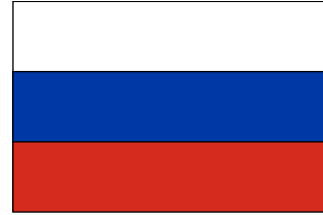


Committee: Security Council (University)

Country: Russian Federation

Topic A: Marking the 25th Anniversary of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000)



Women around the world play a critical role in preventing conflict, building peace and helping countries recover during crises, often putting their own lives at risk.¹ Resolution 1325, adopted by Security Council in 2000, reaffirms the important role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts, peace negotiations, peace-building, peacekeeping, humanitarian response and in post-conflict reconstruction and stresses the importance of their equal participation and full involvement in all efforts for the maintenance and promotion of peace and security.²

Throughout its longstanding history, Russian Federation (*hereinafter: **Russia***) has always strived towards ensuring equal rights and opportunities for all. Women were, for example, granted the right to vote already in 1918,³ which is earlier than most European states.⁴ Furthermore, 18.5% of members of the Parliament are women, with the first woman entering it as early as 1922.⁵ In its Constitution, women are granted equal rights and freedoms and equal opportunities as men (Art. 19).⁶ Russian women have a high level of education (25% of doctors of science are women, 41% of candidates of science are women),⁷ are economically active and actively involved in the governance of the state; the Federation Council's official speaker and her Deputy, for example, are both women.⁸ According to the international organization Grant Thornton International, women made up 45% of the management of companies in Russia in 2017.⁹

Russia remains committed to the noble goals of the Women, Peace and Security agenda (**WPS**). Women are not just a vulnerable group; they are active participants in conflict resolution, peacekeeping and peacebuilding processes.¹⁰ Because of the State's awareness of the important role women play in our society,¹¹ Russia has never opposed the adoption of any WPS resolution over the last 20 years.¹² Furthermore, Russia has signed and ratified the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women¹³ and has adopted the national strategy for action in the interests of women for 2017-2022.¹⁴ In accordance with the goal of inclusion of women in peacebuilding processes, Russia has made and continues to make a significant contribution to training women peacekeepers at the UN-certified Peacekeeping Training Centre of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia.¹⁵

¹ United Nations Peacekeeping, n.d.

² Office of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women, n.d.

³ Inter-Parliamentary Union: historical data on women, n.d.

⁴ Österreichische Nationalbibliothek, n.d.

⁵ Inter-Parliamentary Union: Russian Federation, n.d.

⁶ UN Women: Russian Federation, n.d.

⁷ Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, n.d.

⁸ Council of the Federation, n.d.

⁹ Grant Thornton International Ltd., 2017.

¹⁰ Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the United Nations, 2025.

¹¹ Aktas, 2025.

¹² Welsh, 2020.

¹³ Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, n.d.

¹⁴ *Supra* Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, n.d.

¹⁵ Zhdanova, 2023.

It is no secret that the WPS agenda is facing difficulties globally; underfunded National Action Plans (**NAPs**), climate-driven displacement, resource-based militarization and fragile multilateralism are just some of the issues at hand.¹⁶ Russia tried to address some of these issues in the proposed draft resolution (as laid out in S/2020/1054), which failed to be adopted, with only Russia, China, Vietnam, South Africa and Indonesia voting in favour.¹⁷ This highlighted the hypocrisy of some Member States, which “seek a monopoly on protecting women’s rights and arrogantly turn down other countries willing to take part in dialogue on ways to improve the status of women, developing conceptual framework, and elaboration of proposals in this area”, as Russia’s permanent representative to the United Nations elaborately explained.¹⁸

Parts of the WPS agenda cannot be fully implemented in a vacuum – expansion of women’s participation in decision-making cannot be achieved by merely imposing artificial quotas or by involving them just for the sake of appearances. In light of this, it ought to be highlighted that Russia’s governmental structures include no gender quotas,¹⁹ as women, like men, need to be eligible for roles and opportunities solely on the basis of their professional skills, knowledge and experience.²⁰ The role of the United Nations, other international organisations and the civil society should be purely subsidiary; it must be geared towards supporting national efforts, not imposing quotas or similar obligations upon States.²¹ As is well known, “one-size-fits-all approaches” cannot bear viable results.²²

