

The  
G7 Research Group  
at the Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy at Trinity College  
in the University of Toronto presents the

## 2019 G7 Biarritz Summit Final Compliance Report

27 August 2019 — 1 November 2020

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14 December 2020

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“We have meanwhile set up a process and there are also independent institutions monitoring which objectives of our G7 meetings we actually achieve. When it comes to these goals we have a compliance rate of about 80%, according to the University of Toronto. Germany, with its 87%, comes off pretty well. That means that next year too, under the Japanese G7 presidency, we are going to check where we stand in comparison to what we have discussed with each other now. So a lot of what we have resolved to do here together is something that we are going to have to work very hard at over the next few months. But I think that it has become apparent that we, as the G7, want to assume responsibility far beyond the prosperity in our own countries. That’s why today’s outreach meetings, that is the meetings with our guests, were also of great importance.”

Chancellor Angela Merkel, Schloss Elmau, 8 June 2015

G7 summits are a moment for people to judge whether aspirational intent is met by concrete commitments. The G7 Research Group provides a report card on the implementation of G7 and G20 commitments. It is a good moment for the public to interact with leaders and say, you took a leadership position on these issues — a year later, or three years later, what have you accomplished?

Achim Steiner, Administrator, United Nations Development Programme,  
in G7 Canada: The 2018 Charlevoix Summit



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## 18. Health: Mental Health

“We will continue to support efforts to promptly respond to ongoing cases of victims’ specific medical, psychological and social needs while making those responsible accountable.”

*Declaration on Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment*

### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada	-1		
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy	-1		
Japan	-1		
United Kingdom			+1
United States		0	
European Union			+1
Average	+0.13 (56%)		

### Background

At Biarritz in 2019, the G7 Leaders, in their Declaration on Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment, committed to “support efforts to promptly respond to ongoing cases of victims’ specific medical, psychological and social needs while making those responsible accountable.”<sup>3681</sup> They made this commitment in the context of the Dinard Declaration on Women, Peace and Security from the Foreign Ministers’ meeting of that year.<sup>3682</sup> The Dinard Declaration promoted a “victim-centered approach” to the “justice” and the “relief” component of the response to sexual violence in conflict (SVC).<sup>3683</sup> Both documents place particular emphasis on the contribution of non-state actors such as Nobel Peace Prize Winners Nadia Murad and Denis Mukwege, who are in the process of creating the International Fund for Survivors of Conflict-Related Sexual Violence.<sup>3684</sup>

In the past few decades, in conflict-ridden regions such as Myanmar, the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen, and South Sudan, we have witnessed the use of sexual violence as a weapon of war and terrorism, often against particular ethnic and religious groups.<sup>3685</sup> In these cases, SVC often contributed to conflict-driven migration crises.<sup>3686</sup> These atrocities are nothing new. There is a long history of states or armed groups using sexual violence to “punish, terrorize and destroy populations,” “pursue (strategic) objectives,” or reward soldiers.<sup>3687</sup> Usually, the victims of conflict-based sexual

<sup>3681</sup> Declaration on Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment, 2019 Biarritz Summit (Biarritz) 26 August 2019.

Access Date: 15 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/declaration-on-gender-equality.pdf>

<sup>3682</sup> Declaration on Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment, 2019 Biarritz Summit (Biarritz) 26 August 2019.

Access Date: 15 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/declaration-on-gender-equality.pdf>

<sup>3683</sup> Dinard Declaration on Women, Peace and Security, 2019 Biarritz Summit (Saint Malo) 6 April 2019. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/190406-women.html>

<sup>3684</sup> Declaration on Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment, 2019 Biarritz Summit (Biarritz) 26 August 2019.

Access Date: 15 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2019biarritz/declaration-on-gender-equality.pdf>; Dinard Declaration on Women, Peace and Security, 2019 Biarritz Summit (Saint Malo) 6 April 2019. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/190406-women.html>

<sup>3685</sup> Report of the Secretary-General on Conflict-Related Sexual Violence, UN Security Council (New York) 23 March 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/N1808325-1.pdf>

<sup>3686</sup> Report of the Secretary-General on Conflict-Related Sexual Violence, UN Security Council (New York) 23 March 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/N1808325-1.pdf>

<sup>3687</sup> Rape as a Weapon of War, Mukwege Foundation (The Hague) n.d. Access Date: 15 October 2019.

<https://www.mukwegefoundation.org/the-problem/rape-as-a-weapon-of-war/>

violence are “politically and economically marginalized women and girls.”<sup>3688</sup> However, in 2008, the United Nations Security Council adopted Resolution 1820, a landmark decision to treat SVC as central to issues of peace and security<sup>3689</sup> which stated that SVC “constitute[s] a war crime, a crime against humanity, or a constitutive act with respect to genocide.”<sup>3690</sup>

As the international community increasingly recognized the severity of SVC, the G7 added the issue to their agenda in a major way in 2013 in Aylesbury when the G7 Foreign Ministers adopted the Declaration on Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict.<sup>3691</sup> In the Declaration, there was a clear dual concern with holding perpetrators to account as well as providing a wide variety of services for victims such as “health, psychosocial, legal and economic support.”<sup>3692</sup>

However, in the Leaders’ Declaration of the summit in the following year, there was little mention of SVC, with only a general commitment from the Foreign Ministers in Aylesbury to empower women in conflict zones and the statement that they “look[ed] forward to the [upcoming] Global Summit to End Sexual Violence in Conflict.”<sup>3693</sup>

At their meeting in 2015 in Lübeck, however, the G7 Foreign Ministers reaffirmed the Declaration on Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict.<sup>3694</sup> In Elmau in 2015, the G7 leaders “condemn[ed] in the strongest terms all forms of sexual violence in conflict.”<sup>3695</sup>

Preventing and responding to SVC was also a key component of the Ise-Shima summit of 2016. In Hiroshima that year, the Foreign Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to the G7 Report on the Implementation of the G8 Declaration on the Prevention of Sexual Violence in Conflict, paying special attention to their dual responsibility of “supporting victims while holding perpetrators to account.”<sup>3696</sup> In the Leaders’ Declaration of that summit, the G7 condemned “gender-based violence ... including sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict situations,” with a focus on “holding perpetrators to account” including UN personnel. G7 leaders framed this commitment in the context of the UN’s Women, Peace and Security Agenda which is largely associated with UN Security Council Resolution 1325 from 2000<sup>3697</sup> that promotes greater responsiveness in peacebuilding operations to women affected by conflict in a particular region.<sup>3698</sup> Of particular emphasis at that summit was strengthening peacekeepers’ abilities to respond to sexual violence in regions where they

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<sup>3688</sup> Report of the Secretary-General on Conflict-Related Sexual Violence, UN Security Council (New York) 23 March 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/N1808325-1.pdf>

<sup>3689</sup> Report of the Secretary-General on Conflict-Related Sexual Violence, UN Security Council (New York) 23 March 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/N1808325-1.pdf>

<sup>3690</sup> Resolution 1820, UN Security Council (New York) 19 June 2008. Access Date: 15 October 2019. [https://undocs.org/S/RES/1820\(2008\)](https://undocs.org/S/RES/1820(2008))

<sup>3691</sup> Declaration on Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict, G8 Foreign Ministers Meeting (Aylesbury) 11 April 2013. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/formin130411-psvi.html>

<sup>3692</sup> Declaration on Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict, G8 Foreign Ministers Meeting (Aylesbury) 11 April 2013. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/formin130411-psvi.html>

<sup>3693</sup> G7 Brussels Summit Declaration, G7 Brussels Summit (Brussels) 5 June 2014. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2014brussels/declaration.html>

<sup>3694</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers’ Meeting Communiqué, G7 Foreign Ministers Meeting (Lübeck) 15 April 2015. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/formin150415.html>

<sup>3695</sup> Leaders’ Declaration: G7 Summit, 2015 Elmau Summit (Elmau) 8 June 2015. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>

<sup>3696</sup> Joint Communiqué, G7 Foreign Ministers at Hiroshima (Hiroshima) 11 April 2016. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/formin160411-communique.html>

<sup>3697</sup> Women, Peace and Security, United Nations n.d. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <https://dppa.un.org/en/women-peace-and-security>

<sup>3698</sup> Resolution 1325, UN Security Council (New York) 31 October 2000. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <https://undocs.org/en/S/RES/1325%282000%29>

are operating.<sup>3699</sup> Notably, they also committed to support “increasing access to protection and to justice for those affected by sexual and gender-based violence, enhancing the full range of medical, legal and psychosocial and livelihood services, and strengthening their abilities and economic self-reliance through education and training for refugees of conflict regions.”<sup>3700</sup>

At the Charlevoix summit of 2018, SVC was also discussed in the context of including women in regional security deliberations, with the assertion that “Gender-sensitive measures that include women’s participation and perspectives to prevent and eradicate terrorism are vital to effective and sustainable results, protection from sexual and gender-based violence, and preventing other human rights abuses and violations.”<sup>3701</sup> They stated that they needed to “work together to address sexual violence in conflict zones.”<sup>3702</sup> At the Foreign Ministers’ Meeting of that year, the G7 also expressed concern over “sexual and gender-based violence,” especially minority victims.<sup>3703</sup> The G7 Foreign Ministers placed particular emphasis on “(coordinating) efforts” to assist victims of sexual violence in Myanmar and holding UN personnel accountable for “sexual exploitation” in conflict areas.<sup>3704</sup>

### **Commitment Features**

G7 members agreed to “continue to support efforts to promptly respond to ongoing cases of victims’ specific medical, psychological, and social needs while making those responsible accountable.”

