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# Backgrounder Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security



UNIVERSITY OF  
BRITISH COLUMBIA

6476 NW MARINE DRIVE  
VANCOUVER BC  
CANADA V6T 1Z2

[www.ligi.ubc.ca](http://www.ligi.ubc.ca)

Sabine Huß  
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## **The Adoption of SC Resolution 1325**

On 31 October 2000, the United Nations Security Council adopted resolution 1325 on women, peace and security during its 4231<sup>st</sup> meeting.

The resolution deals with the special impact that war has on women and children and stresses the necessity to involve women in conflict prevention, peace building and post-conflict reconstruction.

A week before adopting the resolution, the Security Council held an open session on the topic (24 October 2000). It was the first thematic session on this issue ever held by the Council.

An open session allows members of all governments to speak, not only the fifteen members of the Council. In this particular case, more than 40 speakers addressed the Council, among them Secretary-General Kofi Annan who said: "For generations, women have served as peace educators, both in their families and their societies. They have been instrumental in building bridges rather than walls." Annan urged the Council to do everything within its power to protect women and girls in conflict and to give them a role in peace building.<sup>1</sup>

Noeleen Heyzer, Executive Director of the UN Development Fund for Women, added that peace processes suffer when women are not included: "[If] women are half of every community, are they therefore not half of every solution?"<sup>2</sup>

Shortly before the open session, on 23 October 2000 an Arria Formula meeting had been held on the same topic, giving members of the Security Council the chance to be advised by experts from non-governmental organizations.<sup>3</sup>

For the last two decades many women's organizations lobbied for a Security Council Resolution that would include a gender perspective into conflict prevention, conflict resolution and peace building.

## **Significance**

The resolution is seen by many as a historic document, "a watershed political framework that makes women – and a gender perspective – relevant to negotiating peace agreements, planning refugee camps and peacekeeping operations and reconstructing war-torn societies."<sup>4</sup>

This view on the resolution has led various human rights and women's organizations as well as UN and governmental institutions to publish a large number of reports, articles, talks and other documents on the topic.<sup>5</sup> Following the adoption of 1325, numerous groups all over the world have lobbied for its implementation.

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<sup>1</sup> Statements by speakers at the open session can be found here:

<http://www.peacewomen.org/un/sc/countrystatements/annan.pdf> (17 February 2004).

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.peacewomen.org/un/sc/scwomen.html> (17 February 2004).

<sup>3</sup> The term *Arria Formula* refers to the possibility for Security Council members to benefit from the expertise of NGO experts who report to them - and the possibility for NGOs to "access" SC members.

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.womenwarpeace.org/toolbox/toolbox.htm> (17 February 2004).

<sup>5</sup> See bibliography.

## **Information Sources**

The resolution has been distributed widely, mainly over the internet, where – among many other sources – two web portals inform extensively about its background, history and implementation and offer a wide range of resources to work with – i.e. translations of the resolution into over 30 languages –, as well as information on projects around it. Both portals have numerous links to each other. They are UNIFEM's *Portal on Women, Peace and Security*<sup>6</sup> and *Peacewomen.Org*, a project of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom<sup>7</sup>. Both groups announced their "New Web Partnership" on 30 October 2003.

## **Topical Overview**<sup>8</sup>

Resolution 1325 builds on a number of global policy documents<sup>9</sup>. Among them are previously adopted resolutions that focus on refugees, children and armed conflict and the protection of civilians in armed conflict, as well as the Geneva Conventions, the Refugee Convention, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. It also refers to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, relevant presidential statements and other UN documents, in particular the Security Council's presidential statement on the occasion of International Women's Day 2000, which expresses that "peace is inextricably linked with equality between women and men"<sup>10</sup>, as well as to the Charter of the United Nations which identifies the maintenance of international peace and security as "the primary responsibility of the Security Council"<sup>11</sup>.

