What properties are addressed by the identified gender provisions?
As a result, what female experiences are legitimized towards peace sustainability?

While there was a consistent quantity of gender-sensitive provisions which reasonably addressed the protection of females, their majority presented properties of representation, through the inclusion of gender quotas, as per excerpt below, legitimizing the expertise and skills brought by females in building and sustaining peace.

Hence, South Sudan breaks the stereotype built by previous scholarship that females are limited to a role of survivors of violence in the newly formed society by portraying them as political actors.

Nonetheless, a culture of military hypermasculinity was also exposed by the absence of references to the roles of females as violent agents, which leads to the naturalization of violence against women, overvaluing the skills and experiences of males, and further stigmatizing former female combatants from the new society being built.

What trends emerge from a comparative gender analysis of the documents and what are their implications?

A constant progressive inclusion of gender-sensitive provisions could not be identified, as, out of the 24 provisions identified, 21 of them (87.5%) were retrieved from the 2015 Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan.

Among findings, particular emphasis is given to the lack of recognition of women’s needs, resulting in the absence of legal change in the post-agreement phase, especially in regards to access to land, an issue vocalized by local stakeholders as imperative for the achievement of gender equality.

Moreover, representation clauses were not an achievement accomplished by the agreement per se, as they continued provisions on gender parity included in the 2011 Transitional Constitution of the Republic of South Sudan. Also, the Women’s Enterprise Empowerment Fund was the only initiative not assigned a responsible body for implementation. At last, a lack of political will in achieving gender equality becomes evident, obfuscated by a more generalized interpretation of the document.

In accordance with the TCRSS provisions providing for the participation of women in the Executive (25%), the GRRS shall nominate no fewer than four (4) women to the Council of Ministers, and the South Sudan Armed Opposition shall nominate no fewer than three (3) women to the Council of Ministers. Parties shall give due consideration to national diversity, including regional representation, in appointing their nominees. (Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan 2015,14)

Conclusion
A militarized hypermasculine culture is particularly problematic as the transitional government is constituted of previous military officers, allowing it to be translated into federal legislation and consequent social programs. While South Sudan lays the groundwork for representation, the trend in sustaining the status quo in regards to gender roles was still present.

Thus, it is argued that commitments in regards to representation were maintained due to pressure from the international community, as well as the South Sudanese Women’s bloc. Hence, these findings support the understanding that certain UNSCR 1325 properties could be used as a political maneuver to assure further support and funding from actors which maintain gender equality as one of their institutional values. The research also shows the importance of gender mainstreaming official documents, as they further push those in power to maintain previous agreements even when there is no consistent interest in gender-sensitive advancements.

Finally, an alternative to such issues is the development of funding provision conditional to implementation and monitoring indicators, assuring promises related to gender equality evolve beyond paper through the establishment of systematic accountability.

References
Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 17 August 2015. Available at http://peacemaker.un.org/node/2676