The key part of this commitment is the promise “to continue to support efforts to promptly respond to ongoing cases of victims’ specific medical, psychological and social needs.” Based on the verb “continue,” continued support of past initiatives is included as evidence of compliance. “Support” is defined to mean a contribution of resources, which can include an increase in government funding or the establishment of a new initiative that is related to one that a G7 member has supported in the past. Verbal affirmations are not counted as support. “Efforts” can come from previous domestic policy, the policy of foreign governments, international organizations, or civil society. Notably, these must also be efforts to “promptly respond.” “Respond” is interpreted broadly, as any initiative relevant to “ongoing cases of victims’ specific medical, psychological, and social needs.” However, given the use of the adverb “promptly” and the phrase “ongoing cases,” compliance requires that these responses be attempts to intensify or supplement efforts responding to instances of SVC that are currently occurring. The UN has identified the “conflict-affected settings” as Afghanistan, the Central African Republic, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Iraq, Libya, Mali, Myanmar, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan (Darfur), the Syrian Arab Republic, and Yemen.<sup>3705</sup> The UN has also identified post-conflict areas in which victims’ needs are also a concern. These are: Bosnia

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<sup>3699</sup> G7 Guiding Principles for Capacity Building of Women and Girls: Towards Sustainable, Inclusive and Equitable Growth and Peace, 2016 Ise-Shima Summit Documents (Ise-Shima) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/principles-women.html>

<sup>3700</sup> G7 Guiding Principles for Capacity Building of Women and Girls: Towards Sustainable, Inclusive and Equitable Growth and Peace, 2016 Ise-Shima Summit Documents (Ise-Shima) 27 May 2016. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2016shima/principles-women.html>

<sup>3701</sup> The Charlevoix G7 Summit Communiqué, 2018 Charlevoix Summit (La Malbaie) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/communique.html>

<sup>3702</sup> Building a More Peaceful and Secure World: G7 Public Engagement Paper, 2018 Charlevoix Summit n.d. Access Date: 15 October 2019. [http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/G7\\_public\\_engagement\\_paper\\_peace\\_security.pdf](http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/G7_public_engagement_paper_peace_security.pdf)

<sup>3703</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers Joint Communiqué, 2018 Charlevoix Summit (Toronto) 23 April 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/180423-communique.html>

<sup>3704</sup> G7 Foreign Ministers Joint Communiqué, 2018 Charlevoix Summit (Toronto) 23 April 2018. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/foreign/180423-communique.html>

<sup>3705</sup> Conflict Related Sexual Violence: Report of the United Nations Secretary-General, United Nations (New York) 29 March 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/report/s-2019-280/Annual-report-2018.pdf>

and Herzegovina, Côte d'Ivoire, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Burundi, and Nigeria.<sup>3706</sup> Efforts in all of these regions will count as compliance. Others may also count based on changing regional conditions.

Victims of SVC are anyone who has suffered one of the eight forms of sexual violence agreed upon by the UN and other international legal bodies: “rape; sexual slavery; forced pregnancy; forced abortion; enforced sterilization; forced marriage; and any other form of sexual violence of comparable gravity.”<sup>3707</sup> Those responsible are to be defined as individuals, who could have acted on behalf of a state or a non-state militant group during the conflict.

This Commitment has four distinctive elements: medical needs of mental health, psychological needs of mental health, social needs of mental health, and making those responsible accountable. To support efforts in any of these four elements, a G7 member must either commit to an initiative which addresses these issues in a conflict area or contribute additional funds to a project which does so.

1. Medical needs of mental health can be seen as the problems SVC can cause victims’ physical health. According to the Mukwege Foundation, most medical needs will involve fistula repair, sexually transmitted diseases, or other injuries sustained during other injuries from SVC.<sup>3708</sup> The UN also reports unwanted pregnancy and HIV prevention as key to medical treatment for SVC victims.<sup>3709</sup>
2. Psychological needs of mental health can be seen as policies that ease the emotional distress of victims. The UN notes that psychological support can also be “life-saving” in cases of SVC.<sup>3710</sup> The Mukwege Foundation lists the two main types of psychological treatment as psychotherapy and “psychological support activities,” which can be either as part of a group or one-on-one.<sup>3711</sup> In addition to the provision of medical and psychological services specifically designed for SVC victims, the UN notes that there now exists “sensitization training” for “medical and psychosocial professionals.”<sup>3712</sup> Intensification of such training as well as increases in services counts as compliance.
3. Social needs can be seen as needs related to the way SVC changes their victims’ position within their community. The UN notes that victims are often ostracized by their communities and

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<sup>3706</sup> Conflict Related Sexual Violence: Report of the United Nations Secretary-General, United Nations (New York) 29 March 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/report/s-2019-280/Annual-report-2018.pdf>

<sup>3707</sup> Rape as a Weapon of War, Mukwege Foundation (The Hague) n.d. Access Date: 15 October 2019. <https://www.mukwegefoundation.org/the-problem/rape-as-a-weapon-of-war/>

<sup>3708</sup> Handbook: Holistic Care for Survivors of Sexual Violence in Conflict, dr. Denis Mukwege Foundation (The Hague) 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019.

[https://www.mukwegefoundation.org/wpcontent/uploads/2019/07/Handbook-Care\\_for\\_SV\\_Survivors-ENG-screen.pdf](https://www.mukwegefoundation.org/wpcontent/uploads/2019/07/Handbook-Care_for_SV_Survivors-ENG-screen.pdf)

<sup>3709</sup> Conflict Related Sexual Violence: Report of the United Nations Secretary-General, United Nations (New York) 29 March 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019.

<https://www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/wpcontent/uploads/2019/04/report/s-2019-280/Annual-report-2018.pdf>

<sup>3710</sup> Conflict Related Sexual Violence: Report of the United Nations Secretary-General, United Nations (New York) 29 March 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019.

<https://www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/wpcontent/uploads/2019/04/report/s-2019-280/Annual-report-2018.pdf>

<sup>3711</sup> Handbook: Holistic Care for Survivors of Sexual Violence in Conflict, dr. Denis Mukwege Foundation (The Hague) 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019.

[https://www.mukwegefoundation.org/wpcontent/uploads/2019/07/Handbook-Care\\_for\\_SV\\_Survivors-ENG-screen.pdf](https://www.mukwegefoundation.org/wpcontent/uploads/2019/07/Handbook-Care_for_SV_Survivors-ENG-screen.pdf)

<sup>3712</sup> Conflict Related Sexual Violence: Report of the United Nations Secretary-General, United Nations (New York) 29 March 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019.

<https://www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/wpcontent/uploads/2019/04/report/s-2019-280/Annual-report-2018.pdf>

families.<sup>3713</sup> In particular, they note the challenges faced by survivors of wartime rape, and their children, which include “risk of abuse, abandonment and marginalization.”<sup>3714</sup> In response to these social needs, the Mukwege Foundation proposes initiatives such as support for the education of survivors; training to assist rehabilitation; and economic measures such as “emergency grant, vocational training, job placement, or access to micro-finance programmes.”<sup>3715</sup>

4. Making those responsible accountable is an action that strengthens efforts at legal prosecution against the perpetrators of SVC in a current conflict area (as listed above). Complying to this part of the commitment could include leadership within the UN and the International Criminal Court to prosecute perpetrators of SVC; initiatives to improve the mechanisms for monitoring and prosecuting SVC, either by regional actors or UN personnel; or support of domestic law enforcement and the judicial system as concerns SVC.

In order for G7 members to achieve a full compliance score, they must continue to support efforts to promptly respond to ongoing cases of at least two of victims’ specific 1. Medical needs; 2. Psychological needs; 3. Social needs, while making those responsible accountable or they must continue to support efforts to promptly respond to ongoing cases of all three of victims’ specific 1. Medical needs; 2. Psychological needs; 3. Social needs. To earn a partial compliance score, they need to address only two parts of the commitment, which would mean either continuing to support efforts to promptly respond to ongoing cases of two of victims’ specific 1. Medical needs; 2. Psychological needs; 3. Social needs or continuing to support efforts to promptly respond to ongoing cases of one of victims’ specific 1. Medical needs; 2. Psychological needs; 3. Social needs while making those responsible accountable. Non-compliance, or a score of -1, refers to G7 members who have acted on only one of the four parts of this commitment, thus one of the three of victims’ specific needs or making those responsible accountable.

### Scoring Guidelines

-1	The G7 member either took efforts to promptly respond to ongoing cases of one of victims’ specific 1. Medical needs; 2. Psychological needs; 3. Social needs or the G7 member continued to support efforts to make those responsible accountable.
0	The G7 member continued to support efforts to promptly respond to ongoing cases in at least one of three of victims’ specific 1. Medical needs; 2. Psychological needs; 3. Social needs while continuing to support efforts to make those responsible accountable or the G7 member continued to support efforts to promptly respond to ongoing cases in two of victims’ specific 1. Medical needs; 2. Psychological needs; 3. Social needs but took no action to make those responsible accountable.
+1	The G7 member continued to support efforts to promptly respond to ongoing cases in at least two of victims’ specific 1. Medical needs; 2. Psychological needs; 3. Social needs while making those responsible accountable or the G7 member continued to support efforts to promptly respond to ongoing cases in all three of victims’ specific 1. Medical needs; 2. Psychological needs; 3. Social needs.

<sup>3713</sup> 9 Conflict Related Sexual Violence: Report of the United Nations Secretary-General, United Nations (New York) 29 March 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019.

<https://www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/wpcontent/uploads/2019/04/report/s-2019-280/Annual-report-2018.pdf>

<sup>3714</sup> Conflict Related Sexual Violence: Report of the United Nations Secretary-General, United Nations (New York) 29 March 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019.

<https://www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/wpcontent/uploads/2019/04/report/s-2019-280/Annual-report-2018.pdf>

<sup>3715</sup> Handbook: Holistic Care for Survivors of Sexual Violence in Conflict, dr. Denis Mukwege Foundation (The Hague) 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019.

[https://www.mukwegefoundation.org/wpcontent/uploads/2019/07/Handbook-Care\\_for\\_SV\\_Survivors-ENG-screen.pdf](https://www.mukwegefoundation.org/wpcontent/uploads/2019/07/Handbook-Care_for_SV_Survivors-ENG-screen.pdf)

*Compliance Director: Clara Geddes  
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**Canada: -1**

Canada has not complied with its commitment to support efforts to promptly respond to ongoing cases of victims' specific medical, psychological, and social issues while making those responsible accountable.

