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ISF Women, Peace and Security Helpdesk

# GEDSI analysis – Brazil

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Researcher: Tamyá Rebelo

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# Abstract

Despite its international reputation as a peaceful nation, free from traditional armed conflicts, Brazil faces high rates of violence stemming from centuries of discrimination and oppression. Based on extensive research and data collection, this report addresses Brazil's gender dynamics by highlighting various forms of inequality. The analysis considers the opportunities and challenges present in Brazil's current political climate and the broader region, emphasising the importance of collaboration between the United Kingdom (UK) and Brazil. Furthermore, it offers recommendations for strengthening this partnership.

# Background and introduction

Brazil has historically advocated for progressive views on women's rights in international forums (Sardenberg, 2015). It has repeatedly emphasised progress in advancing the status of women and girls, with policies aimed at improving professional opportunities, increasing political representation, and ensuring legal protections.

Key milestones include the 2023 law for equal pay for men and women and the 1997 Electoral Quota Law, which mandates that 30 per cent of election candidates be women. The globally known Maria da Penha Law (2006) has strengthened protections for women against domestic violence, and women's police stations have offered services such as legal support, psychological counselling, and shelter for victims (Brazil, 2024).

Despite these advances, Brazil is considered a violent place for a significant share of its population, with safety depending on gender, race, and class. The Atlas of Violence 2023 revealed a 4.72 per cent increase in the rate of femicides between 2011 and 2021. Black women are disproportionately affected, facing a risk 1.8 times higher than other groups (Cerqueira & Bueno, 2024).

These alarming statistics are due in large part to the presence and proliferation of organised criminal groups, including drug cartels, street gangs, and paramilitary militias, which often engage in violent disputes for territorial and market control (Garzón-Vergara 2016). Land conflicts are also a significant source of violence, particularly in the Amazon region. In 2023, Brazil recorded over 2,000 rural conflicts, with the Amazon being one of the most affected areas (Agência Brasil, 2024).

While legal frameworks are in place, these numbers indicate the deep-rooted inequalities within the country's social, economic, and political apparatuses. The unequal power relations stem largely from historical structures such as colonialism, patriarchy, racism, sexism, and classism, which have perpetuated systems of violence, particularly against women, girls, and marginalised groups.

Brazil projects an international image of a peaceful nation free from traditional armed conflicts and constantly advocates in multilateral forums to protect human rights and peacebuilding initiatives.<sup>1</sup> Despite that, Brazilians face high levels of insecurity and vulnerability due to unrecognised conflicts. With this in mind, this report briefly addresses Brazil's gender dynamics by emphasising diverse forms of existing inequalities. The

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<sup>1</sup> The common international perception of Brazil as a peaceful country free from armed conflicts is often attributed to its lack of active participation in major military conflicts in recent decades, its role as a proponent of diplomacy, and its prominent position in international peacekeeping missions (e.g., United Nations missions in Haiti) (Drumond & Rebelo, 2019).

analysis is aimed at policymakers willing to support initiatives that promote gender equality in Brazil.

## Methodology and tools

The report was developed through three complementary research methods: (i) a comprehensive literature review of key studies and reports; (ii) an analysis of quantitative data from official Brazilian datasets and statistics; and (iii) a series of key informant interviews with representatives from multiple sectors.

The literature review focused on recent studies, reports, and articles directly related to gender issues in Brazil. The quantitative analysis draws primarily from the Brazilian Public Security Forum (Cerqueira & Bueno, 2024), which integrates statistics from the Ministry of Health systems (DataSUS, SIM, and Sinan), Ministry of Justice (CNJ-DataJudi), and the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE). Complementary quantitative sources include the Superior Electoral Court (TSE), cited in studies produced by the Ministry of Women and Ministry of Indigenous People. For LGBTI+ individuals, the report incorporates data from the Dossier on Deaths and Violence against LGBTI+ (Acontece Arte e Política LGBTI+ et al., 2024), though this report has methodological limitations due to its reliance on sources such as local newspapers and social media platforms.

Seven key informant interviews were conducted with representatives from government, private sector, civil society, and academia to gather expert perspectives and insights. The individuals interviewed include Mônica Sodré (RAPs Brasil), Lara Gurgel (Institute of Government Affairs - IRELGOV), Bárbara Libório (AzMina), Iná Jost (InternetLab), Kamila Camilo (Instituto Oyá), Minister Counselor Viviane Balbino (Ministry of Foreign Affairs), and Gabriele Garcia (Think Twice Brazil).

