

# Action Plan of the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany on the Implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security for the Period 2017 – 2020

## Introduction

Peace, security and sustainable development around the world are central concerns of German foreign, security and development policy. The multitude of crises and violent conflicts that the world faces at present, some of them immediately neighbouring Europe, also present major challenges to Germany. They have unleashed refugee and migrant streams around the world. Human rights violations are both a frequent consequence and a frequent cause of violent conflicts. Overcoming these multi-layered crises and violent conflicts is a pressing challenge that demands a comprehensive and forward-looking approach, which is what Germany stands for: from prevention to conflict resolution, stabilisation, peacebuilding and reconstruction, to post-conflict rehabilitation and post-conflict peacebuilding.

The role of women in conflict and war is often viewed solely in one-dimensional terms. This is short-sighted, as women actually appear in conflicts not only as victims. They play an important role in peacebuilding and in the post-conflict reconstruction and transformation of societies. Women's potential in the establishment of peace and security, however, is often neglected. The implementation of the Women, Peace and Security agenda is thus an important and demanding task for German foreign, security, development and gender equality policy.<sup>1</sup> The Federal Government's aim is to integrate a gender perspective systematically into all relevant areas. The central goal of this is, by strengthening women's participation, to help prevent crises and armed conflicts from arising in the first place and to prevent conflicts that have ended from flaring up again. The systematic inclusion of a gender perspective is also paramount in humanitarian, stabilisation and development policy measures.

United Nations (UN) Security Council resolution 1325 on women, peace and security from 2000 is the first UN Security Council resolution to be dedicated, on the one hand, to the significance of women's participation in conflict resolution and political processes and in post-conflict reconstruction and, on the other hand, to the disproportionately major and severe impacts of armed conflicts on women. It names three central principles: prevention, participation and protection. The Women, Peace and Security agenda that was brought into being by resolution 1325 was supplemented and expanded by seven further resolutions in the years that followed.<sup>2</sup>

Resolution 1820 (2008) is dedicated to the concerns and interests of women and girls in crisis and conflict areas. Women and girls are especially disadvantaged groups in these areas and frequently become victims of extensive and systematic sexual violence. In this context, sexual violence and other

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<sup>1</sup> Joint Rules of Procedure of the Federal Ministries (Section 2): "Equality between men and women is a consistent guiding principle and should be promoted by all political, legislative and administrative actions of the Federal Ministries in their respective areas (gender mainstreaming)."

<sup>2</sup> In subsequent references to resolution 1325, this term is generally understood also to include the contents of the seven follow-up resolutions, resolutions 1820 (2008), 1888 (2009), 1889 (2009), 1960 (2010), 2106 (2013), res. 2122 (2013) and 2242 (2015). For an overview of reference documents, see page 28 f.

forms of gender-specific violence must be comprehended as part of a larger continuum of violence, which is closely connected with a fundamental attack on the human rights of women and girls. Women and girls in contexts of displacement are ultimately affected by a variety of forms of violence. The elimination of all forms of violence, in both public and private spaces, thus requires a comprehensive gender-sensitive prevention approach in order to establish a foundation for more protection and security for women and girls.

Combatting sexual and gender-specific violence, however, is not solely a matter of improved protection of women and girls. It also encompasses the criminal prosecution of war crimes and violent crimes and comprehensive support for survivors through psychosocial, legal, medical and economic measures. Resolution 1960 (2010) therefore introduced a system intended to make it possible to address impunity and to bring perpetrators to justice. In this context, too, the Federal Government supports the most effective, functional independent and thus credible International Criminal Court possible.<sup>3</sup> Within the framework of its projects, the Federal Government also supports capacity building and awareness-raising measures on sexual and gender-specific violence.

Today, more than 15 years after the United Nations Security Council laid the groundwork for gender-sensitive peace and security policy through resolution 1325 (2000) on women, peace and security, it remains important to actively include women in all phases of the conflict cycle and of peacebuilding, at all levels and from an early stage, and to advance the effective protection of women and girls from sexual and gender-specific violence.

Effective responses to these key challenges must be socially inclusive. Sustainable crisis prevention, conflict resolution, stabilisation, peacebuilding and post-conflict peacebuilding require the equitable participation of women and the realisation of gender equality. The report by the Secretary-General that was presented on the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of resolution 1325 and the United Nations Global Study on the Implementation of United Nations Security Council resolution 1325 that was presented on the same occasion also underscore that the equitable participation of women in all phases and at all levels leads to more sustainable peace and to strengthened prevention efforts.<sup>4</sup> The Global Study also emphasised the prevention aspects of peace and security policy and called for more attention to the prevention of violent conflicts, with particular emphasis on heeding gender-sensitive early warning indicators.<sup>5</sup>

At the same time, the study offers a reminder of the comprehensive nature of resolution 1325, which underlines not only the protection of the human rights of women and girls but also and especially their special concerns in conflict situations and the equitable participation of women in all phases of the conflict cycle.<sup>6</sup>

In September 2015, the United Nations adopted the comprehensive and universal 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development with 17 global goals (Sustainable Development Goals, SDGs) and 169 targets.<sup>7</sup> This agenda expresses the conviction that global challenges can only be mastered

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<sup>3</sup> The International Criminal Court in The Hague is an independent, permanent court for the punishment of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes. It is only active when national prosecution is not effective in cases of such serious crimes. Its legal basis is the Rome Statute, which more than 120 countries to date have entered into. The Federal Republic of Germany played an active role in drafting the Rome Statute.

<sup>4</sup> UN Women Global Study on UNSC resolution 1325: <http://wps.unwomen.org/en>.

<sup>5</sup> UN Women *Gender-Responsive Early Warning: Overview and How-to Guide*.

<sup>6</sup> According to the OSCE, the phases of the conflict cycle are early warning, conflict prevention, crisis management and post-conflict rehabilitation.

<sup>7</sup> For an overview of the goals of the 2030 Agenda, c.f. <http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/development-agenda/>

together and makes clear that the guiding principle of sustainable development must be applied consistently, in all policy areas and in all countries. The 2030 Agenda is also closely connected with the goals of resolution 1325, for it creates new momentum for the realisation of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, without which sustainable development is inconceivable. In particular, SDG 5, “Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls” and SDG 16, “Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels” have priority here. Clear connections to resolution 1325 are also discernible in other goals – for example, 1 (ending poverty), 3 (health), 4 (education), 8 (employment) and 10 (reducing inequality).

Already in the negotiations on the 2030 Agenda, the Federal Government actively supported an independent goal on gender equality and empowerment of women as well as on peace, security and good governance. At the United Nations in September 2015, Federal Chancellor Angela Merkel stressed that the Federal Government commits to the ambitious implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The Federal Government Sustainability Strategy in its new 2016 version provides an essential framework for the national implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Through it, the Federal Government has set itself several targets of its own for women’s equality in society and for strengthening their economic participation at the national and international level as a contribution to SDG 5. Every two years, the Federal Statistical Office independently evaluates the achievement of these targets, which are equipped with their own national indicators.

The Beijing Platform for Action adopted by consensus by the Fourth World Conference on Women, the concluding document of the 1995 conference, already named measures for gender equality in 12 areas. Chapter E, “Women and Armed Conflict”, already identifies issues and measures that were later taken up in resolution 1325 in binding form. Similarly, Chapter G, “Women in Power and Decision-Making”, calls for the active participation of women, because “Without ... the incorporation of women’s perspective at all levels of decision-making, the goals of equality, development and peace cannot be achieved”.<sup>8</sup> Measures to implement the Beijing Platform for Action thus also contribute to the implementation of resolution 1325.

