

Committee: Security Council

Issue: Women and Peace and Security

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INTRODUCTION

In today's world, the importance of women's participation and representation in various sectors of the global community is particularly highlighted. Specifically, in recent years, the issue of women's presence in decision-making related to political affairs and peace-making has received more attention, as well as women's presence within security and peace enforcement matters.

Statistically, the number of women in positions of peace enforcement is severely disproportionate to that of men, with women making up only 6%¹ of uniformed personnel in the United Nations' peace operations. This is largely due to inequalities originating from discriminatory laws, their rights, (such as the lack of rights which protect women from abuse or violence), education and institutional prejudice & discrimination. Such inequalities play a huge role in the small number of women employed in the UN peacekeeping personnel, as many women feel discouraged from applying in these positions. For instance, women from regions, where there is a lack of laws protecting them from violence and abuse, would be less likely to apply to such jobs, from the fear of becoming a victim.

This issue refers to post-conflict peacemaking, where few women participate. To achieve gender equality, it is of absolute importance to ensure that women receive equal chances in the sectors of conflict resolution, peacekeeping and security services. Moreover, it is necessary to increase the direct accountability from nations in the areas of gender-based violence and discrimination targeting women.

¹ *Women in Peacekeeping | United Nations Peacekeeping.* peacekeeping.un.org/en/women-peacekeeping.

DEFINITION OF KEY TERMS

Peacekeeping

“The active maintenance of a truce between nations or communities, especially by an international military force”²

Discrimination

“The unjust or prejudicial treatment of different categories of people or things, especially on the grounds of race, age, or sex”³

Human Rights

“The basic rights that it is generally considered all people should have, such as justice and the freedom to say what you think”⁴

Gender-Based Violence

“Violence directed against a person because of their gender”⁵

Armed Conflict

“A contested incompatibility that concerns government and/or territory where the use of armed force between two parties, of which at least one is the government of a state, results in at least 25 battle-related deaths in one calendar year”⁶

² “Peacekeeping: Definition of Peacekeeping by Oxford Dictionary on Lexico.com Also Meaning of Peacekeeping.” *Lexico Dictionaries*, www.lexico.com/en/definition/peacekeeping.

³ ““Discrimination: Definition of Discrimination by Oxford Dictionary on Lexico.com Also Meaning of Discrimination.” *Lexico Dictionaries | English*, Lexico Dictionaries, www.lexico.com/en/definition/discrimination.

⁴ “Human Rights.” *Dictionary.com*, Dictionary.com, www.dictionary.com/browse/human-rights.

⁵ ““What Is Gender-Based Violence?” *European Institute for Gender Equality*, 27 Feb. 2019, eige.europa.eu/gender-based-violence/what-is-gender-based-violence.

⁶ “*The UCDP Armed Conflict Definition - UNDP*, www.undp.org/content/dam/norway/img/sdg-16-oslo-2016/Erik%20Melander.pdf.

Sexual Violence

"Any sexual act, attempt to obtain a sexual act, unwanted sexual comments or advances, or acts to traffic, or otherwise directed, against a person's sexuality using coercion, by any person regardless of their relationship to the victim, in any setting, including but not limited to home and work"⁷

Institutional Reforms

"The process of reviewing and restructuring state institutions so that they respect human rights, preserve the rule of law, and are accountable to their constituents"⁸

Conflict Resolution

"The informal or formal process that two or more parties use to find a peaceful solution to their dispute"⁹

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Gender Inequalities in the Workplace

Women face discrimination in many different aspects of life; one particular area of interest concerning the issue of women in peace and security is the discrimination faced by women in the workplace. It is estimated that around 42% of working women in the United States have confronted discrimination in their work area. Discrimination may be identified by examining the wage gap, benefits offered such as maternity leave, or by comparing promotion rates between men and women. The difference in salaries paid to men and women (described as the wage gap), is calculated to be around 20%, according to the 2018/19 global wage gap report. This means that when employed under the same job, a man would earn a higher salary than a woman. Statistics prove that even in recent years

⁷ "Definitions." *Definitions | Sexual Violence Research Initiative*, 12 Apr. 2016, www.svri.org/research-methods/definitions.

⁸ "Institutional Reform, Including Vetting: ICTJ." *International Center for Transitional Justice*, 17 Sept. 2014, www.ictj.org/our-work/transitional-justice-issues/institutional-reform.

