

GUIDEBOOK ON CEDAW GENERAL  
RECOMMENDATION NO. 30 AND  
THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS  
ON WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY



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NO. 30 AND THE UN SECURITY  
COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS ON  
WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY



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# ACRONYMS

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<b>CEDAW</b>	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
<b>GR30</b>	General Recommendation No. 30 on women in conflict prevention, conflict and post-conflict situations
<b>NAP</b>	National Action Plan (on WPS)
<b>OP</b>	Operational paragraph
<b>SEA</b>	Sexual exploitation and abuse
<b>UNSG</b>	UN Secretary-General
<b>UNSCR</b>	UN Security Council resolution
<b>UPR</b>	Universal Periodic Review
<b>WPS</b>	Women, peace and security

## SECTION 1

# INTRODUCTION

The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (the Convention) and the United Nations Security Council resolutions (UNSCRs) on Women, Peace and Security (WPS) have established important obligations for the protection of women's human rights and achievement of gender equality relative to issues of international peace and security.

The adoption by the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (the Committee) of General Recommendation No. 30 on women in conflict prevention, conflict and post-conflict situations (GR30) in October 2013 strengthened and made clear the applicability of the Convention to a diverse range of settings affected by conflict and political crises. It also set out and affirmed the Convention's linkages with the UN Security Council's WPS agenda. Brought together, they offer a substantive framework to ensure that gender equality becomes integral to conflict prevention, peacebuilding and post-conflict reconstruction and accountability.

The purpose of this Guidebook is to increase knowledge on both sets of frameworks and expand understanding of how the Convention and the WPS resolutions can be implemented in congruent ways and used to strengthen and reinforce each instrument's efficacy. The Guidebook provides an overview of the reporting and monitoring mechanisms inherent to both GR30 and the WPS resolutions, in order to enhance accountability for both frameworks. It provides guidance on how implementation of GR30 and the WPS resolutions can strengthen and reinforce each other, in particular through reporting.

## HOW TO USE THIS GUIDEBOOK

The Guidebook is organized into distinctive sections to enable users to access discrete information and guidance that is of most relevance to their work, as well as to read and use the Guidebook in its entirety. The Guidebook is organized as follows:

- Section 1: Introduction
- Section 2: Overview of CEDAW General Recommendation No. 30 and the UN Security Council WPS Resolutions
- Section 3: The Content of General Recommendation No. 30 and the WPS Resolutions
- Section 4: Accountability and Reporting

## SECTION 2

# OVERVIEW OF CEDAW GENERAL RECOMMENDATION NO. 30 AND THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL WPS RESOLUTIONS

This section provides an overview of the background to CEDAW General Recommendation No. 30 and the UN Security Council WPS resolutions. It can be used to glean knowledge on the adoption of these frameworks, their significance and overall focus.

## BACKGROUND TO CEDAW AND GENERAL RECOMMENDATION NO. 30

The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women is central to the realization of women's human rights. The Convention constitutes an international bill of rights for women. It creates binding legal obligations regarding women's equal enjoyment with men of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights. The Convention requires States parties to eliminate discrimination against women (which is defined in Article 1 of the Convention, outlined in Box 1) in the public as well as the private sphere, including within the family. The Convention was adopted by the UN General Assembly

implement the Convention. The Committee is composed of 23 experts who serve four-year terms and serve in a personal capacity.

### BOX 1

#### Defining Discrimination

Article 1 of the Convention defines discrimination as "any distinction, exclusion or restriction made on the basis of sex which has the effect or purpose of impairing or nullifying the recognition, enjoyment or exercise by women, irrespective of their marital status, of rights guaranteed in the Convention."

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