Resolution 1325 also contains elements of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and the Optional Protocol to it (1999).<sup>9</sup> Today, this convention is one of the fundamental global legal instruments in the area of the human rights of women. It was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 18 December 1979, and represented a high point in worldwide efforts towards gender equality and equity. CEDAW was the first established comprehensive international human rights instrument that forbids every form of discrimination against women in all areas of life (Article 1) and that commits States Parties to a variety of measures to establish the legal and actual equality of men and women, while also aiming for the equal guarantee of human rights for women (CEDAW Articles 2, 3, 4). Finally, CEDAW Article 5(a) calls for modification of harmful stereotypes. CEDAW also contains guidance on the principles of resolution 1325. For example, Articles 7 and 8 call for the elimination of discrimination against women in public and political life as well as the participation of women at the international level. By comparison to resolution 1325, CEDAW contains legally binding commitments for its States Parties.

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<sup>8</sup> Cf. Report of the Platform for Action adopted by consensus by the Fourth World Conference on Women, Section 181: <http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/beijing/platform/decision.htm>

<sup>9</sup> In its General Recommendation No. 30 of 18 October 2013, the CEDAW Committee elucidated the goals and implementation of CEDAW and resolution 1325: cf. General Recommendation No. 30 on Women in Conflict Prevention, Conflict and post-Conflict Situations (CEDAW/G/GC/30).

The Member States of the Convention must report regularly on its implementation at the national level.<sup>10</sup>

### **Activities within the framework of the first Action Plan 2013 - 2016**

Since the adoption of resolution 1325 and its follow-up resolutions, the Federal Government has invested considerable resources in promoting the rights of women and girls in crises and conflicts as well as the participation and involvement of women in all phases of the conflict cycle and peacekeeping.

Within the framework of the first Action Plan to implement Security Council resolution 1325 on women, peace and security for the period of 2013-2016 (Action Plan 2013-2016), the Federal Government made an important contribution to promoting the rights of women and girls through its measures and projects in the following **six thematic focal areas**: (1) building up gender-sensitive crisis prevention and promoting the equal participation and involvement of women, (2) introducing a comprehensive gender perspective in the preparation and in-service training of deployed personnel of the Bundeswehr and the Federal Police, (3) the active inclusion of women in all phases of crisis prevention, conflict management and post-conflict peacebuilding, (4) measures to protect vulnerable groups and victims of sexual violence and other forms of gender-specific violence, (5) consideration of the special needs of women and girls in the reconstruction of post-conflict societies as well as the rehabilitation and care of traumatised victim groups, as well as (6) strengthening international criminal jurisdiction and ending impunity in connection with sexual violent crimes and systematic violations, particularly of the rights of women and girls.

Overall, the **regional focal areas** of the Federal Government in its implementation of resolution 1325 were Africa, the OSCE area and the countries of the Transformation Partnership (Morocco, Tunisia, Libya, Egypt, Jordan and Yemen). Bilaterally, the Federal Government has been especially involved in (post-) conflict societies and countries in crisis such as Colombia, Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria, Nepal, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Mali. During the period from 2013 – 2016, strengthening and interconnecting individuals and groups who are active on behalf of the rights and concerns of women and girls in difficult political circumstances was a particular focus of attention in the implementation of resolution 1325. In this context, the Federal Government particularly supported the political and economic empowerment of women, for example through support for the UN Women's Fund for Gender Equality.<sup>11</sup>

**Protection of the civilian population** in conflicts, especially protection of women and children, is and will remain a key concern of the Federal Government. Combatting sexual and gender-specific violence in armed conflicts is paramount here. Women and men are affected by armed conflicts in different ways, as are girls and boys. During and after armed conflicts, women and girls are often subjected to greater gender-specific and especially sexual violence, and therefore must be granted special protection. One frequently neglected aspect of violent crime, however, is sexual violence and gender-specific violence against boys and men, which is often a taboo subject. Along with combatting sexual and gender-specific violence in armed conflicts, the Federal Government also promotes numerous projects dedicated to combatting all forms of violence against women and girls

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<sup>10</sup> Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), available at: <http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/cedaw.htm>

<sup>11</sup> <http://www.unwomen.org/en/trust-funds/fund-for-gender-equality>.

in times of peace. At the international level, subsequent to the World Humanitarian Summit in Istanbul in May 2016, the Federal Government joined the “Call to Action on Protection from Gender-based Violence in Emergencies” – a campaign to protect women and girls in humanitarian emergencies. At the UN level, the Federal Government provided support to the Office of the Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict and supported the strengthening of Security Council measures for protection against sexual violence.

In the **United Nations**, Germany is one of the most active supporters of the Women, Peace and Security agenda. Germany is involved both as a member of the Group of Friends of 1325, which is comprised of UN Member States and NGOs, and in the Women, Peace and Security National Focal Points Network, which was launched in September 2016 in the margins of the UN General Assembly and is intended to foster the exchange of best practices, among other things. Germany has also taken part in the open debates of the UN Security Council and closely followed the development of the UN Security Council informal expert group that was established in 2015. Germany is a member of the “Women Secretary-General” informal group, which works for greater representation of women in leadership positions at the UN, and especially at the head of it.

Within the framework of its **OSCE Chairmanship in 2016**, Germany promoted the implementation of resolution 1325, among other things through the appointment of a Special Representative on Gender Issues as well as through numerous events. In the **EU**, Germany actively contributed to the implementation of resolution 1325 as a participant in EU Task Force 1325, and supported taking it into account in EU missions within the framework of the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP). In **NATO**, Germany is among the committed proponents of implementing the corresponding strategy of the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council and the Action Plan.

Beyond this, the Federal Government supports the intensified participation of women in disarmament and arms control issues, e.g. through the UNODA project to improve the integration of women into decision-making processes within the framework of issues relevant to disarmament policy in selected regions of Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East.

Sustainable **conflict transformation and durable peace** demand a profound understanding and alteration of the gender dimension of a conflict. In Colombia, for example, the human rights implications and gender dimensions of the peace process are unmistakable and stoked conflicts among the various population groups in the run-up to the referendum on the peace deal with representatives of the FARC guerrillas. The revised agreement expressly acknowledges the legal equality of men and women and the concerns and interests of women and women’s organisations. This includes attributing marked significance to the active participation of women and women’s organisations in peace-building in Colombia and recognising the disproportionately major and serious impact of the decades-long conflict on women and girls. A gender perspective also played an important role in the talks of MP Tom Koenigs, Envoy of the Federal Foreign Minister to the Colombian Peace Process. For all population groups, and especially women and girls, to share in the positive effects of the peace process remains one of the greatest challenges of establishing a sustainable peace in the country.

In 2016, the Federal Government supported the “Dialogues on Peace” project in Russia and Ukraine. Within the framework of the project’s measures, peace activists were trained in methods of gender-sensitive conflict mediation and dialogue facilitation, with a special focus on capacity building and bolstering the activities of women. The National Dialogue Conference (NDC) supported by the

Federal Government and accompanied by the Berghof Foundation as well as the implementation of its decisions contributed to the political transformation process in Yemen in 2012 -2014.