The resolution's main topics are the disproportionate impact of all forms of armed conflict – including the dangers that landmines present – on the lives of women and girls and the necessity to increase the number of women being involved in all processes concerning conflict prevention, peace building and post-conflict reconstruction.

It recognizes the need to incorporate a gender perspective into peace operations and to train all peacekeeping personnel in human rights of women and children, as well as to implement international laws during and after conflict.

In order to fully understand the impact of war on women and girls it calls for the collection of relevant data.

The resolution includes a number of requests for action to the United Nations in general and the Security Council and its member states in particular, as well as to parties to armed conflict. These requests can be summarized as follows:

- The number of women working on all levels of decision-making in national, regional and international institutions as well as in the field must be increased.

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<sup>6</sup> <http://www.womenwarpeace.org> (24 February 2004).

<sup>7</sup> <http://www.peacewomen.org> (24 February 2004).

<sup>8</sup> Find the resolution attached.

<sup>9</sup> See bibliography.

<sup>10</sup> Press release on the occasion of International Women's Day 2000: <http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2000/20000308.sc6816.doc.html> (24 February 2004).

<sup>11</sup> See the third paragraph of resolution 1325: "Bearing in mind [...]".

- A gender perspective must be included into conflict prevention, conflict resolution and post conflict reconstruction; peacekeeping personnel have to be trained accordingly. The Security Council is willing to consult local organizations whenever possible.
- All parties to armed conflict must respect existing international laws protecting women and girls - especially from gender based violence. Where violations have been committed, states have to end impunity.
- The civilian and humanitarian character of refugee camps and settlements must be respected by all parties to armed conflict.
- The different needs of women must be considered when planning refugee camps, dealing with ex-combatants and taking measures like sanctions which affect the general population.
- The Secretary-General is asked to carry out a study on the matter and to report on its results as well as to include progress on gender mainstreaming in his reporting to the Security Council.

The statement that the Security Council “decides to remain actively seized of the matter”<sup>12</sup> closes the resolution.

### **Studies on women, peace and security**

The resolution was followed by two major studies.

The first, the UN Secretary-General's study “Women, Peace and Security” (2002)<sup>13</sup> was prepared within the framework of the Inter-agency Task Force on Women, Peace and Security and coordinated by the Special Adviser of the Secretary-General on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women. It focuses on the activities of the United Nations and “builds on existing research and inputs of the United Nations, its programmes, funds and specialized agencies, Member States, scholars and local and international non-governmental organizations”<sup>14</sup> The study was carried out following Article 16 of resolution 1325 which:

*Invites* the Secretary-General to carry out a study on the impact of armed conflict on women and girls, the role of women in peace-building and the gender dimensions of peace processes and conflict resolution.

On 16 October 2002, the Secretary-General reported to the Security Council on the findings of the study.<sup>15</sup>

The study researches and gives recommendations for all areas resolution 1325 discusses and provides the United Nations with critical data to base future action on.

The second study, “Women, War and Peace: The Independent Experts' Assessment on the Impact of Armed Conflict on Women and Women's Role in Peace-building” (2002)<sup>16</sup>,

<sup>12</sup> See Resolution 1325, Article 18.

<sup>13</sup> <http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/public/eWPS.pdf> (24 February 2004).

<sup>14</sup> Report of the Secretary-General on women, peace and security. <http://www.peacewomen.org/un/UN1325/sgreport.pdf> (24 February 2004). I,2.

<sup>15</sup> Ibid.

<sup>16</sup> [http://www.unifem.org/index.php?f\\_page\\_pid=149](http://www.unifem.org/index.php?f_page_pid=149) (24 February 2004).

was carried out by Elisabeth Rehn, former Minister of Defence and Equality Affairs of Finland and Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, a Liberian and member of the Africa Union Panel of Eminent Persons which investigated the genocide in Rwanda, on behalf of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) to support “women’s peace-building and reconstruction efforts”.<sup>17</sup> The study focuses not only on “what women have suffered but what they have contributed”<sup>18</sup>.

