



General Assembly Third Committee
15 October 2012
Item 28: Advancement of Women

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Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations

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Mr Chair,

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the European Union and its Member States.

The Acceding Country Croatia*, the Candidate Countries the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia*, Montenegro*, and Serbia*, the Countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidates Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova, Armenia, and Georgia, align themselves with this declaration.

Women from all over the world have through their action demonstrated their resolve to contribute to promoting development and open government in their countries and have put into practice the rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration on Human Rights and in one of the most ratified human rights conventions, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

Women are a part of their countries' future. The future and success of their countries is dependent on ensuring their equal role and right to participate in political decision-making.

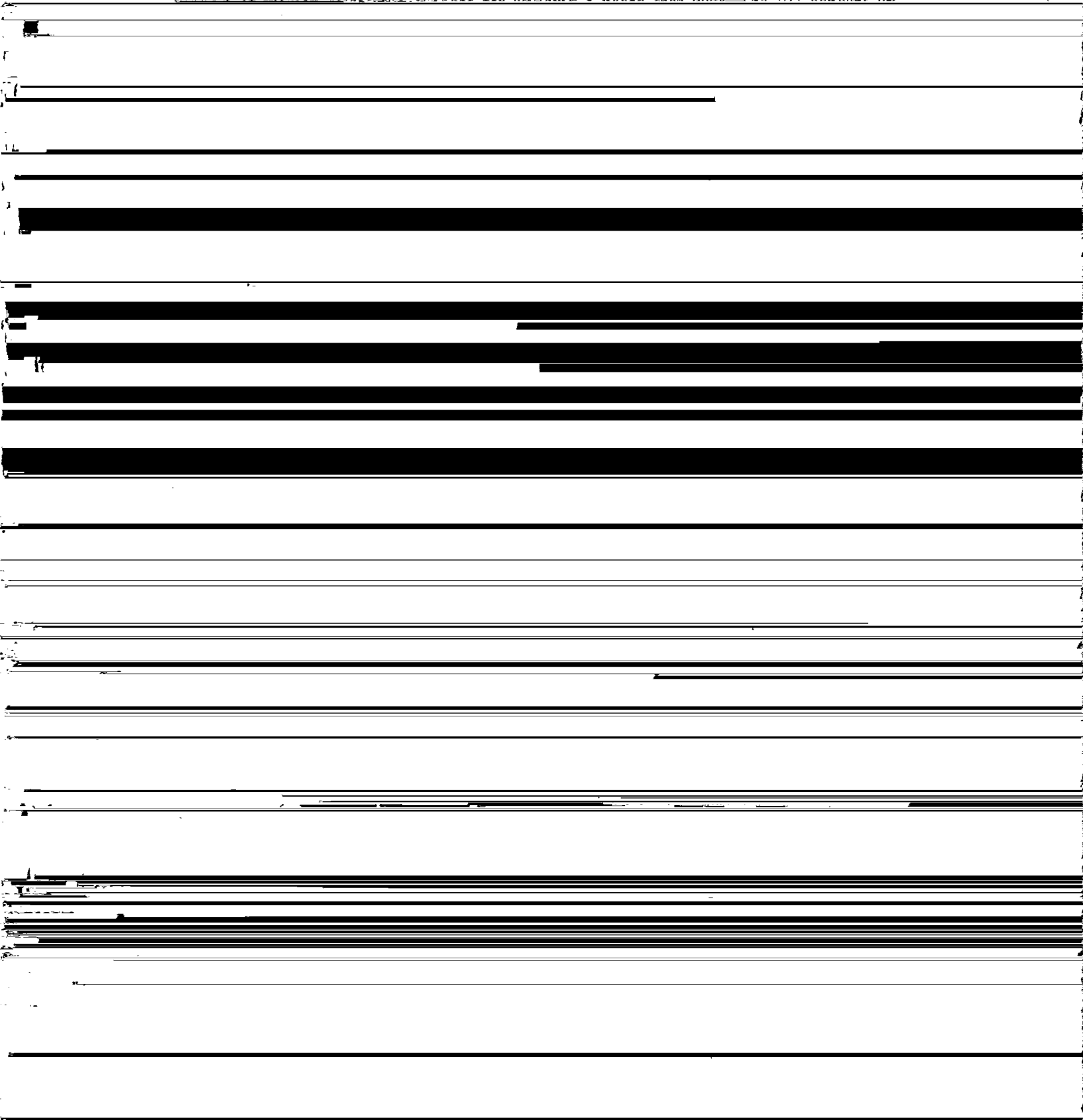
Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, which remains a highly relevant and valuable normative instrument.

Women in North Africa and the Middle East took leading roles pushing for transformation – as human rights defenders, political organizers, lawyers, doctors, bloggers, and journalists.

equality between women and men over the life course across countries, ethnic groups, social classes, etc.

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... of ... for building a space that lasts. The ... concept of



that in 2012 the Commission on Status of Women again addressed the issue of FGM and took
~~the decision to bring it to the General Assembly~~

Women have visibly and boldly stepped up to shape the future of their countries, societies and families and to guarantee that civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights are enjoyed by all, free from fear and violence. These rights equally belong to women themselves. We will continue to work in cooperation with all partners to make these rights a reality for everyone.

Thank you.

