

Since its adoption,

Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) has served as a catalyst for women all over the world to mobilize in their efforts to achieve equal participation. Women at the grassroots level in countries as diverse as Afghanistan, Burundi, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Iraq and Sudan have used this resolution to lobby for their voices to be heard in peacebuilding processes, in post-conflict elections, and in the rebuilding of their societies.

**Five years
later, here is
a glimpse of
where things
stand.**



Peacekeeping

- » As of September 2005, 10 out of 18 peacekeeping and political missions have a dedicated full-time gender advisor: **Afghanistan** (UNAMA), **Burundi** (ONUB), **Côte d'Ivoire** (ONUCI), **Democratic Republic of the Congo** (MONUC), **Haiti** (MINUSTAH), **Kosovo** (UNMIK), **Liberia** (UNMIL), **Sierra Leone** (UNAMSIL), **Sudan** (UNMIS) and **Timor-Leste** (UNOTIL).
- » Missions without full-time Gender Advisors have Gender Focal Points, who are full-time mission staff that are assigned additional gender-related responsibilities.
- » The first Gender Offices were established in UNMIK (**Kosovo**) and UNTAET (**Timor-Leste**) in 1999 prior to the adoption of the Security Council Resolution on Women, Peace and Security in 2000.
- » The first Gender Adviser was appointed at the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) at UN Headquarters, in 2004.
- » Out of 26 UN peace operations, there are currently two women serving as heads of mission: the Special Representatives of the Secretary-General in **Burundi** and **Georgia**. There is one female deputy head of mission in **Afghanistan**.
- » As of July 2005, 3,190 women were serving in UN peacekeeping missions out of 12,869 civilian personnel — equal to 25 per cent of the total.
- » Approximately 4.4 per cent of civilian police in peacekeeping missions were women as of June 2005. Women make up about one percent of military contingents.
- » DPKO has implemented a number of measures to prevent sexual exploitation and abuse and to enforce UN standards of conduct in this regard:
 - In 2003, the UN Secretary-General issued a bulletin (ST/SGB/2003/13) setting out the UN's zero-tolerance policy on sexual exploitation and sexual abuse.
 - From January 2004 to September 2005, investigations of sexual exploitation and abuse were completed against more than 221 peacekeeping personnel in all missions, resulting in the summary dismissal of 10 civilians, repatriation of 2 members of Formed Police Units and 86 repatriations/rotations home on disciplinary grounds (including 6 commanders) of military personnel.
 - As of July 2005, training on sexual exploitation and abuse is mandatory for all categories of personnel in peacekeeping missions.
 - To facilitate the receipt of complaints of sexual exploitation and abuse, all peacekeeping operations have appointed a Focal Point and special measures have been put in place in many missions such as telephone hotlines, confidential e-mail accounts and cooperative arrangements with civil society.



Post-Conflict Elections and Political Participation

Compared to the global average for women's participation in national parliaments of 16 per cent, many post-conflict countries rate considerably higher due to affirmative measures and legislation, as well as other factors such as fewer men available to fill positions after a devastating war.

As of September 2005:

- » In **Rwanda**, women held nearly 50 per cent of the seats in the Lower House and nearly 35 per cent in the Upper House of Parliament. In Timor-Leste, women represented 25 per cent of the National Parliament.
- » Women's representation in both the Kosovo Parliamentary and Municipal Assemblies equaled 28 per cent, a positive step towards the targeted quota of 33 per cent.
- » **Burundi** included a quota of 30 per cent for women's political representation. Following the elections in 2005, women represent 30 per cent of the National Assembly which also has a woman President, 34 per cent of the Senate and 35 per cent of ministerial posts, including portfolios such as Foreign Affairs, Justice and Commerce and Industry.
- » Although the Elections Law in **Liberia** included a target of 30 per cent women candidates, only 14 per cent of the total election candidates in the October 2005 elections were women.
- » Ms. Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf became Africa's first ever elected female leader when she won the presidential run off in **Liberia** in November 2005.
- » The Prime Minister of **Mozambique** (elected in 2004) is a woman.
- » Since the fall of the Taliban in **Afghanistan**, every government has included a Minister of Women's Affairs. A woman ran for president in 2004 and came out sixth ahead of 12 other male candidates.
- » In **Iraq**, women obtained 31 per cent of the seats in the National Assembly in the 2005 elections.

Afghanistan's First Parliamentary Elections, September 2005

- » Twenty-five percent of the total number of seats in Wolesi Jirga and Provincial Council are reserved for women. This quota places Afghanistan 20th in the world for women's representation in Parliament.
- » Women actively participated in the Wolesi Jirga and Provincial Council elections held on 18 September 2005 both as candidates and as voters.
- » Forty-four per cent of voters who registered in 2005 are women and 41.6 per cent of the total 12.5 million registered voters, including those who registered in 2004 and 2005, are women.
- » Out of a total of 26,243 polling stations throughout Afghanistan, 11,387 were for women and in many provinces women outnumbered men in voter turn-out. Overall, 43 per cent of the women registered to vote actually cast a ballot.



Humanitarian Protection and Assistance

Approximately 75 per cent of the estimated 60 million displaced persons from conflict and disasters worldwide are women and children, who often face considerable hardships in situations of displacement, including sexual violence and abuse.

- » The UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) issued its policy on refugee women in 1991 and has deployed regional advisors on refugee women and children in Africa (3) and Europe (1).
- » Guidelines for responding to gender-based violence in emergency situations were developed and issued in 2005 by the UN's Inter-agency Standing Committee's Taskforce on Gender and Humanitarian Assistance.
- » In 2005, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) hired its first gender adviser and issued its policy and action plan on gender equality.
- » The World Food Programme's Gender Policy mandates that at least 70 per cent of food-assisted training activities must be targeted to women and adolescent girls and that women participate equally in food distribution committees.
- » In 2003, the Secretary-General issued a Bulletin on special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse related to personnel working for or affiliated with the United Nations and its partners, including both civilian staff and uniformed peacekeeping personnel.