Over the course of one year, in 2001 and 2002, the authors traveled to several of the world’s conflict regions.

They state in their introduction, that

[t]his Independent Expert Assessment was designed in response to Resolution 1325, as one effort to continue to document and analyse the specific impact of war on women and the potential of bringing women into peace processes.<sup>19</sup>

Rehn and Johnson Sirleaf found that “while women are widely recognized as effective agents of peace, they still have little access to power and peace negotiations”.<sup>20</sup> As recent conflicts target more and more civilians, women and girls are not only affected in different ways than men, they are often a target of violence *because* they are female. Very often the perpetrators of these crimes face little or no consequences as many societies in conflict lack functioning judicial systems.

The study researches and gives recommendations for the following areas:

- Violence against women
- Women forced to flee
- War and health of women
- HIV/AIDS
- Women and peace operations
- Organizing for peace
- Justice
- Media power
- Prevention and early warning
- Reconstruction

Both studies differ greatly in their approach: While the Secretary-General’s study elaborates on the areas of the resolution, UNIFEM’s experts provide case studies on which they base their recommendations.

The findings of both studies strongly support the need for a resolution on topics that concern women, peace and security and its implementation as they – based on the different data they collected – show how conflict situations all over the world severely affect the lives of women who live in them.

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<sup>17</sup> [http://www.unifem.org/index.php?f\\_page\\_pid=149](http://www.unifem.org/index.php?f_page_pid=149) (24 February 2004), p.vi.

<sup>18</sup> Ibid.

<sup>19</sup> [http://www.unifem.org/index.php?f\\_page\\_pid=149](http://www.unifem.org/index.php?f_page_pid=149) (24 February 2004). P.3.

<sup>20</sup> [http://www.ikff.se/w\\_war\\_peace\\_indp\\_report.html](http://www.ikff.se/w_war_peace_indp_report.html) (24 February 2004).

## **Follow-up in the UN**

The Security Council holds meetings on the progress made in connection with resolution 1325 annually and on occasion for special issues.

In October 2001 an Arria Formula Meeting was held, followed by a Security Council Presidential Statement on Women, Peace and Security on 31 October 2001.<sup>21</sup>

In the statement the Council “reaffirms its strong support for increasing women's role in decision-making with regard to conflict prevention and resolution”<sup>22</sup> and expresses concern about the little progress that has been made since the adoption of 1325.

Under the United Kingdom Presidency in the Security Council, an open session on Conflict, Peacekeeping and Gender was held on 25 July 2002. Ambassador Greenstock of the UK had held a meeting with representatives of the NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security<sup>23</sup> prior to the open session, in which he invited members of the Working Group to raise issues of importance to their organizations that are relevant to the open meeting discussion. At the open session, Ambassador Greenstock acknowledged the importance of the groups' work and of the exchange of information between them and the Security Council.<sup>24</sup>

Another Security Council Open Debate on Women, Peace and Security was held on 28 and 29 October 2002. On the occasion of the second anniversary of the resolution, the President of the Security Council issued a statement on Women, Peace and Security on 31 October 2002, which, among other issues, reaffirmed the Council's commitment to the implementation of the resolution and expressed concern about the slow progress made in many areas.<sup>25</sup>

The NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security prepared the report: “Resolution 1325: Two Years On”<sup>26</sup>, a supplement to their report on the occasion of the first anniversary of 1325 that detailed the activities and initiatives related to Resolution 1325 that took place within the UN system.<sup>27</sup>

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<sup>21</sup> <http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2001/sc7191.doc.htm> (24 February 2004).

<sup>22</sup> <http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2001/sc7191.doc.htm> (24 February 2004).

