



BEIJING+20

Conference organized by the network Gender and Development in Practice, GADIP, at the University of Gothenburg on 21-22 November, 2015.

This report was written by Anna Mo Welin, conference coordinator and master's student at the School of Global Studies, University of Gothenburg.

The conference was comprised of five keynote speakers and ten workshops, as well as an opportunity to socialize with dinner, speeches and entertainment.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS:

Maj-Britt Theorin: *Do women make decisions about peace and security after Beijing?* Swedish Social Democrat politician and expert on peace and disarmament questions.

Christa Wichterich: *Beijing+20: Progress, backlash and continuous struggles. Lessons to learn from the global governance of gender equality in a neoliberal and neoconservative context.* Professor of Sociology at the University of Basel. Freelance publicist, author and consultant in international development cooperation.

Lina Gálvez Muñoz: *Feminism and gender on the neoliberal revolution and the structural roots of the financial crisis.* Professor of Economic History at the Pablo de Olavide University in Seville. Founder of GEP&DO (Gender, Economy, Politics & Development Observatory).

Thomas Ahlstrand: *The Swedish law that prohibits the purchase of sexual services is a useful, wise and good tool for fighting human trafficking.* Deputy Chief Prosecutor with vast experience in cases regarding purchasing of sex and trafficking of women.

Gertrud Åström: *Beijing+20 – Feminist agreements and demands.* Business and organization leader. Expert on gender equality issues. Commissioner of the United Nations Association of Sweden and former president of the Swedish Women's Lobby.

WORKSHOPS:

GADIP: *A roleplay on the consequences of TTIP for women.*

Män för Jämställdhet: *Violence within intimate relationships – from a treating of perpetrators perspective.*

Operation 1325: *UN Resolution 1325 on women, peace and security – how to implement?*

Winnet: *Self-sufficiency as a tool for power and independence.*

Elektra/Fryshuset: *Violence and oppression in the name of honor – a crime against the human rights.*

IKFF: *The possibility for women to prioritize non-military conflict resolution and sustainable development.*

Solidaritet med Ayotzinapa – Sverige: *Violence against women in Mexico.*

Allt är Möjligt: *Women in media.*

RealStars: *To challenge norms and myths about prostitution.*

Svalorna Indien Bangladesh: *Poverty, power and gender.*

THE SIX THEMES:

1. Beijing+20 – a critical feminist outlook
2. Women and economy
3. Violence against women
4. Trafficking
5. Women and media
6. Women, peace and security

INTRODUCTION

During the fourth UN women's conference in Beijing in 1995, women from the UN and leaders of women's movements from all over the world gathered to decide on a course of action for global equality between women and men. The result was the Beijing Platform for Action which includes twelve prioritized areas for the objective.

The Beijing Platform for Action is considered to be the most progressive course of action towards increasing equality which has ever been written. After the Beijing conference, follow-up conferences have been held every fifth year and the twelve prioritized areas are continuously monitored by the UN and NGOs throughout the world.

Five years ago, GADIP arranged one of those follow-up conferences: Beijing+15. The conference was arranged in cooperation with ABF and was funded by Sida (The Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency). The theme for that conference was "How do we continue the work?" About 90 participants attended the conference.

Five years after Beijing+15, GADIP arranged another follow-up conference – Beijing+20. The purpose was to continue the monitoring of the twelve prioritized areas in the Beijing Platform for Action by inviting NGOs and researchers who are working in a variety of ways with gender issues, to share knowledge through workshops, discussions and lectures.

The main aim for the conference was to gather around 100 participants in order to discuss and share knowledge about the issues at hand. A second aim was to foster new contacts among both NGOs and academics. A third aim was to create this written report about the conference.

