



KARAMA

UN Security Council 1325 & the Women, Peace and Security Agenda

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Resolution 1325 (2000)

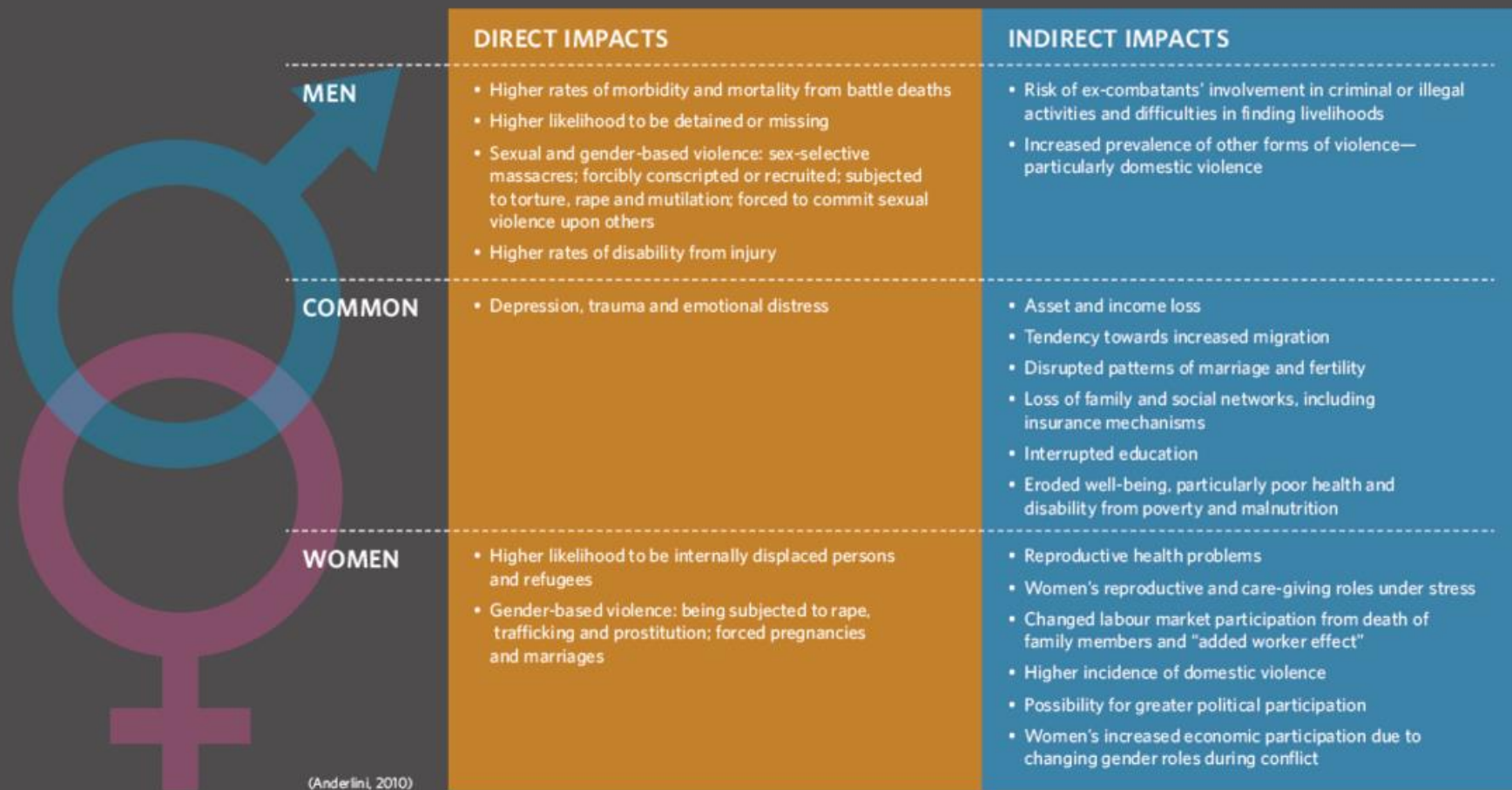
**Adopted by the Security Council at its 4213th meeting, on
31 October 2000**

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 (International Women's Day) of 8 March 2000 (SC/6816),

Why do we need UNSCR 1325?

CONFLICT'S IMPACT ON WOMEN AND MEN



Importance of UNSCR 1325



The agreement of 1325 recognised two critical points:

- That women experience disproportionate suffering in conflict - dealing with this requires a specialist approach
- That women play an essential role in conflict prevention, conflict resolution, and peace building - this requires particular support

UNSCR 1325 & Women, Peace and Security



- UNSCR 1325 agreed in October 2000
- Brings together a number of previous Security Council resolutions related to gender and conflict
- Effectively creates the Women, Peace and Security agenda, with seven subsequent resolutions up to the present day

The Four Pillars of 1325



- ⦿ Participation
- ⦿ Protection
- ⦿ Prevention
- ⦿ Relief & Recovery

Participation



Calls for increased women's participation in:

