



Training Material Series

Second Handbook



Women, Peace and Security

UNSCR 1325

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Women, Peace and Security
UNSCR 1325

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Researcher
Lamyia Shalaldeh

Introduction

Based on our core belief in the right of every young person in Palestine and the world at large to live in dignity and build a sustainable future with safety, stability, and equality, the YWCA of Palestine decided to adopt UNSCR 2250 (since its first launch) as a method and strategy for empowering youth. This resolution is especially pertinent for our work, as it affirms the active role of young people in achieving international peace, security, and sustainable development. It calls on the need to develop policies and programs that contribute to providing due protection for the youth who constitute the majority of societies. The resolution also assigns responsibility and holds governments and civil society institutions accountable for enabling youth with tools to contribute effectively in sustainable development efforts. This requires integrating young men and women in their societies, improving the levels of education, and providing employment opportunities that meet their needs. Moreover, it calls for translating the goals of sustainable development in a way that acknowledges young people as building cadres in their societies.



This UN resolution calls on governments, civil society institutions and all concerned parties to build young and effective leaders capable of leading change. It acknowledges the vital role of young people as key partners in international development and advocacy processes and considers them fully capable to build a better future of peace, security, and liberation.

In October 2018, the YWCA of Palestine held its first International Youth Conference, titled *Youth Participate and Youth Decide: Towards Freedom and Justice*. The conference aimed to promote the awareness of young people around UNSCR 2250 and to give them the opportunity to discuss the resolution while supporting a process of building youth leadership in Palestine. The conference also highlighted the rights of young people to be actively engaged in decision-making. It urged the Palestinian Authority to build a common vision for a better future and to develop a national action plan in line with this resolution. It has become clear that young people need educational materials, practical mechanisms, and strategies for how to implement the resolution in the Palestinian context. Therefore, the YWCA of Palestine decided to take the second and strategic step to prepare a manual that would be accessible for young women and men, and to train groups and enable them with the tools and knowledge to train others on the use of this manual.

We dedicate this training manual to all young women and men in Palestine and the world at large. We affirm their fundamental, national, political, social, and economic rights. We greatly hope and fervently believe that the youth will benefit from this manual towards claiming their rights. Knowledge and awareness are the core foundations for liberation and peacebuilding.

I extend my sincere gratitude to the researcher, trainer and leading author of the manual (training material series), Ms. Lamya Shalaldeh. I also thank all of the YWCA team of staff and volunteers who largely contributed to the completion of this manual.

YWCA of Palestine National General Secretary,

Mira Rizeq

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First Section

Women, Peace and Security UNSCR 1325 and its comple- mentary Resolutions



First: Preamble¹

Countries affected by armed conflict, including those suffering from military occupation, have stood witness to widespread intensity of violence against civilians in general and women in particular. The images of women and girls during armed conflict have been among the main headlines in the media. The hardships they endure during conflict is used as one of the important means by which to highlight the extent of violations committed by the conflicting parties and demonstrate the extent of damage and suffering they cause. With that said, in the case of a truce, the possible end of conflict, or the period of negotiations, we find that women and girls become absent from the scenes. We do not see their representation at the negotiating table, nor do we see them in consultations for arranging the post-war phase or for building the states' institutions. Rather, we see that they get excluded from the decision-making process and the public sphere.

The political structures and institutions, particularly the legal/legislative systems and social structures, most often collapse during wars and armed conflict. This, in turn, exposes the weak and vulnerable groups to daily violations. In Palestine, the majority of the local population has lost job opportunities and livelihood resources during the ongoing siege, destruction and confiscation of lands. The rates of unemployment and poverty have been on the rise; forcing women to adopt strategies to deal with the situation in order to preserve and protect their families from hunger and poverty. Many have been obliged to take on inhumane and unsafe professions, especially in situations where their spouses are unable to provide the basic needs or fulfill their duties due to the repercussions of conflict, occupation and siege. In this respect, women have been laying hold of their historically assigned role, yet without officially being recognized.

Accordingly, the UN Security Council adopted, on October 31, 2000, resolution 1325 concerning women, peace and security. The resolution is based on human rights premises including the International Humanitarian Law, General Recommendation No. 30 of CEDAW, and General International Human Rights Law.

UNSCR 1325 deals with the reality of women and girls pre, during and post conflict. It stresses the importance of women's role in building international peace and security as embodied in the UN Security Council's strategy regarding the maintenance of international peace and security. The resolution renews the commitment of the UN Security Council and the international community to protect women and girls in times of armed conflict, disputes and occupation.²

Essentially, UNSCR 1325 aims to crystallize and develop a new legal vision. It urges for the adoption of working strategies that take into account the gender dimensions before, during and after armed conflict and occupation. The resolution also urges states to review the legislative, social, political, legal, cultural and economic frameworks towards ensuring the prevention of violence against women and girls, prosecuting perpetrators of crimes, and guaranteeing women's access to equity and justice without obstacles.

1 "Together for Peacebuilding" (A site for spreading the culture of peace and coexistence).