BEIJING+20 – A CRITICAL FEMINIST OUTLOOK

Two of the five keynote speakers, Christa Wichterich and Lina Gálvez Muñoz, have previously participated in events organized by GADIP. Christa Wichterich, who is actively involved in GADIP's partner organization WIDE+ (Women in Development Europe) spoke on the first conference day. Wichterich focused on the overarching focus of the conference, namely, what has happened since the Beijing Platform for Action was created 20 years ago. When talking about the development

of women's rights since 1995 from a historical perspective, Wichterich suggests that the process has to be understood as a zig zag, rather than a linear or predictable trajectory.

Wichterich focused on what has happened since Beijing 1995, in the context of neoliberalism and neo-conservatism. After the Beijing conference in 1995, the human rights paradigm and social justice concepts were seen as obligations which should be continued. However, these obligations have been "squeezed" and have come under threat from, on the one hand, neoliberal globalization and, on the other hand, new conservatism and fundamentalisms, Wichterich argues. Together with neoliberal globalization, the women's rights concept has become instrumentalist. For example, the military intervention in Afghanistan was, inter alia, justified by the notion of safeguarding women's rights. Also, the hegemonic idea that development everywhere equals economic growth has become stronger. Wichterich argues that this leads to development that is synonymous with marketization, economization, financialization, privatization, and corporatization. An increasing amount of nature, the environment, and social relations are being turned into commodities and then traded in the market. According to Wichterich this is problematic, especially for people living in the global south. Resources are taken from the global south creating different layers of exploitation. The whole system is, in Wichterich's opinion, based on un- or underpaid caretaking work provided by women. Wichterich argues that the result of this process is an increase in inequalities; between regions, between countries, and within countries as well. At the same time, there is the rise of fundamentalism, neo-conservatism and military and authoritarian regimes. Wichterich states that we have seen repeatedly that these kinds of regimes don't care at all for human rights. IS is an "outstanding example", she argues, since its very organization is based on the violation of human rights.

When taking a formal point of view, Wichterich stresses that many laws have been adopted since Beijing, for example in the area of violence against women, which she calls a success for the Beijing agenda. Still, Wichterich argues that these laws have not led to real change, not in the mindset and behavior of people, and not in the practices of society. As Wichterich puts it, the laws themselves are not sufficient to cause change in society.

Furthermore in her speech, Wichterich highlights one major point that is central in today's feminist movements, namely the issue of fragmentation. Wichterich maintains that today, we have a fragmentation of civil society meaning that many of the women's and feminist NGOs have become very specialized and professionalized. In order to survive, organizations have to look for funds and a feminist commitment has increasingly become a professional job rather than a manner of social engagement. According to Wichterich, this changes the whole feminist movement. In this fragmentation, different LGBTIQ movements have become stronger and conservative- movements such as young anti-abortion feminists more reactionary. Wichterich's main position is that we have to reconnect. Wichterich describes the current situation as defensive, and therefore we have to build alliances and link different issues to each other much more. As she puts it, we have to link structures, discourses and subjectivities. We have to link politics, economics and culture, and we have to link the global and the local. Wichterich ends her speech saying that the conference is one way of doing this, and that we should re-energize from this moment onward, and continue our efforts.

On the second and last day of the conference, Gertrud Åström gave the final lecture. In her speech, Åström summarized what has been achieved with the Universal Declaration on Human Rights from 1948 (UDHR) and the Convention on

the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women from 1979 (CEDAW). Focusing mainly on the situation in Sweden, Åström argued that it is necessary to make feminism matter to everyone, and to lessen its academic connotation. The topic of the speech was Beijing+20 – Feminist agreements and demands, referring to the Women's Movements Final Document at Nordiskt Forum in Malmö in 2014. Nordiskt Forum was visited by 30 000 participants from more than 50 countries and the aim of the conference was to remind Nordic governments about the commitments they made in Beijing in 1995. During Nordiskt Forum, the document Feminist Agreements and Demands was adopted. This consisted of an action plan with recommendations for women's rights and gender equality. Åström used this document as a guideline during her speech, describing how much remains to be done for women's rights and gender equality.

