

COVID-19

GNWP Mitigation and Adaptation Strategy and Appeal

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Country Update

Germany

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As of June 12, 2020, 185,674 COVID-19 cases were registered in Germany, including 8,763 deaths.

In order to avoid the spread of COVID-19, social distancing rules still apply, but vary from state to state. Many daycare facilities remain closed; adversely affecting women who traditionally take on more care responsibilities. Schools started to gradually reopen, but must follow strict hygiene and distancing measures. Women make up the majority of employees in supermarkets, pharmacies and drug stores, which have remained open throughout the pandemic.

Women constitute the majority of frontline healthcare workers in Germany. At the beginning of the pandemic, there was a shortage of appropriate masks, medical gear, and test kits in hospitals and care facilities.

The Ministry for Family, Seniors, Women and Youth launched an initiative against domestic violence in times of COVID-19. The campaign, "Zuhause nicht sicher?" (Not Safe at Home?) partners with eight major retailers, providing support and contact information for those experiencing gender-based violence at home. Posters can be seen in over 26,000 supermarkets across the country. According to the first study on the impact of COVID-19 on violence against women and children in Germany, 3% of women have experienced physical violence and 3.6% have been raped during the time of these strict contact regulations. 6.5% of children have been punished with violence.

The Bundeswehr, the German military, is now involved in some measures against the spread of COVID-19, within the country and abroad. This critical step may lead to even further militarization in Germany.

The lack of space and privacy has caused mass outbreaks of COVID-19 in several refugee camps in Germany. Although Germany continues to receive refugees, including unaccompanied minors from camps in Greece, the overall numbers remain low. Children have to spend their first two weeks upon arrival in quarantine, even if experiencing traumatization.

There is an increase in fake news and conspiracy theories in the German media landscape. So-called "hygiene demonstrations" take place in Berlin and other German cities to protest the social distancing rules. Some of the protestors belong to different groups with extremist views.

Impact on women, peace and security:

Germany plans to launch its third NAP on UNSCR 1325 this year. Many government agencies have moved their work online in recent months. Since March 2020, the German government has moved consultations with the civil society network Bündnis 1325 (Alliance 1325) online. The network has launched its [recommendation paper](#) for the third NAP.

It is very likely that public events linked to celebrating the 20th anniversary of UNSCR 1325 will be postponed or cancelled.