2 United Nations documents.



Manual Content

This handbook emanated from the YWCA of Palestine's years of experience in using international resolutions for the protection of women and girls during armed conflict and occupation. This project has gone beyond the preliminary work pertaining to the situation of women and girls affected by armed conflict. Rather, it incorporates a comprehensive vision within the framework of the international peace and security agenda. This vision prioritizes the protection of youth rights during armed conflict and occupation. It does so in accordance with the relevant international resolutions and based on the two main resolutions that emphasize on the call for protection during armed conflict - namely UNSCR 1325 and UNSCR 2250.

With this in mind, this handbook's contents concentrate on the theoretical part of the UNSCR 1325 pillars. It also proposes actions and practical activities to be followed - within the Palestinian context. This comprehensive work resulted from the practical experience we went through as trainers, administrators, and active youth groups from different regions, and with the support of our international and regional partners and fellow activists.

The handbook's contents piece together and analyze the meanings and tools contained in the United Nations Resolutions concerning the issues of women, peace, and security. They focus on UNSCR 1325 and its complementary resolutions and find ways to adapt them to the Palestinian context of living under occupation. They provide key information in a simple and understandable manner, so that users from different groups are able to use and adapt it according to their target needs. The four pillars of the "women, peace and security" agenda - namely participation, protection, prevention, and relief and recovery are presented, examined and explained.

Why this handbook on UNSCR 1325?

Since we are addressing the protection of youth rights in accordance with UNSCR 2250, this handbook confirms to trainers and facilitators that UNSCR 1325 is one of the main human rights references on protecting the rights of youth to incorporate in UNSCR 2250. Having a solid base of knowledge about the "women, peace and security" agenda before starting work on UNSCR 2250 is therefore necessary, given that both international resolutions widely intersect with the protection system. In addition, the United Nations considers UNSCR 1325 partly as a translation of UNSCR 2250.

The handbook also draws the trainers' and facilitators' attention towards building the training plan in a complementary and structural manner. Thereby, the work starts with legal and theoretical references, and proceeds with practical guidelines of UNSCR 2250 on "youth, peace, and security." While working on this handbook, it is important to refer to the first handbook, which includes terms and concepts to be used during training.



Second: The Pillars of UNSCR 13253

Participation in decision-making:⁴

UNSCR 1325 affirms the critical role of women in peacebuilding and security efforts especially in areas impacted by violent conflict and war at different levels.

First level: The participation of women in decision-making at the international level, including all operations, committees, and fact-finding missions representative of the UN and Security Council. This includes reviewing UN structures and adopting policies towards the full involvement and equal participation of women.

Second level: The participation of women in decision-making at the regional level, ensuring their representation in regional frameworks and bodies concerned with building international peace and security.

Third level: The participation of women in decision-making at the national level. This entails the highest level of engagement as it begins with State governance and goes on to representation within local committees, peasant committees, social and trade union movements, and student networks - on the basis that women must be fully represented in their places of residence, whether in the rural community, population centers, refugee and displaced persons camps, and major cities. The resolution also urges states to take measures and procedures towards transforming the prevailing culture. In addition to empowering women and building their capabilities in the field of public life, it calls for developing implementation frameworks to guarantee women's access to decision-making opportunities without social, economic, and political obstacles. Moreover, it stresses on the equal representation of women as active partners in the process of transitional justice, rebuilding peace, and in negotiation committees.

3 Arab Women Organization, Participation of women in the peace process and negotiations in the Arab world.

4 The source of the image is from a guidebook on UNSCR 1325, prepared by Kvinna Till Kvinna.

Prevention:

- Raising awareness of peacekeeping forces, the police, and the judiciary about the specificities pertaining to women in conflict and take measures to ensure their protection and commit to the rights of women and girls.
- Ensuring women and girls' needs during conflicts.
- Enhancing the role of women in field operations as military observers, civil police and human rights and humanitarian aid staff.
- Representing women from societies that have witnessed armed conflict to make their voices heard within the conflict resolution process and ensure their equal participation at all levels of decision-making to prevent and resolve conflicts and achieve sustainable peace.
- Early detecting and warning of any manifestations of violence committed against women through establishing early warning systems by which to monitor and document violations in an objective and accurate manner.
- Taking measures and procedures to prevent violence against women and monitor their implementation. Also, facilitate the process of women's equal access to reporting and receiving services, including preventive provisions pertaining to their needs therein. Also ensure that women and girls are involved in the early warning systems' documentation and implementation monitoring processes.
- Disseminating knowledge and information vis-à-vis protection means on a wide scale, and providing security forces with this information in order to facilitate women's access to preventive services.
- Integrating the principle of protection in what relates to women's economic, cultural, social, political and civil rights, and establish regulatory and legislative frameworks contributing to protecting these rights without prejudice to any of them.
- Obligating member states to establish legal frameworks and take measures and procedures by which to hold perpetrators of violence against women accountable and end the policy of impunity.
- The UN member States shall make every effort towards transforming the prevailing societal culture regarding women's issues, and take measures which would reshape societal awareness to ensure that women and girls are treated as equal citizens without discrimination.