<sup>23</sup> The NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security came together in June 2000 with a focused campaign on the development of a UN Security Council resolution on women, peace and security. Its actions are currently focused specifically on the implementation of Resolution 1325. Members are: The Hague Appeal for Peace, International Alert, International Women's Tribune Center (IWTC), Women's Action for New Directions (WAND), Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children (WCRWC), and Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF). Other women's peace groups, human rights and humanitarian organizations collaborate with the NGOWG on joint projects and activities. The NGOWG also works closely with UNIFEM, the UN Office of the Special Advisor on Gender Issues and the Advancement of Women (OSAGI), and Friends of 1325 (a group of member states and UN agencies formed to increase support for the implementation of 1325). Working Group members have programs in areas affected by conflict and/or collaborate and link with women's organizations, research institutions and/or governments working in the field. <http://www.peacewomen.org/un/ngo/back.html> (16 March 2004).

<sup>24</sup> <http://www.peacewomen.org/un/sc/genderandpeacekeeping2002/genderconflictpeacekeeping.html> (17 February 2004).

<sup>25</sup> <http://www.peacewomen.org/un/UN1325/PresState2002.html> (17 February 2004).

<sup>26</sup> <http://www.peacewomen.org/un/UN1325/NGOreport.html> (24 February 2004).

<sup>27</sup> <http://www.peacewomen.org/un/UN1325/since1325.html> (24 February 2004).

Both reports express disappointment about missed opportunities to include more women into processes around conflict and peace building. They also note the progress that has been made and highlight important developments since the adoption of the resolution.

On 29 October 2003 the President of the Security Council for the month of October, the United States, hosted an Open Debate in the Council chambers on women, peace and security in the context of peacekeeping operations. Jean-Marie Guehenno, Under-Secretary General for Peacekeeping, and Amy Smythe, Senior Gender Advisor in MONUC, the UN peacekeeping operation in the Democratic Republic of Congo, made interventions on the Debate theme. Their statements were followed by those of the Council members, and then those of UN Member States. Thirty-seven interventions were made at the Open Debate.<sup>28</sup>

On behalf of member states and the group Friends of 1325<sup>29</sup>, United States Ambassador Negroponte compiled a summary of key points from the debate.<sup>30</sup> These points summarize the Council's point of view on the implementation of resolution 1325, three years after its adoption:

1. Council Members and non-members alike acknowledged that progress has been made toward implementation of SCR 1325. However, many speakers commented that much more needs to be done before it can be said that a gender perspective has been incorporated into all UN work and that SCR 1325 has been fully implemented.
2. There was an understanding that progress must be made by the Security Council, member states, parties to conflict and the Secretariat.
3. Speakers called for better follow-up and made a number of suggestions on how to do so, including the possibility of naming a Security Council member to be responsible for tracking implementation.
4. Speakers acknowledged the important role played by the Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and the Advancement of Women and by UNIFEM.
5. Speakers acknowledged the valuable role that civil society actors and non-governmental organizations have played, and will continue to play, in advancing implementation.
6. The value of bringing a field perspective to Council discussions was stressed.
7. Security Council members acknowledged that the Council needs to do more to include references to gender, where appropriate, in its resolutions, mission mandates and trip reports as well as to meet with women in the field when traveling on Council missions.
8. Speakers noted the need for more women to serve as peacekeepers, military observers and civilian police and understood their national responsibilities to identify and nominate women for these critical duties.
9. It was also emphasized that the Secretariat must do better at assigning women to senior positions including, Special Representatives of the Secretary General (SRSG) and Deputy SRSGs. A number of states highlighted that there is only one woman currently serving as an SRSG and noted that the level of participation by women is not acceptable. Speakers also recognized the

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<sup>28</sup> Find the texts of statements from the open debate here:

<http://www.peacewomen.org/un/SCOpenDebate2003/OpenDebate2003index.html> (24 February 2004).

<sup>29</sup> The group *Friends of 1325* consists of Australia, Bangladesh, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, Columbia, Croatia, Finland Germany, Guinea, Jamaica, Japan, Liechtenstein, Mexico, Namibia, New Zealand, Norway, Philippines, Republic Korea, Singapore, Sweden, Tanzania, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and USA.