The document Feminist Agreements and Demands stresses that there has not been a world conference on women's rights since Beijing 1995 and that interest has been shown for organizing a new one. Yet, there are also concerns of a potential backlash if the Beijing Platform for Action were to be renegotiated. According to the document, a lack of international process exists. For example, in 2012 UN member states failed to reach agreed conclusions at the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW). Further, the document stresses that women's rights continue to be questioned and restricted all over the world, with regards to traditions, religions and cultures. Not only are principles of universal rights and democracy called into question – economic, environmental and political crises have repeatedly been shown to negatively impact women, especially women who are poor. Women's access to decision-making, the continued violence against women, labor market conditions and equal pay, women's economic independence, the organization and sharing of caretaking work and women's influence and

empowerment are other areas in which there are major shortcomings. Several of these areas were given particular emphasis during the Beijing+20 conference, and will be further discussed in the following sections.

WOMEN AND ECONOMY

Women and economy is one of the areas being prioritized in the Beijing Platform for Action. The area has six so-called strategic objectives which are:

- 1) To promote women's economic rights and independence, including access to employment, appropriate working conditions and control over economic resources.
- 2) To facilitate women's equal access to resources, employment, markets and trade.
- 3) To provide business services, training and access to markets, information and technology, particularly to low-income women.
- 4) To strengthen women's economic capacity and commercial networks.
- 5) To eliminate occupational segregation and all forms of employment discrimination.
- 6) To promote harmonization of work and family responsibilities for women and men¹.

This area was emphasized during both speeches and workshops. Nina Gálvez Muñoz, who held her speech on the conference's first day, focused on feminism and gender in relation to "the neoliberal revolution" and the financial crisis. Gálvez Muñoz began her speech by going back to Wichterich's speech and its request for a broader view of the situation we face today. According to Gálvez Muñoz, this view has to be identified in terms of liberalism, mercantilization, financialization and the individualization of risk. We are in the midst of a globalization process, but this globalization increases inequality. While financial capital moves easily, labor and people do not. Gálvez Muñoz suggests that within this process, democracy is pushed aside. This development has a deep impact on gender equality and women.

As Gálvez Muñoz puts it – everybody benefits from democracy, but seen from a historical perspective, women have benefitted more. This is why the process of neoliberal globalization, with its inequality as an effect, is especially hard on women.

A large part of Gálvez Muñoz' speech focused on the economic crisis. Even though the 2008 crisis is largely behind us and the economy is growing in several places, many people have been left behind in the crisis' exit. Also, since we have not changed the conditions that brought on the crisis in the first place, it is most likely that the next financial crisis will come soon. Gálvez Muñoz stressed how the effects of both economic crises as well as economic policy are very different depending on gender but also on other variables such as class, ethnicity, and so on. In saying this, she relates to Wichterich's request for linking different structures, discourses and subjectivities.

The Beijing Platform for Action's strategic objectives regarding the area of economy were illuminated during Gálvez Muñoz speech. The economic crisis had a decisive influence on several of the different objectives. Despite the fact that women had been important factors in sustaining family well-being during the crisis, women are more sensitive to economic crises than men are, in general. Gálvez Muñoz argued that this is because women have more vulnerable positions within the markets, especially labor markets. Women's unemployment is higher. Women have more part-time and temporary jobs, lower activity rates, lower wages, a harder time obtaining promotions to better positions, et cetera.

According to Gálvez Muñoz, deflationary policies should be abandoned. Instead, the fight against inequality should be central in economic policy as well as in policies, in general. As Gálvez Muñoz puts it – if we do not fight other inequalities then we will not fight inequalities of gender. A real feminist system cannot be created within the

neoliberal system, Gálvez Muñoz argues. Rather, we need another type of economic activity, namely a non-patriarchal one. We need other incentives, another soul, other values, and especially another source of power.