- Ensuring that national mechanisms and operational structures are adequate to enhance the psychological and physical safety and security of women and girls. This can be achieved through opening centers to shelter battered women and providing psychosocial and economic rehabilitation services for women and girls who have been subjected to violations and violence, and reintegrate

them in the society. This includes opening rehabilitation centers for women involved in the resistance operations against the Occupation, and for female prisoners who were released, so as to protect their rights and ensure their access to opportunities and livelihoods for a natural reintegration.

Protection:

- UNSCR 1325 and General Recommendation No. 30 stresses on protecting women's rights during and after conflict, with a focus on integrating women in the specialized committees of the peacekeeping forces and UN missions. This is to ensure that relief programs reach all women, taking into account the gender dimensions, and formulating gender-sensitive intervention programs.
- The resolution urges states to take measures to ensure that women's specific needs related to reproductive health are met during and after conflict.
- The resolution urges to provide humanitarian aid to women and girls living in refugee camps, displaced persons, and vulnerable groups, provided that it meets their specific needs. The resolution also calls for providing services to women who have been subjected to violence during conflicts, whether sexual violence, physical violence, arrest without trial, enforced disappearance, or any other form of violence. UNSCR 1325 also urges to meet the needs of women and girls who have left the battlefields, and for the state to contribute to developing programs by which to reintegrate these groups.

Relief and Recovery:

The relief and recovery phase begins during the conflict, especially within refugee and displacement camps and besieged places. In these cases, women are often only recipients of service and relief and rather than partners in the planning process for relief and humanitarian intervention. Numerous international reports have proven the ineffectiveness of interventions due to the exclusion of women from participating in the discussions and process planning. In addition, according to international reports, many women who live in humanitarian conditions are exploited.

Third: UNSCR 1325 and its Complementary International Resolutions

UNSCR 1820 of 2000:

This resolution is a complementary resolution to and reinforces what was stipulated in UNSCR 1325, interlinking that sexual violence is a tool of war regarding women, peace and security issues. It explicitly highlights that sexual violence during conflicts constitutes a war crime. In addition, it calls all armed conflict parties to immediately take appropriate actions to protect civilians from sexual violence, including training of forces, and enforcing disciplinary actions.

UNSCR 1888 of 2009:

This resolution reaffirms the commitment of UNSCR 1820, and mandates peace-keeping missions to protect women and children from sexual violence during armed conflict. It also requests the Secretary-General to appoint a Special Representative concerned on sexual violence during armed conflict (Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict). In addition, it deals in detail with the issue of sexual violence during armed conflicts. It recognizes that the conflicting parties use women's bodies as types of weapons and a war tactic according to systematic policies in order to eliminate the other party, or to obtain security information, or to use women for the transfer of information or other needs the parties require in armed conflicts.

Furthermore, the UN Resolution urges member states of the United Nations on the necessity of preventing sexual violence as a basis for building and maintaining International Peace and Security, as sexual violence constitutes a war crime under Rome Charter, which is an impermissible crime. It also urges member states of the United Nations to take all measures and actions to prevent sexual violence and persecute perpetrators of such crimes. UNSCR 1888 also stresses the need to take preventive actions to prevent gender-based violence, provide special protection for women and girls during and after conflicts, and urges states to impose strict military penalties for this type of crime.



UNSCR 1820 provides a mechanism for monitoring and revealing violations. It also provides the UN Security Council with information about what happens during armed conflicts as stipulated in UNSCR 1325 regarding the Secretary-General establishment of a mechanism for the periodic reports submitted to the UN Security Council. This, in turn, contributes in supervising current developments and taking appropriate measures commensurate with what is occurring in the fighting arenas, conflicts or occupation.

The UN Security Council completes the strategy for maintaining peace and security by responding to what happens during conflicts. It takes UNSCR 1888 as a complementary step which will contribute in implementing and executing UNSCR 1820. UNSCR 1888 emphasizes a fundamental issue related to terminating the policy of impunity and prosecuting perpetrators as a key factor in terminating armed conflict and moving forward towards a transitional justice path.

UNSCR 1989 of 2009:

UNSCR 1989 addresses the issue of excluding women from active participation in peace-building, recovery operations, and decision-making. Therefore, the resolution urges member states to submit reports to the Secretary-General. These reports shall reflect the progress level in the implementation of UNSCR 1325. This includes reports and indicators that can be measured in order to serve as a basic instrument for reporting to the United Nations agencies, regional and national bodies to build a database regarding the extent of women's participation in decision-making. Also, the resolution urges states in the United Nations to take all appropriate measures to increase the participation of women in decision-making.

UNSCR 1960 of 2010:

This resolution reaffirms and amplifies the Women, Peace and Security agenda in combating violence through building a system of accountability for violations related to sexual violence committed during armed conflicts. UNSCR 1960 calls for adopting policies and measures to organize monitoring and reporting processes that will increase the efficiency of tracking and dealing with the imminent sexual violence violations that are categorized as war crimes.