Due to the lack of a unified official dataset in Brazil and data dispersion across various governmental sources, the report prioritised 2023 data when available, using the most recent and reliable sources in other cases. These methodological limitations should be considered when interpreting the findings.

# Findings and analysis

## 1

### Intersectional Analysis of Gender, Race, Disability, and Marginalised Groups

Brazil is a vast country with a complex history and regional and cultural aspects that deeply influence the experiences of women and other marginalised groups across the nation.<sup>2</sup> As illustrated by the data below, there is a multifaceted relationship between race, class, and gender that shapes people's experiences and access to resources. To facilitate the understanding of the challenges facing Brazilian society, the following statistics will be presented separately for each of the vulnerable groups requested in the Terms of Reference: a) gender-based violence, b) violence against LGBTQIA+ individuals, c) violence against women with disabilities, d) violence against Indigenous women, e) women's economic and political participation, and f) gender and climate change, and modern slavery.

#### Gender-based violence

Gender-based violence in Brazil is a pressing issue that demands careful attention and effective measures. The frequency and nature of gender-based violence are disturbing, and despite the passing of the Maria da Penha Law, Brazil has seen a rise in female homicides in 2023.

Rape cases, especially those involving children, continue to increase at an unacceptable rate, with a case involving a woman reported every six minutes (FBSP, 2024). Intimate partner violence is pervasive, with physical and/or sexual violence perpetrated within victims' homes. It is a stark reminder of women and girls' vulnerability in their living spaces, which should be safe spaces. Black women, in particular, bear the brunt of this violence, being disproportionately affected by violent crimes and 1.7 times more likely to be murdered than non-black women (Cerqueira & Bueno, 2024).

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<sup>2</sup> Brazil is the largest country in South America, with a diverse population. Its history includes colonisation by Portugal, the exploitation of Indigenous peoples and enslaved Africans, a transition from a monarchy to a republic and 20 years of military dictatorship. This complex history has shaped its regional and cultural diversity, with distinct traditions, languages, and socioeconomic conditions.

### Gender-based violence in numbers

0.8% increase in female homicides in 2023

83,988 rape cases in 2023, with one reported every six minutes

88.2% of rape victims are aged 13 or younger

Black women are 1.7 times more likely to be murdered than non-black women

### Violence against LGBTQIA+ individuals

The LGBTQIA+ community faces significant risks of violence in Brazil, with transgender women and transvestites particularly vulnerable. Rising political polarisation, often fueled by hate speech, exacerbates the vulnerability of LGBTQIA+ individuals, especially with the increasing normalisation of transphobic and homophobic rhetoric in political and social discourse.

There is a significant lack of data on this population. The source cited in this report (Acontece Arte e Política LGBTI+ et al., 2024) is one of the few that attempts to collect and systematise information about this group. Their methodology includes analysing journals and newspapers, as well as accessing data provided by Secretariats of Public Security across various federative units through the Access to Information Law. While these numbers may offer valuable insights, they underscore the vulnerability and persistent invisibility of LGBTQIA+ individuals in Brazil.

### Violence against LGBTQIA+ individuals in numbers

230 LGBTQIA+ deaths in 2023

61.64% transvestites and transgender women

Source: Acontece Arte e Política LGBTI+ et al., 2024

### Violence against women with disabilities

Women with disabilities also face heightened risks of violence in the country. Among the 18.6 million Brazilians with disabilities, women consistently emerge as the primary victims (Cerqueira & Bueno, 2024). Domestic and gender-based violence are disproportionately experienced by this group, particularly those with intellectual disabilities. This risk is especially pronounced during adolescence, a period marked by increased vulnerability to abuse.

The lack of data on race and socioeconomic status exacerbates their invisibility, making it harder to create effective support systems. Their dependence on caregivers and stigmatisation often leave them trapped in cycles of violence, unable to access the



necessary resources for protection and support (Cerqueira & Bueno, 2024). This further underscores Brazil's need to invest in a more inclusive and intersectional approach to public policies.

### Violence against women with disabilities in numbers

8,302 cases of domestic violence in 2022

Sexual violence prevalent among women with intellectual and multiple disabilities (37% and 25.1%, respectively)

Most vulnerable age group is 10 to 19 years, especially to domestic and sexual violence

### Violence against Indigenous women

Voices talking about the disproportionate rates of violent crimes toward Indigenous women are frequently silenced in Brazilian society. These women are often isolated from mainstream legal systems, with violence being underreported due to language barriers, discrimination, and inadequate access to justice (Cerqueira & Bueno, 2024). Additionally, the environmental degradation caused by illegal mining, particularly mercury contamination, exacerbates health issues for Indigenous women and children, pushing them further into a cycle of vulnerability (Camargos, 2023).