Another example linking women and the economy was in the workshop held by GADIP. The workshop focused on the proposed free trade agreement Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) and how free trade agreements such as this can affect the situation for women around the world. The workshop's main objective was to highlight how it is possible to link women's organizations to globalization and free trade, in general. Gálvez Muñoz, who was invited to participate in the workshop's roleplaying, was critical of TTIP – seeing it as a part of the “financial hyper-globalization” that she maintained undermines democracy. She was skeptical about the official EU view of TTIP as a win-win policy. Rather than a win-win, economic policy such as TTIP could have a good impact on some people and a very negative impact on others. Gálvez Muñoz was worried about its undemocratic structure, describing these sorts of agreements as institutions without democratic control. Christa Wichterich was also very critical of TTIP, especially regarding the investment clauses and its lack of transparency. In this role play Edmé Domínguez took on the role of the EU officials, defending the entire TTIP project as equally beneficial to all sectors of society.

Women and the economy were also in focus during the workshop held by Winnet. The workshop had a clear connection to the topical Beijing Platform for Action area with its heading *Self-sufficiency as a tool for power and independence*. Winnet is a national non-profit organization that aims to promote women's equal access to resources, the full utilization of women's skills and experience, and making women's and men's achievements equally valued. During the workshop, the question of whether a link between self-

sufficiency and power and independence exists was emphasized, as well as the ways that individuals and organizations can help to strengthen women's possibilities for self-sufficiency.

Svalorna Indien Bangladesh held their workshop during the conference's last workshop session. The heading was *poverty, power and gender* and the aim was to look at power, gender and feminization of poverty through an intersectional perspective. Svalorna Indien Bangladesh is a non-profit non-governmental development organization that was established in 1959, working in India since 1962 and Bangladesh since 1973. Christa Wichterich who has extensive experience in the region, also participated in this workshop. The workshop focused on the concept of privilege, with an exercise in which participants were asked to share their views on the concept. There was also a discussion on the situation for women in the labor market in Bangladesh. Wichterich gave an account of the poor working conditions for women in the garment industry. She also stressed the importance of identifying this group's lack of privileges and promoting both their organization and empowerment.

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

When it comes to violence against women, the Beijing Platform for Action points to three strategic objectives. These are:

- 1) To take integrated measures to prevent and eliminate violence against women.
- 2) To study the causes and consequences of violence against women and the effectiveness of preventive measures.
- 3) To eliminate trafficking of women and assist victims of violence due to prostitution and traffickingⁱⁱ.

These three strategic objectives were discussed during several of the conference's workshops. The third objective, addressing trafficking, was given special attention and will hence be discussed under the next section of the report.

The non-profit and feminist organization Män för Jämställdhet (Men for Gender Equality) held their workshop on the first day of the conference. The organization engages men and boys in gender equality and violence prevention and operates on local, national, and international levels. Men for Gender Equality focuses on social norms of masculinities; how they are formed, how they influence society, relations and individuals, and how they can be reformed to contribute to gender equality, freedom from violence and better health for women, girls, boys and men. The workshop dealt with the issue of violence within intimate relationships. The lecture started by listing different forms of violence, divided into the categories of physical violence, psychological violence, sexual violence, material violence, latent violence, and economic oppression. Amongst other things, the presentation highlighted that adult women who had witnessed violence taking place between their parents as they were growing up are, in fact, themselves at greater risk of becoming victims of violence within intimate relationships, than women who had been directly exposed to violence as children. These findings showed that children who experienced violence occurring between their parents could suffer serious damage in the long term, even if they were not directly exposed to the violence themselves.

Both individual and group based treatment of perpetrators was discussed. Within both types of treatments, questions regarding, for example, the seriousness of the crime, responsibility, consequences and roots of violence were in focus, as well as alternatives to violence.

