸

Other multilateral and multistakeholder spaces

- APC has participated in intergovernmental coalitions and multistakeholder spaces bringing gender priorities, such as the Freedom Online Coalition and the Global Partnership on Gender-Based Online Harassment and Abuse, alongside governments, the UN, civil society, the private sector and academia.

⁵⁸ <https://www.apc.org/en/pubs/apc-submission-un-working-group-business-and-human-rights-issue-procurement-and-deployment-ai>