UNSCR 1960 also calls on international, regional and national bodies to provide reports and information disclosing this type of crime. Furthermore, it indicates that the Special Representative of the Secretary-General is to share all pertinent information about sexual violence in its report, and to include in the annual reports detailed information on parties that are credibly suspected of committing or being responsible for shameful crimes of sexual violence. Furthermore, the resolution authorizes the Secretary-General to take procedures and sanctions against groups and parties that commit crimes.

UNSCR 2106:

This resolution affirms that all Member States and United Nations entities must do more to implement previous mandates and combat impunity for sexual violence crimes. Also, UNSCR 2106 stresses the importance of gender equality and the political, social and economic

empowerment of women to prevent sexual violence during armed conflict and post-conflict situations.

UNSCR 2122:

The UNSCR 2122 stresses the accountability of Member States regarding the implementation of UNSCR 1325, and the importance of involving women in all stages of conflict prevention, resolution, and recovery. Furthermore, it urges states to put an end to the policy of impunity and prosecute perpetrators of crimes which constitute a grave violation of the International Humanitarian Law.

UNSCR 2242 of 2015:

UNSCR 2242 is a response to the developments taking place at the global level. These developments include the challenges facing the current global context concerning the spread of the phenomenon of violent extremism, climate change, and continuation of the occupation and conflict; all of which resulted in unprecedented numbers of displaced people and refugees. Also, it reaffirms close relations between integrating women as active partners in the political decision-making process and building international peace and security. In addition, it urges states to integrate gender within all processes related to the international context, as well as to conduct gender analysis for all processes towards ending conflicts.⁵

Second Section

Learning Activities

Women, Peace and Security: UNSCR 1325 and its complementary Resolutions



Practical activities

Session #1

Subject: International Peace and Security Agenda.

Duration: One hour.

Training needs: Pens and papers.

Training methods: Theoretical presentation, general discussion, and a summary.

Objective of the session: Recognizing the international peace and security agenda and its relevant international entities.

Session progress steps:

First Activity: Make a theory-based presentation

- The trainer starts with an intensive theoretical presentation on the importance of activating the international peace and security agenda.
- The trainer asks the participants questions about the wars' effects on the lives of civilians.
- The trainer starts writing all notes on the flipchart and discusses them with the participants in detail.

Second Activity:

Working group (*See worksheet #1*)

Exercise One: The trainer divides the room into four working groups.

Exercise Two: The trainer distributes worksheets to the groups.

Exercise Three: The trainer requests the groups to read, analyze, summarize, and present the worksheets.

Exercise Four: The groups present the results of their work and link these results with UNSCR 1325 and UNSCR 2250.

General Summary and Discussion:

See the supporting attachments (worksheet).

Session outputs:

- Participants will have basic knowledge about the international peace and security agenda as launched by the United Nations and intersected with the UN Security Council strategy.
- Participants will have basic knowledge about the wars' effects on civilians' lives, and the importance of addressing such violations.
- Participants will become aware of the importance and necessity of using international mechanisms for prosecuting perpetrators and putting an end to impunity.
- Participants will be able to develop collective and individual responsibility for spreading the culture of peace and human rights based on achieving the rights stipulated in the international conventions.

Main focus points:

- Referring in detail to the peace and security agenda.
- Referring to the UN Security Council strategy for maintaining international peace and security.
- Reviewing reports that show the effects of wars, armed conflicts, and occupation on youth and sustainable development, and their significance for the future.
- All the aforementioned requires prior preparation and in-depth readings concerning the presented topics.

Session #2

Subject: UN Security Council's Role in Maintaining International Peace and Security

Duration: Two hours.

Training needs: Pens, papers, flipchart, colored papers, and worksheet.

Training methods: Brainstorming, worksheet, and working groups.

Session's objective: To have knowledge about the Security Council's role and working mechanisms for maintaining international peace and security.

Session progress steps:

First Activity: Theoretical introduction

The trainer introduces the **UN Security Council** as a major body of the United Nations, and highlights its role, strategies and **working mechanisms** for the maintenance of international peace and security.

The trainer will also include in the presentation the nature of the **peace and security agenda**, and the states' position in adhering to the UN Security Council Resolutions.

Second Activity: Studying the worksheet

Participants will be divided into working groups. The trainer will distribute the worksheet as per "one of the UN Security Council sessions" and ask the participants to study the paper. Each group will make a special conclusion about the UN Security Council's role in maintaining international peace and security. Participants will also write down the most prominent points concerning the UN Security Council's role and its working mechanisms, as well as compare between the Palestinian young people's reality vis-à-vis what is proposed. Finally, the group members will write down the outputs on the flipchart and choose one spokesperson to present on their behalf.

Third Activity: Presentation and Discussion

One by one, each group will make a presentation while the trainer takes notes on both the content and style.

When all presentations are done, the trainer opens the room for discussion, while he/she summarizes the main points.

Session outputs:

- Participants will have basic knowledge about the UN Security Council's mission and role in maintaining international peace and security.
- Participants will have the necessary knowledge on the UN Security Council's work

mechanisms and their follow-up on peace and security issues at the United Nations' member states' level.