⁹ "28, Shekarau D. October. "What Is Conflict Resolution, and How Does It Work?" *PON*, 16 Apr. 2020, www.pon.harvard.edu/daily/conflict-resolution/what-is-conflict-resolution-and-how-does-it-work/.

there is a sufficient amount of inequality within the workspace, which may deter many women from working, specifically in roles which are more traditionally seen as male ones, such as jobs within peacekeeping or decision making. The issue of discrimination against women in the workplace becomes even more apparent in Lower Economically Developed Countries (LEDCs).

Women's Participation in Peacekeeping

Historically, women have been underrepresented in peacekeeping. Only 1% of all peacekeeping personnel were made up of women in 1993. This figure has, however changed, with 10.8% of formed police units in UN missions of peacekeeping being women in 2019. The representation of women in this sector is of great importance for a multitude of reasons. Women's success in peacekeeping can be seen in examples such as that of Sandi Arnold who, following 21 years of experience in peacekeeping has been serving as Chief of Mission Support in the UN Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) for the last three years; recently, her team was recognized for its excellent preparative activities against the outbreak of COVID-19 in the region. Another example of women's meaningful participation in peace operations can be seen in the Darfur camp, where Gender Affairs Officers with the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID) work with women groups and internally displaced persons (IDPs) to promote the inclusion of women in processes of decision making. Furthermore, in 2018 the role of Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in the DRC (MONUSCO) was fulfilled by a woman called Leila Zerrougui, who, amongst a growing number of women, led a peace process successfully.



Women in Peacekeeping | United Nations Peacekeeping.

<https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/women-peacekeeping>

The Impact of Armed Conflict on Women

During periods of unrest, women endure the consequences of armed conflict with long-lasting effects, which are both physical and psychological. Many women fall victims to displacement, rape, torture and murder, as in most areas of conflict the majority of civilians affected are women and children. Women living in conflict regions are often forced out of their homes due to the ongoing violence and instability; many of the women end up as displaced refugees, which render them vulnerable to human trafficking and abduction. Furthermore, the presence of two armed parties at war within a region increases the risk of sexual violence such as rape, and women casualties. Moreover, prolonged armed conflict in a region forces women to take on the role of the household leader, a role which would have previously been fulfilled by the working male of the family (a gender-based stereotype); this may lead to impoverishment, as most women in such areas cannot find work easily. In turn, this causes food insecurity which has physical effects, as a result of malnourishment. Lastly, women who have become refugees as a consequence of conflict may develop Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), a psychological disorder which up to 40%¹⁰ of refugees are said to suffer from.



A woman with her child in the conflict zone, source: Mujer, Paz y Seguridad - Home, www.resdal.org/wps_sp/.

Participation of Women in Conflict Resolution and Peace-Making

¹⁰ "PTSD in Refugees and Asylum Seekers." *PTSD UK* |, www.ptsduk.org/what-is-ptsd/who-is-affected-by-ptsd/refugees/.

Even though in several cases women have acted as observers, they are often not a part of the peace-building processes for a variety of reasons. Primarily, this is because the roles of authority and, hence, conflict resolution traditionally fall on men, in particular in areas where women do not receive equal opportunities in education, due to a lack of access to higher education; this hinders them from obtaining the necessary papers needed to pursue careers in peace-making. In addition to this, many women flee conflict and become displaced persons, meaning that it is hard for them to return to their country of origin to help in the peacemaking process. In some countries, such as the UAE, (where women cannot be employed without their husband's permission) a cultural issue also exists, where religion and tradition may prevent women's participation in such processes. The issue of women's underrepresentation in peace-making processes can be seen in the signing of the ceasefire between the two rebel groups UFDR (Union of Democratic Forces for Unity) and the CPJP (Convention of Patriots for Justice and Peace) in the Central African Republic in 2011, where there were no women signatories, lead mediators or witnesses; however, peace in the region did not continue for long as a civil war commenced a year later.