In September 2019, the Canadian embassy in Côte d'Ivoire, along with the Côte d'Ivoire Chapter of the Women's Peace and Security Network in the Economic Community of West African States, organized a panel discussion on the implementation of United Nations Resolution 1325, that emphasized protecting women from gender-based violence in conflict and providing support to victims.<sup>3716</sup>

On 29 October 2019, the Government of Canada delivered a statement at the UN Security Council, where it supported the full implementation of the Women, Peace and Security agenda. It emphasized sexual and reproductive health rights in fighting global gender-based violence and discrimination.<sup>3717</sup> The Canadian government also announced that it will co-chair the Women, Peace and Security Focal Points Network with Uruguay in 2020.<sup>3718</sup>

On 30 October 2019, the Canadian government issued a statement on the anniversary of the UN's Mandate on Sexual Violence in Conflict, where it condemned sexual violence as a weapon of war and asserted that, "that survivors must have access to comprehensive support."<sup>3719</sup>

On 4 November 2019, at the 4th Committee of the UN General Assembly's review of peacekeeping operations, the Canadian delegation highlighted the need to "(address) cases of sexual exploitation" on the part of UN personnel.<sup>3720</sup>

On 11 November 2019, the Canadian government expressed its support of Gambia's application to the International Court of Justice to hold the government of Myanmar accountable for "sexual and gender-based violence," among other genocidal acts.<sup>3721</sup>

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<sup>3716</sup> Women at the table: Peace and security in Côte d'Ivoire, Government of Canada (Ottawa) September 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/stories-histoires/2019/cotedivoire-peace-paix.aspx?lang=eng>

<sup>3717</sup> Canada National Statement - Women, Peace and Security Open Debate UN Security Council, Government of Canada (New York) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 23 March 2020. [https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/international\\_relations-relations\\_internationales/un-onu/statements-declarations/2019-10-women-femmes.aspx?lang=eng](https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/international_relations-relations_internationales/un-onu/statements-declarations/2019-10-women-femmes.aspx?lang=eng)

<sup>3718</sup> Canada National Statement - Women, Peace and Security Open Debate UN Security Council, Government of Canada (New York) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 23 March 2020. [https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/international\\_relations-relations\\_internationales/un-onu/statements-declarations/2019-10-women-femmes.aspx?lang=eng](https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/international_relations-relations_internationales/un-onu/statements-declarations/2019-10-women-femmes.aspx?lang=eng)

<sup>3719</sup> Member-States Statements at the 10-Year Anniversary Event to Commemorate the Establishment of the Mandate on Sexual Violence in Conflict, UN Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict, 30 October 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/member-states-statements-10-year-anniversary-event-to-commemorate-the-establishment-of-the-mandate-on-sexual-violence-in-conflict/>

<sup>3720</sup> Top Officials Highlight Progress of United Nations African Union Partnership, as Fourth Committee Starts General Debate on Peacekeeping Operations, United Nations General Assembly (New York) 4 November 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/gaspd706.doc.htm>

On 25 November 2019, Minister of Foreign Affairs François-Philippe Champagne and Minister of International Development Karina Gould delivered a statement for the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women where they declared that, “Sexual assault, also used in too many instances as a weapon of war, is a violation of human rights and one of the main barriers to achieving gender equality” and that, “Too often, the victims are silenced while the perpetrators go unpunished.”<sup>3722</sup>

On 6 May 2020, Canada participated in a joint statement on the gender implications of the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>3723</sup> With regards to displaced women, the statement sets out that “Sexual and reproductive health needs, including psychosocial support services, and protection from gender-based violence, must be prioritized to ensure continuity.”<sup>3724</sup>

On 6 June 2020, the United Nations published the Handbook for United Nations Field Missions on Preventing and Responding to Conflict-Related Sexual Violence with the financial contributions from the Government of Canada, the United Kingdom and the United States.<sup>3725</sup> The Handbook aims to serve as a practical guide for United Nations Field Missions to implement the conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV) mandate and support practices, models, and tools to address CRSV.<sup>3726</sup> The Handbook outlines approaches such as providing medical, sexual, psychological and legal services for victims as well as ensuring victims’ participations in accountability processes.<sup>3727</sup>

On 17 July 2020, the Government of Canada made a statement in the Security Council Open VTC [Videoconference] on Conflict-Related Sexual Violence.<sup>3728</sup> In the statement, Canada reaffirmed its support in addressing sexual violence through a survivor-centered approach.<sup>3729</sup> It emphasized the

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<sup>3721</sup> Joint Statement of Canada and the Kingdom of the Netherlands Regarding the Gambia’s Action to Address Accountability in Myanmar, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 9 December 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2019/12/joint-statement-of-canada-and-the-kingdom-of-the-netherlands-regarding-the-gambias-action-to-address-accountability-in-myanmar.html>

<sup>3722</sup> Statement to Mark International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 25 November 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2019/11/statement-to-mark-international-day-for-the-elimination-of-violence-against-women.html>

<sup>3723</sup> Official speeches and statements - May 11, 2020, French Embassy U.S. May 11 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://fr.franceintheus.org/spip.php?article9739>

<sup>3724</sup> Official speeches and statements - May 11, 2020, French Embassy U.S. May 11 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://fr.franceintheus.org/spip.php?article9739>

<sup>3725</sup> Handbook for United Nations Field Missions on United Nations Field Missions on Preventing and Responding to Conflict-Related Sexual Violence, United Nations (New York) 6 June 2020. Access Date: 24 August 2020. <https://www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/2020.08-UN-CRSV-Handbook.pdf>

<sup>3726</sup> Handbook for United Nations Field Missions on United Nations Field Missions on Preventing and Responding to Conflict-Related Sexual Violence, United Nations (New York) 6 June 2020. Access Date: 24 August 2020. <https://www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/2020.08-UN-CRSV-Handbook.pdf>

<sup>3727</sup> Handbook for United Nations Field Missions on United Nations Field Missions on Preventing and Responding to Conflict-Related Sexual Violence, United Nations (New York) 6 June 2020. Access Date: 24 August 2020. <https://www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/2020.08-UN-CRSV-Handbook.pdf>

<sup>3728</sup> Canada’s National Statement, Security Council Open VTC on Conflict-Related Sexual Violence, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 17 July 2020. Access Date: 24 August 2020. [https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/international\\_relations-relations\\_internationales/un-onu/statements-declarations/2020-07-17-VTC\\_conflict-conflits\\_visio.aspx?lang=eng](https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/international_relations-relations_internationales/un-onu/statements-declarations/2020-07-17-VTC_conflict-conflits_visio.aspx?lang=eng)

<sup>3729</sup> Canada’s National Statement, Security Council Open VTC on Conflict-Related Sexual Violence, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 17 July 2020. Access Date: 24 August 2020. [https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/international\\_relations-relations\\_internationales/un-onu/statements-declarations/2020-07-17-VTC\\_conflict-conflits\\_visio.aspx?lang=eng](https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/international_relations-relations_internationales/un-onu/statements-declarations/2020-07-17-VTC_conflict-conflits_visio.aspx?lang=eng)

Murad Code which seeks to increase accountability for conflict-related sexual violence and support the needs and rights of victims.<sup>3730</sup>

On 17 July 2020, the Government of Canada submitted a statement on behalf of 62 UN member states at the Security Council Open VTC on Conflict-Related Sexual Violence.<sup>3731</sup> In the statement, Canada urged ensuring accountability as well as providing “the full range of mental health and psychosocial support, livelihood, legal, and non-discriminatory health services” for survivors.<sup>3732</sup>

The Canadian government has delivered several statements affirming its resolve to support victims of sexual violence in conflict and ensure accountability for those responsible. However, it has not provided any resources to address the medical, psychological, or social services for victims. It has also not taken any concrete action to bring the perpetrators to justice.<sup>3733</sup>

Thus, Canada receives a score of -1.

*Analysts: Suthandira Arulkumar and Sheeriza Azeez*

### **France: +1**

France has partially complied with its commitment to support efforts to promptly respond to ongoing cases of victims’ specific medical, psychological, and social issues while making those responsible accountable.

On 11 October 2019, in its statement on the International Day of the Girl Child, the French government acknowledged that girls often suffer sexual exploitation and are particularly affected by regional conflicts.<sup>3734</sup>

On 29 October 2019, the Mukwege Foundation announced that the French government was contributing EUR6 million to their International Fund for Survivors of Conflict-Related Sexual Violence within a three-year time frame.<sup>3735</sup>

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<sup>3730</sup> Canada’s National Statement, Security Council Open VTC on Conflict-Related Sexual Violence, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 17 July 2020. Access Date: 24 August 2020. [https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/international\\_relations-relations\\_internationales/un-onu/statements-declarations/2020-07-17-VTC\\_conflict-conflits\\_visio.aspx?lang=eng](https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/international_relations-relations_internationales/un-onu/statements-declarations/2020-07-17-VTC_conflict-conflits_visio.aspx?lang=eng)

<sup>3731</sup> Statement on behalf of 62 Member States and the European Union, Security Council Open VTC on Conflict-Related Sexual Violence, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 17 July 2020. Access Date: 24 August 2020. [https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/international\\_relations-relations\\_internationales/un-onu/statements-declarations/2020-07-17-conflict-conflits.aspx](https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/international_relations-relations_internationales/un-onu/statements-declarations/2020-07-17-conflict-conflits.aspx)

<sup>3732</sup> Statement on behalf of 62 Member States and the European Union, Security Council Open VTC on Conflict-Related Sexual Violence, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 17 July 2020. Access Date: 24 August 2020. [https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/international\\_relations-relations\\_internationales/un-onu/statements-declarations/2020-07-17-conflict-conflits.aspx](https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/international_relations-relations_internationales/un-onu/statements-declarations/2020-07-17-conflict-conflits.aspx)

<sup>3733</sup> This non-compliance was determined after a deep search of the following websites: <https://www.canada.ca/en/news.html>, <https://www.international.gc.ca/gac-amc/index.aspx?lang=eng>, <https://cfc-swc.gc.ca/med/news-nouvelles/index-en.html>, <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/mission/minusca>, <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/mission/minusma>, <https://monusco.unmissions.org/en>, <https://unamid.unmissions.org/>, <https://unmiss.unmissions.org/>, <https://www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/media/press-releases/>, <https://www.mukwegefoundation.org/>, <https://www.cbc.ca/>, <https://globalnews.ca/>, <https://www.theglobeandmail.com/>

<sup>3734</sup> International Day of the Girl Child, French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 11 October 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/human-rights/women-s-rights/article/international-day-of-the-girl-child-11-oct-19>

On 29 October 2019, the French government announced its support for the United Nations Security Council's Women Peace, and Security agenda.<sup>3736</sup> The French government reaffirmed its support of the UN Secretary-General's "zero tolerance policy" towards sexual exploitation in conflict settings and argued that the process of involving women in peace-building should address issues relating to the "medical, psychological and social support provided to victims of sexual violence."<sup>3737</sup>

On 25 November 2019, the French government reaffirmed its commitment for the Dinard Declaration on Women, Peace and Security.<sup>3738</sup> It commended the European Union for taking action to comply with the Dinard Declaration, especially as concerns the development of a universal framework for response to sexual violence in conflict.<sup>3739</sup>

On 29 November 2019, upon the adoption of UN Resolution 2493, the French delegation declared that the UN Security Council needed to "act more vigorously to combat conflict-related sexual violence."<sup>3740</sup> The delegation commended the Sudanese army and the "Group of Five for the Sahel" in working to hold perpetrators accountable.<sup>3741</sup> The French delegation also committed to "(continuing) to support a wide range of health-care services, including sexual and reproductive health services, for victims of sexual and gender-based violence."<sup>3742</sup>