Elektra-Fryshuset also held their workshop on the conference's first day. The theme was honor related violence. Elektra-Fryshuset is an organization that works for human rights through preventing honor related violence and oppression. The organization works for gender equality and offers support to "at-risk-youth". It also operates in a

preventive way through education and attitude change, as well as through opinion formation. During the workshop, the organization's work was presented followed by a lecture on the issue. According to SOU 2014:49, 100 000 young people are exposed to violence and oppression in the name of honor in Sweden.ⁱⁱⁱ Every day, more than 20 000 underage girls throughout the world are married off. Not only girls, but also boys are exposed to violence and oppression – as with, for example, people who identify as LGBTIQ.

Furthermore, the lecture emphasized the changes in knowledge and understanding previously and currently regarding honor related violence and oppression. It is known today that this kind of violence may involve not only physical violence but also social oppression and psychological violence. Today it is also known that men who are close relations are most often the principal perpetrators, but that mothers and other family members can also be involved in the oppression, as well. Honor related violence is present amongst people in many countries and regions, and in families with many different religious beliefs. The very basis for the oppression is patriarchal power structures. Elektra-Fryshuset highlights the importance of changing this serious social problem by understanding the problem at its root, supporting different social measures and raising awareness of the problem – for both those who have been exposed and for perpetrators.

Violence against women was also focused on in the workshop held by Solidarity with Ayotzinapa-Sweden. This non-profit organization aims to inform and raise awareness about the situation of human rights and social justice in Mexico. The theme for this workshop was the phenomenon of so-called femicides – broadly defined as the killing of women, more specifically defined as the killing of females by males because they are females^{iv}. The workshop started with a historical background on the situation of women's murders

in some cities of Mexico. Ciudad Juárez, which was once considered one of Mexico's most dangerous cities, was used as an example. The participants were then encouraged to reflect on how the media and the government have portrayed the recent murder of 5 activists and journalists in Mexico City. The participants were given portraits of the murdered victims and there was a discussion about who they were and how they had been depicted. The workshop concluded with a music video by the French-Chilean rapper Ana Tijoux. The featured song is called "Antipatriarca" which means "Anti Patriarchy" and is about taking a stand against patriarchal society.

TRAFFICKING

As mentioned in an earlier section, trafficking is addressed in one of the three strategic objectives in the Beijing Platform for Action's regarding violence against women. This issue received special attention during the conference as it was the theme of one of the key note speeches, as well as the theme for one of the workshops. Both the speech and the workshop were held on the second day of the conference.

Thomas Ahlstrand, Deputy Chief Prosecutor with a vast amount of experience with cases of trafficking of women and purchasing of sex in Sweden, held his speech on the topic *The Swedish law that prohibits the purchase of sexual services is a useful, wise and a good tool for fighting human trafficking*. In his speech, Ahlstrand talked about his work against trafficking and prostitution, describing the Swedish law that prohibits the purchase of sexual services as a "stroke of genius". According to Ahlstrand, this law takes the side of the weak victims in a power relationship. Ahlstrand stresses that every purchase of sex normalizes a behavior. That said, even if there is no background of, for example, poverty, sexual abuse, low self-esteem, et cetera, the purchase itself contributes to the underlying structure of exploitation. The purchase of sex, therefore, underpins human trafficking,

which is why the law operates preventively. He also noted the importance of the law in the sense of making it possible to investigate and access information that can lead to knowledge about trafficking.

Ahlstrand pointed out that although Sweden is not free from trafficking, its levels are definitely lower than in other northern European countries. Ahlstrand emphasized that the law is norm-breaking since it does not penalize the prostitute, but the customer. He stressed that the law is a useful tool since it lowers the demand, meaning that less prostitution results in less trafficking. The law sends out a message that it is not okay to buy someone's body. For that reason, in Sweden the purchase of sex is not normalized, as it is to a higher degree in, for example, Germany and the Netherlands.

Ahlstrand also argued that criminalization of the purchase of sexual services will not end prostitution, but that this was not its main objective. As he put it, we have laws against murder, rape and abuse. These acts still exist, however, though to a lesser degree than they would without the laws in place. That prostitution still exists in Sweden despite this law is, according to Ahlstrand, not a valid argument against it.