Importance of Women's Participation in Peacekeeping Processes

It has long been argued that the participation of women in peace-making and conflict resolution is essential. The reason behind this is that women make up at least half of the community, and many times assume the role of a caretaker within the family; by including women in the resolution of conflict and decision-making towards peace, the process becomes diverse and provides more inclusive suggestions and solutions. Further, the representation of women in such processes would mean that there is a voice for women who have suffered at the hands of conflict, such as victims of sexual abuse, or displaced women; this is incredibly important, as it would mean that women would be taken into consideration when making negotiations and reaching agreements; hence improving the situation for women in conflict zones. Moreover, there is evidence which suggests that the inclusion of women in agreement processes can lead to more sustainable long-term peace, and makes the process more effective, in comparison to one consisting primarily of men. The presence of women in peacekeeping encourages trust from women in local communities where a mission is being carried out; women can understand the needs of other women more easily, and can hence render a mission more effective. Furthermore, women's participation in peacekeeping makes for a step forward towards gender equality, as it reflects society better and encourages diversity, especially in an international body such

as the United Nations. Representation of women in such roles also serves as inspiration for younger girls, who can feel more encouraged to pursue a career in the predominantly male sector of peacekeeping.

Accountability and Recognition of Sexual Violence against Women



Action against Sexual and GenderBased Violence,

[induced.info/?s=Action%2Bagainst%2BSexual%2Band%2BGenderBased%2BViolence](https://www.un.org/en/induced.info/?s=Action%2Bagainst%2BSexual%2Band%2BGenderBased%2BViolence)

An incredibly important aspect to consider regarding women's role in peace and security is the prevalence of sexual violence in conflict. Such violence refers to rape, assault, or sexual harassment as a means of intimidation towards women at the hands of the enemy party. However, the role of sexual violence in conflict remains largely unrecognized by governments. More specifically, only around 32%¹¹ of Member States participated in the 2019 debate on the issue of women, peace and security, which referenced the need to have accountability and recognition for sexual crimes committed in conflict against women.

Sexual violence against women can have devastating effects on individuals, communities and international frameworks, with women suffering physical damage, such as STDs (Sexually Transmitted Diseases) and pregnancy. Similarly, sexual violence can have a

¹¹ "WILPF Analysis of the UN Security Council 2019 Open Debate on Women, Peace, and Security." *PeaceWomen*, 5 Jan. 2020, www.peacewomen.org/node/103697.

serious psychological impact, with many victims suffering from PTSD, depression, and suicidal thoughts. These issues, which affect survivors for the majority of their lives, lead many women to feel intimidated and afraid to speak out, due to the trauma inflicted upon them by their aggressor. It is for this reason that governments and organizations such as the UN must urge nations to recognize the use of sexual violence and hold aggressors accountable and for women victims to receive justice, something that would definitely be achieved with women's participation in peacekeeping processes.

MAJOR COUNTRIES AND ORGANISATIONS INVOLVED

Sudan

Sudan, an LEDC in central Africa, has seen numerous conflicts. In particular, the Sudanese Revolution in 2018, which consisted of a power-shift towards democracy within the country, resulted in a coup-d'etat (defined as a sudden decisive exercise of force in politics, however in such context, the violent overthrow or alteration of an existing government by a small group) against the president being in charge back then. As highlighted by Alaa Salah, a representative of the NGO (Non-Governmental Organization) 'Working Group on Women, Peace and Security' (WGWPS) in her civil society briefing during the 2019 UN debate on women, peace and security, even though women played a significant role in the uprisings in Sudan, they were excluded from any political process and faced a backlash when attempting to participate. Sudan belongs to the 18 countries in which a woman needs permission from her spouse in order to work for a wage; the country also ranked 139 out of 160 on the Gender Inequality Index report of 2017, carried out by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); the report measures reproductive health, empowerment and economic status, and is done in order to provide insight towards gender inequalities worldwide. Furthermore, sexual violence is prevalent in the country's large refugee camp of Darfur, where in 2018, 80%¹² of sexual violence reported was classified as rape at the hands of an armed perpetrator. It is hence apparent that the issue of women's participation in peacemaking and security is crucial and in need of being tackled in the nation. Regarding the WPS agenda, Sudan faces practical and operational challenges in implementing it, as seen in the UN Mission's in South Sudan (UNMISS), and difficulty in encouraging women to participate in peace-making and protecting them from sexual violence.

¹²*Annual*

Report.

www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/report/s-2019-280/Annual-report-2018.pdf.