At the tripartite border between Brazil, Peru, and Colombia, Indigenous women face high vulnerability due to poverty, the lack of state presence, and illegal economies. Promises of work or education often conceal trafficking networks that sexually exploit girls and women in underground brothels (Palacios, 2020).

The data found to illustrate the vulnerability to which Indigenous women are subjected were not robust enough, nor were they based on a reliable database, with many coming from newspaper or civil society reports, without a specific methodology. Cerqueira and Bueno (2024), for example, do not present specific data on Indigenous women.

## Women's economic and political participation

Women's equal access to economic and political opportunities is still a distant goal in Brazil, with wage gaps and underrepresentation in decision-making positions persisting. Despite making up a large proportion of the workforce, women continue to be concentrated in lower-paying sectors, such as domestic work, where they are particularly vulnerable to exploitation. The wage disparity is even more pronounced among Black women, who earn significantly less than White men.

Women face visible and invisible barriers in the labour market, which are documented: higher unemployment rates, lower wages, limited career growth, and greater informality (DIEESE, 2024). The disparities are even more striking for Black and mixed-race women, who are disproportionately represented in informal employment, marked by low pay, precarious conditions, and legal exclusion.

The scenario for Brazilian women is not much better in politics. Women's representation at the federal and legislative levels remains limited, with only a tiny percentage holding positions in Congress. While the judiciary shows some progress, the gender imbalance in political leadership persists (CNJ, 2023).

The situation is even starker for marginalised groups: Black women occupy only 3.3 per cent of National Congress seats. In 2024, only one of the nine Indigenous mayors elected in Brazil is a woman. Additionally, of the 241 Indigenous councillors elected nationwide, only 39 are women (Ministério dos Povos Indígenas, 2024).

Gender-based political violence is a significant barrier to increasing women's representation in politics. Female candidates constantly report experiencing violence, including misinformation campaigns and online hate speech. Even though there is a rule requiring 30 per cent of candidacies to be female, the quota often seems symbolic rather than transformative (Richter, 2024).

### Women's participation in economic life

Women earned less than men, with an average hourly wage gap of R\$2

Of 5.7 million domestic workers in 2022, 5.3 million were women

67.1% of domestic workers identified as Black or mixed-race

### Women in politics

In 2022, women hold 17.7% of seats in the Chamber of Deputies, 14.8% of Senate, and 38% of positions in the Judiciary

Black women hold only 3.3% of National Congress seats

39 out of 241 Indigenous councillors are women

Source: CNJ, 2023; Ministério das Mulheres, 2024; Ministério dos Povos

## Gender and climate change, and modern slavery

In Brazil, the connection between gender and climate change is largely overlooked in mainstream political debates, with few discussions capturing the attention of politicians and society. The absence of data and preventive strategies makes it difficult to raise awareness about the unique vulnerabilities that women and marginalised groups face during environmental crises. The 2023 floods in Rio Grande do Sul serve as a stark example; many women were left in unsafe shelters, exposed to violence, and deprived of essential resources (Pimentel, 2024).

Modern slavery, particularly as it affects women, is another overlooked issue. Despite representing only 6 per cent of workers officially rescued from modern slavery, women

face unique forms of exploitation, often underreported and inadequately addressed in public policies (Conforti, 2023). In rural settings, women are frequently not recognised as workers. In urban areas like São Paulo, immigrant women, particularly those employed in clandestine sewing workshops and domestic work, endure extreme forms of exploitation (Conforti, 2023).

### Recommendations for the UK

- **Advocate for an Intersectional Approach in Brazil's Gender Equality Policies:** In every engagement with Brazil, both bilateral and multilateral, the UK should emphasise the importance of considering the complex realities women, girls and other marginalised groups face. While the above mentioned statistics are crucial, they only reveal part of the issue, as underreporting and the absence of a unified data system obscure a full understanding of the problem.

## 2

### Civil society organisations

Since the 1990s, with redemocratisation, women's civil society organisations have played a pivotal role in Brazil by shaping human rights discourse, holding the government accountable, and advocating for critical policy and legal reforms (Mendonça, et al., 2016). These organisations have employed diverse strategies to tackle gender-based violence, leveraging communication, technology, and education to address the complex challenges faced by women and marginalised groups.