On 6 May 2020, France was one of 59 countries to be part of a joint statement on the gender implications of the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>3743</sup> With regards to displaced women, the statement sets out that "Sexual and reproductive health needs, including psychosocial support services, and protection from gender-based violence, must be prioritized to ensure continuity."<sup>3744</sup>

On 17 July 2020, the Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations Nicolas de Rivière presented a speech regarding conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV) at the Security Council.<sup>3745</sup> He

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<sup>3735</sup> On the 30th October, Dr. Denis Mukwege and Ms. Nadia Murad, 2018 Corecipients of the Nobel Peace Prize will Officially Launch the Global Survivors Fund in New York City at UN Headquarters at the Commemoration of the 10- year Anniversary of the Mandate on Sexual Violence in Conflict, dr. Denis Mukwege Foundation (The Hague) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://www.mukwegefoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/SurvivorsFUNDlaunch-30th-October.pdf>

<sup>3736</sup> Women, Peace and Security, Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 19 November 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/Women-Peace-and-Security-10451>

<sup>3737</sup> Women, Peace and Security, Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 19 November 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/Women-Peace-and-Security-10451>

<sup>3738</sup> France Committed to Fighting Violence Against Women Internationally, Embassy of France in Washington, D.C. (Washington) 26 November 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://franceintheus.org/spip.php?article9448>

<sup>3739</sup> France Committed to Fighting Violence Against Women Internationally, Embassy of France in Washington, D.C. (Washington) 26 November 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://franceintheus.org/spip.php?article9448>

<sup>3740</sup> Security Council Urges Recommitment to Women, Peace, Security Agenda, Unanimously Adopting Resolution 2493, United Nations Security Council (New York) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/sc13998.doc.htm>

<sup>3741</sup> Security Council Urges Recommitment to Women, Peace, Security Agenda, Unanimously Adopting Resolution 2493, United Nations Security Council (New York) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/sc13998.doc.htm>

<sup>3742</sup> Security Council Urges Recommitment to Women, Peace, Security Agenda, Unanimously Adopting Resolution 2493, United Nations Security Council (New York) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/sc13998.doc.htm>

<sup>3743</sup> Official speeches and statements - May 11, 2020, French Embassy U.S. May 11 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://fr.franceintheus.org/spip.php?article9739>

<sup>3744</sup> Official speeches and statements - May 11, 2020, French Embassy U.S. May 11 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://fr.franceintheus.org/spip.php?article9739>

<sup>3745</sup> Statement by Mr. Nicolas De Riviere Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations at the Security Council, Permanent mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 17 July 2020. Access Date: 24 August 2020. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/Open-debate-on-sexual-violence>

cited France's EUR6.2 million grant to the Mukwege/Murad Global Fund as well as France's EUR5 million funding to a project that tackles sexual violence in Chad as evidence of France's commitment in fighting sexual violence in conflict.<sup>3746</sup> He also announced that France will continue their commitment by organizing partnership with the Government of Mexico, UN Women, and civil society regarding CRSV.<sup>3747</sup>

France's contribution to the International Fund for Survivors of Conflict-Related Sexual Violence consists of an effort to support the medical, psychological, and social needs of victims. Therefore, France has fulfilled three of the four requirements from the commitment.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Pavlina Faltynek*

### **Germany: +1**

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to continue to support efforts to promptly respond to ongoing cases of victims' specific medical, psychological, and social needs while making those responsible accountable.

On 23 September 2019, Nobel Peace Prize laureate Denis Mukwege confirmed to the United Nations General Assembly that Germany was to contribute EUR400,000 to the International Fund for Survivors of Conflict-Related Sexual Violence within a two-year time frame.<sup>3748</sup>

On 25 September 2019, at the General Debate of the 74th session of the General Assembly of the United Nations, German Foreign Minister Heiko Maas condemned sexual violence in conflict and reaffirmed the need for better support for survivors.<sup>3749</sup>

On 29 October 2019, upon the adoption of UN Resolution 2493, the German delegation declared that Germany was complying with 10 out of the 12 points on the Women, Peace, and Security agenda, particularly with regards to the fact that "survivors of sexual violence receive little or no psychosocial care, counselling or health care."<sup>3750</sup>

On 24 November 2019, in his speech for the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, the German Federal Government Commissioner for Human Rights Policy and

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<sup>3746</sup> Statement by Mr Nicolas De Riviere Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations at the Security Council, Permanent mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 17 July 2020. Access Date: 24 August 2020. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/Open-debate-on-sexual-violence>

<sup>3747</sup> Statement by Mr Nicolas De Riviere Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations at the Security Council, Permanent mission of France to the United Nations in New York (New York) 17 July 2020. Access Date: 24 August 2020. <https://onu.delegfrance.org/Open-debate-on-sexual-violence>

<sup>3748</sup> Nobel laureate seeks backing for new funds to aid women raped in war, REUTERS (New York) 23 September 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-women-violence-fund/nobel-laureate-seeks-backing-for-new-fund-to-aid-women-raped-in-war-idUSKBN1W82PF>

<sup>3749</sup> Speech by Foreign Minister Heiko Maas at the General Debate of the 74th session of the General Assembly of the United Nations, German Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 25 September 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/maas-general-assembly/2250142>

<sup>3750</sup> Security Council Urges Recommitment to Women, Peace, Security Agenda, Unanimously Adopting Resolution 2493, United Nations Security Council (New York) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/sc13998.doc.htm>

Humanitarian Assistance acknowledged that conflict can dramatically exacerbate violence against women and reaffirmed Germany's commitment to holding perpetrators accountable.<sup>3751</sup>

Germany's contribution to the International Fund for Survivors of Conflict-Related Sexual Violence consists of an effort to support the medical, psychological, and social needs of victims. Furthermore, their prosecution of Raslan and al-Gharib represent efforts to hold those responsible for sexual violence in conflict accountable.

On 4 March 2020, the Government of Germany released an article on Germany's priority of protecting women in its foreign and security policy.<sup>3752</sup> The article stated that "women, peace and security" is one of Germany's focuses in its Security Council membership and is taking several measures to push this agenda including its commitment to the Federal Government Action Plan (2017-2020) to implement the Resolution 1325 which contains measures to protect women and girls against violence in armed conflicts.<sup>3753</sup>

On 6 May 2020, Germany was one of 59 countries to be part of a joint statement on the gender implications of the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>3754</sup> With regards to displaced women, the statement sets out that "Sexual and reproductive health needs, including psychosocial support services, and protection from gender-based violence, must be prioritized to ensure continuity."<sup>3755</sup>

On 19 June 2020, the Federal Government Commissioner for Human Rights Policy and Humanitarian Assistance at the Federal Foreign Office Barbel Kofler issued statement regarding sexual violence in conflict.<sup>3756</sup> Commissioner Kofler stated that the Government of Germany is currently working in conflict regions and in the UN Security Council to fight sexual violence in conflict and its root causes.<sup>3757</sup> He also stated that Germany will continue to work on the implementation of Resolution 2467.<sup>3758</sup>

On 15 July 2020, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) announced that the Government of Germany has increased its funding by EUR30 million to support the UNFPA's response to the

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<sup>3751</sup> Statement by Human Rights Commissioner Kofler on International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, German Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 24 November 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/kofler-voilence-against-women/2281266>

<sup>3752</sup> Women, peace and security, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 4 March 2020. Access Date: 24 August 2020. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/themen/menschenrechte/05-frauen/women-conflict-prevention/291532>

<sup>3753</sup> Women, peace and security, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 4 March 2020. Access Date: 24 August 2020. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/themen/menschenrechte/05-frauen/women-conflict-prevention/291532>

<sup>3754</sup> Official speeches and statements - May 11, 2020, French Embassy U.S. May 11 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://fr.franceintheus.org/spip.php?article9739>

<sup>3755</sup> Official speeches and statements - May 11, 2020, French Embassy U.S. May 11 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://fr.franceintheus.org/spip.php?article9739>

<sup>3756</sup> Human Rights Commissioner Kofler on the International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 19 June 2020. Access Date: 24 August 2020. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/kofler-sexual-violence-in-conflict/2354890>

<sup>3757</sup> Human Rights Commissioner Kofler on the International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 19 June 2020. Access Date: 24 August 2020. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/kofler-sexual-violence-in-conflict/2354890>

<sup>3758</sup> Human Rights Commissioner Kofler on the International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 19 June 2020. Access Date: 24 August 2020. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/kofler-sexual-violence-in-conflict/2354890>

COVID-19 crisis.<sup>3759</sup> The financial contribution is expected to “support a wide-range of live-saving sexual and reproductive health services to women and girls affected by the pandemic” and respond to rising gender-based violence under lockdown.<sup>3760</sup>

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Maria Anna Staszkievicz*

### **Italy: -1**

Italy has not complied with its commitment to continue to support efforts to promptly respond to ongoing cases of victims’ specific medical, psychological, and social needs while making those responsible accountable.

