

Committee: Unwomen

Country: Republic of Italy

Agenda item: Protecting Women in the Age of Digital Abuse:
Regulating AI, Deepfakes and Online Gender-Based Violence



Women's safety in the digital world is one of the key considerations in order to promote gender equality as well as to protect human rights around the world in general. As a founding member of the European Union also valuing the human rights frameworks Italy recognizes the increasing misuse of AI and digital technologies in violence against woman is a concern worldwide. Italy strongly supports the important role of UN Women in global action, survivor-centered responses and enhanced international cooperation globally in combating violence against women.

Italy has expressed interest in addressing the growing number of online abuses targeting women and girls including cases linked to the misuse of artificial intelligence such as cyber stalking or harassment, non-consensual exchange of sexual images, virtual identity theft and artificial intelligence generated content such as deepfakes. We are concerned that cyber abuse often places the burden of this violence on women, and that it can lead to long-lasting consequences. Italy understands that digital gender-based violence is an assault on human rights. We are committed to fighting violence against women, including improving existing laws.

Italy argues that in the era of artificial intelligence clear ethical standards should remain central to promoting gender equality and to addressing violence States should not only set clear laws that can be enforced but also ensure that survivors can access justice in practice. Digital platforms should meet their duty of care by reducing the spread of abusive content, strengthening reporting and removal processes and being more open about how decisions are made or by using tools such as content labels and systems that show where content came from. Ensuring women's safety online is a key part of supporting equality in human rights.

- <https://www.unwomen.org/en/articles/faqs/digital-abuse-trolling-stalking-and-other-forms-of-technology-facilitated-violence-against-women>
- <https://www.unwomen.org/en/articles/faqs/ai-powered-online-abuse-how-ai-is-amplifying-violence-against-women-and-what-can-stop-it>
- <https://www.unwomen.org/en/about-us>
- <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/topics/en/article/20241205STO25880/cyberviolence-against-women-what-is-it-and-how-to-prevent-it>
- <https://artificialintelligenceact.eu/>
- <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/policies/artificial-intelligence>