One of the most significant obstacles to evaluating the effectiveness of gender policies in Brazil is the fragmented and inconsistent collection of national data, exacerbated by widespread underreporting (Cerqueira & Bueno, 2024). This data gap hampers a comprehensive understanding of the persistently high levels of violence and limits the development of effective policy responses.

In response, civil society organisations have stepped in to collect and disseminate data, mobilise public opinion, and systematise information, thereby making the magnitude of these issues more visible and actionable. They also play a critical role in monitoring legislative projects and tracking lawmakers' stances on gender equality issues (see Table 1 for examples).

Moreover, by fostering alliances across sectors, Brazilian civil society has built robust networks that amplify marginalised voices, ensuring that gender equality remains a priority in public discourse. However, as noted in one interview, some of these organisations operate within a context of political volatility and constrained resources, underscoring the need for international support to sustain and expand their efforts.

### Recommendations for the UK:

- **Invest in Gender Equality Programmes:** The UK should allocate targeted funding to strengthen gender equality initiatives and women's rights programmes in Brazil. Support could include grants for data collection projects using intersectional methodologies.

Organisations such as AzMina and Instituto Talanoa are already advancing efforts to disaggregate data, reflecting the diverse realities of women and marginalised groups.

**- Support Civil Society at COP30:** The UK should facilitate Brazilian civil society's active participation in COP30 by providing travel grants, supporting the organisation of side events, and fostering connections between civil society and governmental delegations. Think Twice Brazil has a project aimed at amplifying civil society voices and enhancing their influence at COP30.

**- Promote Dialogue Among Governments, Civil Society, and Academia:** The UK could fund international conferences and meetings that bring together practitioners and researchers to exchange expertise on gender issues. Additionally, it could support the publication and translation of policy-relevant studies into English, broadening the global understanding of Brazil's gender dynamics and fostering cross-border collaboration.

**- Raise Awareness:** The UK should fund actionable studies by civil society and academia to inform Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) policy. For example, research by Drumond and Rebelo commissioned by the Igarapé Institute in 2019, highlighted challenges in Brazil's first National Action Plan (NAP) and provided clear recommendations for progress.

Table 1. Civil society organisations' activities

Name of Organisation	Initiative	What is it?	Objectives	Key Innovations
InternetLab, AzMina, and Núcleo Jornalismo	MonitorA Project	An observatory that monitors political violence against candidates on social networks	Intersectional analysis Real-time data collection Cross-platform tracking	Specialised glossaries for term identification Integration of legal analysis
AzMina	The PenhaS Project	Free app developed to support women facing violence	Direct support to women at risk Practical guidance Rights information	"Manual de Fuga" - Safety planning tool for breaking the cycle of violence (2023)
Sebrae and Mauricio de Sousa Production	Street Queens of Entrepreneurship	Comics to promote female entrepreneurship	Monthly comic strips Role model characters	Using popular culture to challenge gender stereotypes in business
AzMina	Elas no Congresso	A monitoring initiative focused on tracking and publicising the work of women parliamentarians	Monitors women parliamentarians' activities	Visibility enhancement for women in politics

		in Brazil's National Congress	Tracks policy decisions affecting women	Direct connection between citizens and legislative activities
Instituto Talanoa	Política por Inteiro	A monitoring system for environmental and climate change policies in Brazil	Systematic tracking of environmental policies  Data-driven analysis of policy impacts	Intersectional approach to climate policy analysis  Integration of social equity considerations in environmental policy
Think Twice Brazil	Política - Women, Peace and Security (forthcoming, 2025)	Free training programme designed to increase women's political participation in Belém ahead of COP30	Knowledge production and free training programme  Fostering peacebuilding and strengthening democracy	Tailored training and mentorship programme  Use of a gender-transformative, trauma-informed approach

### 3

## Setbacks in gender norms

Jair Bolsonaro's presidency in 2019 marked significant setbacks for gender issues in Brazil (Casarões & Farias, 2021). His administration dismantled protections for women and minorities, such as the National Council for Combating Discrimination and Promoting LGBT Rights. It also weakened the Disque 100 hotline for human rights violations and redirected resources from combating gender violence to promoting conservative family values (Bezerra et al, 2024). Bolsonaro's government vetoed the term 'gender' in foreign policy documents and undermined programmes supporting sexual and reproductive health, along with gender equality education in schools (Drumond & Rebelo, 2024).