On 13 April 2020, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) announced that they will provide sexual and reproductive health support for nearly 60,000 vulnerable migrants in Sudan with the funding from the Government of Italy.<sup>3761</sup> This initiative will focus on providing medical support for female migrants and aim to support female migrants at high risk of gender-based violence.<sup>3762</sup>

On 6 May 2020, Italy was one of 59 countries to be part of a joint statement on the gender implications of the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>3763</sup> With regards to displaced women, the statement sets out that “Sexual and reproductive health needs, including psychosocial support services, and protection from gender-based violence, must be prioritized to ensure continuity.”<sup>3764</sup>

On 17 July 2020, the Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations Mariangela Zappia presented a speech regarding conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV) at the Security Council.<sup>3765</sup> Ambassador Zappia called for holding perpetrators of sexual violence in conflict accountable as a deterrent for future violations. She additionally promoted a survivor-centered approach of providing survivors services such as medical, legal and psychological support.<sup>3766</sup>

Italy has promoted ongoing efforts in responding to the needs of the victims of sexual violence in conflict by providing medical support to female migrants at risk of gender-based violence in conflict

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<sup>3759</sup> COVID-19: Germany commits additional EUR30 million to uphold women’s sexual and reproductive health, United Nations Population Fund (New York) 15 July 2020. Access Date: 24 August 2020. <https://www.unfpa.org/press/covid-19-germany-commits-additional-%E2%82%AC30-million-uphold-womens-sexual-and-reproductive-health%C2%A0>

<sup>3760</sup> COVID-19: Germany commits additional EUR30 million to uphold women’s sexual and reproductive health, United Nations Population Fund (New York) 15 July 2020. Access Date: 24 August 2020. <https://www.unfpa.org/press/covid-19-germany-commits-additional-%E2%82%AC30-million-uphold-womens-sexual-and-reproductive-health%C2%A0>

<sup>3761</sup> Italian assistance helps UNFPA protect vulnerable migrant women, youth in Sudan, United Nations Population Fund (New York) 13 April 2020. Access Date: 24 August 2020. <https://www.unfpa.org/updates/italian-assistance-helps-unfpa-protect-vulnerable-migrant-women-youth-sudan>

<sup>3762</sup> Italian assistance helps UNFPA protect vulnerable migrant women, youth in Sudan, United Nations Population Fund (New York) 13 April 2020. Access Date: 24 August 2020. <https://www.unfpa.org/updates/italian-assistance-helps-unfpa-protect-vulnerable-migrant-women-youth-sudan>

<sup>3763</sup> Official speeches and statements - May 11, 2020, French Embassy U.S. May 11 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://fr.franceintheus.org/spip.php?article9739>

<sup>3764</sup> Official speeches and statements - May 11, 2020, French Embassy U.S. May 11 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://fr.franceintheus.org/spip.php?article9739>

<sup>3765</sup> Security Council - Open Debate, Permanent Representatives of Italy to the United Nations (New York) 17 July 2020. Access Date: 24 August 2020. [https://italyun.esteri.it/rappresentanza\\_onu/en/comunicazione/archivio-news/2020/07/consiglio-di-sicurezza-dibattito\\_58.html](https://italyun.esteri.it/rappresentanza_onu/en/comunicazione/archivio-news/2020/07/consiglio-di-sicurezza-dibattito_58.html)

<sup>3766</sup> Security Council - Open Debate, Permanent Representatives of Italy to the United Nations (New York) 17 July 2020. Access Date: 24 August 2020. [https://italyun.esteri.it/rappresentanza\\_onu/en/comunicazione/archivio-news/2020/07/consiglio-di-sicurezza-dibattito\\_58.html](https://italyun.esteri.it/rappresentanza_onu/en/comunicazione/archivio-news/2020/07/consiglio-di-sicurezza-dibattito_58.html)

but has not provided psychological and social support. It has also demonstrated action in making perpetrators of sexual violence in conflict responsible.

Italy has not promoted ongoing efforts in responding to the needs of the victims of sexual violence in conflict by condemning acts of sexual violence in conflict. It has also not made an effort to make perpetrators of sexual violence in conflict responsible.

Thus, Italy receives a score of -1.<sup>3767</sup>

*Analyst: Micaela (Mica) Pacheco*

### **Japan: -1**

Japan has not complied with its commitment to continue to support efforts to promptly respond to ongoing cases of victims' specific medical, psychological, and social needs while making those responsible accountable.

On 24 September 2019, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe exchanged a call with Nadia Murad at the 74th Session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York.<sup>3768</sup> During the call, Prime Minister Abe outlined Japan's support to rebuild regions emancipated by ISIL in Iraq, with an emphasis on victims of sexual violence.<sup>3769</sup> In this context, Abe committed Japan to supplying Iraq's Sinjar Hospital with medical equipment.<sup>3770</sup>

On 27 September 2019, the Japanese government submitted the Second Edition of its National Action Plan on Women, Peace, and Security, which outlines the government's plans to protect women and girls for the years 2019-2022.<sup>3771</sup> In it, the Japanese government presents its goal to "provide victims of sexual and gender-based violence under humanitarian crisis with comprehensive support, including physical, medical, psychosocial, legal, and economic assistance."<sup>3772</sup> It plans to accomplish this goal by reinforcing the mechanisms that currently support victims of sexual violence in conflict; providing training to Japanese officials and peacekeepers in regions of humanitarian crises; contributing to efforts in "rehabilitation and empowerment" for victims; and supporting international organizations that aim to achieve this goal.<sup>3773</sup> The report also outlines the Japanese government's goal to hold perpetrators of sexual exploitation and gender-based violence accountable,

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<sup>3767</sup> This non-compliance was determined after a deep search of the following websites: <https://www.esteri.it/mae/en>, <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/mission/minusca>, <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/mission/minusma>, <https://monusco.unmissions.org/en>, <https://unamid.unmissions.org/>, <https://unmiss.unmissions.org/>, <https://www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/media/press-releases/>, <https://www.mukwegefoundation.org/>, <https://www.agi.it/>, <https://www.ilmessaggero.it/ricerca/sexual-violence/>, <https://www.repubblica.it/>.

<sup>3768</sup> Prime Minister Abe Attends the 74th Session of the United Nations General Assembly, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (New York) 28 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/fp/unp\\_a/page3e\\_001114.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/fp/unp_a/page3e_001114.html)

<sup>3769</sup> Prime Minister Abe Attends the 74th Session of the United Nations General Assembly, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (New York) 28 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/fp/unp\\_a/page3e\\_001114.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/fp/unp_a/page3e_001114.html)

<sup>3770</sup> Prime Minister Abe Attends the 74th Session of the United Nations General Assembly, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (New York) 28 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/fp/unp\\_a/page3e\\_001114.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/fp/unp_a/page3e_001114.html)

<sup>3771</sup> 8 National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 27 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/files/000521395.pdf>

<sup>3772</sup> 8 National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 27 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/files/000521395.pdf>

<sup>3773</sup> 8 National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 27 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/files/000521395.pdf>

with particular emphasis on atrocities committed by aid workers and dispatched personnel.<sup>3774</sup> The Japanese government intends to achieve this goal by implementing a prosecution and punishment mechanism in the event of sexual violence committed during deployment; participating in initiatives by the international community for ending sexual and gender-based violence; and “(providing) human resource and financial contributions to UN Women, UN Secretary General’s Special Envoy on Sexual Violence in Conflict, and the International Criminal Court.”<sup>3775</sup> If the Japanese government does follow through with some of these actions and applies them to current conflicts, such policies will count towards compliance. However, the report as it is now will not as it does not consist of any new initiatives nor does it consist of a contribution towards ongoing initiatives.

On 8 October 2019, Japan attended the United Nations Social, Humanitarian, and Cultural Committee meeting, and participated in a discussion among members on the topic of sexual violence experienced by children in conflict situations.<sup>3776</sup> In this discussion, Japan reinforced the urgency that the committee must take to end violence against children, and that a “comprehensive approach and collaboration among various sections” is the way to achieve this.<sup>3777</sup> Akane Miyazaki, Special Advisor to the Government of Japan outlines that 2019 is the 25th anniversary of Japan’s ratification of Conventions on the Rights of the Child.<sup>3778</sup> Mr. Miyazaki continues to outline the country’s intention to implement a National Action Plan to end violence against children and intends on releasing it in 2020, and re-iterates Japan’s enactment of the Child Welfare Act, its contribution of USD5.9 million to the End Violence Fund – which supported humanitarian projects in Uganda and Nigeria – to end sexual violence against children in conflict.<sup>3779</sup>

On 30 October 2019, Yasuhisa Kawamura, the Deputy Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations, made a statement at the 10th Anniversary of the Mandate on Sexual Violence in Conflict.<sup>3780</sup> Kawamura outlined Japan’s consistent efforts to enhance the work of the Special Representative. Ambassador Kawamura reinforces Japan’s efforts by announcing its support for the International Fund for Survivors of Conflict-Related Sexual Violence, and Prime Minister Abe’s

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<sup>3774</sup> 8 National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 27 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/files/000521395.pdf>

<sup>3775</sup> 8 National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 27 September 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/files/000521395.pdf>

<sup>3776</sup> Children Exposed to ‘Unimaginable’ Violence during Conflict, Expert Tells Third Committee as Delegates Call for Accountability, Legal Reforms, United Nations – Meetings Coverage and Press Releases (New York) 8 October 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/gashc4263.doc.htm>

<sup>3777</sup> Children Exposed to ‘Unimaginable’ Violence during Conflict, Expert Tells Third Committee as Delegates Call for Accountability, Legal Reforms, United Nations – Meetings Coverage and Press Releases (New York) 8 October 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/gashc4263.doc.htm>

<sup>3778</sup> Children Exposed to ‘Unimaginable’ Violence during Conflict, Expert Tells Third Committee as Delegates Call for Accountability, Legal Reforms, United Nations – Meetings Coverage and Press Releases (New York) 8 October 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/gashc4263.doc.htm>

<sup>3779</sup> Children Exposed to ‘Unimaginable’ Violence during Conflict, Expert Tells Third Committee as Delegates Call for Accountability, Legal Reforms, United Nations – Meetings Coverage and Press Releases (New York) 8 October 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. <https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/gashc4263.doc.htm>

<sup>3780</sup> Statement by H.E. Ambassador Yasuhisa Kawamura, Deputy Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations, at the Event to commemorate the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Mandate on Sexual Violence in Conflict, Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations (New York) 30 October 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. [https://www.un.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr\\_en/kawamura103019.html](https://www.un.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_en/kawamura103019.html)

direct communication with Nobel Laureates linked to this initiative, Denis Mukwege and Nadia Murad.<sup>3781</sup>

On 23 March 2019, Japan hosted the World Assembly for Women (WAW! W20), which included a panel on "Women's Participation in Conflict Prevention, Peacebuilding and Post Conflict Recovery" that included input from Japanese and British government officials, UN officials, and members of civil society.<sup>3782</sup> The Panel on Women's Participation in Conflict Prevention, Peacebuilding, and Post-Conflict Recovery included discussion on the role of legal systems in reparations for victims of sexual violence in conflict.<sup>3783</sup> Japan also confirmed that they had updated their National Action Plan on Women to promote the role of women in the peacebuilding process.<sup>3784</sup>

On 15 January 2020, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs published "Promoting Efforts to Address Global Issues and People-centered Development," as part of their White Paper on Development Cooperation 2018, on Japan's initiatives relating to the UN's Sustainable Development Goals. In it, they reaffirm Japan's strong working relationship with the United Nations Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict (SRSG-SVC), and intention to "secure women's participation in all stages of conflict prevention, conflict resolution, and peace building."<sup>3785</sup>

Japan's commitment to contribute to the Sinjar Hospital constitutes an effort to meet the medical needs of victims. However, the Japanese government has not taken efforts to address survivors' psychological or social needs nor has it taken efforts to hold those responsible accountable, despite making statements affirming Japan's support of such actions.<sup>3786</sup>

