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Hello, my name is Alexandria Bohémier and I am co-founder and member of the Steering Committee of the Canadian Coalition for Youth,

Peace & Security.

What do you see as the strengths and weaknesses of the current CNAP?

Canada has made a lot of progress in implementing the Women, Peace and Security agenda, although in trying to be inclusive by using general terms such as "women and girls", this general language may exclude certain people. Among others, young women. Separation by age is important in measuring success in terms of demographics. In this process, young women were grouped with girls despite very different realities. Better coordination between the Women, Peace and Security agenda and the Youth, Peace and Security agenda is needed to address this important gap.

What topics would you like to see covered in the next CNAP?

The Women, Peace and Security agenda is meant to be inclusive of all women. However, there is a gap between women in the LGBTQ+ community and those living with one or more disabilities. I would like the life experiences that affect the daily life of these groups of individuals to be brought into the next Canadian NAP and that the approaches be based on the perspectives of these women. Also, recognizing that much progress has been made at the national level, I would still like to see a greater localization of the Women, Peace and Security agenda in a Canadian domestic perspective.

What advice do you have for the Government of Canada?

The inclusion of civil society must be more than one item on a long “grocery list” and should not yield to tokenization. As the Government of Canada works on the next NAP, I advise them to consider - at every stage of it - whether the way in which they include civil society is a real meaningful engagement in order to have a collaborative NAP that is responsive to the situations on the ground.