- » **Women faced some restrictions during the campaign regarding mobility and the opportunity to campaign in public. Nonetheless, they devised innovative methods and opportunities to deliver their message.**
- » **For example, 73 per cent (or 397 of 541) of female candidates took advantage of the sponsored advertising campaign. This meant they were able to reach voters through TV and radio at no cost to themselves. This is higher than the percentage of male candidates who used this donor-funded media advertising program managed by the Media Commission.**
- » **Campaign posters of female candidates, along with their male colleagues, were evident in villages, towns and cities throughout Afghanistan.**



Peace Negotiations

- » Drawing on Security Council resolution 1325 (2000), women's groups in **Colombia** are leading new efforts since the 2002 collapse of the dialogues to raise awareness of the human costs of the conflict in that country and to call for peace negotiations to include women and civil society.
- » Women were marginally present in the **Sudan** North-South Peace Negotiations that culminated in the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement on 9 January 2005. They are, however, altogether excluded from the Peace Negotiations on Darfur that are ongoing in Abuja, Nigeria.
- » In **Liberia**, women were included as Observers in the peace negotiations.
- » Since 1901, the Nobel Peace Prize for the recognition of peace efforts and courage in war situations has been awarded to men on 80 occasions, to organizations on 20 occasions, and to women on just 12 occasions.
- » In October 2005, there was one female Ambassador, H.E. Ms. Ellen Margrethe Løj from **Denmark**, represented on the Security Council which is made up of fifteen Member States.



ICC-CPI/Wim Van Cappellen

Constitutional Processes and Justice Systems

- » Many post-conflict countries or countries currently in conflict are signatories to the CEDAW Convention, often coined the “international bill of rights for women”. These include **Burundi, Colombia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Liberia, Nicaragua, Rwanda** and **Sierra Leone** as well as **Timor-Leste** and **Afghanistan**, who both ratified the Convention in 2003.
- » The Constitutional Framework for Provisional Self-Government in **Kosovo** includes CEDAW as a guiding instrument on women's rights. Gender equality objectives such as increasing women's participation in political and decision-making bodies and eradicating violence against women have also been included into the Standards for **Kosovo**, whose fulfillment will determine the final status of the territory.
- » The Head of the Constitutional Court in **Burundi** is a woman.
- » Thirty per cent of the Gacaca judges in **Rwanda** are female and the President of the Supreme Court of **Rwanda** is a woman.
- » In 2003, seven women were elected to be among the 18 judges of the International Criminal Court.



Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000)

- » Only after the adoption of Security Council resolution 1325 in 2000 have Gender Advisors in peacekeeping operations become the norm.
- » Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) has been translated into 70 languages with 10 more translations currently underway (**Bengali, Croatian, Dioula, Gujarati, Hausa, Krio, Nepali, Polish, Sierra Leone, Creole and Ukrainian**).
- » Following the adoption of Security Council resolution 1325 at the UN, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, the European Union and the Organization of American States all adopted resolutions endorsing it.
- » Israel is the first country to adopt 1325 as national law.
- » Many national and local women's organizations — including in **Canada, Democratic Republic of the Congo, El Salvador, Fiji, France, Germany, Kosovo, Sweden, Uganda** — have used resolution 1325 as an advocacy and training tool.
- » A few countries are developing national action plans on implementation of resolution 1325.
- » During the period from July 2004 to July 2005, 47.1 per cent of reports to the Security Council included multiple references to gender issues. During the same period, 9 out of 63 resolutions and 15 out of 62 presidential statements included gender issues.



Resolution 1325 (2000) holds out a promise to women across the globe that their rights will be protected and that barriers to their equal participation and full involvement in the maintenance and promotion of sustainable peace will be removed. We must uphold this promise.

—UN Secretary-General's report to the Security Council on women, peace and security, 2004





Disarmament, Demobilization, Reintegration [DDR]

Gender perspectives are increasingly being integrated into UN-directed DDR efforts in many war-torn zones globally.

- » In **Haiti**, the Great Lakes region of Africa and Sudan, women and gender perspectives have been included in disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes;
- » A Gender and HIV/AIDS officer in the DDR Unit of the UN Mission in **Sudan** has supported the work of gender coordinators within interim authorities in Northern and Southern Sudan from the outset of the programme.
- » In **Liberia**, female supporters were identified as “Women Associated with the Fighting Forces” rather than as camp followers so as to be included in the disarmament, demobilization, reintegration and reconstruction process. Women represented 24 per cent of those demobilized.
- » In **Sierra Leone**, only 6 per cent of DDR participants were women and 0.6 per cent girls, despite making up an estimated 12 per cent of combatants; the low rate of participation was attributed in one study to women and girls being classified as followers, slaves, and domestics, even when they had engaged in active combat.
- » Thirty percent of the **Eritrean** People’s Liberation Front were estimated to be female but only 4,500 soldiers of the 26,000 demobilized in 2003 (17 per cent) were women and 91 per cent of the loans distributed to combatants were given to men.
- » In **El Salvador**, women ex-fighters held 40 per cent of leadership and 30 per cent of combat roles, yet were neglected during the DDR process with 70 to 80 percent of female combatants estimated to have received no benefits under the Government’s land transfer programme; women were also absent from the UN-supervised formation of both a new National Civil Police and the Armed Forces Reserve System.

For more information on Security Resolution 1325:

<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/feature/5years1325>

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Facts **and** Figures

on Women, Peace and Security