In one of the last conference workshops, the organization RealStars also discussed the issue. RealStars is a non-profit organization that strives to envision a world without sex trafficking. The organization works both nationally in Sweden and within the European Union through campaigns and advocacy. RealStars works on three different levels. First, by influencing society and pushing the EU to form legislations against sex trafficking. Second, by collaborating with corporations in order to integrate human trafficking issues in corporate social responsibility efforts. And third, by engaging individuals in their work through campaigns and school collaborations. In their

workshop, the aim was to discuss how one can take another step forward and challenge the norms and myths that have to be challenged in order to reduce prostitution. The participants brought up knowledge, trends and a need for action on different levels in society.

WOMEN AND MEDIA

The Beijing Platform for Action emphasizes the role of media in the prioritized area *Women and the Media*. Two objectives are mentioned: To increase women's participation and access to expression and decision-making in and through the media and new technologies of communication, and to promote a balanced and non-stereotyped portrayal of women in the media^v.

During the conference, the issue was highlighted in the workshop *Women in media*, organized by the media critical network Allt är Möjligt (Everything is Possible). The network Allt är Möjligt was founded in Gothenburg, Sweden in 1992 and monitors and questions female and male stereotypes in media.

In their workshop, about ten people participated. First, the organization presented its work and their connection to The Beijing Platform for Action. After the presentation the participants were divided into pairs and given the task of coding images and text from an encoding scheme. When the participants presented their results, the conclusion was that the media's portrayal of women and men – in both text and image – is very stereotyped, something which has also been confirmed in the new GMMP (Global Media Monitoring Project) survey^{vi}.

The question was also stressed in the workshop *UN Resolution 1325 on women, peace and security – how to implement?* which was organized by the Swedish civil society organization Operation 1325. Operation 1325 is working for the implementation of UNSCR 1325 (on integrating women's perspectives into conflict resolution efforts), in Sweden and

in partnership with women's and peace organizations around the world. The workshop's focus was on the UN Security Council Resolution 1325 and the role of media amongst women's organizations in the Middle East. One of their invited guests, Vanessa Basil from the Lebanon-based non-governmental organization Media Association for Peace talked about peace journalism and the importance of including more perspectives. Women need to be heard and seen in active roles in peace-making efforts. The importance of training young people in peace journalism was also discussed.

WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY

Women, peace and security have a central part in The Beijing Platform for Action in the prioritized area *Women in Armed Conflict*. The area has six strategic objectives which are the following:

- 1) To increase the participation of women in conflict resolution at decision-making levels and protect women living in situations of armed and other conflicts or under foreign occupation.
- 2) To reduce excessive military expenditures and control the availability of armaments.
- 3) To promote non-violent forms of conflict resolution and reduce the incidence of human rights abuse in conflict situations.
- 4) To promote women's contributions to fostering a culture of peace.
- 5) To provide protection, assistance and training to refugee women, other displaced women in need of international protection and internally displaced women.
- 6) To provide assistance to the women of the colonies and non-self-governing territories^{vii}.

Maj-Britt Theorin held the opening speech at the conference under the title *Do women make decisions about peace and security after Beijing?* Theorin stressed that peace cannot be created through military means. Instead it is through human contact that understanding is created, and therefore we must talk to each other and not about each other. Peace must be built from the

bottom up, and not hurriedly through military armament. Theorin also talked about the importance of concretizing international resolutions, such as the UN Resolution 1325 on women, peace and security, in order to put them into action.

