

Group 10 report

Women, girls and gender peace agreements
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Group 10

ASSIGNMENT 3:
GENDER
PERSPECTIVES
IN PEACE
AGREEMENTS

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1. Background, audience and purpose

• Background

Women were often excluded from peace processes in history. Even now there is very limited participation of women in peace negotiations because they rarely have equal opportunity to participate in political and military affairs. In addition, women are overwhelmingly the primary victims of armed conflicts and they are exposed to different health problems and violence. If background and situation are not correctly understood or resolved, women will continue to suffer violence. It would be hard to realize national peace fundamentally (Bell, 2013). The past experiences of women expand their scope of vision to see more problems that need to be solved. Women's participation makes peace agreements more comprehensive and lasting (Gbowee 2019).

• Audience and purpose

Our project is targeted for all audiences especially those interested in the history of the peace processes and agreements. We hope that our live interactives can be a convenient and quick way to show more people the PA-X WGG dataset, so that they can know about women's environment and the essential role of women in peace processes.

2. Live interactions

Our team has set up a website that has some explanation texts, some interactive diagrams drawn based on the analysis of the WGG dataset, and an interactive game (including a video for the game).

• 2.1. Website:

The website includes interactive charts and a game. Audiences can interact and participate in a visual and intuitive way, and be fully informed in textual interpretations of the dataset and some key points. Meanwhile, the website has a collection of historical photos about women, which allow the audience to better understand the overall background and some of the most significant historical figures. The website also provides downloads of the WGG dataset and the peace agreements dataset, for the convenience of direct downloads by those who are interested and want to analyze and know the datasets directly.

• 2.2. Unity game:

In our mini game, players use the keyboard to control characters running around the planet and explore boxes in different areas. The boxes will display the statistics and summary of the local peace agreements related to women, girls and gender, or ask questions for some phenomena in order to create reflection. The exploration will give players a sense of motivation and participation. As players learn the information we display in the game, it also cultivates people's awareness of paying attention to women and gender issues in conflicts, so that this topic can gain more exposure.



3. Dataset summary

Two datasets are used for this project are PA-X Peace agreements dataset (PA-X) and PA-X Women, Girls and Gender dataset (WGG).

PA-X dataset is a collection of peace agreements between 1990-2020. The dimension of PA-X dataset is 1868 rows (1868 agreements) by 266 columns. The first 26 columns are basic information of the peace agreement e.g. country, name, date and number of characters. The remaining columns are different coding of provisions of the peace agreement. These columns either use binary value to represent true/false for a provision category, or use a value in the range of 1-3 to present the different level of a certain category.

PA-X WGG data is a subset of the PA-X dataset, its dimension is 371 rows by 79 columns, it shares the same structure as the PA-X dataset.

Note: refer to dataset codebook for more details



4. Tools

- **4.1. Wix**

Wix.com is an online website builder, it allows web making through the graphical interface and then can host the website directly. This means one can easily create a website without needing to code as much.

Reflection:

The web-making GUI does not respond well to object alignment issues, and advance effects will be some programming knowledge.

- **4.2. Plotly and Pyechart**

Plotly and Pyechart are open-source data visualization libraries built for Python. We have chosen these two libraries as they provide powerful features while requiring less code. Furthermore, it supports more interactive charts, which will give the audience a better experience.

Reflection:

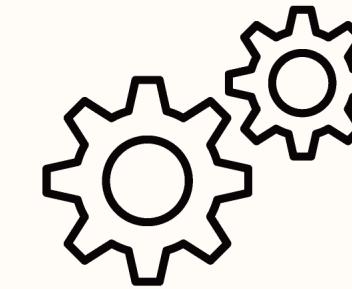
It is harder to look for information online and the official documentations are not as well formatted as other open-source visualization libraries. Therefore, it is slightly difficult to learn at the start.