- The participants will understand the broader dimensions and implications of building international peace and security.

Main focus points:

- Reviewing the United Nations' main bodies, in order to distinguish and differentiate between their functions.
- Reviewing the peace and security agenda and the UN Security Council strategy.
- Reviewing the UN Security Council's past experiences related to maintaining international peace and security.
- Reviewing the UN Security Council's working mechanism.

Review these supporting papers and attachments at the end of the handbook:

- UN Security Council's working mechanism.
- Peace and security agenda.
- One of the UN Security Council's sessions (*Provide a link for the sessions or attach supporting examples*).

Session #3

Subject: UN Security Council Resolutions, UN-SCR 1325 and its Complementary Resolutions (Women and Armed Conflict)

Duration: One hour.

Training needs: Pens, papers, and copies of the UNSCR 1325.

Training methods: Brainstorming and discussion.

Session's objective: Recognizing the nature of armed conflicts and their effects on the lives of women and girls.

Session progress steps:

First Activity: Brainstorming

- The trainer starts with a quick presentation and summary on the effects of armed conflicts on civilians, fragile and vulnerable groups.
- The trainer stresses the importance of providing special protection for civilians, especially women, girls and children as per the provisions of International Humanitarian Law.
- The trainer explains the concept of resolutions launched by the UN Security Council, the commitment level of states, and the difference between a resolution and convention.

Second Activity: Questions and Discussion

The trainer asks the participants direct questions, and writes them on the flipchart. The questions include:

- Is the impact of armed conflicts and wars on the lives of women and girls different from their impact on the lives of men?
- What are the differences between the impact of armed conflicts and wars on the lives of women vs. on the lives of men? Indicate specific examples.
- When are these impacts clearly visible: before, during, or after armed conflicts? Or is it during the relief and reconstruction phases, or during the transitional justice process?
- The answers of participants will be written on the flipchart. The trainer will summarize the discussion with a focus on the following points:
- Gender sensitivity during armed conflicts and wars.
- Conflict affects women and girls differently than other groups (due to gender).

- The change of the international community's view regarding women in armed conflict, and the recognition of women's role in ending conflict.
- The trainer will give space for participants to ask questions and share their observations and clarifications.

Session outputs:

- Participants will become acquainted with the impacts of armed conflicts on the lives of women and girls as per the international resolutions.
- Participants will have knowledge about the tools for assessing the reality of women and girls during wars and armed conflict.
- Participants will develop the skills of detecting the impacts of armed conflicts on the lives of women and girls through different phases, and determine whether they happen pre, during, or post conflict.

Main Focus points:

- Armed conflicts have long-lasting impacts on women and girls.
- Violence against women increases during armed conflicts due to the breakdown of social and institutional systems, and protection structures.
- The bodies of women and girls are often used as weapons during armed conflicts and wars. This is due to the gender and social stereotypical image that prevails in the community culture regarding women and girls.
- The evident transformation regarding women and girls' reality during armed conflicts, and the recognition that they are active partners in peacebuilding and the processes of terminating conflict.
- The widespread view of international covenants has evolved from associating the special protection of women and girls with biologic standards (as in the International Humanitarian Law), to recognizing women and girls as active and vital partners in building peace, international institutions, and protection frameworks.

Session #4

Subject: UNSCR 1325 on Women, Peace and Security

Duration: Two hours.

Training needs: Pens, notebooks, flipchart, and copies of the UNSCR 1325.

Training methods: Theoretical introduction, working groups, and discussion.

Session's objective: Understanding the content of UNSCR 1325.

Session progress steps:

First Activity: Theoretical Introduction

- The trainer introduces UNSCR 1325, its launching date, the grounds for it being launched from the UN Security Council, and the added value and important measures that the international resolution included.
- The trainer points to the issues that UNSCR 1325 and its complementary resolutions focused on, and the gaps they addressed.
- The trainer refers to the parties concerned in protecting women and girls in armed conflicts, as well as the responsibility of activating the implementation of the international resolutions.
- The trainer presents the framework and legal and human rights references for UNSCR 1325, CEDAW and the General Recommendation No. 30, International Humanitarian Law, and Human Rights Law.

Second Activity: Working Groups

- The trainer divides the participants into four working groups.
- With clear and large letters on the flipchart, the trainer writes the pillars of the international resolution (namely: Participation, protection, prevention, relief and recovery, and reconstruction).
- The trainer gives the groups half an hour to discuss and analyze one of the pillars. The groups will write the main points on the pillar's framework of protecting the rights of women during the phases of armed conflict, while referring to the conflict's impact on the lives of women and girls.
- The trainer must ensure that the group members write their notes on the flipchart, and choose a representative to present on behalf of each group.
- The trainer asks the participants to return to their seats so as to start the presentation process. The representatives will then present the groups' results and outputs.

- The trainer takes notes if needed, and guides the discussion during the presentations.

Third Activity: Brainstorming

- After completing the group presentations, the trainer asks participants to comment on the groups' work and to add what they seem appropriate.
- The trainer leads a discussion on the points of agreement and difference between groups, while adding the needed information in order to clarify the issues according to the women, peace and security agenda.
- The trainer extensively summarizes the themes of UNSCR1325 and highlights the importance of women's role in the peacemaking process.