<sup>30</sup> <http://www.peacewomen.org/un/SCOpenDebate2003/USPressRelease2003.pdf> (17 February 2004).

- responsibility of member states to recommend qualified women as candidates for these senior posts.
10. Member states positively acknowledged that the Gender Adviser post in DPKO had been filled on an interim basis but stressed the importance of the post being filled on a permanent basis as quickly as possible.
  11. Speakers also appreciated the importance of the role that full-time gender advisers in the field play in making real progress on gender mainstreaming. Several speakers also called for gender advisers to be assigned to all peacekeeping missions.
  12. Speakers emphasized the importance of gender training for UN peacekeeping personnel. It was also noted that states that contribute civilian police, military observers and peacekeeping forces should provide pre-deployment briefings on gender awareness.
  13. Several speakers noted the important role that regional organizations can play in helping to implement Resolution 1325.
  14. Speakers noted the need for more systematic documentation of the role that women have played in conflict resolution and peace building efforts.
  15. Member states acknowledged the important contributions that the Secretary General's report and the report of the independent panel of experts have provided to efforts to advance implementation and indicated that they were looking forward to the presentation of the Secretary General's 2004 report.

All throughout February and March 2004, UNIFEM, the International Women's Tribune Center and the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom held a moderated e-mail discussion "to share information, gather ideas, coordinate strategies, and anticipate what might be achieved in 2004"<sup>31</sup>.

Activists, academics, government delegates and UN staff – women and men – from all regions of the world were invited to participate.<sup>32</sup>

The discussion was initiated on the occasion of the 48th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (1-12 March 2004), where women's organizations focused their attention on the theme *Women's equal participation in conflict prevention, management and conflict resolution and in post-conflict peace-building*. As a result of the session's meetings and discussions, the Commission adopted, among others, a text in which it expressed "its concern at the remaining constraints on the full implementation of gender mainstreaming into all policies and programmes of the United Nations system" and made a number of suggestions in that regard. The Commission further decided to focus its attention in the upcoming year on the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action.<sup>33</sup>

On 31 October 2004, the fourth anniversary of Resolution 1325, the Secretary-General will report to the Security Council on the status of its implementation.

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<sup>31</sup> From the announcement of the e-mail-discussion. [http://www.womenwarpeace.org/csw/1325\\_home.htm](http://www.womenwarpeace.org/csw/1325_home.htm) (17 February 2004).

<sup>32</sup> Results from the discussion are not yet available.

<sup>33</sup> For the full text of all documents adopted during the 28<sup>th</sup> session of the Commission, as well as background information, please visit: <http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2004/wom1447.doc.htm>

## **Possibilities for involvement**

Resolution 1325 provides women all over the world with a tool to increase their involvement in conflict prevention, conflict resolution and peace building. It asks governments and the United Nations to include more women in decision-making and fieldwork and explicitly invites the expertise of civil society organizations.

But, although it is binding international law, the resolution is first of all an opportunity, a well-worded statement of intent by the international community. Without non-governmental organizations working on its implementation and the political will of governments and the United Nations, this opportunity will not be transformed into a reality.

To become involved in the processes around 1325 individuals or groups can partner with organizations already working on the implementation of the resolution, i.e. the NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security, and take part in campaigns like the moderated e-mail discussion mentioned above.

A non-governmental organization can also obtain consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the UN (ECOSOC). Having obtained this status, the organization is automatically accredited to attend the different activities of the United Nations as observer, present recommendation documents, and organize events parallel to those organized by the world organization.<sup>34</sup>

The resolution and its implications should be included when teaching courses on development and aid, international relations and politics and other relevant issues.

It should also be added to policy and research papers that deal with conflict, its resolution, peace building and related topics.