- **4.3. Unity & WebGL**

Unity is a cross-platform game engine. We have chosen to use this as it allows creation of games using GUI and minimal code and support collaboration. In addition, we adopted the WebGL-based sharing webpage (<https://docs.unity3d.com/Manual/webgl-gettingstarted.html>). It allows games made by unity to be played on browser.

Reflection:

Knowledge of C# is still required and it is difficult for those with no programming background.



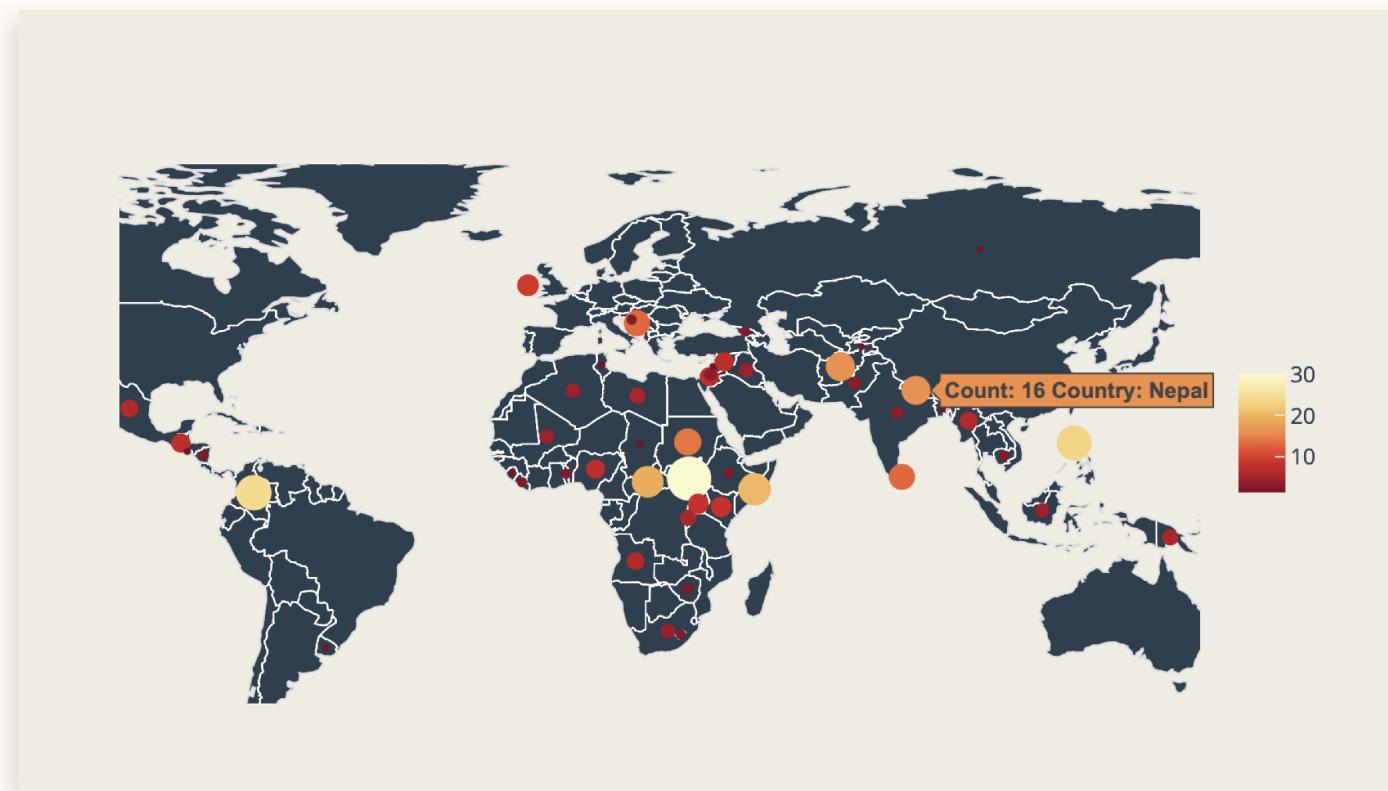
5. Communicate

• 5.1. Finding 1

The chart 1 shows the distribution of the total number of gender perspective peace agreements involved in different countries on the world map.