Session Outputs:

- Participants will become acquainted with UNSCR 1325 and have accurate information about the impact of armed conflict on the lives of women and girls.
- Participants will know about the parties (official bodies and civil society) concerned with the implementation and application of the resolution.
- Participants will have skills to deal with the UN Security Council Resolution and link it to the relevant international frameworks.

Main focus points:

- The right to participate in decision-making is a basic right guaranteed in international charters and national laws.
- The concerned parties shall remove the obstacles and challenges facing and preventing women and girls from participating in decision-making.
- The state must take the necessary measures and procedures to protect women and girls from gender-based violence.
- The state must take proactive steps to protect women from violence.
- Ensure that workers in the justice and security sector are trained on gender issues.
- We cannot achieve peace without acknowledging the role of women as active partners in the process of terminating armed conflicts.
- Long-lasting peace cannot be achieved without ensuring women's participation in conflict resolution processes and recognizing their role as active partners.
- UNSCR 1325 addresses the reality of women pre, during, and post armed conflict.

Worksheet (1)

Worksheet (1): Peace and Conflict Resolution^{6*}

The United Nations Charter notes that the United Nations was founded to “save succeeding generations from the scourge of war.” Tragically, there have been over 250 armed conflicts since the Charter was signed in 1946. Sustainable Development Goal 16: Promote Just, Peaceful, and Inclusive Societies, calls for all Member States to promote peaceful co-existence among people. Some of its primary targets include reducing arms flows and combatting organized crime, as well as significantly reducing all forms of violence worldwide.

Today more than 600 million young people live in volatile and conflict-prone areas. Young people are disproportionately affected by the multiple and often interlinked forms of violence such as political violence, organized crime and terrorist attacks which exact human, social and economic costs. In the past decade, the recruitment of young people into violent and extremist groups has led some to view youth as a threat to global security and stability. However, research shows that the number of young people who actively participate in violence is a small minority, while the vast majority of youth are not prone to violence, despite the injustices, deprivations and abuse they can confront daily, particularly in conflict zones. Moreover, a growing body of evidence suggests that they can and do play active roles as agents of positive and constructive change, and the recently adopted Security Council Resolution 2250 on Youth, Peace and Security highlights this fact. It is a formal recognition of the positive role youth can play in the maintenance of international peace and security.

The maintenance of global peace and security is a cross cutting issue that is critical to achieving all the Sustainable Development Goals. Several UN offices are involved in the promotion and maintenance of international peace and security including: the Security Council, General Assembly, Secretary-General, Departments of Peacekeeping Operations, Field Support and Political Affairs and the Peacebuilding Support Office. Universities and institutions of higher learning are also important actors because they educate future leaders and peacemakers, who will shape the course of peace building in the world⁷.

Reforming Peacekeeping^{8*}:

In the more than seventy years of its existence, UN Peacekeeping has evolved significantly as a tool of international crisis response.

UN Peacekeeping has proven to be an essential instrument for global peace and security over the years. Our fourteen peacekeeping operations around the world today illustrate the wide range of mechanisms, strategies and resources that the United Nations marshals in support of peace and security.

In recent years, however, our missions have been deployed to increasingly difficult and complex

6 * United Nations academic impact. Peace and Conflict Resolution. <https://academicimpact.un.org/content/peace-and-conflict-resolution>

7 Ibid.

8 * United Nations Peacekeeping. Reforming Peacemaking. <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/reforming-peacekeeping>

environments, even as demand for peacekeeping has increased. Our core business processes have not kept up with these demands. Mandate implementation is hindered by slow, unresponsive service delivery, micro-management by governing bodies, a trust deficit with Member States and with staff, inadequate resourcing of and ineffective implementation of mandates and a lack of transparency and accountability.

Action for Peacekeeping (A4P)^{9*}

Peacekeeping is one of the most effective tools available to the United Nations in the promotion and maintenance of international peace and security. Yet peacekeeping faces several challenges that undermine its ability to deliver on its mandates. Political solutions are often absent, and missions seem to have mandates that lack focus and clear priorities. Complex threats in several environments are causing a rise in fatalities and injuries of peacekeepers, and missions have sometimes lacked the personnel and equipment to meet these threats. Peacekeeping operations have also faced challenges in delivering on protection mandates and in contributing to long-term, sustainable peace, and in achieving coherence with other actors operating in the same contexts.

To respond to these challenges, the Secretary-General launched Action for Peacekeeping (A4P) to renew mutual political commitment to peacekeeping operations. The Secretary-General has called on Member States to join him in developing a set of mutually agreed principles and commitments to create peacekeeping operations fit for the future, with the goal of reaching a formal agreement by the end of 2018.

Reform in 2017^{10*}

Secretary-General António Guterres has proposed reforms in the United Nations peace and security architecture, in the UN's management system and structures, as well as in the UN development system.

