



Key Themes

- ✓ Bodily integrity and gender-based violence against autistic women and girls
- ✓ Lived experience as evidence: centering survivor voices
- ✓ Intersection of disability, gender, and human rights
- ✓ Global research insights and policy responses
- ✓ Commitments from UN bodies on accountability and action

Speakers

Welcome & Opening Remarks

Welcome remarks by the moderator, Dr. Anastasia Holoboff, Director – Capacity and Movement Strengthening, Women Enabled International

Keynote Address by H.E. Ambassador Vanessa Frazier, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Malta to the UN in New York

Keynote Address by Laura Sánchez Beltrán, Head of Section, Directorate-General – Rights of Persons with Disabilities, Ministry for Social Rights, Consumer Affairs and the 2030 Agenda - Spain

Key Research & Community Engagement Findings

Monique Blakemore – Survivor, Researcher and Policy Advisor – Director, Autism Asperger Advocacy Australia (A4) (member of the Australian Autism Alliance)

Sara Rocha – Survivor and Researcher – Vice-President, European Council of Autistic People and Founder, Portuguese Autistic Voices Association

Rhoda Garland – Commissioner for the Rights of Persons with Disability (Malta) – presenting the work of Dr Claire Azzopardi Lane (University of Malta)

Reflections from Key United Nations Bodies

Amalia Gamio Rios – Vice-Chair, UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
Ana Peláez Narváez – Member, UN Committee for the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

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Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Spain to the UN in New York
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Thursday, 12th June 2025
CONFERENCE ROOM 12
11.30AM - 12.45PM