

Resilience in the Context of Peacebuilding

Mari Katayanagi, Ph.D.

Vice Dean and Professor, Graduate School for
International Development and Cooperation

Vice Director, Institute for Peace Science



HIROSHIMA UNIVERSITY

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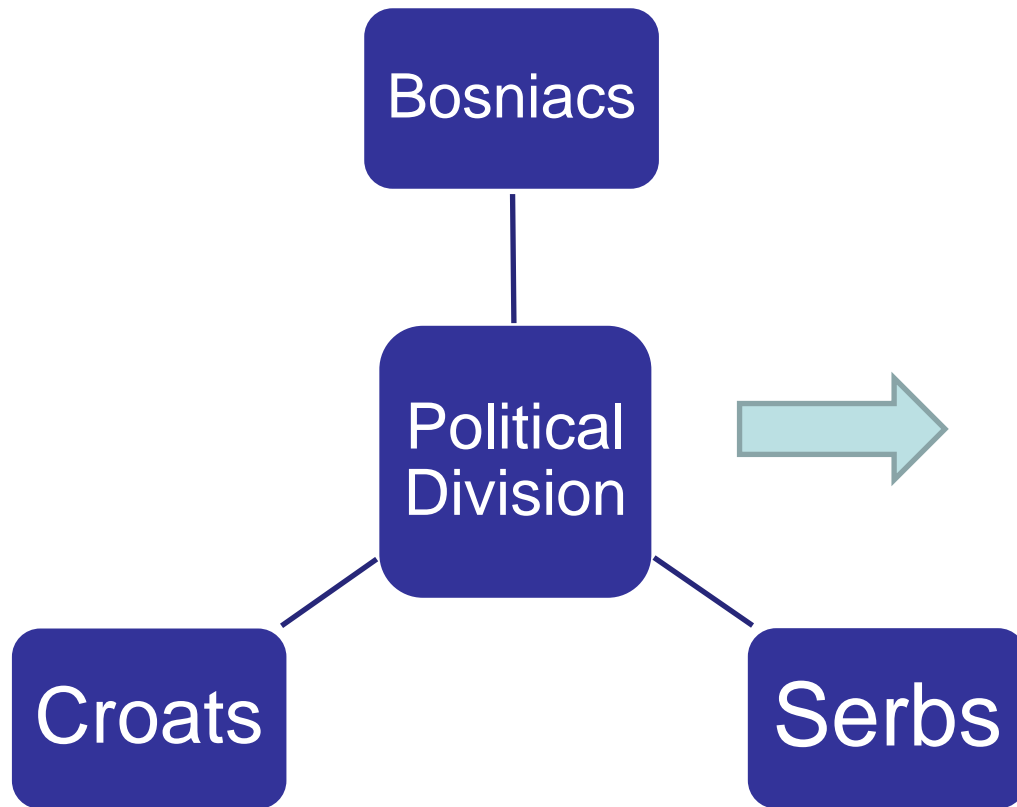
Resilience (working definition)

Working definition of **resilience** in the peacebuilding context: an ability of individuals, a community, or a society to recover from or adjust to the damage caused by a violent conflict

Differences between empowerment and resilience
(Brodsky & Cattaneo, 2013)

- Empowerment - socially enacted
- Resilience - only in the context of risk
- Resilience – internal changes; empowerment – external changes

Bosnia and Herzegovina (BH)



Division in:

Education

Media (TV, journals,
radio, etc.)

Incentives and Sanctions in Peacebuilding of BH

Incentives

“Open City Initiatives”

A UN agency’s initiative to support municipalities which declared willingness to accept return of former inhabitants.

→ failure because the support depended on the expression of willingness, not the actual support for return