His vision of the reform of peace operations places politics at the center of our work. It has the overall objective of reducing fragmentation for better delivery, to make the peace and security pillar more coherent, nimble and effective by prioritizing prevention, sustaining peace and delivery on Agenda 2030.

A series of strategic reviews of major peacekeeping operations have also been initiated which will focus on assessing the presence of conditions for successful mandate implementation with a view to recommending adjustments to the Security Council. Parameters of assessment for the reviews will include the relevance and pertinence of mandates, the political environment and will of key parties, our operations' comparative advantage vis-à-vis regional, UN and other partners, and the configuration of support for the mission.

These reviews will identify ideas for new, enhanced peacekeeping approaches and will strengthen our cooperation for prevention through early action, as opposed to merely reacting to outbreaks of violence.

9 * Ibid.

10 * Ibid.

High-Level Independent Panel on UN Peace Operations^{11*}

Former Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon established a High-level Independent Panel on UN Peace Operations on 31 October 2014, to make a comprehensive assessment of the state of UN peace operations today, and the emerging needs of the future. Announcing the decision, the Secretary-General said that "the world is changing and UN peace operations must change with it if they are to remain an indispensable and effective tool in promoting international peace and security." With the 15-year anniversary of the Brahimi report approaching, the Secretary-General felt that it was necessary to again take stock of evolving expectations of UN peacekeeping and how the Organization can work toward a shared view of the way forward.

The 16-member Panel was chaired by Mr. Jose Ramos-Horta (Timor-Leste) with Ms. Ameerah Haq (Bangladesh) as Vice-Chair. It drew together a wide range of experience and expertise.

The Panel considered a broad range of issues facing peace operations, including the changing nature of conflict, evolving mandates, good offices and peacebuilding challenges, managerial and administrative arrangements, planning, partnerships, human rights and protection of civilians. The review encompasses both UN peacekeeping operations as well as special political missions, which are referred to collectively as "UN peace operations." The Secretary-General received the Panel's report on 16 June 2015. The Secretary will study the recommendations of the report carefully and transmit it to the General Assembly and the Security Council.

New Horizon^{12*}

The New Horizon process was initiated in 2009 to:

- Assess the major policy and strategy dilemmas facing UN Peacekeeping today and over the coming years; and
- Reinvigorate the ongoing dialogue with stakeholders on possible solutions to better calibrate UN Peacekeeping to meet current and future requirements.

A New Partnership Agenda: Charting a New Horizon for UN Peacekeeping is an internal document prepared as part of the "New Horizon" process of developing a forward agenda for UN Peacekeeping. It reflects both the perspectives of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) and the Department of Field Support (DFS).

The paper, which was released to Member States and peacekeeping partners in July 2009, supported a reinvigorated dialogue with the aim of forging a peacekeeping policy agenda that reflects the perspectives of all stakeholders in the global peacekeeping partnership. Building on previous peacekeeping reform efforts, the paper highlighted achievements in improving the peacekeeping tool and identified outstanding, as well as new, dilemmas that require the attention of the peacekeeping partnership. Key elements of the paper were taken up by the Secretary-General in his Report to the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations [A/64/573]. These have informed formal and informal deliberations among members of the peacekeeping partnership to help crystallize a common vision of the requirements to bolster peacekeeping to more effectively fulfill its role in support of international peace and security¹³.

¹¹ Ibid.

¹² Ibid.

¹³ United Nations Peacekeeping, Reforming Peacemaking. <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/reforming-peacekeeping> (IBID).

Worksheet (2)

UN Security Council and the United Nations Main Bodies

The United Nations Security Council, abbreviated as the Council; [1] known in the media as the UN Security Council, is one of the most important bodies of the United Nations. The Security Council has primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, in accordance with Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter. The UN Security Council has legal authority over the Member States' governments, so its resolutions are binding on member states (Article 4 of the Charter).

The Security Council met for the first time on January 17, 1946. It then held several sessions in various cities around the world, until the Security Council took permanent residence at the United Nations Headquarters in New York City.

Members:

The UN Security Council consists of 15 members, of which five are permanent members: [5] China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States. These were the great powers, [2] that were the victorious in World War II. Permanent members can veto any substantive resolution. Also, they headed the top list of countries' military spending. [3] The number of non-permanent members increased from six to ten in 1965 when the UN charter was amended.

The General Assembly elects the non-permanent members of the Council for two-year terms. Five members are replaced every year. The five permanent members of the Council shall select non-permanent members, and the United Nations General Assembly shall approve them.

In 2013, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia refused to accept non-permanent membership in the UN Security Council. The Saudi Ministry of Foreign Affairs issued a statement stating that "the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia believes that the manner, the mechanisms of action and double standards existing in the Security Council prevent it from performing its duties and assuming its responsibilities towards preserving international peace and security as required." [7] In addition, the statement indicated other reasons, such as that the Palestinian cause remained without solution, and "the failure of the Security Council to make the Middle East a free zone of all weapons of mass destruction, whether because of its inability to subdue the nuclear programs of all countries in the region, without exception, to the international control and inspection or to prevent any country in the region from possessing nuclear weapons." [7] Russia criticized the Saudi decision, as the Russian Foreign Ministry expressed that this refusal means that "Saudi Arabia has removed itself from the collective work of the UN Council to support international peace and security." [8] As for France, it announced that it shared Saudi Arabia's frustration and suggested reforming the Security Council's veto power. [9] A spokeswoman for the US State Department considered the Saudi decision a "private matter." In 2017, Kuwait won a non-permanent member seat at the UN Security Council and held its new position for a two-year term beginning in January 2018.