On 10 March 2020, the Government of Japan announced that it will extend the Emergency Grant Aid of USD23.7 million for refugees and internally displaced persons in the Sahel region.<sup>3787</sup> Through the grant, Japan will provide provision of protection for approximately 157,000 vulnerable people and children suffering from conflict-related gender-based violence in the Republic of Niger.<sup>3788</sup> Japan

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<sup>3781</sup> Statement by H.E. Ambassador Yasuhisa Kawamura, Deputy Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations, at the Event to commemorate the 10th Anniversary of the Mandate on Sexual Violence in Conflict, Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations (New York) 30 October 2019. Access Date: 19 December 2019. [https://www.un.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr\\_en/kawamura103019.html](https://www.un.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_en/kawamura103019.html)

<sup>3782</sup> World Assembly for Women, WAW!/W20, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 23 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/files/000547076.pdf>

<sup>3783</sup> World Assembly for Women, WAW!/W20, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 23 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/files/000547076.pdf>

<sup>3784</sup> World Assembly for Women, WAW!/W20, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 23 March 2019. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/files/000547076.pdf>

<sup>3785</sup> Promoting Efforts to Address Global Issues and People-Centered Development, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 15 January 2020. Access Date: 19 April 2020. <https://www.mofa.go.jp/files/000554948.pdf>

<sup>3786</sup> Non-compliance was determined after reviewing [www.mofa.go.jp](http://www.mofa.go.jp), <https://www.mod.go.jp/e/press/>, [http://www.gender.go.jp/english\\_contents/](http://www.gender.go.jp/english_contents/), <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/mission/minusca>, <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/mission/minusma>, <https://monusco.unmissions.org/en>, <https://unamid.unmissions.org/>, <https://unmiss.unmissions.org/>,

<https://www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/media/press-releases/>, <https://www.mukwegefoundation.org/>, <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/>, <http://www.asahi.com/ajw/>, <https://mainichi.jp/english/>.

<sup>3787</sup> Emergency Grant Aid in response to the humanitarian crisis in the Sahel Region, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 10 March 2020. Access Date: 24 August 2020. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e\\_002744.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002744.html)

<sup>3788</sup> Emergency Grant Aid in response to the humanitarian crisis in the Sahel Region, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 10 March 2020. Access Date: 24 August 2020. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e\\_002744.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002744.html)

will also provide provisions of protection and legal assistance for approximately 66,000 people suffering from conflict-related gender-based violence in the Republic of Mali.<sup>3789</sup>

On 6 May 2020, Japan was one of 59 countries to be part of a joint statement on the gender implications of the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>3790</sup> With regards to displaced women, the statement sets out that “Sexual and reproductive health needs, including psychosocial support services, and protection from gender-based violence, must be prioritized to ensure continuity.”<sup>3791</sup>

On 27 May 2020, the Ambassador to the United Nations Kimihiro Ishikane stated that people affected by armed conflict such as women are the most vulnerable in the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>3792</sup> Japan reiterated its commitment to promote public awareness of the international humanitarian law (IHL) in order to combat sexual violence in armed conflicts and pressed parties to armed conflict to comply with IHL.<sup>3793</sup>

On 7 August 2020, the Government of Japan announced that it will extend the Emergency Grant Aid of USD4.8 million for refugees and internally displaced persons that are affected by the deteriorated security conditions in Burkina Faso, Chad and Niger.<sup>3794</sup> Through the grant, Japan will provide provision of mental care to approximately 1,000 people including survivors of sexual based violence in Burkina Faso and provide provision of health service and livelihood support activities for approximately 89,000 people in the Republic of Chad.<sup>3795</sup> Japan will also provide shelter and protection for approximately 1,000 households as a response to sexual based violence in conflict.<sup>3796</sup>

Thus, Japan receives a score of -1.

*Analyst: Margaret de Leon*

### **United Kingdom: +1**

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to continue to support efforts to promptly respond to ongoing cases of victims’ specific medical, psychological, and social needs while making those responsible accountable.

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<sup>3789</sup> Emergency Grant Aid in response to the humanitarian crisis in the Sahel Region, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 10 March 2020. Access Date: 24 August 2020. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e\\_002744.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002744.html)

<sup>3790</sup> Official speeches and statements - May 11, 2020, French Embassy U.S. May 11 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://fr.franceintheus.org/spip.php?article9739>

<sup>3791</sup> Official speeches and statements - May 11, 2020, French Embassy U.S. May 11 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://fr.franceintheus.org/spip.php?article9739>

<sup>3792</sup> Statement by H.E. Ambassador ISHIKANE Kimihiro, Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations, United Nations Security Council Open VTC on Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflict, Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations (New York) 27 May 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. [https://www.un.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr\\_en/ishikane052720.html](https://www.un.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_en/ishikane052720.html)

<sup>3793</sup> Statement by H.E. Ambassador ISHIKANE Kimihiro, Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations, United Nations Security Council Open VTC on Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflict, Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations (New York) 27 May 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. [https://www.un.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr\\_en/ishikane052720.html](https://www.un.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_en/ishikane052720.html)

<sup>3794</sup> Emergency Grant Aid in response to the humanitarian crisis in Burkina Faso, Chad and Niger, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 7 August 2020. Access Date: 24 August 2020. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e\\_002875.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002875.html)

<sup>3795</sup> Emergency Grant Aid in response to the humanitarian crisis in Burkina Faso, Chad and Niger, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 7 August 2020. Access Date: 24 August 2020. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e\\_002875.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002875.html)

<sup>3796</sup> Emergency Grant Aid in response to the humanitarian crisis in Burkina Faso, Chad and Niger, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 7 August 2020. Access Date: 24 August 2020. [https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e\\_002875.html](https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_002875.html)

On 11 September 2019, the British Embassy in the Democratic Republic of the Congo released an application for projects aimed at responding to sexual violence in the region.<sup>3797</sup> The United Kingdom announced that it would provide between USD10,000 and USD309,000 for initiatives aimed at either improving the legal process in holding perpetrators accountable or challenging the stigma faced by survivors of sexual violence in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.<sup>3798</sup>

On 18 September 2019, at the United Nations Security Council briefing on South Sudan, the UK Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN Jonathan Allen insisted that the international community needed to take action to end impunity for perpetrators of sexual violence in this conflict.<sup>3799</sup>

On 25 September 2019, at the 42nd session of the UN Human Rights Council, the British Ambassador for Human Rights Rita French commended the government for the Democratic Republic of the Congo for its “efforts to combat impunity and sexual violence.”<sup>3800</sup>

On 25 September 2019, at the 42nd session of the UN Human Rights Council, the British Ambassador to the UN Julian Braithwaite condemned “sexual and gender-based violence” in the current conflict in Libya.<sup>3801</sup>

On 5 November 2019, at a UN Security Council briefing on Bosnia and Herzegovina, UK Permanent Representative to the UN Karen Pierce expressed the United Kingdom’s support for Trial International’s efforts to “secure justice for survivors of conflict-related sexual violence.”<sup>3802</sup>

On 17 October 2019, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office selected the first Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict Survivor Champions.<sup>3803</sup> The Survivor Champions will lead a network for survivors and members of the government to adequately tackle the issue of sexual violence in conflict.<sup>3804</sup> The Prime Minister’s Special Representative on Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict Lord Ahmad, promoted this initiative, stating that “survivors must remain at the heart of

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<sup>3797</sup> DRC: Call for Bids to do Projects on Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict, UK Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 11 September 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/call-for-bids-preventing-sexual-violence-in-drc-in-201920>

<sup>3798</sup> DRC: Call for Bids to do Projects on Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict, UK Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 11 September 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/call-for-bids-preventing-sexual-violence-in-drc-in-201920>

<sup>3799</sup> Boosting the efforts of the South Sudanese people’s push for peace, UK Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 18 September 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/boosting-the-efforts-of-the-south-sudanese-peoples-push-for-peace>

<sup>3800</sup> UN Human Rights Council 42: Interactive Dialogue on the Democratic Republic of Congo, Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 25 September 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/un-human-rights-council-42-interactive-dialogue-on-the-democratic-republic-of-congo>

<sup>3801</sup> UN Human Rights Council 42 - Interactive Dialogue with the UN High Commissioner on Libya, Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 25 September 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/un-human-rights-council-42-interactive-dialogue-with-the-un-high-commissioner-on-libya>

<sup>3802</sup> Securing justice and maintaining peace for Bosnian citizens, Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 5 November 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/securing-justice-and-maintaining-peace-for-bosnian-citizens>

<sup>3803</sup> UK announces Survivor Champions to help end sexual violence in conflict, GOV.UK (London) 17 October 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-announces-survivor-champions-to-help-end-sexual-violence-in-conflict>

<sup>3804</sup> UK announces Survivor Champions to help end sexual violence in conflict, GOV.UK (London) 17 October 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-announces-survivor-champions-to-help-end-sexual-violence-in-conflict>

international efforts to end sexual violence in conflict.”<sup>3805</sup> However, the United Kingdom created this position before the compliance period began.<sup>3806</sup> As such, this action cannot count toward compliance.