In reference to Article 4(1) of CEDAW, the Federal Government has devoted particular attention to taking gender issues into account in the selection and promotion of candidates within the framework of its **policy to promote German personnel in international organisations**. The aim of Germany's international personnel policy has been to improve the proportion of women considerably, overall and at every level. Through the Junior Professional Officer (JPO) Programme, the Federal Government has already started the targeted promotion of German junior professionals at various international organisations with a focus on the United Nations. The programme offers German university graduates with at least two years of professional experience the opportunity to enter an occupation at an international organisation. In the 2015 programme year, 69% of the approximately 50 participants were women.

### **Developments in the new Action Plan 2017 - 2020**

Through this document, the Federal Government is presenting its second Action Plan for the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 on women, peace and security for the period of 2017 – 2020 (Action Plan 2017 – 2020). It is thereby affirming its continued engagement on behalf of the Women, Peace and Security agenda, as it was established in the United Nations Security Council's follow-up resolutions. The six thematic focal areas of prevention, participation, protection, reconstruction, preparation of operations and criminal prosecution that are contained in the Action Plan 2013 – 2016 reflect the goals of the Women, Peace and Security agenda comprehensively and appropriately in the view of the Federal Government. The Action Plan 2017 – 2020 builds on this comprehensive approach, focusing on the thematic focal areas in a slightly altered form, and supplements them with the following focal area: strengthening the Women, Peace and Security agenda and promoting it at the national, regional and international levels. Above all, the Action Plan provides for outreach measures and, additionally, activities that are directed inward.

The Action Plan 2017 – 2020 also serves the Federal Government's implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and affirms the Federal Government's support for advancing peace and transformation processes more effectively and continuing to foster their inclusivity. The Action Plan 2017 – 2020 underscores, as it were, Germany's engagement in promoting the rule of law as a basis for peaceful and inclusive societies worldwide in keeping with the 2030 Agenda.

The equal participation of women in conflict prevention and resolution, stabilisation, peace-building and reconstruction as well as rehabilitation and post-conflict peacebuilding remains a major challenge. The Federal Government is thus specially committed to this goal in the Action Plan 2017 – 2020, too. In view of the multitude of crises and conflicts worldwide, strengthening gender-sensitive prevention work and promoting women's equal participation and involvement in peacebuilding are key areas of focus for Germany's precautionary foreign, security and development policy. This approach is in harmony with the findings of the UN Global Study on the implementation of resolution 1325, which demands that more attention be devoted to the prevention of violent conflicts. Men and boys must be a part of these efforts. Equality between men and women, and overcoming every form of sexual and gender-specific violence, can only be achieved if men work actively towards these goals.

In most post-conflict situations, the level of violence remains high; for this reason, the Federal Government continues to support the safety and basic needs of women and girls and their equal inclusion in reconstruction and reintegration measures. This particularly applies to the integration of a gender perspective into the area of humanitarian aid. After the World Humanitarian Summit in 2016, the Federal Government joined a campaign for the protection of women and girls in humanitarian emergencies. Finally, within the framework of the Action Plan 2017 – 2020, the Federal Government also wants to advocate protection and support for survivors of sexual and gender-specific violence and to promote building up institutions and mechanisms of transitional justice. National and international efforts towards the further development of criminal law protection, including in relation to sexual and gender-specific violence, fostering the rule of law and the prosecution of international crimes as well as expanding international criminal justice thus remain important focal points of the Action Plan 2017 – 2020.

The United Nations Global Study underscores that the equal participation of women at all levels of decision-making is a key element in the establishment of a sustainable peace. The Federal Government is thus continually engaged in championing the equal participation of women at all decision-making levels of international forums such as the UN, the EU, the OSCE and NATO. The Federal Government will continue to work for the involvement of women in negotiations, the inclusion of a gender perspective and the development of alternative, non-violent role models within the framework of peace negotiations and dialogues such as those in Yemen, Colombia and Syria. This includes early support for and empowerment of women's participation and involvement at all levels.

The Federal Government also wants to build on the results of and continue its international and national personnel policy. Germany wants to continue to work actively to increase the proportion of female personnel. Also relevant in this context is systematically taking a gender perspective into account in the preparation of operations and basic, advanced and continued training of German personnel for the international peace missions and observer missions of the UN, NATO, the OSCE and the EU.

At the UN level, Germany continues to pursue approaches to strengthen the Women, Peace and Security agenda, for example within the framework of the cross-regional Women, Peace and Security National Focal Points Network, the Group of Friends of 1325 and the informal expert group of the UN Security Council on resolution 1325, and will continue to intensify these contacts for the duration of the Action Plan. In future periods of Germany's membership as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council, the Federal Government will again do its utmost for the implementation and further development of the Women, Peace and Security agenda, as it has in the past.

Beyond this, the Action Plan 2017 – 2020 also takes into account current developments in the international discourse surrounding the Women, Peace and Security agenda. In light of the dramatic increase in international refugee and migrant flows, it includes the protection and reintegration of women and girls who are fleeing their homes. As called for in the recent Security Council resolution 2242 (2015), the Federal Government is also increasingly including a gender perspective in preventing and combatting terrorism and violent extremism.

The Action Plan 2017 – 2020 was drafted jointly by the Ministries of the Inter-Ministerial Working Group 1325 – namely, the Federal Foreign Office (AA), the Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (BMFSFJ), the Federal Ministry of the Interior (BMI), the Federal Ministry of Justice and Consumer Protection (BMJV), the Federal Ministry of Defence (BMVg) and the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). The Action Plan underscores the

Federal Government's policy coherence with a view to the Women, Peace and Security agenda. The anchoring of the Women, Peace and Security agenda in the policy guidelines planned for 2017 as a follow-up document to the Action Plan Civilian Crisis Prevention likewise serves to strengthen the strategic integration of its principles into the conceptual foundations of German crisis engagement. In this way, the concerns of women and girls are systematically integrated into the toolset of German peace and security policy.

Finally, the Action Plan 2017 – 2020 is closely interconnected with other strategies and projects of the Federal Government. These include the White Paper on German Security Policy and the Future of the Bundeswehr as well as the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development's Strategy Paper on Development for Peace and Security and the Development Policy Action Plan on Gender Equality 2016 – 2020. Internationally, the Action Plan 2017 - 2020 will correspond, among other things, with the processes of implementing resolution 1325 in the EU, NATO, the OSCE and the UN.

### **Qualitative involvement of civil society**

Civil society organisations, including women's rights organisations and human rights defenders, make a crucial contribution to shaping and implementing the Women, Peace and Security agenda. They possess valuable expert knowledge and networks of partners. At the same time, they are a vital link between state, intergovernmental and international organisations and the affected target groups. The qualitative involvement of representatives of civil society and experts in shaping and implementing the Action Plan 2017 - 2020 is thus essential for the Federal Government. To this end, the flow of information between the Federal Government and civil society in the area of resolution 1325 is to be intensified.

Correspondingly, the Federal Government will establish a consultative group as a strategic element in strengthening the qualitative involvement of civil society, integrating its experiences and expertise and developing proven exchange practices further. The consultative group will be comprised of representatives of civil society and of the Ministries that are part of the Inter-Ministerial Working Group. The consultative group will meet twice per year in order to hold an exchange about the implementation of the Action Plans 2017 – 2020 and to discuss strategic and thematic issues.

This strategic and thematic format will be supplemented by an exchange at technical and operational level on specific themes and countries, taking place at least twice per year. This format can, for example, encompass practical seminars or roundtables with experts. The themes and countries as well as the formats are to be arranged between the Ministries and civil society. Additional experts can be brought in for the exchange at technical and operational level.