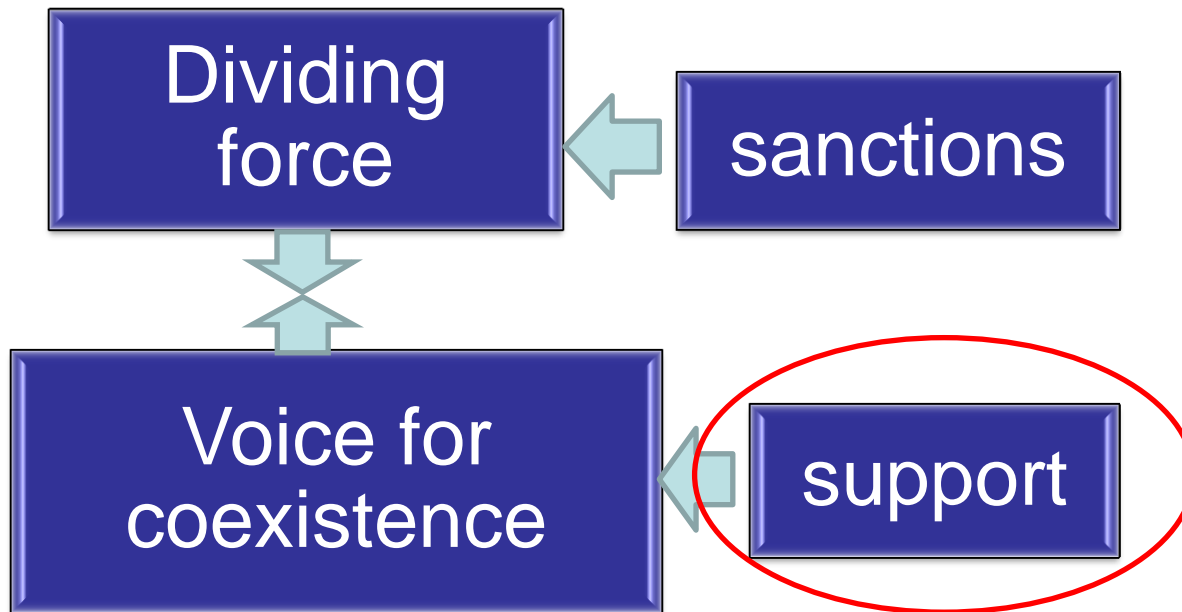
Sanctions

- No reconstruction/ rehabilitation support
- Identification of “hardline” municipalities



