

The Institute for Inclusive Security

Recommendations for Implementing UN Security Council Resolutions 1325 and 1889

In February 2012, Palestinian women government and civil society leaders met to review and update these recommendations, which were first developed by at a workshop convened by The Institute for Inclusive Security and MIFTAH in 2010.

Palestinian women are part of the Palestinian national liberation movement and seek to end occupation, to build a durable and just peace, and to establish a Palestinian state that is based on democratic principles, gender equality, and social justice for all on the 1967 borders with east Jerusalem as the capital.

PARTIES STRUCTURING THE PEACE PROCESS SHOULD:

1. Reform the structure and approach to any peace process to ensure:
 - a. Clear terms of reference based on international law, including all relevant UNSCRs;
 - b. Clear recognition of asymmetric power relations;
 - c. Transparency in negotiations, including that the general population is aware of actions taken;
 - d. An agreed-upon timetable in which to accomplish objectives;
 - e. Provide women and civil society in general a voice in talks; and
 - f. Envision negotiations with an outcome to end the occupation and establish a Palestinian state.
2. Hold the government of Israel accountable for violations of the Geneva Conventions and international humanitarian law, particularly in regards to the wall, east Jerusalem, eviction of Palestinians, Gaza closure, and settlements.
3. Take immediate action to ensure in all parts of the OPT that women have:
 - a. Safe access to healthcare;
 - b. Safe and just access to land, water, and economic opportunity;
 - c. Dignity and rights to free passage and movement; and
 - d. Access to school and healthcare for their children.
4. Ensure no less than 30 percent direct participation by women in all political and peace processes to guarantee attention to the needs and priorities of women and to increase the transparency of peace building efforts to the general population.
5. Provide and guarantee the protection and basic human rights of women, children, and female-headed households in Gaza Strip and the West Bank including East Jerusalem by assuring:
 - a. The freedom of movement of people to protect the social fabric and family reunification;
 - b. The freedom of movement of people, goods, and services to enable the reconstruction of homes, schools, and hospitals and, subsequently, to track the impact of the increased materials availability to ensure the impact on women is proportional to their percentage in the population.
6. Request that all visits by international officials involve meetings with women civil society and government leaders.

THE UNITED NATIONS SHOULD:

1. Recognize a unified, independent Palestinian state based on the borders of June 4, 1967.
2. Send UN missions specifically to document, assess implementation, and report to the Secretary General and the Human Rights Commission on UN Security Council Resolutions 1325 and 1889, as well as the Security Council and General Assembly resolutions calling for a Palestinian state. Reports should determine the differential impact of the conflict and occupation on women and to make recommendations for better:
 - a. Involving women in peace processes and reflecting women's perspectives;
 - b. Protecting women in the OPT; and
 - c. Measuring and reporting on changes in the status of 1325 implementation.
3. Ensure that all UN reports, including the Secretary General's report to the Commission on the Status of Women, provide detailed information on the situation in Gaza and the West Bank including East Jerusalem by:
 - a. Tracking implementation of UNSCRs 1325 and 1889 using the indicators developed to measure progress at the global level and indicators specific to the Palestinian context.
 - b. Making specific recommendations for guaranteeing:
 - i. Women's protection;
 - ii. Accountability for women's protection and human rights; and
 - iii. Women's voice in peace talks;
 - iv. Accountability for violations.
 - c. Consulting with women on the ground and relaying concretely their perspectives, priorities, and needs.
4. Guarantee, by involving Palestinian women directly, that all Security Council discussions of the Israeli and Palestinian conflict consider implementation of UNSCR 1325 and that all deliberations around UNSCR 1325 address the situation of Palestinian women under occupation and in the diaspora.
5. Ensure family unification and civic residency rights by guaranteeing that the Palestinian territory is one entity and in compliance with the international human rights and humanitarian law and the relevant UNSCRs.

INTERNATIONAL CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS SHOULD:

1. Support visits to the OPT by international officials and thought leaders to directly understand the situation of Palestinian women and men on the ground and communicate it back to their constituencies. Support delegation visits abroad for Palestinian women to increase access to decision-makers in other countries and to elevate women's voices and priorities in international decision-making.
2. Track and report specifically on violations of the rights of women and girls as well as their status and role in efforts to end the occupation and build peace. Based on identified violations and shortcomings, these organizations should draw international attention to the problems, prosecute any crimes that rise to the level justifying international prosecution, and seek to implement programs on the ground to improve the situation in the Palestinian territories.

3. Strengthen, protect, and enforce the application of international humanitarian law by continuing to fund programs in the OPT that support and promote a vibrant civil society to advance human rights and women's rights.
4. Create partnerships with local women-led civil society organizations to enhance understanding of the situation on the ground and opportunities to address women's priorities and needs in efforts to end occupation and build peace.
5. Monitor decision-making by home countries (e.g. voting in the UN) to track the implications for Palestinian women and civil society organizations and advocate for their rights.
6. Ensure that all children, girls and boys, have access to quality schooling.
7. For organizations working with Palestinian political prisoners (e.g. Red Cross): ensure fair legal proceedings for all prisoners, especially women and children, by advocating for:
 - a. Access to health care;
 - b. Family visitation; and
 - c. Education.
8. Partner with the Palestinian Authority to ensure the release and reintegration of all political prisoners, especially women prisoners.