

Legal Framework: Women and Conflict

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), adopted in December 1979 by the United Nations General Assembly;

Declaration on the Elimination of Violence, adopted with the Resolution 104 on December 1993, that defines violence against women “any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life”;

The Beijing Platform for Action, adopted at the UN Fourth World Conference on Women, September 1995, with a special chapter on women and armed conflicts;

Resolution 1325, adopted in October 2000, which pinpointed the special needs of women and girls during repatriation and resettlement, rehabilitation, reintegration and post-conflict reconstruction) and the importance of their participation in peace processes and the post-conflict period;

Resolution 1820 on Sexual Violence in Conflict and Post-Conflict Situations, June 2008. The Resolution followed the launch of a network of UN entities to end sexual violence occurring in armed conflict;

Resolution 1888 on the Protection of Women and Girls from Sexual Violence in Armed Conflicts, 2009;

Resolution 1889 on the Protection of Women and Girls in Post-Conflict situations, October 2009;

Resolution 1960 to take “appropriate steps to address widespread or systematic sexual violence in situation of armed conflict”, December 2010;

Resolution 2106 to strengthen efforts to end impunity for sexual violence in conflict, June 2013, included the appointment of a Special Representative on sexual violence in conflict, as well as Women Protection Advisors (WPAs) within peacekeeping missions, The first Representative was the Algerian Leila Zerrougui.

Resolution A/RES/69/293, June 2015, proclaimed June 19 the International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict. The date was chosen to honour the adoption on 19 June 2008 of the Resolution 1820;

Resolution 2242, October 2015, on the 15th anniversary of Resolution 1325, to improve implementation of landmark text on women, peace, security agenda;

Resolution 2272, March 2016, to prevent sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) by those under UN mandate;

Resolution 2, June 2016, 331 condemning acts of sexual and gender-based violence when associated to trafficking in persons adopted in June 2106;

Resolution 2467, April 2019, calling upon Belligerents Worldwide to Adopt Concrete Commitments on Ending Sexual Violence in Conflict, The Resolution represented a turning point for the global agenda for gender equality and resulted in pivotal commitments and objectives, the results of which we still measure today.