These setbacks reflect broader trends in Latin America, where conservative movements challenge gender equality. In Argentina, President Javier Milei dismantled the Ministry of Women, Gender, and Diversity and slashed funding for women and LGBTQIA+ programmes (Centenera, 2024). He proposed reversing abortion legalisation, branding activists as "assassins" (Smink, 2024). These actions mirror Bolsonaro's approach, signaling a regional trend against progressive gender policies.

Donald Trump's resurgence in the United States adds global pressure. During his previous presidency, he reinstated the Global Gag Rule, cutting funding for abortion-related services, and rolled back protections for LGBTQIA+ individuals in health care and workplaces (Sanders & Jenkins, 2022). Trump's election will further embolden

conservative movements globally, including in Latin America, uniting opposition to progressive gender agendas and weakening international efforts for women's and LGBTQIA+ rights.

With leaders like Trump and Milei opposing gender equality policies, Brazil faces challenges in maintaining its stances on gender equality. These governments could influence global and regional dialogues, weakening or creating obstacles to Brazil's initiatives. For instance, Argentina's hesitance at the G20 summit regarding gender equality highlights diplomatic hurdles ahead (CNN Brasil, 2024). Brazil must navigate these pressures to foster inclusive policies, requiring strong alliances to counter regional polarisation and protect advancements in gender equality.

### Recommendations for the UK:

- **Build Alliances to Combat Pushback on Gender Equality:** The UK government should form strategic alliances with like-minded states to counter the growing resistance to gender equality in Latin America. Feminist-inspired foreign policies have been embraced by countries like Mexico, Colombia, Honduras, and Chile, while others, such as Brazil, Bolivia, the Dominican Republic, and Ecuador, have demonstrated interest in advancing this agenda without formally adopting the terminology. By collaborating with these nations, the UK can endorse their efforts to advance gender equality in the region.

- **Engage with Brazil's High Representative for Gender Issues:** The UK government should prioritise collaboration with Vanessa Dolce de Farias, Brazil's High Representative for Gender Issues. The UK should arrange bilateral meetings with the High Representative to explore areas for collaboration, leveraging UK expertise in gender-focused policies and identifying joint actions to strengthen joint efforts on gender equality.

- **Amplify Global South Representation at COP30:** At COP30, the UK could support Brazil by using bilateral meetings to identify shared priorities for the event. Additionally, the UK could organise joint panels and produce policy briefs to highlight the key agendas, ensuring they receive greater visibility and impact during the preparation of the event.

## 4

### New ministries for women, racial equality, and Indigenous people

The establishment of the new ministries dedicated to Women's Issues, Racial Equality, and Indigenous Peoples in Brazil, as part of President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva's January 2023 inauguration, marks a crucial step toward advancing the human rights agenda and promoting social equity. While these ministries are in the early stages of development and are not yet fully equipped to deliver long-term results, they offer an important avenue for advancing gender equality in the country.

Interviews with stakeholders have revealed challenges in the ministries' current performance, indicating room for improvement. Strengthening collaboration with these ministries is key to ensuring the sustainability of their agendas, enhancing their effectiveness, and improving the communication of these issues to the Brazilian public. As

long as gender issues remain a siloed discussion within an agenda item, the collective goal of achieving gender inclusive policies will fall short.

### Recommendations for the UK:

- **Enhance Operational and Policy Coherence within the Brazilian Government:** The UK could support improved policy and operational coherence across Brazilian government entities by funding and organising capacity-building workshops for officials. These sessions could draw on the UK's experience in cross-departmental coordination, with UK experts sharing insights on integrating gender considerations across government functions.

- **Bilateral Meetings to Identify Shared Priorities:** The UK should hold bilateral meetings with Brazil's newly appointed ministers to better understand their perspectives on political issues and bureaucratic challenges. These discussions could identify key gender advocates within the Brazilian government, build trust, and lay the groundwork for deeper collaboration.

- **Collaborative Workshops with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs:** Partnering with Brazil's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the UK could host workshops to convene key ministers and emphasise the strategic value of the WPS agenda. For instance, a concept note for such events could address Brazil's unique security challenges, underscoring how an effective National Action Plan (NAP) on Women, Peace and Security (WPS) remains vital despite the absence of traditional armed conflict.

## 5

### The Women, Peace, and Security agenda in Brazil

Brazil has taken steps regarding the WPS agenda, though its efforts have been somewhat disconnected and need more political momentum for substantial progress. It is curious that a large part of the Brazilian population, including government and civil society actors, is completely unaware of the agenda's purpose and importance.