A number of governments, among them Canada's, have joined the group Friends of 1325. This group is an informal alliance – it does not have a web site or an office – but politicians from its member countries frequently make statements on the resolution, in which they emphasize their support for 1325. It appears that countries joining a group like Friends of 1325 have a special interest in the topic, so that lobbying for the implementation of the resolution at different levels of government seems promising – i.e. contacting the Canadian Ambassador to the UN to ask about progress made on the involvement of women in the UN or involving departments or agencies of the Canadian government in projects dealing with women, peace and security. Institutions that can be approached include DFAIT (Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade), Status of Women Canada and in particular the Canadian Committee on Women, Peace and Security, which is co-chaired by Senator Mobina Jaffer and the Honourable Lois Wilson and was specifically established to implement the commitments made in Resolution 1325 as well as the G8 Foreign Minister's Initiative from 2001.<sup>35</sup>

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<sup>34</sup> How to become an accredited NGO can be learned here: <http://www.un.org/esa/coordination/ngo/>. A list of already accredited NGOs can be found here: [http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/mgroups/808\\_ngo\\_list.pdf](http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/mgroups/808_ngo_list.pdf) (24 February 2004).

<sup>35</sup> The Canadian Committee is composed of Parliamentarians, government officials and civil society representatives. Three sub-committees were formed to expedite the work of the Committee: (1) Capacity Building; (2) Advocacy; and (3) Training. For more information: [http://www.sen.parl.gc.ca/mjaffer/issues/women\\_security.htm](http://www.sen.parl.gc.ca/mjaffer/issues/women_security.htm)

As mentioned above, Security Council resolution 1325 is binding international law and calls for the inclusion of civil society, mainly local women's organizations, into peace building efforts. For an institution located in a non-conflict country to partner with local women's organizations in order to strengthen them can provide a great opportunity to further the implementation of 1325. This can be achieved through organizing workshops, roundtables or similar events that bring together members of different women's groups or through advocating and funding the work of local organizations.<sup>36</sup>

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<sup>36</sup> The web portal [www.peacewomen.org](http://www.peacewomen.org) also has a web site on the implementation of resolution 1325 that provides a number of ideas for individuals and groups to advocate 1325 in the areas of education and information, awareness and strategy, policy, advertising and networking.  
See: <http://www.peacewomen.org/un/ngo/ngopub/strategies.html> (2 March 2004).

## **Bibliography**

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Resolution 1314 (2000)

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Resolution 1265 (1999)

<http://www.un.org/Docs/scres/1999/sc99.htm>

Resolution 1296 (2000)

<http://www.un.org/Docs/scres/2000/sc2000.htm>

Presidential Statement on the occasion of International Women's Day 2000  
(8 March 2000)

<http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2000/20000308.sc6816.doc.html>

Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (1998)  
(A/52/231):

<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/followup/ga52231.htm>

Women 2000: Gender Equality, Development and Peace for the twenty-first century;  
outcome document (A/S-23/10/Rev.1)

<http://www.hri.ca/fortherecord2000/documentation/genassembly/a-s-23-10-rev1.htm>

Charter of the United Nations (1945)

<http://www.un.org/aboutun/charter/>

The Windhoek Declaration: *On the 10th Anniversary of the United Nations Transitional Assistance Group (UNTAG). The Namibia Plan of Action On 'Mainstreaming a Gender Perspective In Multidimensional Peace Support Operations'*

(Windhoek, Namibia, 31 May 2000)

(S/2000/693)

[http://www.reliefweb.int/library/GHARkit/FilesFeb2001/windhoek\\_declaration.htm](http://www.reliefweb.int/library/GHARkit/FilesFeb2001/windhoek_declaration.htm)

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(A/49/587)

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<http://www.globalissuesgroup.com/geneva/texts.html>

Refugee Convention (1951)

[http://www.unhchr.ch/html/menu3/b/o\\_c\\_ref.htm](http://www.unhchr.ch/html/menu3/b/o_c_ref.htm)