Against the backdrop of a globally shrinking room for manoeuvre for civil society in many countries ("shrinking spaces"), cooperation with civil society organisations is becoming even more important, not only in Germany but also on a bilateral and multilateral level. The German missions abroad have a major role to play in this. Their tasks also include promoting and strengthening cooperation with suitable civil society organisations and relevant target groups in the context of the Women, Peace and Security agenda.

## Monitoring the implementation of the Action Plan

The creation and implementation of the Action Plan 2017 – 2020 is the responsibility of the entire Federal Government. It provides the necessary staff and financial resources, and reports on progress and outcomes at the end of the term of the Action Plan 2017 – 2020 in an implementation report to the German Bundestag.

The implementation of the Action Plan 2017 – 2020 is subject to monitoring, through which the progress and outcomes relating to the Action Plan's goals and content can be tracked. At the national level, the consultative group mentioned above and the exchange at technical and operational level are part of the monitoring of the Action Plan. Additionally, the consultative group will hold an exchange about the drafting of a follow-up Action Plan in a timely manner before the end of the term of the Action Plan and on the basis of experiences and outcomes of the Action Plan 2017 -2020.

The Federal Government's initiatives, measures, programmes and projects to realise the goals and content of the Action Plans 2017 -2020 will be followed and reviewed within the specific areas through evaluation mechanisms at Ministry level. The monitoring and result checking are the responsibility of the Inter-Ministerial Working Group 1325.

Monitoring at EU level takes place on the basis of the *Revised indicators for the Comprehensive approach to the EU implementation of the UN Security Council Resolutions 1325 and 1820 on women, peace and security*, which were adopted in 2016.<sup>12</sup> The indicators were drafted within the framework of the informal EU Task Force 1325, which Germany also belongs to. The list of indicators is divided into five thematic areas, which in turn are made up of several sub-categories. The thematic areas are: (A) Action at the level of the EU; (B) Action at partner country, regional and multilateral level; (C) Women's participation in peace processes and peace building; (D) Common Security and Defence Policy, and (E) International protection. They are to identify progress and outcomes in the fulfilment of EU Member States' pledges. The Federal Government reports to the EU on the basis of these indicators, and is prepared to discuss the outcomes within the framework of the consultative group.

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<sup>12</sup> Revised indicators for the Comprehensive approach to the EU implementation of the UN Security Council Resolutions 1325 and 1820 on women, peace and security: [data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-12525-2016-INIT/en/pdf](https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-12525-2016-INIT/en/pdf).

## Focal areas of the Action Plan 2017 - 2020

The Federal Government reaffirms its desire to implement United Nations resolution 1325 on women, peace and security. It is not only obligated to do so, but convinced that taking into consideration the concerns of women and girls and the equal participation of women on all social issues contributes to more sustainable peace and greater security.

The Action Plan 2017 -2020 is made up of the following five focal points:

I. Systematically integrating a gender perspective into the prevention of conflicts, crises and violence.
II. Expanding the participation and strengthening the leadership role of women in all phases and at all levels of conflict prevention and resolution, stabilisation, peacebuilding and reconstruction as well as post-conflict rehabilitation and peacebuilding.
III. Analysing and taking into account the concerns and interests of women and girls in development, peace, security policy and humanitarian measures.
IV. Improving protection from sexual and gender-specific violence at the national and international level, and working against the impunity of perpetrators.
V. Strengthening the Women, Peace and Security agenda and promoting it at the national, regional and international level.

A number of targets and their corresponding measures put these focal areas into more concrete form; collectively, they make up the Action Plan 2017 – 2020. The Action Plan 2017 – 2020 forms the framework for the implementation of the content and goals of resolution 1325; the Federal Government will act within this framework over the course of the next four years through measures and projects. All Federal Government activities include the German missions abroad, which campaign actively for the resolution’s goals in their host countries and in multilateral bodies, acting as a reliable point of contact for local civil society.

The targets and corresponding measures and projects in the Action Plan 2017 – 2020 are closely interconnected, and represent the Women, Peace and Security agenda in a comprehensive way. To make it possible to react flexibly to future developments, a narrow thematic or regional limitation has been avoided. This approach is in harmony with the intended anchoring of resolution 1325 in the policy guidelines that are planned for 2017 as a follow-up to the Action Plan Civilian Crisis Prevention.

**I. Systematically integrating a gender perspective into the prevention of conflicts, crises and violence.**

Crisis prevention is an important part of German precautionary foreign policy and development cooperation, which is gaining in importance in view of numerous and growing crises and conflicts. No conflict can be permanently resolved when half of the population is excluded from efforts at crisis prevention and peacekeeping. For this reason, the Federal Government will continue to increasingly take the special needs and concerns of women and girls into account, especially their equal participation in the prevention of crises and violence. Effective crisis and violence prevention is inconceivable without gender equality, without legal, social and economic equality. There is a close connection between the protection of human rights and the preservation of peace and security. For this reason, the Federal Government will continue to work for gender equality and the implementation of the normative framework regarding the human rights of women with the goal of empowering them to participate equally in all decision-making processes and to uphold their concerns and interests themselves.

The Federal Government aims to:

- a) *Take gender-specific questions into account in the analysis, planning and design of crisis and violence prevention projects, and support civil society projects for a comprehensive, gender-specific and cross-generational understanding of peace;*
- b) *Support projects and programmes to prevent violence against women and girls in contexts of acute conflict and displacement as well as in post-conflict situations, with a special focus on women's and women's organisations' opportunities to play a formative role;*
- c) *Work towards dismantling discriminatory and violence-related stereotypes about gender roles, especially among men and boys, which militate against gender equality;*
- d) *Champion the protection of space for civil society and human rights defenders worldwide, especially women's rights advocates; and*
- e) *Continue to advocate the implementation of the normative framework for the human rights of women and girls, especially the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), and for gender equality.*

**II. Expanding the participation and strengthening the leadership role of women in all phases and at all levels of conflict prevention and resolution, stabilisation, peacebuilding and reconstruction as well as post-conflict rehabilitation and peacebuilding.**

The guiding theme joining together the first Action Plan 2013 – 2016 of the Federal Government on the Implementation of United Nations Security Council resolution 1325 was the inclusion of women in crisis prevention, conflict management and post-conflict peacebuilding. This guiding theme is taken up again in this Action Plan 2017 – 2020. Experience shows that women's involvement, from the grass roots to leadership roles, is to be expanded further. Peace must be shaped inclusively and supported by all people. Successful crisis and violence prevention, but also measures of crisis management, post-conflict rehabilitation and reconstruction require equal opportunities for participation and leadership for women. The Federal Government therefore wants to continue to advocate for women to work on all phases of a peace process in a national and international framework on an equal footing with men in accordance with CEDAW Article 4(1).

The Federal Government aims to:

- a) *Commit itself increasingly to the equal involvement of women in crisis and violence prevention, promotion of peace, conflict resolution and negotiation processes, stabilisation, analysis and combatting the causes of displacement as well as post-conflict rehabilitation and reconstruction, and issues of disarmament and extremism prevention, especially through measures for the basic and advanced training of women and girls as well as their early inclusion at all levels;*
- b) *Implement gender-equitable personnel development in foreign, development, security and defence policy;*
- c) *Increase the proportion of women among German military, police and civilian personnel in international organisations, and consolidate the proportion of women seconded to peace missions; and*
- d) *Advocate for the increased participation of women in decision-making processes in contexts of displacement, for example in relation to support measures, aid supplies or gender-sensitive planning and organisation in refugee camps.*

III. Analysing and taking into account the concerns and interests of women and girls in development, peace, security policy and humanitarian measures.