Afghanistan

Afghanistan is a country which has faced a large number of serious conflicts, commencing from the past century and following through to this one. Chronic instability and cultural aspects such as religion have rendered women oppressed, facing discrimination in multiple aspects within the country. In total, women make up only 1.8% of the police force, and the reporting of sexual violence in conflict has been underreported on an ongoing basis due to the lack of capacity to do so by authorities, with only 37 cases of sexual violence against women being documented in 2018. In the 2017 Gender Inequality Index report, Afghanistan ranked 153 out of 160 countries; in Afghanistan, 80% of all suicides in the country are committed by women. Out of the total population of Afghan women, 87% are illiterate, and up to two-thirds of girls in Afghanistan do not attend school. With indicators such as these, it becomes clear that there is an urgent need for improvement in women's participation in resolution-making, and security to combat the prevalence of violence against women in the country. In 2012, the Liechtenstein Institute on Self-Determination's Project on Gender in the Global Community organized a workshop which focused on the implementation of the WPS agenda in Afghanistan; it was concluded that few high-level government and ministry people in Afghanistan were aware of resolution 1325 and other WPS resolutions, and that UN action taken thus far to implement the WPS agenda in Afghanistan has not been sufficient.



A women's march in Kabul, Afghanistan in February 2019, protesting for the end of violence against women in Afghanistan, source: Rfe/rl. "Interview: 'The Lives Of Afghan Women Can And Must Be Improved'." RadioFreeEurope/RadioLiberty, Radio Free Europe / Radio Liberty, 1 July 2013, www.rferl.org/a/afghanistan-interview-anna-badkhen-women/25032053.html.

Sweden

Sweden belongs to a region of the world, Scandinavia, known for its high human development indexes and quality of life. Sweden's statistics, (presented by the Swedish government) show that the country is moving in a positive direction regarding women's overall participation in decision-making, with 44% of Swedish parliament being represented by women. Sweden has also strict laws regarding sexual assault, and, shows support of women's peace-building organizations like WILPF (Women's International League for Peace & Freedom) demonstrated by a statement made by Norway (on behalf of all Nordic countries) during the 2019 WPS debate. Sweden also ranks 4th out of 153 countries on the 2020 Global Gender Gap report. For these reasons, Sweden's active stance in favor of gender equality and participation of women in peace and security constitutes the country a positive example in regards to this agenda. Sweden has shown continuous support towards the implementation of the WPS agenda, seen in their statement at the SC Open Debate on the agenda, where they expressed their belief in the importance of it, and their ideas on how they believe the agenda could be successfully implemented.

Niger

Niger's geographical location places it in a conflict zone; refugees fleeing the Boko Haram in Nigeria and the Jihadi insurgencies in Mali have resulted in the region being unstable. Due to this instability and cultural reasons primarily based on religion, Niger suffers from inequalities between the genders. Women made up 10% of all official positions of high authority in 2007. Nearly all roles responsible for decision making in Niger fall upon men, whereas the few women in these positions are merely there for a figurative purpose, without any large responsibilities. Niger ranked 151st out of 160 countries on the Gender Inequality Index report of 2017. Examining such indicators, the issue of women's participation remains of utmost importance in Niger, in particular due to the high number of refugees in the country, many of which are women in vulnerable positions. Niger has remained engaged in their attempts to implement the WPS agenda, as they have adopted a well-structured National Action Plan, which aims to protect women in conflict situations and improve their participation in conflict resolution.

Russian Federation

The role of women in Russia largely remains unequal to that of the men. As of 2020, the Russian Federation's legislature does not protect women from domestic violence; over 35%¹³ of domestic abuse victims state that they do not go to the police for reasons related to fear and shame. Russian society has chronically opposed any laws which criminalize family violence; more specifically, such opposition comes from the Russian Orthodox Church, which in 2019 expressed their wish for a boycott on the introduction of a law which criminalized domestic violence. Furthermore, in 2017, only 16%¹⁴ of the Russian Parliament was represented by women. There also persists the issue of the gender gap in wages, where one of Russia's two female deputy prime ministers stated that on average women's pay is around 70% of that of men. The implementation of the WPS agenda would hence, greatly benefit women living in Russia, as it would provide more opportunities towards ending ongoing issues, such as the one of domestic violence. Russia has not spoken up on the issue of WPS, as they did not make a statement in the 2019 SC Open Debate, and have not addressed any commitment written in the 1325 WPS SC resolution. However, Russia is not in favor of establishing a Security Council mechanism specialized towards gender issues.

