



**24th session of the Human Rights Council**

**HALF/DAY ANNUAL PLENARY PANEL DISCUSSION ON  
THE INTEGRATION OF A GENDER PERSPECTIVE**

Panel

**“Civil society’s contribution to the integration of a gender perspective in the work of the  
Human Rights Council and its mechanisms”**

Room XX - Palais des Nations, Geneva  
12 september 2013, 10:00-13:00

**Ms. Mozn Hassan Executive Director, Nazra for Feminist Studies (Egypt)**

When we at Nazra decided to focus on WHRDs it was after Jan 25 and the large number of active men and women in public space. Nazra decided to highlight the work of WHRDs in Egypt locally, regionally and internationally. The first challenge we face is the definition of WHRDs, we are not abiding by the international definition and we tried to widen it, we believe that women active in public space are WHRDs. Bringing this issue in Egyptian context was tough and also to gender mainstream the human rights community to highlight WHRDs situation. Another challenge we face is bringing the issue of "sexual violence and gang rape" on the agenda and highlighting the relationship between women bodies and activism. Nazra in the last 2 years quite succeeded to put the issue of WHRDs in Egypt on the agenda and documenting and advocating against targeting women in public space, militarization and its affect on WHRDs in addition to bodily integrity, sexuality and WHRDs situation. Nazra on the ground is working hard not to give traditional human rights support for WHRDs as legal and psychological support only, in addition to documentation, Nazra is trying to support those women to continue being active in public space by highlighting their role, support them with different skills and working with them to establish communities and pressure groups in their communities.