Voice of local people who support normalization

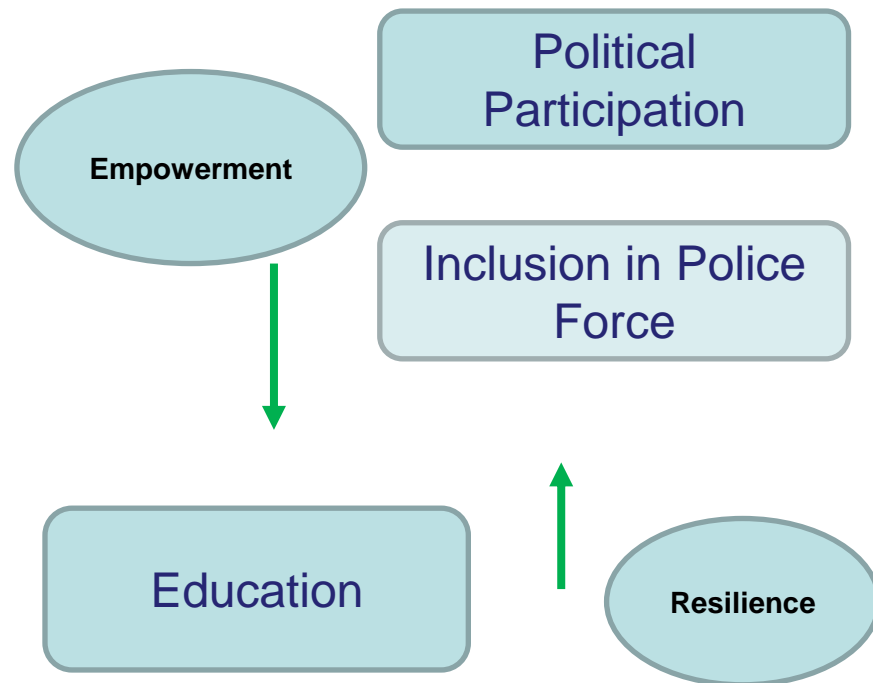
Make the local voice heard



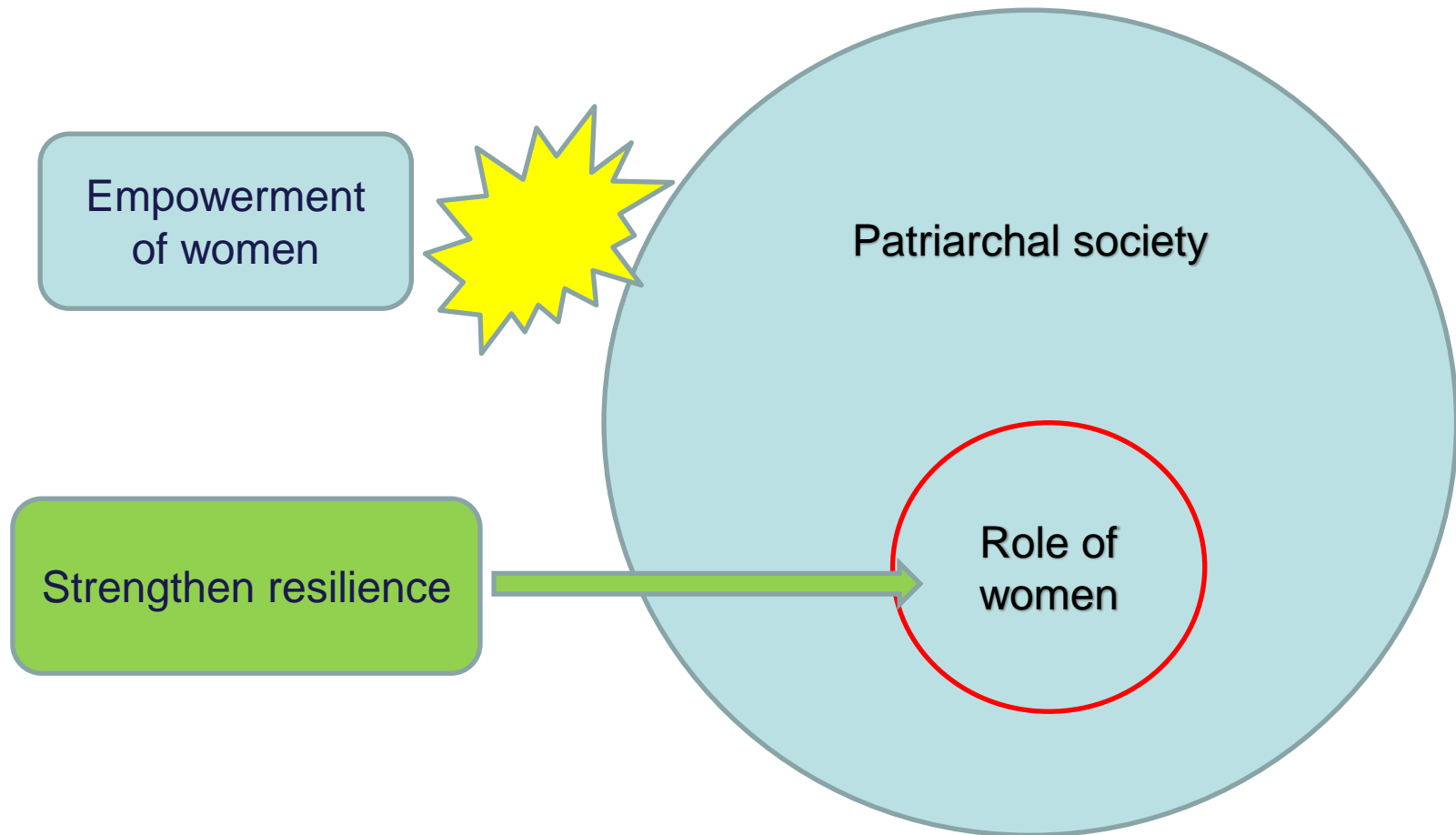
“... the international focus is much more heavily weighted toward identifying threats rather than on local capacities to manage them”
(Menkhaus, 2013, p.6)

Women's rights were mentioned as one of the justifications of foreign intervention.

Peacebuilding activities for women



Strengthen resilience of women



Resilience and Peacebuilding

- Criticism against liberal peacebuilding
 - ✓ Application of Western model
 - ✓ Transformation led by international actors
 - “local ownership”
 - Focus on “everyday” by post-liberal peacebuilding
 - ✓ Search for local agents
 - Peacebuilding from below

Rights-based Approach for Peacebuilding



- Human rights realization itself increases resilience.
- Removing inhibiting factors transforms the society in the direction of sustainable peace.

References

Brodsky, A. E., and Cattaneo, L. B. (2013). “A Transconceptual Model of Empowerment and Resilience: Divergence, Convergence and Interactions in Kindred Community Concepts”, *Am. J. Community Psychol.*, 52: 333-346.

Menkhaus, K. (2003). *Making Sense of Resilience in Peacebuilding Contexts: Approaches, Applications, Implications*, Geneva Peacebuilding Platform, Paper No. 6.