The darker the dot color is (smaller size as well), the fewer times it involves, the lighter the dot color is (bigger size as well), the more times it involves. We choose the lighter color to represent the more times it involves, which is opposite to the normal rule. We did this because the light dots are clearer on our dark-color world map.

Dots are mostly distributed in Africa, which means that Africa has the most peace agreements. In its 2016 report, there had been many long-term armed conflicts and wars in Africa since the Cold War ended, that many civilians, especially women and children, became refugees due to armed conflicts, and they had health problems due to poor nutrition, and that women suffered heavy casualties in exile and sexual violence, some of them were sacrificed as weapons of the wars. African stakeholders and organizations have been promoting international attention to addressing issues of women in armed conflicts in Africa (African Union Commission 2016). Building sustainable peace entails wider participation in the establishment of solutions. That is why Africa involves more in WGG peace agreements than any other regions of the world.



5. Communicate

• 5.2. Finding 2

The chart 2 displays the total number of both WGG perspective peace agreements and peace agreements over the past 30 years spanning from 1990 to 2020.

We put two different data values in the same table which can more clearly show the differences between the numbers.

It presents that the references to gender in peace agreements have slowly increased since 1990. From 2000 to 2008, while the totals of peace agreements declined, the totals of gender perspective peace agreements still increased. Bell and O'Rourke (2019) stated that the rate of including references to women in agreements had accelerated and the references to women in various forms were higher than before since the signing of Resolution 1325 on in 2000 (According to the official document of Resolution 1325 (2000), it was about taking measures to protect the human rights of women and girls, to support women's participation in peace negotiations). This possibly explains the increase in references to women since 2000, but they also considered it's difficult to verify whether these changes were caused by Resolution 1325 or social development over time (Bell & McNicholl, 2019).

From chart 2, we can also see that 2015 marked the peak of the number of references to women in agreements, more than 8 times the number of references in 1990. References to gender in agreements in all forms have been more prevalent over time, and those were impossible in 1990. However, women still have relatively low participation in the making of peace agreements in any form.