In 2023, Brazil began drafting a second NAP, presented as 'Stage I' during the country's presidency of the Security Council (Ministério das Relações Exteriores, 2023). However, this document lacks details about who or which bodies are responsible for it, the deadlines, and specific budget. The lack of clear objectives, transparency, accountability, and involvement of civil society and academia, as well as other international bodies is a cause for concern.

It is intriguing that these processes often go unnoticed by politicians and society, especially given the recent efforts of Lula's government on measures related to the WPS agenda and the NAPs. For instance, in September 2024, Lula approved the voluntary enlistment of women in the military, a move that significantly impacts their representation in the Armed Forces (Presidência da República, 2024).

However, this unprecedented measure was introduced without any connection to the WPS agenda or the existing NAPs, highlighting a significant disconnect between government

actions and established policies. The silence surrounding the WPS agenda is so deafening that, in May, the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women expressed concern over the lack of progress on the second NAP, particularly in the context of territorial conflicts and the environmental crisis, topics addressed in this agenda (CEDAW, 2024).

Brazil held the Group of Twenty (G20) event in November 2024, and missed several opportunities to engage with the WPS agenda. The final document did not explicitly address the WPS agenda, with only minor references to gender and armed conflicts (G20, 2024). Insights gathered from a civil society representative involved with the Women 20, an official G20 engagement group, suggest that behind-the-scenes dynamics might explain this omission, though more evidence is needed to understand the situation entirely.

The recent decree establishing an Interministerial Group to further discussions on Brazilian II National Action Plan on Women, Peace, and Security can be seen as a glimmer of hope (Ministério das Relações Exteriores, 2024). While this signals positive steps within the government, there is a need for more transparency and details about what the Ministry of Foreign Affairs plans to do to advance the WPS agenda.

It is evident that the lack of coordination and political will are hindering Brazil's ability to fully utilise the WPS agenda. The II NAP could be instrumental in addressing pressing issues such as gender-based violence, Indigenous peoples' rights, and climate change. Other countries, including the UK, have already demonstrated the potential of the WPS agenda and NAPs in these areas.

#### Recommendations for the UK:

- **Bilateral Meetings on the WPS Agenda:** The UK should hold bilateral meetings with Brazilian ministers responsible for implementing the WPS agenda (see Ministério das Relações Exteriores, 2024). These meetings should focus on progress since the 2023 publication of the NAP (Stage 1), ask about deadlines and work plans, and discuss monitoring and accountability mechanisms, and civil society involvement.

- **Consultative Framework for Interministerial Coordination:** The UK can assist Brazil in developing a framework for regular consultation between ministries, drawing on the UK's NAP experience. This includes support by drafting tools, guidelines, and documents to improve coordination and integrate the WPS agenda across sectors.

- **Engage with UN Women and Advocate for a Dedicated Consultant:** The UK should work with UN Women to clarify its role in Brazil's NAP implementation and advocate for reinstating the WPS gender consultant position (held by Renata Giannini in 2023). This would address transparency gaps and boost civil society participation.

- **Facilitate Civil Society Engagement in NAP Implementation:** The UK should support Brazil in creating platforms for civil society to engage with the Interministerial Group. This could involve funding or logistical aid for virtual and in-person meetings, workshops, and events, including activities marking the WPS agenda's 25th anniversary.

- **Support Independent Research and Reports:** The UK could fund independent research, similar to initiatives by Instituto Igarapé (see Drummond & Rebelo, 2019), to evaluate civil society's role in implementing Brazil's NAP. Grants should be directed to



NGOs and academics specialising in gender equality to assess the NAP's effectiveness and recommend improvements.

- **Workshops with Civil Society to Raise Awareness of the WPS Agenda:** The UK should support workshops to help civil society integrate the WPS agenda into their strategies. The UK could bring international experts to dialogue with civil society representatives, thus assisting in enhancing advocacy, communication, and lobbying strategies.

- **Position Paper:** The UK should back the creation of a position paper highlighting civil society's contributions to the WPS agenda. This document, informed by diverse civil society inputs, should guide policymakers and the Interministerial Group in implementing Brazil's NAP.

- **Create a UK–Brazil WPS Network:** The UK should establish a UK–Brazil WPS network, akin to the LSE Centre for Women, Peace, and Security. This network would generate evidence-based knowledge, foster high-level dialogue, and drive policy change.

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