Protocol to the Refugee Convention (1967)  
[http://www.unhchr.ch/html/menu3/b/o\\_p\\_ref.htm](http://www.unhchr.ch/html/menu3/b/o_p_ref.htm)

Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women (1979) and the Optional Protocol (1999)  
<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/protocol/adopted.htm>

Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989) and the two Optional Protocols thereto (2000)  
<http://www.unicef.org/crc/crc.htm>

Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (2003)  
<http://www.un.org/law/icc/>

Resolution 1208 (1998)  
<http://www.un.org/Docs/scres/1998/scres98.htm>

## **2. FOLLOW-UP**

A collection of documents published after the adoption of 1325 (i.e. speeches, statements at the anniversaries of the resolution etc.) can be found here:

<http://www.womenwarpeace.org/toolbox/toolbox.htm>

or here:

<http://www.peacewomen.org/un/UN1325/1325index.html>

## **3. OTHER SOURCES**

Web Portals: Both provide a variety of information and are updated regularly. They are linked to each other and to a large number of documents concerning the resolution.

<http://www.womenwarpeace.org>

<http://www.peacewomen.org>

### Studies and reports

The Secretary-General's Study: Women, Peace and Security (2002).  
<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/public/eWPS.pdf>

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Adviser on Gender Issues, October 2003  
<http://www.peacewomen.org/resources/1325/SGReportContent2003.html>

## **Appendix**

### **RESOLUTION 1325 (2000)**

The Security Council,

"Recalling its resolutions 1261 (1999) of 25 August 1999, 1265 (1999) of 17 September 1999, 1296 (2000) of 19 April 2000 and 1314 (2000) of 11 August 2000, as well as relevant statements of its President and recalling also the statement of its President, to the press on the occasion of the United Nations Day for Women's Rights and International Peace of 8 March 2000 (SC/6816),

"Recalling also the commitments of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (A/52/231) as well as those contained in the outcome document of the twenty-third Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly entitled 'Women 2000: Gender Equality, Development and Peace for the twenty-first century' (A/S-23/10/Rev.1), in particular those concerning women and armed conflict,

"Bearing in mind the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the primary responsibility of the Security Council under the Charter for the maintenance of international peace and security,

"Expressing concern that civilians, particularly women and children, account for the vast majority of those adversely affected by armed conflict, including as refugees and internally displaced persons, and increasingly are targeted by combatants and armed elements, and recognizing the consequent impact this has on durable peace and reconciliation,

"Reaffirming the important role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and in peace-building, and stressing the importance of their equal participation and full involvement in all efforts for the maintenance and promotion of peace and security, and the need to increase their role in decision-making with regard to conflict prevention and resolution,

"Reaffirming also the need to implement fully international humanitarian and human rights law that protects the rights of women and girls during and after conflicts,

"Emphasizing the need for all parties to ensure that mine clearance and mine awareness programmes take into account the special needs of women and girls,

"Recognizing the urgent need to mainstream a gender perspective into peacekeeping operations, and in this regard noting the Windhoek Declaration and the Namibia Plan of Action on Mainstreaming a Gender Perspective in Multidimensional Peace Support Operations (S/2000/693),

"Recognizing also the importance of the recommendation contained in the statement of its President to the press of 8 March 2000 for specialized training for all peacekeeping personnel on the protection, special needs and human rights of women and children in conflict situations,

"Recognizing that an understanding of the impact of armed conflict on women and girls, effective institutional arrangements to guarantee their protection and full participation in the peace process can significantly contribute to the maintenance and promotion of international peace and security,

"Noting the need to consolidate data on the impact of armed conflict on women and girls,

"1. Urges Member States to ensure increased representation of women at all decision-making levels in national, regional and international institutions and mechanisms for the prevention, management, and resolution of conflict;

"2. Encourages the Secretary-General to implement his strategic plan of action (A/49/587) calling for an increase in the participation of women at decision-making levels in conflict resolution and peace processes;