On 29 October 2019, at the UN Security Council briefing on Women, Peace and Security, Pierce expressed the UK’s support of Resolution 1325 and insisted that the UN needed to take more action to ensure that it can deliver “an effective response to conflict-related sexual violence.”<sup>3807</sup>

On 31 October 2019, at the Security Council briefing on the United Nations Mission in Kosovo, UK Political Coordinator at the UN David Clay commended the joint declaration of religious groups in Kosovo on the topic of “survivors of sexual violence.”<sup>3808</sup> He also expressed the UK’s commitment to “supporting victims” of sexual violence from regional conflict in Kosovo, specifying that this applied to victims of all ethnic backgrounds.<sup>3809</sup>

On 4 November 2019, at the Security Council briefing on Peace and Security in Africa, Ambassador Pierce highlighted the importance of “[addressing] sexual and gender-based violence” in Somalia.<sup>3810</sup>

On 18 February 2020, Ambassador Pierce referred to “instances of intimidation and sexual violence against women in Houthi-controlled areas (of Yemen)” as “deeply troubling” when she spoke at the Security Council briefing on Yemen.<sup>3811</sup>

On 20 February 2020, the UK government responded to the Independent Commission for Aid Impact’s recommendations on the Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict Initiative.<sup>3812</sup> The UK fully accepted three of the four proposals including one to “ensure that its work on preventing conflict-related sexual violence is founded on survivor-led design, which has clear protocols in place founded in ‘do no harm’ principles.”<sup>3813</sup>

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<sup>3805</sup> UK announces Survivor Champions to help end sexual violence in conflict, GOV.UK (London) 17 October 2019. Access Date: 17 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-announces-survivor-champions-to-help-end-sexual-violence-in-conflict>

<sup>3806</sup> UK announces PSVI Survivor Champion role to end sexual violence in conflict, GOV.UK (London) 19 June 2019. Access Date: 29 December 2019. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-announces-psvi-survivor-champion-role-to-end-sexual-violence-in-conflict>

<sup>3807</sup> Pushing for real implementation of women in the peace and security agenda, UK Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/pushing-for-real-implementation-of-women-in-the-peace-and-security-agenda>

<sup>3808</sup> Commitment to peace in Kosovo for future generations, UK Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 31 October 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/commitment-to-peace-in-kosovo-for-future-generations>

<sup>3809</sup> Commitment to peace in Kosovo for future generations, UK Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 31 October 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/commitment-to-peace-in-kosovo-for-future-generations>

<sup>3810</sup> Placing women's rights and representation at the heart of peacemaking in Africa, UK Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 4 November 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/placing-womens-rights-and-representation-at-the-heart-of-peacemaking-in-africa>

<sup>3811</sup> Violence and Suffering in Yemen Must Stop if Peace is to Thrive, UK Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 18 February 2020. Access Date: 26 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/violence-and-suffering-in-yemen-must-stop-if-peace-is-to-thrive>

<sup>3812</sup> HMG Response, HM Government and UK Aid (London) 20 February 2020. Access Date: 26 April 2020. [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/867067/Independent\\_Commission\\_for\\_Aid\\_Impact\\_review\\_on\\_PSVI.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/867067/Independent_Commission_for_Aid_Impact_review_on_PSVI.pdf)

<sup>3813</sup> HMG Response, HM Government and UK Aid (London) 20 February 2020. Access Date: 26 April 2020. [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/867067/Independent\\_Commission\\_for\\_Aid\\_Impact\\_review\\_on\\_PSVI.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/867067/Independent_Commission_for_Aid_Impact_review_on_PSVI.pdf)

On 27 February 2020, Ambassador French delivered a statement at the Interactive Dialogue with the High Commissioner on Rohingya and other minorities in Myanmar in which she expressed the UK's disapproval of "the Tatmadaw's culture of impunity for acts of sexual violence" among other concerns.<sup>3814</sup>

On 3 March 2020, the UK announced it will spend GBP110 million on aid to Syrian refugee camps, including the building of "facilities where women and girls can be protected from sexual attacks."<sup>3815</sup> However, this action does not address survivors of sexual violence in conflict and, thus, does not count toward compliance.

On 4 March 2020, Ambassador Allen, in his speech at the Security Council briefing on South Sudan, listed "sexual and gender based violence used as a weapon of war" as one of the reasons the UK is committed to supporting humanitarian efforts in South Sudan.<sup>3816</sup>

On 9 March 2020, Ambassador French listed "ongoing sexual and gender-based violence" as one of the UK's concerns at the Interactive Dialogue with the UN Commission on Human Rights in South Sudan.<sup>3817</sup>

On 11 March 2020, at the Security Council Debate on peace and security in Africa: countering terrorism and extremism in Africa, Allen expressed the UK's support for the UN's "holistic approach" that addressed "the use of sexual violence as a tactic of terrorism and that tackling that, and the importance of building inclusive and meaningful partnerships to counter-terrorism to bring perpetrators to justice and prevent violent extremism."<sup>3818</sup>

On 24 April 2020, Ambassador Clay stated that the UK commended the Government of Kosovo's prosecution of some cases of sexual violence as a war crime and the work of the United Nations Mission in Kosovo in "supporting survivors to share their stories and encouraging the Government of Kosovo to prioritise addressing sexual violence." The UK reaffirmed its support to provide services to victims of sexual violence using its 'Be My Voice Campaign' in Kosovo as an example.<sup>3819</sup>

On 6 May 2020, the United Kingdom was one of 59 countries to be part of a joint statement on the gender implications of the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>3820</sup> With regards to displaced women, the statement

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<sup>3814</sup> UN Human Rights Council 43: UK Statement for the Interactive Dialogue with the High Commissioner on Rohingya and Other Minorities in Myanmar, Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 27 February 2020. Access Date: 26 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/un-human-rights-council-43-uk-statement-for-the-interactive-dialogue-with-the-high-commissioner-on-rohingya-and-other-minorities-in-myanmar>

<sup>3815</sup> UK Aid Protects Victims of Violence as Syrian Regime Increases Attacks in Idlib, Department for International Development and Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 3 March 2020. Access Date: 26 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-protects-victims-of-violence-as-syrian-regime-increases-attacks-in-idlib>

<sup>3816</sup> Ensuring Genuine Change and Implementation of Commitments in South Sudan, Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 4 March 2020. Access Date: 26 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/ensuring-genuine-change-and-implementation-of-commitments-in-south-sudan>

<sup>3817</sup> UN Human Rights Council 43: UK Statement for the Interactive Dialogue with the UN Commission on Human Rights in South Sudan, Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 9 March 2020. Access Date: 26 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/un-human-rights-council-43-uk-statement-for-the-interactive-dialogue-with-the-un-commission-on-human-rights-in-south-sudan>

<sup>3818</sup> Countering Terrorism and Extremism in Africa, Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 11 March 2020. Access Date: 26 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/countering-terrorism-and-extremism-in-africa>

<sup>3819</sup> Delivering on Health, Safety and Justice in Kosovo, Foreign & Commonwealth Office (London) 24 April 2020. Access Date: 26 April 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/delivering-on-health-safety-and-justice-in-kosovo>

<sup>3820</sup> Official speeches and statements - May 11, 2020, French Embassy U.S. May 11 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://fr.franceintheus.org/spip.php?article9739>

sets out that “Sexual and reproductive health needs, including psychosocial support services, and protection from gender-based violence, must be prioritized to ensure continuity.”<sup>3821</sup>

On 20 May 2020, the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) announced that it along with the European Union, the United Kingdom, and Poland will host a panel discussion to discuss the needs of people with disabilities exposed to conflicts.<sup>3822</sup> The discussion will focus on women and girls and their additional risks such as sexual violence.<sup>3823</sup>

On 6 June 2020, the United Nations published the Handbook for United Nations Field Missions on Preventing and Responding to Conflict-Related Sexual Violence with the financial contributions from the Government of Canada, the United Kingdom and the United States.<sup>3824</sup> The Handbook aims to serve as a practical guide for United Nations Field Missions to implement the conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV) mandate and support practices, models, and tools to address CRSV.<sup>3825</sup> The Handbook outlines approaches such as providing medical, sexual, psychological and legal services for victims as well as ensuring victims’ participations in accountability processes.<sup>3826</sup>

On 18 June 2020, Ambassador Neil Bush delivered a speech at the Permanent Council of the Organisation for Co-operation and Security in Europe regarding the elimination of sexual violence in conflict. Ambassador Bush announced that the United Kingdom will launch the draft ‘Murad Code’, a survivor-centered code of conduct, for global consultations.<sup>3827</sup> The Murad Code will aim to prevent the re-traumatization of survivors when documenting sexual violence in conflict and strengthen investigation into sexual violence crimes.<sup>3828</sup>

On 17 July 2020, the Prime Minister’s Special Representative on Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict Tariq Ahmad presented a speech at the Security Council open debate on Women, Peace and Security: Conflict-related sexual violence.<sup>3829</sup> Ahmad announced that the United Kingdom will

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<sup>3821</sup> Official speeches and statements - May 11, 2020, French Embassy U.S. May 11 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020.

<https://fr.franceintheus.org/spip.php?article9739>

<sup>3822</sup> Persons with disabilities in armed conflict, United Nations Mine Action Service (New York) 20 May 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://unmas.org/en/persons-with-disabilities-armed-conflict>

<sup>3823</sup> Persons with disabilities in armed conflict, United Nations Mine Action Service (New York) 20 May 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://unmas.org/en/persons-with-disabilities-armed-conflict>

<sup>3824</sup> Handbook for United Nations Field Missions on United Nations Field Missions on Preventing and Responding to Conflict-Related Sexual Violence, United Nations (New York) 6 June 2020. Access Date: 24 August 2020.

<https://www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/2020.08-UN-CRSV-Handbook.pdf>

<sup>3825</sup> Handbook for United Nations Field Missions on United Nations Field Missions on Preventing and Responding to Conflict-Related Sexual Violence, United Nations (New York) 6 June 2020. Access Date: 24 August 2020.

<https://www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/2020.08-UN-CRSV-Handbook.pdf>

<sup>3826</sup> Handbook for United Nations Field Missions on United Nations Field Missions on Preventing and Responding to Conflict-Related Sexual Violence, United Nations (New York) 6 June 2020. Access Date: 24 August 2020.

<https://www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/2020.08-UN-CRSV-Handbook.pdf>

<sup>3827</sup> International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict: UK Statement, Government of United Kingdom (London) 19 June 2020. Access Date: 24 August 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/international-day-for-the-elimination-of-sexual-violence-in-conflict-uk-statement>

<sup>3828</sup> International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict: UK Statement, Government of United Kingdom (London) 19 June 2020. Access Date: 24 August 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/international-day-for-the-elimination-of-sexual-violence-in-conflict-uk-statement>

<sup>3829</sup> Putting survivors first when combatting conflict-related sexual violence, Government of United Kingdom (London) 17 July 2020. Access Date: 24 August 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/putting-survivors-first-when-combatting-conflict-related-sexual-violence>

contribute GBP1.3 million to the Mukwege Global Survivors Fund.<sup>3830</sup> The funding is intended to support victims of sexual violence in conflict through a survivor-centered approach.<sup>3831</sup>

The United Kingdom's initiative in the Democratic Republic of the Congo demonstrates its support for the social needs of victims as well as accountability to perpetrators. The United Kingdom's contribution to the International Fund for Survivors of Conflict-Related Sexual Violence also consists of an effort to support the medical, psychological, and social needs of victims, completing three out of four of the requirements from the commitment.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Janine Alhadidi*

### **United States: 0**

The United States has partially complied with its commitment to continue to support efforts to promptly respond to ongoing cases of victims' specific medical, psychological, and social needs while making those responsible accountable.