Voting procedures

Each member of the Council has one vote, and decisions on procedural matters are taken by the approval of at least nine of the 15 members. Decisions on substantive matters require nine votes, including the votes of all five permanent member states. This special voting power is known as the "right to veto." According to the Charter, all United Nations members shall agree to accept and implement Security Council resolutions. The Security Council is the only organ of the United Nations that has the power to take decisions, in which member states are obliged to implement under the Charter, while other UN bodies present recommendations to governments. Also, it is organized so that it can work without interruption. A representative of each of its members shall be present at the United Nations Headquarters at all times.

The first summit meeting of the Council was held at Headquarters on January 31, 1992. Heads of State and Government of 13 of its 15 members and the Foreign Ministers of the other two members attended the summit meeting. The Council may meet in a place other than its headquarters. In 1972, a session was held in Addis Ababa in Ethiopia, and in the following year a session took place in Panama City.

The UN Security Council has the right investigate any situation or dispute threatening international peace, and recommend procedures for peaceful resolution of a dispute, when a complaint is brought to the council regarding the existence of any threat to peace. Also, it may appoint special representatives or request the Secretary-General to do so, as well set principles appropriate for settlement.

The Council is concerned with ending any conflict, when it leads to fighting as soon as possible. On several occasions, the UN Security Council launched ceasefire instructions that were crucial to preventing further fighting. It also sends UN peacekeepers to help reduce tension in trouble spots, as well as separate the fighting forces and create conditions of calm, under which the search for peaceful settlements can take place. The council may decide to take enforcement measures, economic sanctions (such as trade embargoes) or collective military action.

The General Assembly may suspend that state's enjoyment of membership rights and privileges, based on the Council's recommendation, if the Security Council takes preventive or enforcement action against a member state. The General Assembly may exclude a member state from the United Nations, upon the recommendation of the Council, if that member state has repeated violations of the charter's principles.

Any member of the United Nations that is not a member of the Security Council has the right to participate in the Council's discussions, without the right to vote, if the Council considers that its interests are vulnerable. Both members and non-member states of the United Nations, if they are parties to a dispute under consideration by Security the Council, are invited to participate in its discussions, without the right to vote; the Council shall lay down the conditions as it deems for the participation of the non-member state. The member states of the Council rotate presidency on a monthly basis, following the English alphabetical order of the names¹⁴.

Appendices:

Supporting attachments:

A special link to the UN Security Council and contractual committees' sessions, which can be attended directly - noted that the meetings are not held continuously but as based on the member states' needs and requests.

<https://webtv.un.org/meetings-events/human-rights-treaty-bodies/>

<https://webtv.un.org/live/>

Supporting Films Page for the Second Handbook Training Sessions.

Second Section, Educational Activities. "Women, Peace, and Security"/ Practical Activities, First session, Page 18.

Topic: The International Peace and Security Agenda.

Short Film Screening.

The trainer must present a short film regarding the Peace and Security Agenda:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W-Hnmiglxw>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dkGd70KpBng>

The trainer opens up discussion about the film and the importance of activating the UN Peace and Security Agenda.

During the discussion, the trainer refers to wars and armed conflicts' impact on the lives of civilians, and clarifies the special protection under international law provisions. The trainer must listen attentively to the groups' inquiries and questions and write them on the flipchart.

Third Activity: The trainer focuses the discussion on the Peace and Security Agenda, and its connection to the United Nations Bodies and the UN Security Council. Page 20.

Following the documentary film screening, the trainer makes an extensive summary regarding the issues raised/addressed during the discussion.

About the YWCA of Palestine

The YWCA of Palestine is a membership-based non-governmental national women's association. It is affiliated with the World YWCA, which has a special consultative status at the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). Accordingly, the world movement and all its members abide by the United Nations resolutions and the sustainable development goals related to youth and women.

The YWCA of Palestine initiated in 1893 by informal groups of Christian women in Jaffa and was formally established in Jerusalem in 1918.

The YWCA of Palestine consists of four local associations located in Jerusalem, Ramallah, Jericho, and Bethlehem, in addition to the two multi-activity centers at the refugee camps of Jalazoune and Aqbat Jaber.



Vision:

Women, especially young women as decision-makers, are agents of change and leaders in a society where equality, freedom, tolerance, justice, peace and dignity are promoted.



Mission

The YWCA of Palestine empowers women and youth to demand, exercise and protect their economic, social and political rights.



The Thematic Areas of Work:

- Leadership Development and Civic Engagement.
- Economic Justice.
- Just Peace, as instilled in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

YWCA of Palestine

