NGO WORKING GROUP ON WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY

MONTHLY ACTION POINTS

Women, Peace and Security

November 2026

For November, in which Latvia is president of the UN Security Council, the MAP provides recommendations on the situations in **Abyei**, **Central African Republic** and **Ukraine**.

Abyei

The ongoing war in Sudan and the renewed violence and political crisis in South Sudan continue to stall efforts between the two countries to reach a lasting political solution for Abyei, including through continued military and armed group presence. Civilians have been displaced from both South Sudan and Sudan into Abyei, and internally displaced within the territory, straining already-limited resources. Funding cuts, reduced UN presence and persistent humanitarian access constraints also prevent much-needed aid delivery, including essential services for women and girls. Providers report gaps in provision of sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services, including post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) kits, HIV/AIDS treatment and maternal and newborn care. Recurring intercommunal violence, limited law enforcement capacity and the continued proliferation of small arms and light weapons (SALW) exacerbate risks of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) for women and girls, which the UN assesses would likely be heightened by any potential drawdown of the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA).

The Security Council should:

- Renew in full the mandate of UNISFA as contained in Resolution 2802 (2025). Ensure the inclusion of robust language related to women, peace and security (WPS) including: gender considerations as a cross-cutting issue throughout the mandate; strengthening SGBV prevention and response activities per Resolution 2467 (2019); ensuring SGBV risks are included in UNISFA's data collection, threat analysis and early warning systems; mainstreaming gender-sensitive conflict analysis across all early warning and prevention efforts; promoting the full, equal, meaningful and safe participation of women in local peace committees and community dialogue efforts; providing gender-responsive analysis to the Security Council; and engaging with and supporting local women's networks and civil society organizations. Member States should call for all existing gender advisor, gender focal point and women protection advisor positions to be retained, and commit to funding these positions in the UN Fifth Committee.
- Demand that all parties respect the demilitarized, weapons-free status of Abyei as per the 2011 Agreement on Temporary Arrangements for the Administration and Security of the Abyei Area. Call on all parties to comply with their obligations under international humanitarian law (IHL), including immediately ceasing all attacks against civilians and civilian infrastructure.
- Call on UNISFA to facilitate access for civilians to organizations providing comprehensive SRH care, without discrimination.
- Call for enhanced reporting on WPS, including: barriers to the full enjoyment of women's human rights; protection risks for women human rights defenders (WHRDs), peacebuilders and civil society activists; and intersectional analysis of the current crisis' impact on diverse women in Abyei.

Central African Republic (CAR)

Despite improvements in the overall security situation, violence persists in several regions of the Central African Republic (CAR), particularly in transhumance corridors and border areas where armed groups are active. Both state and non-state actors have committed violations of international human rights and humanitarian law, including conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV), exacerbated by the cross-border proliferation of SALW. Despite recent milestones in achieving accountability for war crimes and crimes against humanity, impunity for such crimes remains a serious concern. Women and girls, especially in rural and conflict-affected regions, continue to face widespread SGBV including harassment, exploitation and enforced disappearance. However, there is a persistent lack of access to SRH care, including post-rape care. Community displacement, funding cuts and attacks on humanitarian personnel further jeopardize access to care. WHRDs and peacebuilders face threats to their political participation and restricted civic space in one of the most gender-unequal countries in the world. The CAR's Parity Law mandates a minimum 35% quota for women, though implementation varies; for example, in recent local elections 45% of elected municipal councilors (35 of 78) were women, though at the national level, women comprise just 11% of representatives in the National Assembly (16 of 144) and 18% of ministers in the new government (six of 33).

The situation in the CAR is also significantly impacted by regional and global conflicts and crises. For example, the war in Sudan has displaced over 45,000 people into the CAR, over half of whom are women and girls; further, Sudanese warring parties, who are known perpetrators of widespread SGBV, have committed attacks in CAR territory. In addition, the CAR remains at risk from the current regional Ebola outbreak, which has specific risks for and impacts on women and girls. The CAR has also been impacted by global fuel price increases, which have further intensified tensions in the country.

The Security Council should:

- Renew in full the mandate of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the CAR (MINUSCA) as contained in Resolution 2800 (2025). Safeguard and maintain all provisions related to WPS, including: gender mainstreaming as a cross-cutting issue throughout the mandate; providing specific protection and assistance to women affected by armed conflict, including through the deployment of gender advisers and women protection advisers; monitoring, investigating and reporting on violations against women, including SGBV; ensuring the full, equal, meaningful and safe participation of women in national reconciliation and local conflict resolution efforts, adhering to the minimum 35% quota; and supporting the CAR government's transitional justice efforts, including through dialogue with women civil society representatives as well as victims and survivors of sexual violence. Member States should call for all existing gender advisor, gender focal point and women protection advisor positions to be retained, and commit to funding these positions in the UN Fifth Committee.