The Federal Government is convinced that, along with the equal involvement of women in decision-making processes in all phases and at all levels of a conflict and peace process, it is of key importance for the implementation of resolution 1325 for the concerns and interests of women and girls to be taken into account in development, peace, security policy and humanitarian measures. A gender perspective must be taken into account appropriately from an early stage in the preparation of operations and in the basic, advanced and continued training for German military, police and civilian personnel.

The Federal Government aims to:

- a) *Anchor the principles of resolution 1325 in the conceptual foundations of German crisis management;*
- b) *Integrate the principles of resolution 1325 into projects and measures for the reduction of the causes of displacement, for crisis and violence prevention, for stabilisation and reconstruction, and in conflict resolution processes and negotiation processes;*
- c) *Continually educate German military, police and civilian personnel further on the principles of resolution 1325;*
- d) *More strongly integrate a gender perspective into planning and carrying out disarmament and arms control projects; and*
- e) *Take the perspectives and concerns of women and girls into account more in the prevention of violent extremism.*

IV. Improving protection from sexual and gender-specific violence at the national and international level, and working against the impunity of perpetrators.

Protecting the civilian population in the context of violent conflicts and in contexts of displacement is a key concern of the Federal Government. Conflicting parties continue to violate international humanitarian law in ways that include using sexual and gender-specific violence – such as rape and forced marriage – for their purposes. In most post-conflict situations, too, the level of violence is high. The continuum of violence against women and girls is an expression of discriminatory gender relations. Violation of their right to self-determination over their own bodies is a reality for women and girls worldwide. The systematic use of rape as a tactical tool of war is a consequence of this injustice. Sexual and gender-specific violence is to be prevented and those affected by it are to be provided with adequate protection and comprehensive support. The perpetrators must be identified and brought to justice. People who suffer from gender-based violence and discrimination on the basis of their sexual orientation or gender identity should also be taken into account more in protective measures. The Federal Government assumes that individual and collective processes of confronting such crimes contribute to raising awareness in society and establishing lasting peace. Zero tolerance of sexual and gender-specific violence is an indispensable part of such a process of coming to terms with it, as is the social and legal recognition of injustice, especially through criminal prosecution and reparation measures.

The Federal Government aims to:

- a) *Sensitise German soldiers, police officers and civilian personnel to the issues of sexual violence and sexual exploitation, including by the peacekeepers themselves, in advance of their operations;*
- b) *Promote comprehensive measures for protection and medical, psychosocial and legal support for survivors of sexual and gender-specific violence as well as to prevent the transmission of trauma from generation to generation; this equally includes men and women and girls and boys, regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity;*
- c) *Advocate for women and girls to receive better protection from sexual and gender-specific violence both in their countries of origin and in contexts of displacement, and for survivors to have access to medical, psychological and legal support;*
- d) *Take into account the protection and special needs of women and girls – especially in regard to preventing and combatting sexual and gender-specific violence – in designing humanitarian measures;*
- e) *Continue to fulfil the obligations of international humanitarian law, encourage other countries to adhere to international humanitarian law, and promote the prosecution of international crimes, including strengthening international criminal jurisdiction;*
- f) *Ensure the criminal prosecution of personnel in peace missions who have committed sexual or gender-specific violent crimes, in harmony with national and international obligations;*
- g) *Advocate worldwide for legal reform in order to recognise rape and other forms of gender-specific violence as criminal offenses;*
- h) *Promote gender-sensitive prosecution, also in reference to the prosecution of international crimes; and*
- i) *Promote the gender-sensitive design of further measures to confront and come to terms with conflicts and work towards the social recognition of injustice, especially within the framework of transitional justice.*

**V. Strengthening the Women, Peace and Security agenda and promoting it at the national, regional and international level.**

In addition to the four areas of focus that serve its direct implementation, the Women, Peace and Security agenda must be strengthened in its normative framework and adjusted to new developments. The implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Beijing Platform for Action is interdependent with the implementation of resolution 1325. As a supporter of resolution 1325, Germany feels committed to greater involvement in its implementation, to promoting it and to cooperating with other countries and representatives of civil society in its implementation. The Federal Government advocates this goal both bilaterally and in regional and international organisations and bodies, especially in the United Nations, the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe, NATO and the European Union.

The Federal Government aims to:

- a) Promote the goals and the strengthening of the Women, Peace and Security agenda in international bodies and organisations;*
- b) Champion the goals of resolution 1325 bilaterally, including via the German missions abroad in their host countries;*
- c) Ambitiously advance the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; and*
- d) Make the German contribution to the Women, Peace and Security agenda visible in Germany, too.*

I. Systematically integrating a gender perspective into the prevention of conflicts, crises and violence.		
<i>The Federal Government aims to:</i>		
a) <i>Take gender-specific questions into account in the analysis, planning and design of crisis and violence prevention projects, and support civil society projects for a comprehensive, gender-specific and cross-generational understanding of peace.</i>	In the evaluation of project proposals on crisis and violence prevention, it is standard practice to query, through existing instruments, about their contribution to the implementation of resolution 1325.	AA, BMZ <sup>13</sup>
	Drafting concept papers and strategies in order to take gender-specific aspects into account more in preventive diplomacy.	AA
	Concerns of women and girls are taken into account in crisis early warning systems (application of gender-specific indicators of the EU crisis early warning system).	AA
	Continuation of measures to prevent the proliferation of small arms and to combat the illegal trade in small arms, taking a gender perspective into account. Gender-specific issues are integrated, especially regarding women in small arms control.	AA
b) <i>Support projects and programmes to prevent violence against women and girls in contexts of acute conflict and displacement, as well as in post-conflict situations, with a special focus on women's and women's organisations' opportunities to play a formative role.</i>	Measures are taken to ensure gender-sensitive infrastructure to prevent sexual and gender-specific violence (such as installing separate sanitary facilities in refugee camps).	AA, BMZ
	Capacity building and support for women, civil society organisations and networks at the local, regional and international level that are working to prevent and end all forms of violence against women and girls.	AA, BMZ
	Further involvement in an exchange of experience within the framework of Germany's membership in the Preventing Sexual Violence Initiative.	AA, BMZ
	Support for the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict and the special mechanisms of the United Nations Human Rights Council, which also take into account aspects of violence prevention.	AA
c) <i>Work towards dismantling discriminatory and violence-related stereotypes about gender roles, especially among men and boy, which militate against gender equality.</i>	Dismantling both feminine and masculine stereotypes, also in cooperation with traditional and religious leaders, in order to overcome images of masculinity that foster violence and other discriminator gender stereotypes. People are sensitised to sexism in the media and advertising, and female roles that reduce women and girls to just their sexuality are dismantled (e.g. through cooperation with the German Advertising Council).	AA, BMFSFJ, BMZ
	Campaigning to promote non-violent masculinity, and developing educational strategies and specific measures for youth to	BMFSFJ, BMZ

<sup>13</sup> Ministries are listed in alphabetical order of their abbreviations.