- ⦿ all levels of decision-making in conflict prevention and resolution
- ⦿ the security services, including civil security (police etc)
- ⦿ diplomatic level

Protection



Addressing the specific threats to which women in conflict are particularly vulnerable, including:

- ① sexual violence
- ① other gender-based violence
- ① the greater likelihood of being displaced

Prevention



Strengthening national and international mechanisms that should protect women in conflict, including:

- ① ensuring prosecution of the perpetrators of violence against women
- ① strengthening women's rights under the law locally

Relief and Recovery



Understanding how women experience the indirect effects of conflict and tailoring response to their needs, for example by ensuring that humanitarian response includes support for reproductive and maternal health

Subsequent Resolutions



- **UNSCR 1820** (2008) - explicitly links sexual violence as a tactic of war with women peace and security issues.
- **UNSCR 1888** (2009) - mandates that peacekeeping missions protect women and children from sexual violence during armed conflict
- **UNSCR 1889** (2009) - calls for further strengthening of women's participation in peace processes and the development of indicators to measure progress on 1325.
- **UNSCR 1960** (2010) - deepens the women, peace and security agenda on sexual violence.
- **UNSCR 2106** (2013) - makes technical recommendations on dealing with sexual violence in conflict.
- **UNSCR 2122** (2013) - puts stronger measures in place for women to participate in all phases of conflict prevention, resolution and recovery.
- **UNSCR 2242** (2015) - aims to improve the implementation of the women, peace and security agenda overall.

How is 1325 implemented?



In 2005, the Security Council called on member states to implement 1325 through National Action Plans (NAPs).

NAPs should identify:

- local WPS issues
- resources for addressing these issues
- a strategy for implementing the women, peace and security agenda locally

WPS & SALW



Though men face greater threat from the direct effects of conflict, women are also at risk from Small Arms and Light Weapons. As noted in Small Arms Survey 2014:

- There are links in conflict between availability of SALW and increased domestic violence
- There are close links between SALW and sexual violence in conflict
- In countries with the highest rates of murder committed against women, over 60% of such murders are carried out with a firearm
- Displaced women are particularly vulnerable to organised crime facilitated by firearms - robbery, kidnapping, trafficking and sexual violence

WPS & SALW



UNSCR 2106 makes specific reference to the relationship between WPS and SALW:

“Noting the provision in the Arms Trade Treaty that exporting States Parties shall take into account the risk of covered conventional arms or items being used to commit or facilitate serious acts of gender-based violence or serious acts of violence against women and children”

The changing nature of conflict



From participant in the Global Study on
UNSCR 1325:

*“the coalition controls the sky, the
rebels control the community.”*

Global Study on 1325



Key findings:

- ⦿ Too few prosecutions for sexual violence
- ⦿ Women's participation is still very low
 - > Less than 1 in 10 participants in peace processes are women
 - > Only three per cent of the military in UN missions are women
- ⦿ Only 54 countries have NAPs
- ⦿ Funding for WPS remains far too low
- ⦿ The rise of extremism presents new threats

The WPS Agenda in the Arab Region



What has UNSCR 1325 done
for Arab women in conflict?

Trends in the Arab region



Syrian peace talks

- Under the leadership of UN Special Envoy Lahkdar Brahimi, the participation of women was not a priority
- Women were routinely excluded from all aspects of the peace process

Trends in the Arab region



Syrian peace talks now

- The Security Council passed resolution 2254 encouraging “the meaningful participation of women in the UN-facilitated political process for Syria”
- Women have unprecedented representation - the regime and opposition each have 15-member negotiating teams, each with three women members
- UN Special Envoy Staffan de Mistura has appointed a 12-member Women’s Advisory Board

Trends in the Arab region



Women's participation:

"[P]eace processes that included women as witnesses, signatories, mediators, and/or negotiators demonstrated a 20% increase in the probability of a peace agreement lasting at least two years. This increases over time, with a 35% increase in the probability of a peace agreement lasting 15 years."

Laurel Stone,

"Quantitative Analysis of Women's Participation in Peace Processes

Trends in the Arab region



Progress has only been made where parties have been committed to the principles of 1325. Too often this has been led by individual priorities.

UN envoy to Libya Bernardino León and previous UN envoy to Syria Lakhdar Brahimi failed to support women, and participation has suffered. However, under current UN envoy to Syria Staffan de Mistura, women's participation has reached record levels.

Lessons from the region



- ⦿ Commitment - progress has to be led from the top, this requires political will
- ⦿ Resources - WPS is a specialist field, it needs to be properly funded

Influencing governments



- ⦿ Only two Arab countries have NAPs - Iraq and Palestine
- ⦿ Too often governments see WPS as being about war - they do not recognise the wider relevance of the agenda

Influencing governments



- ◎ To make the case, we need a language that promotes WPS in a broader context.
- ◎ We need to talk about what WPS is during:
 - > uprisings
 - > breakdown in civil order
 - > democratic transition

The Essentials



⦿ Political will

⦿ Resources



Thank you

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