"3. Urges the Secretary-General to appoint more women as special representatives and envoys to pursue good offices on his behalf, and in this regard calls on Member States to provide candidates to the Secretary-General, for inclusion in a regularly updated centralized roster;

"4. Further urges the Secretary-General to seek to expand the role and contribution of women in United Nations field-based operations, and especially among military observers, civilian police, human rights and humanitarian personnel;

"5. Expresses its willingness to incorporate a gender perspective into peacekeeping operations and urges the Secretary-General to ensure that, where appropriate, field operations include a gender component;

"6. Requests the Secretary-General to provide to Member States training guidelines and materials on the protection, rights and the particular needs of women, as well as on the importance of involving women in all peacekeeping and peace-building measures, invites Member States to incorporate these elements as well as HIV/AIDS awareness training into their national training programmes for military and civilian police personnel in preparation for deployment and further requests the Secretary-General to ensure that civilian personnel of peacekeeping operations receive similar training;

"7. Urges Member States to increase their voluntary financial, technical and logistical support for gender-sensitive training efforts, including those undertaken by relevant funds and programmes, inter alia, the United Nations Fund for Women and United Nations Children's Fund, and by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and other relevant bodies;

"8. Calls on all actors involved, when negotiating and implementing peace agreements, to adopt a gender perspective, including, inter alia:

"(a) The special needs of women and girls during repatriation and resettlement and for rehabilitation, reintegration and post-conflict reconstruction;

"(b) Measures that support local women's peace initiatives and indigenous processes for conflict resolution, and that involve women in all of the implementation mechanisms of the peace agreements;

"(c) Measures that ensure the protection of and respect for human rights of women and girls, particularly as they relate to the constitution, the electoral system, the police and the judiciary;

"9. Calls upon all parties to armed conflict to respect fully international law applicable to the rights and protection of women and girls as civilians, in particular the obligations applicable to them under the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and the Additional Protocols thereto of 1977, the Refugee Convention of 1951 and the Protocol thereto of 1967, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women of 1979 and the Optional Protocol thereto of 1999 and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child of 1989 and the two Optional Protocols thereto of 25 May 2000, and to bear in mind the relevant provisions of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court;

"10. Calls on all parties to armed conflict to take special measures to protect women and girls from gender-based violence, particularly rape and other forms of sexual abuse, and all other forms of violence in situations of armed conflict;

"11. Emphasizes the responsibility of all States to put an end to impunity and to prosecute those responsible for genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes including those relating to sexual violence against women and girls, and in this regard, stresses the need to exclude these crimes, where feasible from amnesty provisions;

"12. Calls upon all parties to armed conflict to respect the civilian and humanitarian character of refugee camps and settlements, and to take into account the particular needs of women and girls, including in their design, and recalls its resolution 1208 (1998) of 19 November 1998;

"13. Encourages all those involved in the planning for disarmament, demobilization and reintegration to consider the different needs of female and male ex-combatants and to take into account the needs of their dependants;

"14. Reaffirms its readiness, whenever measures are adopted under Article 41 of the Charter of the United Nations, to give consideration to their potential impact on the civilian population, bearing in mind the special needs of women and girls, in order to consider appropriate humanitarian exemptions;

"15. Expresses its willingness to ensure that Security Council missions take into account gender considerations and the rights of women, including through consultation with local and international women's groups;

"16. Invites the Secretary-General to carry out a study on the impact of armed conflict on women and girls, the role of women in peace-building and the gender dimensions of peace processes and conflict resolution, and further invites him to submit a report to the Security Council on the results of this study and to make this available to all Member States of the United Nations;

"17. Requests the Secretary-General, where appropriate, to include in his reporting to the Security Council, progress on gender mainstreaming throughout peacekeeping missions and all other aspects relating to women and girls;

"18. Decides to remain actively seized of the matter."