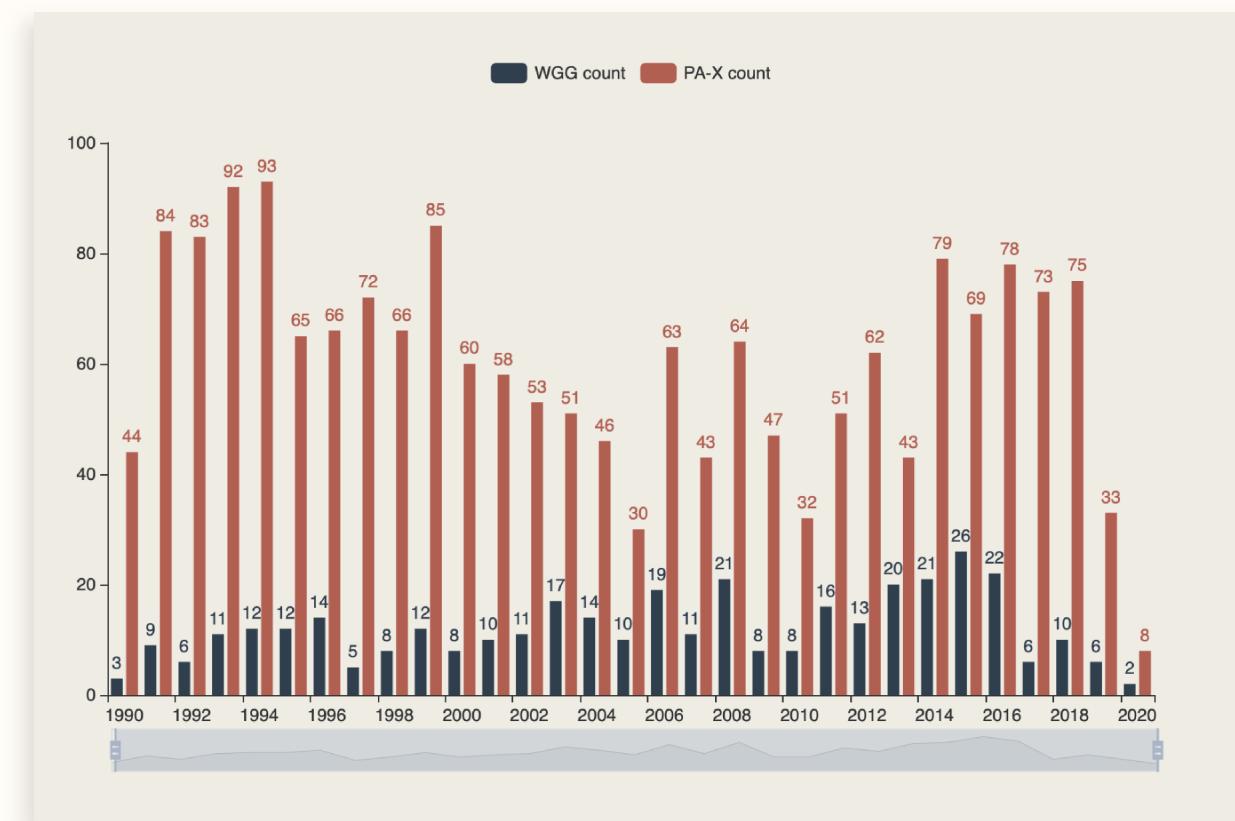


Chart 2

6. Conclusion

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7. Charts and Games

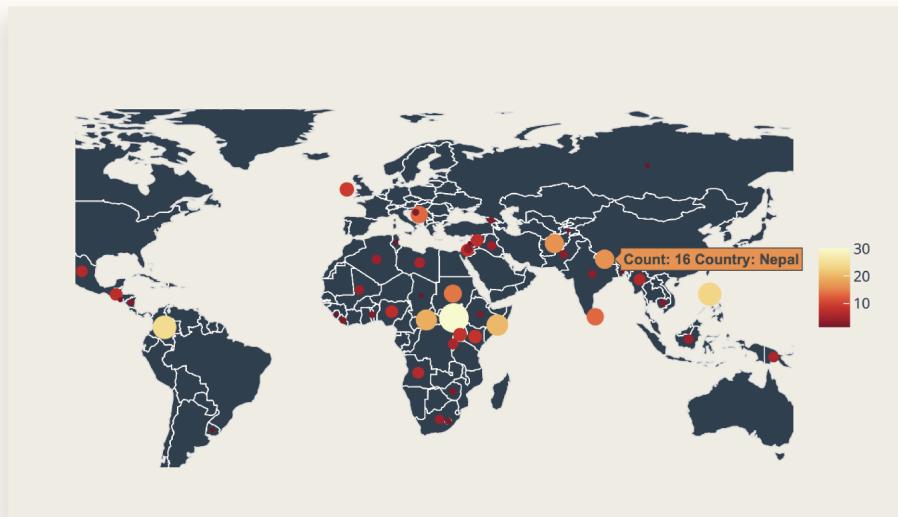


Chart 1

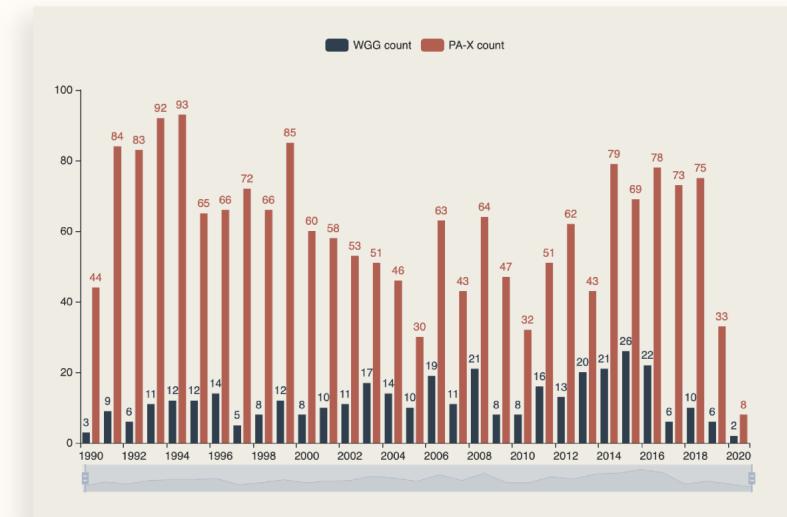


Chart 2

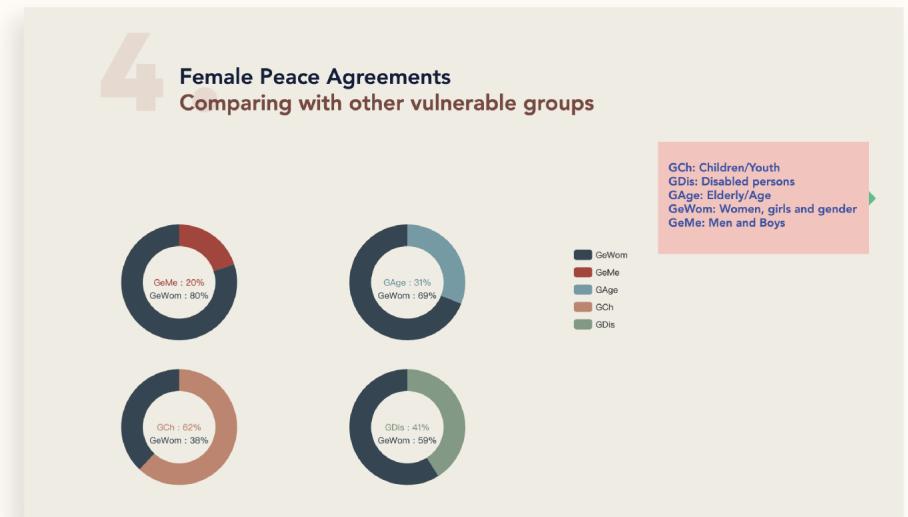


Chart 3

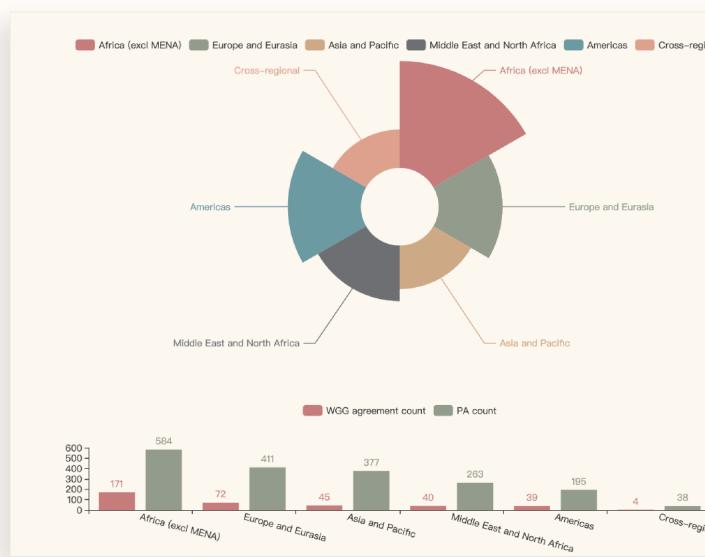


Chart 4

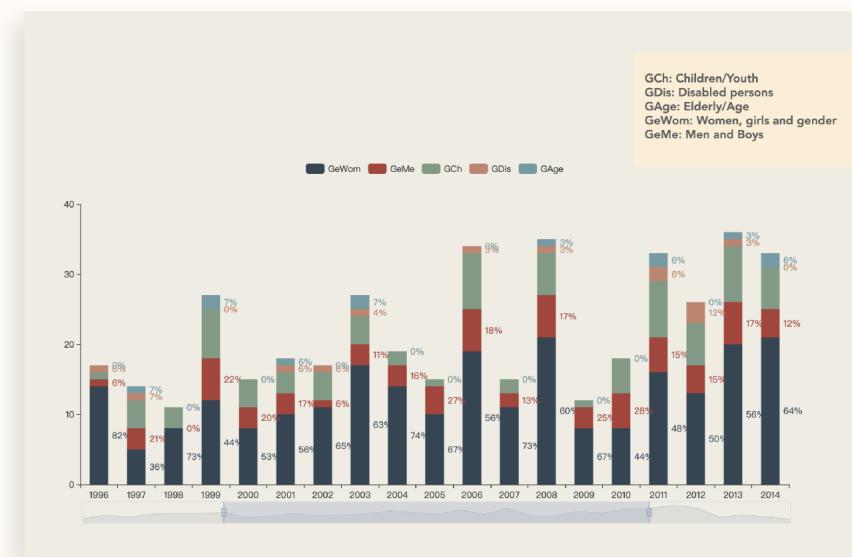