	manage conflicts non-violently.	
	Promotion of the work of DaMigra, the umbrella organisation of migrant women organisations. DaMigra is the first national organisation for migrants from many different backgrounds which represents the specific concerns of migrants and women at the federal level. In particular, promotion of the project on strengthening female migrants and displaced women, which focuses on women-specific perspectives on displacement and asylum, the visibility of women migrants' concerns in policy and the public sphere, and expanding cooperation with scientific organisations.	BMFSFJ
	Measures are taken for gender-conscious and gender-sensitive work with male refugees in the age of approx. 17 – 25.	BMFSFJ
d) <i>Champion the protection of space for civil society and human rights defenders worldwide, especially women's rights advocates.</i>	Capacity building and support of women's rights advocates and human rights defenders, especially in countries in which the space for civil society is increasingly limited.	AA, BMZ
	Implementation of EU Guidelines on the protection of human rights defenders, especially women's rights advocates, both bilaterally within the framework of the engagement of German missions abroad and in multilateral fora such as in resolution negotiations within the framework of UN human rights institutions.	AA, BMZ
e) <i>Continue to advocate the implementation of the normative framework for the human rights of women and girls, especially the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), and for gender equality.</i>	Cooperation with the international treaty bodies of the human rights conventions of the United Nations, including the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW Committee), <i>inter alia</i> publication of recommendations of the CEDAW Committee, measures to raise the level of awareness of CEDAW, e.g. in the justice system, publication of documents and responses of the Federal Government to the CEDAW Committee within the framework of the 7 <sup>th</sup> and 8 <sup>th</sup> periodic reports of the Federal Government on the implementation of CEDAW, and civil society information on the state of the process and cooperation in the process. The withdrawal of reservations to CEDAW is taken up in bilateral consultations.	AA, BMFSFJ
	Support for the human rights of women and girls in United Nations fora, especially CEDAW, the Human Rights Council ( <i>inter alia</i> in the Universal Periodic Review, UPR) and the Third Committee of the General Assembly, the European Union, the Council of Europe and the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe.	AA, BMFSFJ, BMJV, BMVg, BMZ
	Political and financial support for instruments of international human rights protection, including for UN Women and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in Geneva.	AA, BMFSFJ, BMZ

**II. Expanding the participation and strengthening the leadership role of women in all phases and at all levels of conflict prevention and resolution, stabilisation, peace-building and reconstruction as well as post-conflict rehabilitation and peacebuilding.**

*The Federal Government aims to:*

<p>a) <i>Commit itself increasingly to the equal involvement of women in crisis and violence prevention, promotion of peace, conflict resolution and negotiation processes, stabilisation, analysis and combatting the causes of displacement as well as post-conflict rehabilitation and reconstruction, and issues of disarmament and extremism prevention, especially through measures for the basic and advanced training of women and girls as well as their early inclusion at all levels.</i></p>	<p>Measures to promote the equal participation of women in all phases (prevention, settlement, peacebuilding) and at all levels (Track I – III) of conflict resolution and negotiation processes with a particular focus on civil society actors.</p>	AA, BMZ
	<p>Active involvement of women and girls within the framework of projects and measures for stabilisation, reconstruction and sustainable development, including through the promotion of women’s networks, basic and continuing training measures, the promotion of women’s participation in processes of transition including legislation, support for women’s cooperation in transitional institutions, and the development, passage and implementation of national gender strategies.</p>	AA, BMZ
	<p>Promotion of basic and continuing training projects for women in the areas of disarmament and arms control, for example within the framework of the UNODA project to improve the integration of women into decision-making processes in the framework of issues relevant to disarmament policy in selected regions of Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East.</p>	AA
	<p>Active inclusion of women and girls in initiatives and programmes to prevent violent extremism.</p>	AA, BMFSFJ, BMI
	<p>Informational and sensitisation measures for women on peace treaties and current developments in peace processes, specially taking into account ethnic minorities and particularly victim groups as well as returnees, including ex-combatants.</p>	AA, BMZ
	<p>Promotion of equality in the integration of displaced women and girls in their host country and on their return and reintegration; in particular, access to adequate health care, access to education for women and girls and the establishment of public spaces to ensure the social and political participation of women and girls.</p>	BMZ
<p>b) <i>Implement gender-equitable personnel development in foreign, development, security and defence policy.</i></p>	<p>Implementation of the provisions of the Federal Act on Gender Equality, the Appointment to Federal Bodies Act and the Act on Equal Opportunities for Female and Male Military Personnel of the Bundeswehr in the selection, promotion and advancement of employees of the Federal Ministries; equality plans to be created in accordance with the Federal Act on Gender Equality and the implementation of the Appointment to Federal Bodies Act (sections 4 and 5) to increase the proportion of women in international bodies. In decisions about the members of the bodies of international organisations that are to be made by the Federal Government, the Federal Government takes into account the goal of gender parity insofar as this is possible within the framework of staffing demands.</p>	AA, BMFSFJ, BMI, BMJV, BMVg, BMZ
	<p>Men and women to be treated equal in the federal administration and in federal courts within the framework of the Federal Act on Gender Equality, with a special focus on role models and on the promotion and advancement of women in leadership</p>	AA, BMFSFJ, BMI, BMJV, BMVg, BMZ

	positions.	
	Implementation of the results of the Federal Foreign Office review process regarding the goals, interests and instruments of German foreign policy, inter alia projects to develop a diversity concept for the foreign service as well as a new leadership concept.	AA
	Measures for better work-life balance in the foreign service, including through pilot projects on job-sharing, part time jobs and telecommuting abroad, concepts for part-time work and telecommuting in leadership positions, and the introduction of a mentoring programme that devotes particular attention to female employees.	AA
	Measures to accelerate the establishment of equality of opportunity through the newly created command element on equal opportunity, diversity and inclusion in the operational area of the Federal Ministry of Defence and the permanent implementation of a mentoring system throughout the Bundeswehr.	BMVg
	Measures to further increase the proportion of women in the Bundeswehr and especially in leadership positions.	BMVg
c) <i>Increase the proportion of women among German military, police and civilian personnel in international organisations, and consolidate the proportion of women seconded to peace missions.</i>	Increasing the number of women in European and international peace missions, for example through informational events and outreach.	AA, BMI, BMVg
	Consolidation of the proportion of women seconded by the Center for International Peace Operations (ZIF) in peace missions.	AA
	Targeted personnel policy within the framework of the United Nations' Senior Women Talent Pipeline in order to place German women candidates in strategic positions in a targeted manner.	AA
d) <i>Advocate for the increased participation of women in decision-making processes in contexts of displacement, for example in relation to support measures, aid supplies or gender-sensitive planning and organisation in refugee camps.</i>	Measures to promote equal access to human rights and equal participation in planning and decision-making processes for displaced and internally displaced women and girls in refugee camps and non-camp situations.	AA, BMZ
	Promotion of gender-sensitive and needs-oriented cash-for-work activities in fragile contexts (in the host country or during return and reintegration).	BMZ

### III. Analysing and taking into account the concerns and interests of women and girls in development, peace, security policy and humanitarian measures.

