



Human Rights Council**Forty-fifth session**

14 September–7 October 2020

Agenda item 3

**Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil,
political, economic, social and cultural rights,
including the right to development****Resolution adopted by the Human Rights Council
on 7 October 2020****45/28. Promoting and protecting the human rights of women and girls in
conflict and post-conflict situations on the occasion of the twentieth
anniversary of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000)***The Human Rights Council,**Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,**Reaffirming the obligations of State parties under the Convention on the Elimination
of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,**Reaffirming also* General Assembly resolution 60/251 of 15 March 2006 by which the
Assembly established the Human Rights Council and, inter alia, acknowledged that peace
and security, development and human rights are the pillars of the United Nations system and
the foundations for collective security and well-being, and recognizing that development,
peace and security and human rights are interlinked and mutually reinforcing,*Reaffirming further* Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 of 18 June 2007 on the
institution-building of the Council, and bearing in mind the primary responsibility of the
Security Council for the maintenance of international peace and security under the Charter,*Recalling* Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000 on women and
peace and security, and subsequent, mutually reinforcing resolutions – Council resolutions
1820 (2008) of 19 June 2008, 1888 (2009) of 30 September 2009, 1889 (2009) of 5 October
2009, 1960 (2010) of 16 December 2010, 2106 (2013) of 24 June 2013, 2122 (2013) of 18
October 2013, 2242 (2015) of 13 October 2015, 2467 (2019) of 23 April 2019 and 2493
(2019) of 29 October 2019 – which comprise the women and peace and security agenda, and
in which the Council addressed, inter alia, the human rights of women and girls in conflict
and post-conflict situations,*Noting* that 2020 marks the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of Security Council
resolution 1325 (2000), and emphasizing that anniversaries offer a valuable opportunity to
raise awareness and to reflect on achievements, best practices and challenges with regard to
the full realization of human rights,*Reaffirming* the importance of the full, equal and meaningful participation of women
in planning and decision-making with regard to mediation, confidence-building, and conflict

prevention and resolution, and of their involvement in all efforts to maintain and promote peace and security, and the need to prevent and redress human rights violations, such as all forms of violence against women and girls, especially sexual and gender-based violence,

Recognizing the important contribution of civil society to the women and peace and security agenda, and in this regard the importance of sustained dialogue with civil society, including women's organizations,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 27 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", and the Sustainable Development Goals enshrined therein, including the commitment of all States to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, and recalling also the commitments of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,

Welcoming the fact that a significant number of States have adopted national action plans on women and peace and security, and encouraging the adoption of these plans by those who have yet to do so,

Expressing deep concern that women's full, equal and meaningful participation in the prevention and resolution of conflicts, in peacebuilding and in peacekeeping remains a far-off goal, while violations of the human rights of women and girls, including of women refugees and internally displaced persons in the context of conflict and post-conflict situations, remain widespread and underreported, including sexual and gender-based violence, multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination and lack of access to services,

Acknowledging that women's and girls' empowerment and gender equality are critical to efforts to maintain international peace and security, and emphasizing that persisting barriers to the full implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) and subsequent mutually reinforcing ones will only be dismantled through dedicated commitment to women's human rights, empowerment and participation, and through concerted leadership, consistent information and action, and support to build women's engagement at all levels of decision-making,

Mindful of the report of the Secretary-General on women and peace and security,¹ and its operational recommendations for the United Nations and for Member States in the lead-up to the twentieth anniversary of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000),

Acknowledging the need for a comprehensive approach to the promotion, protection and fulfilment of all human rights of women and girls and the need to integrate a gender perspective in a more systemic way into all aspects of the work of the United Nations system, including the treaty bodies, and the Human Rights Council and its mechanisms,

Welcoming the work of the United Nations treaty bodies in promoting gender equality and in the promotion and protection of the rights of women and girls at all times, including in armed conflict and post-conflict situations, and noting general recommendation No. 30 (2013) of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on women in conflict prevention, conflict and post-conflict situations,

Welcoming also the fact that the Human Rights Council and its mechanisms have made efforts to mainstream the human rights of women and girls at all times, including by documenting, in relevant reports, sexual and gender-based violence in conflict and post-conflict situations,

1. *Recognizes* the crucial role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and in peacebuilding and confidence-building, the importance of their full, equal and meaningful participation and full involvement in all efforts for the maintenance and promotion of peace and security, and urges States and the United Nations system where applicable to make further efforts to ensure and support the full, equal and meaningful participation of women at all levels of decision-making and implementation of conflict prevention and resolution, mediation, post-conflict reconstruction, peacekeeping, peacemaking and peacebuilding;

¹ S/2019/800.

2. *Calls upon* States to create and support an enabling environment for the meaningful participation of, inter alia, women mediators, women mediator networks, women's civil society organizations, women peacebuilders and women human rights defenders, in the creation and implementation of all relevant activities related to conflict prevention and resolution, mediation, post-conflict reconstruction, peacemaking and peacebuilding;

3. *Strongly condemns* all forms of violence against women and girls committed in conflict and post-conflict situations, recognizes that the term "violence against women and girls" is not limited to sexual violence but includes any act of gender-based violence that results, or is likely to result, in physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, and calls for effective measures of accountability where those acts amount to violations of international human rights and humanitarian law;

4. *Encourages* States to enhance the promotion and protection of the human rights of women and girls in conflict and post-conflict situations that have been identified by the Security Council in relation to the women and peace and security agenda through the universal periodic review, as appropriate, by increasing their attention to these themes in national reports, to make specific, action-oriented recommendations to States under review, and to act on the recommendations made, and to report on achievements and challenges in implementation at subsequent review cycles;

5. *Calls upon* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to, in accordance with her mandate, systematically include, as applicable, the human rights of women and girls in conflict and post-conflict situations that have been identified by the Security Council in the women and peace and security agenda in country-specific related work and relevant thematic reports, and encourages her to hold consultations with women human rights defenders, women's organizations and women peacebuilders;

6. *Encourages* all States to pay due attention to the recommendations of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and other treaty bodies relating to the human rights of women and girls in conflict and post-conflict situations, and encourages all relevant entities of the United Nations system to continue to assist States parties, upon the request of those States, in abiding by their international human rights obligations relating to women's and girls' rights at all times, including in armed conflict and post-conflict situations;

7. *Requests* the High Commissioner to present to the Human Rights Council, at its forty-eighth session, an analytical report, based on the contributions of States and other stakeholders, to be followed by an interactive dialogue, on the current state of play of the mainstreaming of the human rights of women and girls in conflict and post-conflict situations in the work of the Council, namely in relevant resolutions and in its mechanisms, with a view to making recommendations, as applicable, to States, Council mechanisms and relevant stakeholders.

*38th meeting
7 October 2020*

[Adopted without a vote.]