

As a representative to the UN for the International Sociological Association (the ISA), I am pleased to make this statement in conjunction with the CCPCJ Thematic Discussions on the Implementation of the Kyoto Declaration, as part of Pillar II's discussions on mainstreaming a gender perspective into criminal justice systems.

The International Sociological Association (ISA) was founded in 1949 under the auspices of UNESCO. The ISA represents sociologists everywhere to advance sociological knowledge and practice throughout the world. Its 6,000 members come from 167 countries. The ISA enjoys a status of the NGO in formal associate relations with UNESCO as well as special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (ECOSOC), and the UN Department of Global Communications (DGC). The ISA publishes two journals, *International Sociology* and *Current Sociology*, and numerous digital publications. We host a world meeting – either a World Congress or Forum - every two years. The next World Congress is in Melbourne, Australia in 2023.

Sociological research, as well as international feminist criminological research, highlights the nature of gender as socially constructed. In criminal justice research, until recently, women have been invisible as offenders/prisoners, criminal justice professionals, and victims/survivors. Along with this invisibility has been the ignorance of the role of masculinity in crime commission, victimhood, and the criminal justice professions, particularly the effects of toxic masculinity. And finally, although the UN Human Rights system has made strides in the protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity, the CCPCJ has made little effort to complement these efforts regarding victims/survivors of crime, offenders/prisoners, and criminal justice professionals, although there is a growing criminal justice body of research in this area. There is thus still a huge need for a gender lens in the work of the CCPCJ. This involves updating the Standards and Norms in Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and infusing the entire work of the CCPCJ, as well as UNODC, with a gendered approach to crime and justice. While we have been encouraged by recent developments, we see many areas for improvement.

The ISA has been active at the CCPCJ, as well as the Commission on the Status of Women, since 2007. We believe there needs to be better alignment among the CSW, the CEDAW Committee, the work of various special rapporteurs in the area of gender, and the CCPCJ.

Over the past several years, the ISA, along with other academic NGOs in consultative status with ECOSOC (The World Society of Victimology, the American Society of Criminology, and Criminologists without Borders) have organized panels of social science researchers and policymakers at the CSW that focus on the priority themes as related to feminist approaches to justice. From these panels, we publish the best presentations in special issues of academic journals. Our objective is to encourage a dialogue between researchers and UN policymakers.

Most of the topics dealt with in our panels have been much broader than those typically discussed at the CCPCJ: sexual harassment in university settings; reparations for women and girl victims of sexual violence in armed conflict; UNSCR 1325 National Action Plans for women and girls; domestic abuse of elder women; the role of men and boys in the prevention of gender-based violence; coordinated community response for gendered violence prevention; aftercare and re-entry for women in conflict with the law; the effect of repressive drug policies on women; gender-inclusive hotlines for victims of sexual violence; the pitfalls of national legislation on domestic violence; women's police stations; the recruitment, promotion and retention of women judges, women police, and women mediators; climate change and prisons for women; disaster recovery, climate change, crime and gender; and the effects of COVID-19 on women in criminal justice professions.

We call for more dialogue between the research community and the CCPCJ. Over the years, we have noted that fewer member state delegations include researchers; less research is cited in the concept notes and reports issued for the CCPCJ, particularly research that is conducted outside the governmental sphere; fewer expert group meetings have been held; and that there is a general suspicion towards academic research that is not associated with the PNI. The ISA wants to reverse that trend. We also believe that many researchers are unaware of the workings of the CCPCJ, despite excellent efforts to provide instruction, such as the Education for Justice tertiary education modules. The academic research community is huge, and better engagement, particularly on issues related to gender, is needed. We call on the CCPCJ to better engage with researchers around gender, crime, and criminal justice.