*The Federal Government aims to:*

a) <i>Anchor the principles of resolution 1325 in the conceptual foundations of German crisis management.</i>	Anchoring resolution 1325 in a cross-Ministry approach within the framework of the policy guidelines as a follow-up document to the Action Plan Civilian Crisis Prevention.	AA, BMVg, BMZ
	Coordination of measures in fragile states within the framework of interministerial bodies.	AA
	Consolidating and expanding the gender-specific situation report of the Bundeswehr.	BMVg
	Anchoring of resolution 1325 across the board in German foreign, development, security and defence policy, including through embedding resolution 1325 in the policy guidelines as a follow-up document to the Action Plan Civilian Crisis Prevention, and support for taking resolution 1325 into account in relevant documents within the framework of the UN, the EU, the OSCE and NATO.	AA, BMVg, BMZ
b) <i>Integrate the principles of resolution 1325 into projects and measures for the reduction of the causes of displacement, for crisis and violence prevention, for stabilisation and reconstruction, and in conflict resolution processes and negotiation processes.</i>	In the evaluation of project proposals on reduction of the causes of displacement, prevention of crises and violence, stabilisation and post-conflict rehabilitation, it is standard practice to query, through existing instruments, about their contribution to the implementation of resolution 1325.	AA, BMZ
	Effort towards taking the content of resolution 1325 into account in conflict resolution and negotiation processes.	AA, BMZ
	Support for efforts of the European Union, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, NATO and the United Nations, including United Nations missions and special representatives of the United Nations Secretary-General, to take gender into account (e.g. in the Global Compact on Refugees and Global Migration Compact).	AA, BMZ
	The needs of women and girls and of female-led households are especially taken into account in planning, commissioning and carrying out projects in the areas of reducing the causes of displacement, integration and care of refugees and internally displaced persons and in the post-conflict context in building up basic infrastructure in the course of conflict-sensitive reconstruction and in reintegration and reconciliation.	BMZ
	Gender to be taken into account in strategic evaluation activities.	AA
c) <i>Continually educate German military, police and civilian personnel further on</i>	Existing continuing training offerings and training courses and materials in the area of Women, Peace and Security to be	AA, BMI, BMVg, BMZ

<i>the principles of resolution 1325.</i>	continued and updated.	
	Measures for gender-sensitive training on forms of sexual and gender-specific violence and possibilities for preventing and overcoming them in preparatory training and further training sessions (including through the Center for International Peace Operations, ZIF) for experts who will be sent on peace missions, but also for international applicants such as members of the police and security forces in host countries of missions of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (e.g. training sessions at the police training academy in Baden-Württemberg/Böblingen).	AA, BMI, BMZ
	Awareness-raising with respect to various forms of corruption and its effects on the realisation of women's rights and to the amplification of existing power imbalances between men and women, and between girls and boys.	AA, BMZ
d) <i>More intensely incorporate a gender perspective into planning and carrying out disarmament and arms control projects.</i>	Within the framework of UN resolution 68/33 and 69/61, "Women, Disarmament, Non-Proliferation and Arms Control", measures to be implemented for the quantitative and qualitative integration of women into decision-making processes within the framework of issues relevant to disarmament policy in selected regions of the Global South such as Africa, Latin America and the Middle East, including through the allocation of grants and through online training from arms control and disarmament experts.	AA
e) <i>Take the perspectives and concerns of women and girls into account more in the prevention of violent extremism.</i>	Development of strategies in order to better reach women and girls in their social spaces; awareness training against radicalisation attempts by hate preachers; measures to include women and girls from a Muslim background in projects to prevent violent extremism, for example within the framework of the "Live democracy!" campaign (including the projects "Women strengthening democracy against Islamism" and "The freedom I'm talking about").	BMFSFJ
	Research to be conducted and scientific data collected on the role of women and girls in terrorism and in terrorist structures, and on gender-conscious approaches to preventing violent extremism.	BMFSFJ, BMI
	A gender perspective to be taken into account in the prevention of radicalisation, including on the Internet and social media.	BMFSFJ, BMI

#### IV. Improving protection from sexual and gender-specific violence at the national and international level, and working against the impunity of perpetrators.

*The Federal Government aims to:*

a) <i>Sensitise German soldiers, police officers and civilian personnel to the issues of sexual violence and sexual exploitations, including by the peacekeepers themselves, in advance of their operations.</i>	Within the framework of teaching and training materials of the various professional tracks, measures are to be taken to increase sensitivity and convey knowledge in the area of sexual and gender-specific violence and sexual exploitation.	AA, BMI, BMVg
	Deployment of German personnel in international peace missions to prevent and combat violations of rights and provide guidance on behaviour consistent with the rule of law.	AA, BMI, BMVg
b) <i>Promote comprehensive measures for protection and medical, psychosocial and legal support for survivors of sexual and gender-specific violence as well as to prevent the transmission of trauma from generation to generation; this equally includes men and women and girls and boys, regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity.</i>	Financing humanitarian and transitional aid projects and regular bilateral development cooperation, including for trauma treatment and psychosocial support.	AA, BMZ
	Comprehensive measures to support survivors of sexual and gender-specific violence, including through trauma-sensitive psychosocial and legal counselling, medical care offerings and further support measures such as counselling for children and families on preventing transgenerational trauma, sexual and marital counselling to prevent domestic violence, promotion of women's shelters, and state and civil society capacity-building in the health, justice, security and education sectors.	AA, BMZ
c) <i>Advocate for women and girls to receive better protection from sexual and gender-specific violence both in their countries of origin and in contexts of displacement, and for survivors to have access to medical, psychological and legal support.</i>	Support for the development and dissemination of sensitisation campaigns in situations of displacement (camp / non-camp, refugees and internally displaced persons) on gender-specific violence, especially for men and boys.	AA, BMZ
	Protection for displaced women and girls, in Germany including through the continuation of the KfW special programme for financial support of protective measures in the architecture of refugee accommodation centres in 2017 and the continuation of the Initiative for the Protection of Children, Adolescents and Women in Refugee Accommodation Centres by the BMFSFJ with UNICEF and other partners with the goal of implementing concepts for protection in refugee housing throughout Germany.  For displaced women and girls, access to the German assistance system is to be facilitated through the further ensurance of the multilingual advising services of the BMFSFJ's nationwide "Violence against Women" telephone help line and "Pregnant Women in Need" telephone help line, as well as the further promotion of the nationwide coordination offices bff, Frauenhauskoordinierung and the KOK German NGO network against trafficking in human beings, which support their special consultation services for displaced women and girls.	BMFSFJ
	Implementation of a project for displaced girls, as well as for girls who have already been living in Germany longer, on protection against forced marriage. Another project is to be conducted to look after girls whose foreign marriages are not	BMFSFJ

	recognised in Germany.	
	Ratification of the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Istanbul Convention) by the end of the current legislative period.	BMFSFJ
	Economically strengthening refugees, internally displaced persons and the communities abroad that take them in, including through training and qualification measures.	BMZ
	Protective measures for (potential) victims of trafficking and smuggling in human beings.	AA, BMZ
d) <i>Take into account the protection and special needs of women and girls – especially in regard to preventing and combatting sexual and gender-specific violence – in designing humanitarian measures.</i>	Fulfillment of obligations under the Call to Action on Protection from Gender-Based Violence in Emergencies, a Swedish- and British-initiated campaign to protect women and girls in humanitarian emergencies. <sup>14</sup>	AA
	Consideration for the special needs of women and girls in humanitarian aid measures, including in the area of sexual and reproductive health and rights.	AA, BMZ
e) <i>Continue to fulfil the obligations of international humanitarian law, encourage other countries to adhere to international humanitarian law, and promote the prosecution of international crimes, including strengthening international criminal jurisdiction.</i>	Prosecution of violent crimes against women and girls in conflicts before national and international courts.	AA, BMJV
	Appropriate protection for witnesses at national and international criminal courts and psychological guidance in the preparation for trial of victims appearing as witnesses.	AA, BMJV
	German judges and lawyers to receive advanced training in international humanitarian law and international criminal law.	BMJV
	International criminal jurisdiction to be supported, including through efforts with other like-minded countries for the International Criminal Court to be as effective, viable, independent and thus credible as possible, and support for German judges as candidates for the International Criminal Court.	AA, BMJV
f) <i>Ensure the criminal prosecution of personnel in peace missions who have committed sexual or gender-specific violent crimes, in harmony with national and international obligations.</i>	Potential crimes committed by German personnel of peace missions to be prosecuted.	AA, BMI, BMJV, BMVg
g) <i>Advocate worldwide for legal reform in</i>	In a variety of forums, representatives of the Federal Government make substantive contributions that aim to strengthen	AA, BMJV, BMZ