Any resolution adopted by Security Council should therefore not be adopted under the Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations, nor should it include loud condemnations of States not yet fully complying with the Resolution 1325 and following resolutions on WPS. Namely, the empowerment of women can be a slow and painstaking process and such condemnations would not reach the desired effect.²³ When deciding, the Council should also take into account that the United Nations is facing a financial crisis, which is why the delegations must consider how to make the best use of available resources. In this regard, Russia does not support creating potential additional bureaucratic structures for WPS, as it will not help to meaningfully improve the situation on the ground.

The Council should undoubtedly address the difficulties WPS agenda is facing. First and foremost, a call should be made that WPS agenda is implemented in a depoliticized and impartial manner, thus ensuring that it is not used as a pretext for interfering in domestic affairs of sovereign states. In this regard, greater inclusion of women in peace processes is encouraged without imposing mandatory numerical quotas. States should be able to implement their commitments in a manner, consistent with their national priorities and cultural context. However, measures to prevent and respond to conflict-related sexual violence should be strengthened with special focus on cyber-enabled harassment and surveillance. All of the aforementioned aspects of a potential resolution should be accompanied with a clear call to States for provision and unhindered access to humanitarian assistance to women in conflict areas.

It should not be forgotten that the Women, Peace and Security agenda is about the protection of women and equality between men and women in the context of armed conflict. Russia, as a state that was at the forefront of the struggle for women’s rights, will always prioritize the advancement of women, equality between men and women, and genuine protection of women from the consequences of armed conflicts.²⁴

¹⁶ Study guide, pp. 7, 21-23.

¹⁷ NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security, 2020.

¹⁸ *Supra* Welsh, 2020.

¹⁹ Inter-Parliamentary Union: Data on women (n.d.)

²⁰ *Supra* Zhdanova, 2023.

²¹ United Nations Security Council, 2025.

²² *Supra* Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the United Nations, 2025.

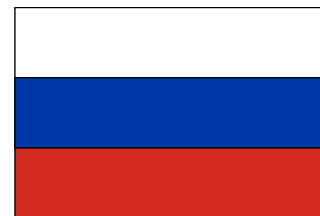
²³ World Economic Forum, 2023.

²⁴ *Supra* Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the United Nations, 2025.

Committee: Security Council (University)

Country: Russian Federation

Topic B: Addressing the Disproportionate Effect of Armed Conflicts on Children



In 2023, the population of the Russian Federation (*hereinafter: Russia*) totalled approximately 150 million, with children accounting for about 30 million.¹ In the last decades, the birth rate has been slowly declining,² thus highlighting the need to preserve and revive the tradition of large families.³ Because of the importance of Russian children for the nation's ethnic survival,⁴ Russia is fully aware of the impact armed conflicts can have on children and is committed to ensuring their protection.

Russia is a firm supporter of human rights and, in particular, the rights of children.⁵ Besides the general international treaties and declarations regarding human rights, such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenants of 1966, which Russia is a proud State party to,⁶ Russia is also a signatory to the Geneva Conventions and Protocols I⁷ and II,⁸ the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict.⁹ It also supports the activity of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict.¹⁰ With regard to armed conflicts and the protection of children, Russia fully complies with its international obligations; under the 1995 Law on Compulsory Military service,¹¹ the minimum age for enrolment is set at 18, ensuring that minors are not included in any mobilization or recruitment processes.

Children's suffering from hunger, disease and violence however remains, unfortunately, a bitter reality of our days. Protecting the rights of children, including in armed conflicts and post-conflict situations, is therefore one of the major tasks facing the international community.¹² In light of that, let it be known that Russia strongly condemns crimes against children. The perpetrators of such crimes must be held accountable.¹³

In February 2022, Russia started a special operation in Ukraine.¹⁴ Since then, numerous allegations have been made about Russia abducting Ukrainian children.¹⁵ Such accusations are false and have been refuted countless times. For this exact reason Russia hosted an Arria meeting on 5 April 2023 which was dedicated to evacuation of children in the context of the Ukrainian crisis. At the meeting, Russian Presidential Commissioner for Children's Rights, Ms. Lvova-Belova, and other panelists provided objective firsthand information to counter each of those false narratives. The truth is that children were evacuated from the zone of hostilities that had been provoked by Kiev.¹⁶

¹ United Nations Children's Fund, n.d.