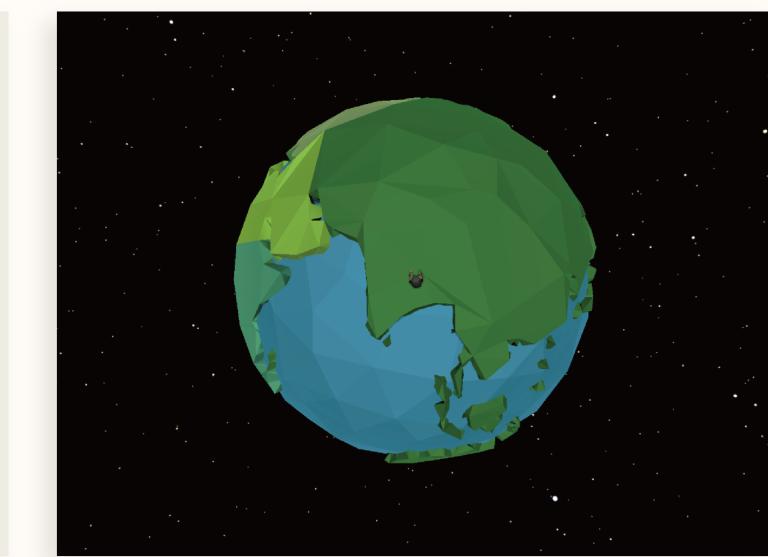


Chart 5



Game

8. References

1. Bell, C., & McNicholl, K. (2019). Principled Pragmatism and the 'Inclusion Project': Implementing a Gender Perspective in Peace Agreements.
2. Gbowee, L. (2019, December 24). We must involve women in the peace process. Retrieved 2019, from <https://www.un.org/africarenewal/magazine/december-2019-march-2020/we-must-involve-women-peace-process>
3. Diop, B., Bosco, B. J., & Shaanika, C. (Eds.). (2016). Implementation of the Women, Peace, and Security Agenda in Africa. 1-56.
4. Anon, 2000. II.B.14 United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 (On Women and Peace and Security) (31 October 2000). International Law & World Order, pp.1-3.

Photos:
unsplash.com (royalty free)

