Digital technology has the potential to play an important role in advancing gender equality and empowering women and girls. Yet, women’s and girls’ ability to access, use and benefit from the transformative potential of digital technology is increasingly undermined by online, digital and ICT-facilitated violence against women and girls (VAWG).

While States and digital intermediaries have taken important steps to address online, digital and ICT-facilitated VAWG, there is much that can still be done. For this reason, the Special Rapporteur on VAWG has focused her 2018 thematic report on online and ICT-facilitated VAWG. Similarly, the theme of the Government of Canada’s annual Human Rights Council resolution on VAWG is preventing and responding to VAWG in digital contexts.

Come join the discussion to explore the next steps to address online, digital and ICT-facilitated VAWG, the potential of a human rights framework to analyze States’ and digital intermediaries’ responses to VAWG in digital contexts, and recommendations on what can be done to curb and ultimately eliminate online, digital and ICT-facilitated VAWG.

Moderator:

HE Permanent Representative of Canada to the UN Ambassador Rosemary McCarney

Featured speakers:

• Dubravka Šimonović, UN Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences
• Zarizana Abdul Aziz, Due Diligence Project
• Jan Moolman, Association for Progressive Communications
• David Kaye, UN Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the freedom of opinion and expression