

judicial, legal or police development must include both a gendered perspective and women as members of the peace-keeping/peace-building team. For example, in Guatemala in the last year at the pushing of women's groups, the government has now an enforceable law against domestic violence but the police have little training in domestic incidents and the prosecution of violators of this new law. Canadian expertise could help to develop the tools to combat this very real threat to women's security.

3. Transforming Military and Human Security

There was a lot of discussion about how a militarized society is transformed into a civil society, after a period of violence or crisis, and to ensure that violence does not re-emerge. One of the key issues in countries like Rwanda, former Yugoslavia, South Africa and Guatemala is the establishment of Truth Commissions or similar tribunals to allow people to document, publicly the experiences they went through during the period of conflict. The dual issues of amnesty and impunity must be addressed with specific reference to crimes against women. UN reports have documented the use of rape as an instrument in war in Bosnia Herzegovina, Haiti, Kashmir, Bangladesh, Kuwait, Peru and Rwanda. The documentation of rape as a war crime is still very limited. **Canada should support in any peace-building initiative the addressing of crimes against women in the processes of specific countries.** Secondly, Canada should take the lead in lobbying the UNHCR to broaden its definition of refugee to include those fleeing gender-based violence.

One area which was mentioned several times and has largely been neglected by the international community is the demobilization of women soldiers. **Canada should support research and analysis on the special needs of demobilized female soldiers and guerrillas.** It has often been the case that women, who have been involved in military activity find themselves at the end of a war suddenly redefined in a completely new role, within the home and denied some of the public benefits (land, education or training) accorded to male demobilized soldiers.

4. Economic and Social Reconstruction

For women and children, it is the recognition and respect of economic and social rights which is perhaps most critical to their long term security. One point which was made during the discussions and should be reiterated here is the strong link between the economic and social well-being of women and children in any given society. In countries like Guatemala and Rwanda where women were, until recently, unable to own property in their own right, this must be recognized as an enormous obstacle to the rebuilding of society. **Thus Canada should endeavor to support women's groups seeking to have the right to property and providing leverage through micro-credit where possible for the creation of a civil economy.**

Secondly, the role of International Financial Institutions on peace-building and women and children in particular was raised repeatedly. It was recommended that **the Canadian government should examine structural adjustment programs and their particular impact on women and peace-building, as an on-going part of their analysis around where to become involved in peace-building initiatives.**

Finally, it was argued that not enough work had been done on a cross comparative analysis of different models of peace-building and gender to look at how women were incorporated