Indonesia

Indonesian women face several issues related to gender inequality within the country. Firstly, gender-based and sexual violence are prevalent, with 'virginity testing' still being conducted on women who apply for jobs within the police or armed forces. This testing is defined by the WHO (World Health Organization) as an inspection of the female genitalia meant to determine whether a woman or girl has had vaginal intercourse¹⁵ and is conducted by existing male members of the police force on women. Such testing violates human rights; however, it still continues to take place in the country. Moreover, it is estimated that over 90% of rape cases remain unreported, as victims state that they are afraid of the consequences following a report. Women are also largely under-represented in government, with only 19.8% of parliament consisting of women. Indonesia made a statement in the 2019

¹³ "Yurtaev, Alexey. "Inside the Fight over Russia's Domestic Violence Law." *OpenDemocracy*, 17 Feb. 2020, www.opendemocracy.net/en/odr/russia-domestic-violence-law/.

¹⁴ "'Proportion of Seats Held by Women in National Parliaments (%)'" *Data*, data.worldbank.org/indicator/SG.GEN.PARL.ZS.

¹⁵ "'Eliminating Virginity Testing.'" *World Health Organization*, World Health Organization, 13 Dec. 2019, www.who.int/reproductivehealth/publications/eliminating-virginity-testing-interagency-statement/en/.

SC Open Debate, in which they discussed the importance of women's participation and empowerment, as well as showing their support for the UN's work in preventing sexual violence in conflict. The country also adopted a National Action Plan in 2014, which focused on the protection of women from sexual violence in conflict; their main action was collecting relevant data and conducting studies.

WILPF (Women's International League for Peace and Freedom)

The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom is an NGO which, since 1915, has promoted the ideas of feminism and gender equality; they aim to promote and encourage the empowerment of women worldwide. WILPF has had an important role in the promotion of the WPS agenda. They have worked in promoting women's meaningful participation, as seen in their 2017 published resources which outlined the way a 'feminist Security Council' would appear. Further, they have created spaces for women to make it easier for their voices and opinions to be heard, such as in the 58th Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), where the WILPF organized multiple events for 70 women advocates and activists from around the world to make speeches bring attention to the WPS agenda.

Association for Women's Rights in Development (AWID)

The Association for Women's Rights in Development (AWID) is an international feminist organization, which aims to achieve worldwide gender justice, and promote women's rights; in their aims, they wish to support feminism and movements which challenge oppression. Regarding actions they have taken to achieve these aims, they have been active in creating and organizing spaces that aim to bring groups who have not yet found common ground together, connecting generations, regions and movements. They also protect human rights defenders and women's rights activists from violence and backlash, publish reports and conduct research on the progress of feminist movements, while also providing important resources and information on any individuals wishing to conduct research on any relevant issues.

TIMELINE OF EVENTS

Date	Description of Event
1915	WILPF is established
21 July 1960	Sirimavo Bandaranaike becomes the world's first female prime minister, as prime minister of Sri Lanka.
1990	211,000 women war casualties globally
16 January 2006	Ellen Johnson Sirleaf becomes the first female president in Africa and serves as the president of Liberia.
31 October 2000	The UN Security Council passes the resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security.
1 July 2002	Creation of the ICC (International Criminal Court)
2 February 2010	Appointment of the first special representative on sexual violence in conflict by the UN.
9 October 2012	All principal roles of the special court in Sierra Leone are held by women.
13 March 2013	Appointment of the first woman UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Mary Robinson, as a lead mediator in a peace process in the eastern DRC conflict by the UN.
20 September 2013	The economic empowerment of women is recognized as a key to peace by the international community.
11 August 2014	40% of the UN Security Council consists of women ambassadors.
19 June 2015	Creation of international day for the elimination of sexual violence in conflict.
29 October 2019	An open debate on WPS, with the theme 'Towards the successful implementation of the women, peace and security agenda: moving from commitments to accomplishments in preparation for the commemoration of the twentieth anniversary of Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000)' is held in the UN Security Council to commemorate the 19th anniversary of the UN resolution 1325.

UN INVOLVEMENT: RELEVANT RESOLUTIONS, TREATIES AND EVENTS

- Landmark Resolution on Women, Peace and Security ([S/RES/1325](#))- 31 October 2000

This resolution was adopted by the Security Council and reinstates the importance of women's participation in the processes of peacemaking, conflict resolution, humanitarian responses and peacekeeping. It encourages gender equality and the protection of women in conflict situations from sexual violence. It was voted by all 15 members of the Security Council, with no votes against.

