



WHAT IS RESOLUTION 1325?

Women, peace and security – those are the focal points for the resolution, which the UN Security Council adopted in October 2000. The resolution focuses on the fact that women should have more influence and that they should actively participate when conflicts are prevented and when societies are rebuilt after war and conflict.

Resolution 1325 lifts women as central actors for sustainable peace and security. At the same time it recognises that women are particularly vulnerable in conflict, for instance because sexual violence is used against women as a weapon of war.

The resolution also stresses that sustainable peace is impossible without women's participation. Therefore it is critical that all UN member states work in the spirit of the resolution.

Important Paragraphs from the Resolution

§1 Include more women at all decisionmaking levels of national, regional and international institutions to prevent, handle and resolve conflicts.

§3 Appoint more women as mediators. Member states are encouraged to nominate candidates to the Secretary General for a regularly updated list.

§8 Include a gender perspective in negotiations and peace agreements focusing on women's needs and rights in the post-conflict reconstruction phase.

Facts

It is not up to an individual member state to decide whether to follow a UN resolution. A resolution from the UN Security Council is binding for all member states.

Necessary steps to achieve change:

REPRESENTATION Women and women's organisations are the driving forces behind peace work all over the world. Despite this fact, men dominate the official peace work. Women continue to be excluded from political, social, economic and legal processes before, during and after conflict. Every member state should work to get rid of the obstacles for women's participation and representation.

PROSECUTE PERPETRATORS During conflict warring parties expose women to sexual violence and torture. The perpetrators remain unpunished. Impunity for crimes against women must stop and courts, prosecutors and police must be educated in gender issues. Laws that discriminate women must be rewritten so that justice for both men and women becomes a reality.

EDUCATION In order to reach gender justice before, during and after conflict it is not enough to only increase the number of women in the peace process. All civil and military personnel must be educated in gender issues. This would bring an end to the gender blindness characterising work within the peace- and security field.

ANALYSE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN MEN'S AND WOMEN'S INFLUENCE Gender equality must be brought up on the agenda in all aspects of the peace process. But first it is necessary to thoroughly scrutinise the miles-wide difference between men's and women's access to, as well as power and influence over peace and security work.

WHAT IS OPERATION 1325?

Power to women in peace processes – that is the goal of Operation 1325. By cooperating with women's organisations we aim to make reality of UN resolution 1325 – about women, peace and security. We are an umbrella organisation for five member organisations. Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, UN Women Sweden, The Swedish Federation of Immigrant Women's Associations and the Swedish Ecumenical Council. We also cooperate with the Swedish Women's Lobby.

www.operation1325.se