<sup>14</sup> <http://www.government.se/information-material/2016/05/call-to-action-on-protection-from-gender-based-violence-in-emergencies/>

<i>order to recognise rape and other forms of gender-specific violence as criminal offenses.</i>	the justice system and especially criminal jurisdiction in partner countries.	
	Training sessions, advisory measures and other events for exchange among experts to be carried out for representatives of other states to strengthen national criminal law; in particular, provision of advisory services in the thematic areas of fact-finding and evidence in criminal proceedings and preliminary investigations, working methods of criminal jurisdiction and advisory services on draft laws and the legislative process.	BMFSFJ, BMJV, BMZ
h) <i>Promote the gender-sensitive design of prosecution, also in reference to the prosecution of international crimes.</i>	Measures to inform women and girls about their rights and their access to the justice system.	AA, BMJV, BMZ
	The reparations claims of survivors to be considered in trials before international criminal courts, especially in relation to indigenous peoples.	AA, BMZ
	Psychosocial supportive measures for survivors of sexual and gender-related violence during trials.	AA, BMJV, BMZ
	Raising awareness of investigative and prosecuting authorities of sexual and gender-specific violence, especially with regard to international criminal proceedings.	AA, BMI, BMJV
	Training to increase sensitivity in the judicial system for gender-specific aspects and secondary reactions to trauma, especially with regard to international criminal proceedings.	AA, BMJV, BMZ
	The career opportunities of women in the judiciary sector to be further promoted for women's equality.	AA, BMJV, BMZ
i) <i>Promote the gender-sensitive design of further measures to confront and come to terms with conflicts and work towards the social recognition of injustice, especially within the framework of transitional justice.</i>	Promotion of non-judicial, legal measures for confronting and coming to terms with the past and other reparation measures that make a contribution to the collective and individual processing of sexual and gender-specific violence, including sensitisation and awareness-raising measures and efforts for the social and legal recognition of injustice through support for survivors.	AA, BMJV, BMZ

V. Strengthening the Women, Peace and Security agenda and promoting it at the national, regional and international level.		
<i>The Federal Government aims to:</i>		
a) <i>Advocate for the goals and strengthening of the Women, Peace and Security agenda in international bodies and organisations.</i>	Engagement for the Women, Peace and Security agenda in the framework of the United Nations, including through cooperation with the informal expert group of the United Nations Security Council on Women, Peace and Security and within the framework of the Group of Friends of 1325.	AA, BMZ
	Collaborate with the implementation of the NATO Action Plan and the strategy of the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council on resolution 1325, and follow the newly created NATO Civil Society Advisory Panel.	AA, BMVg
	Championing the implementation of resolution 1325 within the framework of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE).	AA
	Active participation in the fora of the European Union that deal with the issue of women, peace and security, for example within the framework of the informal Task Force 1325.	AA
	Efforts towards anchoring the content of resolution 1325 in the final documents on arms control in international fora.	AA
	Engagement as a member of the Women, Peace and Security National Focal Points Network that was launched in 2016 in the margins of the UN General Assembly; A Focal Point 1325 is designated at the Federal Foreign Office; the Focal Points Network meeting will be hosted in Berlin in 2018 with the involvement of civil society.	AA
b) <i>Champion the goals of resolution 1325 bilaterally, including via the German missions abroad in their host countries.</i>	German missions abroad to participate actively as contact points for local civil society in the implementation of the Action Plan 2017 – 2020 and efforts to be made for the implementation of the goals of resolution 1325 in host countries through the active inclusion of women and women’s organisations in the corresponding discussion and event formats.	AA
	The implementation of resolution 1325 is encouraged in bilateral dialogue.	AA, BMZ
	An English translation of the Action Plan 2017 – 2020 to be posted on the website of the Federal Foreign Office and distributed through German missions abroad and to civil society in host countries.	AA
c) <i>Ambitiously advance the implementation of the Platform for Action adopted by consensus by the Fourth World Conference on Women,</i>	Feeding the content of resolution 1325 into the implementation of the Platform for Action adopted by consensus at the Fourth World Conference on Women and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, especially SDGs 5 (gender equality) and 16 (peace and justice).	AA, BMFSFJ, BMI, BMJV, BMVg, BMZ

<i>and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.</i>		
d) <i>Make the German contribution to the Women, Peace and Security agenda visible in Germany, too.</i>	Promotion of the UN Women National Committee in Germany through a project on interlinking national policy for equality and equal opportunity with international work on gender equality and promotion of women.	BMFSFJ
	Qualitative involvement of civil society that is active on behalf of the Women, Peace and Security agenda. The consultative group will meet twice a year in order to discuss the content and implementation of the Action Plan 2017 – 2020; in addition, an exchange at technical and operational level on specific topics and countries will take place.	AA, BMFSFJ, BMI, BMJV, BMVg, BMZ

## List of Abbreviations

<b>AA</b>	Federal Foreign Office
<b>AU</b>	African Union
<b>BMAS</b>	Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs
<b>BMFSFJ</b>	Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth
<b>BMI</b>	Federal Ministry of the Interior
<b>BMJV</b>	Federal Ministry of Justice and Consumer Protection
<b>BMVg</b>	Federal Ministry of Defence
<b>BMZ</b>	Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development
<b>CEDAW</b>	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
<b>CFSP</b>	Common Foreign and Security Policy
<b>COHOM</b>	European Council Working Party on Human Rights
<b>CSDP</b>	Common Security and Defence Policy (EU)
<b>DIMR</b>	German Institute for Human Rights
<b>EEAS</b>	European External Action Service
<b>EU</b>	European Union
<b>GIZ</b>	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
<b>IDP</b>	Internally Displaced Persons
<b>NATO</b>	North Atlantic Treaty Organization
<b>NGO</b>	Non-Governmental Organisation
<b>OSCE</b>	Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
<b>SGBV</b>	Sexual and gender-based violence
<b>UN</b>	United Nations
<b>UNODA</b>	United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs
<b>UPR</b>	Universal Periodic Review
<b>WPS</b>	Women, Peace and Security
<b>ZIF</b>	Center for International Peace Operations

## Reference documents and related links

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**Council of the European Union (2016):** Revised indicators for the Comprehensive approach to the EU implementation of the UN Security Council Resolutions 1325 and 1820 on women, peace and security, available at: <http://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-12525-2016-INIT/en/pdf>

**Federal Foreign Office (2016):** 12<sup>th</sup> Human Rights Report of the Federal Government on its human rights policy for the period from 1 March 2014 to 30 September 2016 (in German), available at: [http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/DE/Aussenpolitik/Menschenrechte/Menschenrechtsbericht\\_aktuell\\_node.html](http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/DE/Aussenpolitik/Menschenrechte/Menschenrechtsbericht_aktuell_node.html)

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