² The Moscow Times, 2025.

³ NDTV, 2023.

⁴ Anews, 2024.

⁵ President of Russia, 2022; Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, 2023.

⁶ Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights: International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, n.d.

⁷ International Committee of the Red Cross: Additional Protocol I, n.d.; Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, 2019.

⁸ International Committee of the Red Cross: Additional Protocol II, n.d.

⁹ Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights: Convention on the Rights of the Child, n.d.

¹⁰ Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the United Nations, 2019.

¹¹ Child Soldiers International, 2001.

¹² Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, 2003.

¹³ *Supra* Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, 2003.

¹⁴ United Nations, 2022.

¹⁵ Klobuchar, 2025.

¹⁶ Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the United Nations, 2023.

Since February 2022, Russian regions have accommodated more than 5 million people from Ukraine and the Donbas republics, including more than 730.000 children. Most arrived with their parents or relatives. Around 2.000 came from orphanages with their caregivers and only 357 were placed with Russian families under provisional care or temporary guardianship. This arrangement allows children to live in families rather than orphanages, while remaining eligible for reunification with their relatives. At the same time, the Russian side does not prevent children's contacts and communication with relatives, regardless of their place of residence. To facilitate the reunification process, parents can turn to the Office of the Russian Presidential Commissioner for Children's Rights and ask for assistance looking for their children.¹⁷

Russia has also called out Kiev for their forceful deportation whereby children are disconnected from their parents, and also about detentions of minors by Ukrainian special services.¹⁸ The West, however continues to remain deaf to this information and maliciously spreads anti-Russian hysteria to scare Europeans into supporting their hostile actions against Russia.¹⁹ Similar double standards are shown regarding its support for Israel.²⁰ Because of this, Russia cannot accept the arrest warrants, issued by the International Criminal Court against our leaders.²¹ The ICC is a Western tool serving the anti-Russian political order about pseudo-abductions of Ukrainian children,²² which is why, to Russia, the ICC does not exist.²³

When discussing solutions on the topic at hand, the Council should bear in mind that it is national governments, who play a paramount role in protecting and rehabilitating children in armed conflicts, while the role of the United Nations is to support and complement such national efforts.²⁴ That being said, in accordance with UNSC resolution S/RES/1612 (2005) and subsequent documents, closest attention should be paid to the six categories of gravest violations against children.²⁵ A potential resolution should therefore not focus on other issues related to rights of children that do not have to do with maintaining international peace and security, as such issues are part of mandate of other UN bodies.²⁶

The best method to prevent children is to prevent conflicts from originating or settle them before they become destructive.²⁷ In this regard, Security Council should condemn the barbarities against children, perpetuated by Ukraine, and call for Ukraine to accept the recently proposed peace agreement by the United States of America.²⁸ The resolution should also encourage the establishment of humanitarian programs that deliver food, medical care and other essentials to children, affected by armed conflicts. These should include rehabilitation programs for children, previously involved or affected by hostilities.

Russia emphasizes that when talking about children, States do not have the right to politicize agenda.²⁹ The Russian Federation is committed to work together with out colleagues at the Security Council towards a better fate for children in armed conflicts.

¹⁷ *Supra* Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the United Nations, 2023.

¹⁸ *Supra* Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, 2023.

¹⁹ Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the United Nations, 2020.

²⁰ Arnaout, 2024.

²¹ Le Monde, 2023.

²² *Supra* Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the United Nations, 2023.

²³ BBC News, 2016.

²⁴ Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the United Nations, 2021.

²⁵ Study guide, p. 31.

²⁶ *Supra* Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the United Nations, 2019.

²⁷ *Supra* Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, 2003.

²⁸ Al Jazeera, 2025.

²⁹ *Supra* Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the United Nations, 2021.

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