- Request that MINUSCA monitor and report on reprisals against WHRDs, take steps to enhance their protection and provide support to those experiencing reprisals.
- Call on the CAR authorities to take measures toward full, gender-responsive implementation of the December 2024 law on the protection of human rights defenders (HRDs), ensuring meaningful participation in this process by diverse HRDs, including women and LGBTIQ people.
- Call on the CAR authorities to ensure full implementation of the Maputo Protocol, including by adopting comprehensive legislation to address SGBV and improve support services for survivors.
- Urge donors to provide increased, sustainable, direct and flexible funding to local women-led, women's rights and LGBTIQ organizations; and support their meaningful participation and leadership in humanitarian coordination and response, including Ebola prevention and response.

Ukraine

The Russian Federation's full-scale war against Ukraine continues to have devastating impacts on diverse women and girls. Civilian casualties have increased markedly, with over 2,500 killed and over 15,200 injured from January to September 2026, 59% higher than the same period in 2025. Winter weather will exacerbate the humanitarian crisis, with attacks on critical energy infrastructure potentially leaving millions without heat, running water or electricity, and disproportionately impacting women. These risks are also particularly acute for elderly people, people with disabilities and those living in frontline areas. UN and international experts have documented numerous violations by Russian military and security forces in occupied areas of Ukraine, such as arbitrary detention, forcible transfer, enforced disappearance and torture and ill-treatment. They have also documented CRSV perpetrated by Russian occupying forces with impunity, including as a form of torture against both women and men in detention settings. As a result of repeated violations, Russian forces have been listed in the UN Secretary-General's annual reports on CRSV and children and armed conflict (CAAC) as perpetrators of CRSV and grave violations against children, respectively.

About 2.9 million people in Ukraine, mainly women and girls, require gender-based violence (GBV) protection services. Rates of domestic violence have risen, while survivors face heightened barriers in accessing support. In particular, women experiencing domestic violence within military families often face pressure not to report due to narratives idealizing military personnel. Attacks on healthcare facilities and providers increasingly hinder access to a broad spectrum of care for women, from emergency obstetric care to regular cancer screenings. Though Ukrainian women-led and women's rights organizations have been at the forefront of the humanitarian response, funding cuts seriously threaten their ability to continue their vital work. The prolonged conflict has also deepened economic insecurity for many women, particularly for displaced women, refugees and caregivers. As a result of martial law in Ukraine preventing most adult men from leaving the country, the majority of Ukrainian refugees are women and children. Women and girls also comprise the majority of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Ukraine. Women refugees and IDPs frequently face gendered challenges including increased care responsibilities, risks of sexual exploitation and other forms of GBV, and limited access to essential services including SRH care.

The Security Council should:

- Demand that all parties respect international law and take all possible measures to prevent civilian harm, including by immediately stopping all attacks on civilians and civilian infrastructure, including energy infrastructure; and ending the use of banned weapons such as cluster munitions and landmines. Urgently prioritize diplomatic efforts to negotiate peace, and support measures to promote the full, equal, meaningful and safe participation and leadership of diverse women at all levels and stages of negotiations.
- Urge that investigations of all violations since 2014, including alleged war crimes and crimes against humanity, are survivor-centered and gender-responsive. The Security Council must not endorse or support any negotiated settlement that provides amnesty for grave violations committed during the war, including for gender-based crimes.
- Demand that all parties respect their obligations under IHL to protect humanitarian personnel, infrastructure and relief items; enable safe and voluntary evacuations; and ensure safe and unhindered humanitarian access in all conflict-affected areas, including in territory occupied by the Russian Federation.
- Call on all parties to immediately cease all acts of SGBV. In line with the calls made by the Secretary-General, demand that Russia grant unimpeded access for monitoring of areas and detention facilities under its control, and grant full, nondiscriminatory provision of services for survivors, including comprehensive SRH care. Call on the Ukrainian authorities to take measures to address SGBV, including through continued implementation of the 2022 framework of cooperation with the UN.
- Call for reunification of families in Ukraine and Russia who have been separated during the conflict, including by establishing protocols for safe border crossing points.
- Call for the protection and promotion of civic space and condemn all threats, attacks and reprisals against civil society, journalists, peacebuilders and HRDs, including diverse women and LGBTIQ people, in both Ukraine and Russia.
- Call for increased, flexible and direct funding to diverse local women-led, women's rights and LGBTIQ-led organizations both inside Ukraine and supporting Ukrainian refugees in neighboring countries, including organizations providing livelihood support, legal assistance, protection services and economic empowerment programs to address the gendered impacts of the conflict.
- Promote and protect the rights of all individuals fleeing violence; respect the right to conscientious objection; and ensure: equal application of temporary protection for all people wishing to cross a border; provision of opportunities for livelihoods for displaced people that include social support, such as childcare; and access to comprehensive SRH care and mental health and psychosocial support.

NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security members are: Amnesty International; Consortium on Gender, Security and Human Rights; Global Justice Center; Global Network of Women Peacebuilders; Human Rights Watch; International Alert; International Planned Parenthood Federation; MADRE; Nobel Women's Initiative; Outright International; Oxfam; Women Enabled International; Women for Women International; Women's International League for Peace and Freedom; and Women's Refugee Commission. The NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security is a project of Tides Center.