- United Nations Security Council Resolution 1888 ([S/RES/1888](#))- 30 September 2009

Resolution 1888 deals specifically with the issue of sexual violence in conflict; it re-enforces the idea that sexual violence in conflict goes against international peace and security, urges leaders to address this issue and lastly requests for there to be a Team of Experts, who are to rapidly reach situations of sexual violence as well as Women Protection Advisors (WPAs) in missions of peacekeeping.

- United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women)

UN Women is the United Nations dedicated agency to promoting women's empowerment and gender equality worldwide. At its core, the entity's main goals are to protect women from any form of violence, urge them to participate in leadership and governing roles, and support their economic independence. Regarding the WPS agenda, UN Women work in supporting member states who implement the WPS agenda and relevant resolutions, by making data from research initiatives more accessible, and enforcing policies related to the agenda. UN Women is primarily guided by the 1325 resolution, and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, which puts forward governments' commitments to improve women's rights.

- Open Debate

In October of 2019, the UN Security Council held an open debate in which the topic of the WPS agenda was discussed. The theme of the debate was based on the

successful implementation of the agenda. In this debate, the primary focus was on women's meaningful participation as human rights defenders, and in peacekeeping, as well as a larger need for accountability related to sexual violence. The debate also resulted in the unanimous vote to adopt a 10th resolution related to WPS, ([S/RES/2493](#)), which aims to dedicate more attention to the issue of accountability and the building of agreements around the agenda.

PREVIOUS ATTEMPTS TO SOLVE THE ISSUE

Taskforce on Women, Peace and Security

This is a task force created by the Inter-agency Network on Women and Gender Equality (IANWGE), intending to implement the 1325 SC resolution. As a force, it aimed to strengthen the implementation of the resolution in policies, UN actions and any relevant civil service. It further aimed to monitor the information related to the WPS agenda, and make it accessible to all main actors. Included in its work is the collection of data, assessments, reporting and regular meetings, all related to enforcing the agenda. The task force, however, has not resulted in a great number of meaningful successes, due to the fact that most of their actions are limited to informing and collecting data; they have not been engaged in practical aspects, hence have not been entirely successful in achieving their aims.

OSCE (Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe)

The OSCE, founded in 1975, remained actively engaged in the implementation of the 1325 resolution. Amongst their actions, they work with governments in providing briefings, in particular related to the management of conflicts and earlier mechanisms of warning pre-conflict. Furthermore, they publish materials in an attempt to promote the participation of women in conflict cycles. They have published several reports in which they outline their work and the progress of the implementation of the agenda in the OSCE region. Similar to the WPS Task Force, the OSCE's work related to the WPS agenda, however, is mostly related to data collection, although they have created resources for women wishing to pursue entrepreneurial careers by providing legal advice and creating networks. Early in 2020, they concluded that there are a lot of improvements that need to be made, particularly in the practical sector of National Action Plans (NAPs).

POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

Encouragement by Governments and Organizations

As highlighted in the resolution itself, the participation of women in the prevention of conflict and peacekeeping is essential in implementing this agenda. In order to encourage women to participate in such contexts, work needs to be carried out by governments and organizations responsible; this could be done through promotional campaigns or promotions in educational institutions. Lastly, organizations engaged in enforcing this agenda could receive funds for programmes that aim to promote the work of women in peace and security.

Institutional Reforms

Reforms in the way women are treated in a country could also help in implementing this agenda. Such reforms could be made in the education, societal and justice sectors. Governments could make higher-level education more accessible to women, particularly in LEDCs, and could financially aid those who lack the means of pursuing further education. Regarding the aspect of society and justice, there could be reforms put in place which allow women to enjoy equal rights and opportunities in front of a court and in everyday life, such as changes in marital laws in which a woman requires her spouse's permission in order to get a job.



A young girl standing up to read at school, source: The Life-Course Approach to CRVS: A Crucial Tool to Advance Gender Equality. crvssystems.ca/sites/default/files/inline-files/CRVS_Gender_2.1_LifeCourse_e_0.pdf.

Protection of Women from Sexual Violence

In order to fully implement this resolution, it is important to protect women from sexual violence in conflict. This could be done by increasing the criminalization of sexual crimes in conflict zones, and creating stricter policies regarding the trying of such perpetrators; There could also be an increase in the reporting of such cases, and help the victims who come forward from areas of conflict, with the aim of increasing the rates of accountability and recognition of such crimes.

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