When rhetorically asking what has happened since Beijing 1995, Theorin referred to the famous quote “Rome was not built in a day” to suggest that more should have happened in the last 20 years. There have been results but also adverse reactions. Peace cannot be built and sustained if half the population is not allowed to prevent and resolve conflicts or to mediate them. Nonetheless, most women in the world are still not allowed to make decisions about peace and security, neither as leaders of peace processes nor as peace negotiators. Instead, as Theorin puts it, the same men who start wars end up authoring peace treaties. Even the UN fails to face up to this goal, as it does not delegate peace-negotiating missions to women to the same extent as it does to men. Hence, as an answer to her initial question, Theorin responds negatively.

However, Theorin mentions the UN Resolution 1325 as one of the positive results. The resolution was adopted in October 2000 and reaffirms the important role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts, peace negotiations, peace-building, peacekeeping, humanitarian response and in post-conflict reconstruction. It stresses the importance of women’s equal participation and full involvement in all efforts for the maintenance and promotion of peace and security. The resolution urges all actors to increase the participation of women and incorporate gender perspectives in all United Nations peace and security efforts^{viii}.

UN Resolution 1325 was given further consideration under the Operation 1325 workshop, which was introduced in the previous section on women and media. Narmin Mohammed and Nigar Miraudel from Women Empowerment Organization in the Kurdish region in Iraq spoke about the national

1325 action plan that they have contributed to. The national action plan emphasizes women’s rights to participate in decision-making and to live without physical violence, as well as women’s roles as actors in the rebuilding of Iraq and the Kurdish region. They also spoke about legislation criminalizing domestic violence.

Eva Zetterberg, who is the president of Operation 1325, spoke about the importance of trying out new roles. A politician needs to try out the role of an academic and activists should try to become politicians. She also stressed the importance of networking and support amongst women, to encourage the common agenda for equality and peace.

CLOSING REMARKS

As stated in the introduction, the purpose of the conference Beijing+20 was to continue to monitor the twelve prioritized areas in the Beijing Platform for Action by inviting NGOs and researchers who work in various ways with gender issues, to share knowledge through workshops, discussions and lectures. During the conference, several of the prioritized areas were discussed. Yet, others like education, health, the environment and the girl-child, for example, were not discussed because it proved difficult to find organizations that work with those specific issues that were interested in participating. These areas should, therefore, receive special attention in any future follow-up conferences on the Beijing Platform for Action.

Around 70 people participated over the course of the two day conference. The participants were students, academics, activists and the interested public. We think that the conference can be seen as a clear success when it comes to the aim of creating new contact areas among different NGOs, activists and academics. The conference was intended to be a space for debate and reflection on these important issues. Hopefully more initiatives and work for women’s rights and related social justice issues will follow.

ⁱwww.un.org/womenwatch/daw/beijing/platform/economy.htm

ⁱⁱwww.un.org/womenwatch/daw/beijing/platform/violence.htm

ⁱⁱⁱwww.regeringen.se/contentassets/9d9b0adf4a844a77836ffa9ca6b466df/vald-i-nara-relationer--en-folkhalsofraga-forslag-for-ett-effektivare-arbete-del-1-av-2-sou-201449

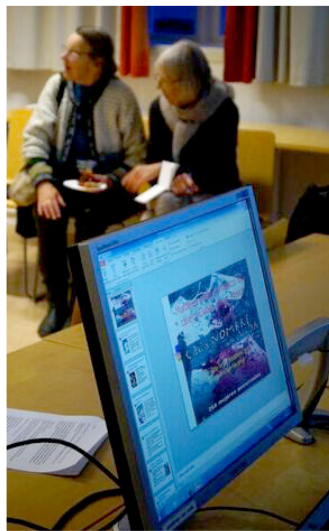
^{iv}[www.dianarussell.com/f/femicde\(small\).pdf](http://www.dianarussell.com/f/femicde(small).pdf)

^vwww.un.org/womenwatch/daw/beijing/platform/media.htm

^{vi}whomakesthenews.org/gmmp-2015

^{vii}www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/beijing/platform/armed.htm

^{viii}www.un.org/womenwatch/osagi/wps/



Gender and Development in Practice



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