On 25 November 2019, U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, delivered a press statement on International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women.<sup>3832</sup> Secretary Pompeo reinforced the government's commitment to protecting the rights of women and girls against sexual and gender-based violence – “for the sake of national security, global prosperity, and the rights and dignity of women and girls worldwide.”<sup>3833</sup>

On 29 October 2019, Ambassador Cherith Norman Chalet, U.S. Representative for United Nations Management and Reform, delivered remarks at the United Nations Security Council Open Debate on the 10-Year Anniversary of the Sexual Violence and Conflict Mandate.<sup>3834</sup> Ambassador Chalet stated that the U.S. government was committed to “preventing conflict-related sexual violence, holding perpetrators accountable, and supporting survivors.” Ambassador Chalet also stated that the United States contributed USD1.7 million in September 2019 to the UN's Office of the Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict in support of “treatment and restorative programs for survivors of sexual violence and conflict, and funding for further research.”<sup>3835</sup> Chalet reinforced the implementation of U.S. government policies and programs to support sexual violence prevention,

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<sup>3830</sup> Putting survivors first when combatting conflict-related sexual violence, Government of United Kingdom (London) 17 July 2020. Access Date: 24 August 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/putting-survivors-first-when-combatting-conflict-related-sexual-violence>

<sup>3831</sup> Putting survivors first when combatting conflict-related sexual violence, Government of United Kingdom (London) 17 July 2020. Access Date: 24 August 2020. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/putting-survivors-first-when-combatting-conflict-related-sexual-violence>

<sup>3832</sup> On International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of State (Washington, D.C) 25 November 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. [https://www.state.gov/on-international-day-for-the-elimination-of-violence-against-women/?fbclid=IwAR3fGDOS8MhT4XfG5L7opSKUQJh\\_mXT5FgOVE1JVvIKtN8IBFT-0hY5YUog](https://www.state.gov/on-international-day-for-the-elimination-of-violence-against-women/?fbclid=IwAR3fGDOS8MhT4XfG5L7opSKUQJh_mXT5FgOVE1JVvIKtN8IBFT-0hY5YUog)

<sup>3833</sup> On International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of State (Washington, D.C) 25 November 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. [https://www.state.gov/on-international-day-for-the-elimination-of-violence-against-women/?fbclid=IwAR3fGDOS8MhT4XfG5L7opSKUQJh\\_mXT5FgOVE1JVvIKtN8IBFT-0hY5YUog](https://www.state.gov/on-international-day-for-the-elimination-of-violence-against-women/?fbclid=IwAR3fGDOS8MhT4XfG5L7opSKUQJh_mXT5FgOVE1JVvIKtN8IBFT-0hY5YUog)

<sup>3834</sup> Remarks at UN Security Council Open Debate on the 10 Year Anniversary of the Sexual Violence in Conflict Mandate, United States Mission to the United Nations (New York) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://usun.usmission.gov/remarks-at-a-un-security-council-open-debate-on-the-10-year-anniversary-of-the-sexual-violence-in-conflict-mandate/>

<sup>3835</sup> Remarks at UN Security Council Open Debate on the 10 Year Anniversary of the Sexual Violence in Conflict Mandate, United States Mission to the United Nations (New York) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://usun.usmission.gov/remarks-at-a-un-security-council-open-debate-on-the-10-year-anniversary-of-the-sexual-violence-in-conflict-mandate/>

including the U.S. Strategy on Women, Peace, and Security announced by President Donald Trump in June of 2019.<sup>3836</sup> The strategy acknowledges that women and girls experience distinct and disproportionate atrocities in situations of conflict, and calls for the government to discover the innate causes of sexual violence in order to achieve effective implementation.<sup>3837</sup>

On 27 May 2020, the Ambassador to the United Nations Kelly Craft stated that the United States is working towards assisting civilians in armed conflict by supporting local strategies “to mitigate COVID-19’s acute risks to women and girls, including conflict-related sexual and gender-based violence.”<sup>3838</sup> This initiative will be consistent with the United States’ strategy on Women, Peace and Security.<sup>3839</sup>

On 6 June 2020, the United Nations published the Handbook for United Nations Field Missions on Preventing and Responding to Conflict-Related Sexual Violence with the financial contributions from the Government of Canada, the United Kingdom and the United States.<sup>3840</sup> The Handbook aims to serve as a practical guide for United Nations Field Missions to implement the conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV) mandate and support practices, models, and tools to address CRSV.<sup>3841</sup> The Handbook outlines approaches such as providing medical, sexual, psychological and legal services for victims as well as ensuring victims’ participations in accountability processes.<sup>3842</sup>

On 19 June 2020, the U.S. Mission to the United Nations and the Secretary of State’s Office of Global Women’s Issues released a statement regarding the elimination of sexual violence in conflict.<sup>3843</sup> In the statement, the United States reaffirmed its commitment “at the highest levels to

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<sup>3836</sup> Remarks at UN Security Council Open Debate on the 10 Year Anniversary of the Sexual Violence in Conflict Mandate, United States Mission to the United Nations (New York) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://usun.usmission.gov/remarks-at-a-un-security-council-open-debate-on-the-10-year-anniversary-of-the-sexual-violence-in-conflict-mandate/>

<sup>3837</sup> Remarks at UN Security Council Open Debate on the 10 Year Anniversary of the Sexual Violence in Conflict Mandate, United States Mission to the United Nations (New York) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 20 December 2019. <https://usun.usmission.gov/remarks-at-a-un-security-council-open-debate-on-the-10-year-anniversary-of-the-sexual-violence-in-conflict-mandate/>

<sup>3838</sup> Remarks at a UN Security Council Briefing on the Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflict (via VTC), United States Mission to the United Nations (New York) 27 May 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://usun.usmission.gov/remarks-at-a-un-security-council-briefing-on-the-protection-of-civilians-in-armed-conflict-via-rtc/>

<sup>3839</sup> Remarks at a UN Security Council Briefing on the Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflict (via VTC), United States Mission to the United Nations (New York) 27 May 2020. Access Date: 3 June 2020. <https://usun.usmission.gov/remarks-at-a-un-security-council-briefing-on-the-protection-of-civilians-in-armed-conflict-via-rtc/>

<sup>3840</sup> Handbook for United Nations Field Missions on United Nations Field Missions on Preventing and Responding to Conflict-Related Sexual Violence, United Nations (New York) 6 June 2020. Access Date: 24 August 2020. <https://www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/2020.08-UN-CRSV-Handbook.pdf>

<sup>3841</sup> Handbook for United Nations Field Missions on United Nations Field Missions on Preventing and Responding to Conflict-Related Sexual Violence, United Nations (New York) 6 June 2020. Access Date: 24 August 2020. <https://www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/2020.08-UN-CRSV-Handbook.pdf>

<sup>3842</sup> Handbook for United Nations Field Missions on United Nations Field Missions on Preventing and Responding to Conflict-Related Sexual Violence, United Nations (New York) 6 June 2020. Access Date: 24 August 2020. <https://www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/2020.08-UN-CRSV-Handbook.pdf>

<sup>3843</sup> Statement by the U.S. Mission to the United Nations and the Secretary of State’s Office of Global Women’s Issues on the International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict, U.S. Department of State (Washington, D.C.) 19 June 2020. Access Date: 25 August 2020. <https://www.state.gov/statement-by-the-u-s-mission-to-the-united-nations-and-the-secretary-of-states-office-of-global-womens-issues-on-the-international-day-for-the-elimination-of-sexual-violence-in-conf/>

prevent sexual violence in conflict, hold perpetrators accountable, and support survivors.”<sup>3844</sup> The United States stated that it is currently politically and financially supporting the Office of the Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict.<sup>3845</sup> It also stated that it is supporting CRSV elimination efforts in Burma, South Sudan, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.<sup>3846</sup>

On 17 July 2020, Ambassador Craft delivered a speech at the UN Security Council High-Level Annual Open Debate on Conflict-Related Sexual Violence.<sup>3847</sup> Ambassador Craft stated that the United States supports a survivor-centered and rights-based approach to CRSV in which “survivors have access to appropriate, accessible, and quality services including health care, psychological and social support, security, and legal assistance.”<sup>3848</sup> Ambassador Craft also stated that the United States is currently training personnel from the judicial system in the Central African Republic to initiate investigations and prosecutions of gender-based violence crimes, an initiative aiming to hold perpetrators of SVC accountable.<sup>3849</sup>

The United States has promoted ongoing efforts in responding to the needs of the victims of sexual violence in conflict by condemning acts of sexual violence in conflict by contributing to the United Nations’ Office of the Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict. However, it has not made an effort to make perpetrators of sexual violence in conflict responsible.

Thus, the United States receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Margaret Constance de Leon*

### **European Union: +1**

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to support efforts to promptly respond to ongoing cases of victims’ specific medical, psychological, and social issues while making those responsible accountable.

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<sup>3844</sup> Statement by the U.S. Mission to the United Nations and the Secretary of State’s Office of Global Women’s Issues on the International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict, U.S. Department of State (Washington, D.C.) 19 June 2020. Access Date: 25 August 2020. <https://www.state.gov/statement-by-the-u-s-mission-to-the-united-nations-and-the-secretary-of-states-office-of-global-womens-issues-on-the-international-day-for-the-elimination-of-sexual-violence-in-conf/>

<sup>3845</sup> Statement by the U.S. Mission to the United Nations and the Secretary of State’s Office of Global Women’s Issues on the International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict, U.S. Department of State (Washington, D.C.) 19 June 2020. Access Date: 25 August 2020. <https://www.state.gov/statement-by-the-u-s-mission-to-the-united-nations-and-the-secretary-of-states-office-of-global-womens-issues-on-the-international-day-for-the-elimination-of-sexual-violence-in-conf/>

<sup>3846</sup> Statement by the U.S. Mission to the United Nations and the Secretary of State’s Office of Global Women’s Issues on the International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict, U.S. Department of State (Washington, D.C.) 19 June 2020. Access Date: 25 August 2020. <https://www.state.gov/statement-by-the-u-s-mission-to-the-united-nations-and-the-secretary-of-states-office-of-global-womens-issues-on-the-international-day-for-the-elimination-of-sexual-violence-in-conf/>

<sup>3847</sup> Remarks at the UN Security Council High-Level Annual Open Debate on Conflict-Related Sexual Violence (via VTC), United States Mission to the United Nations (New York) 17 July 2020. Access Date: 25 August 2020. <https://usun.usmission.gov/remarks-at-the-un-security-council-high-level-annual-open-debate-on-conflict-related-sexual-violence-via-rtc/>

<sup>3848</sup> Remarks at the UN Security Council High-Level Annual Open Debate on Conflict-Related Sexual Violence (via VTC), United States Mission to the United Nations (New York) 17 July 2020. Access Date: 25 August 2020. <https://usun.usmission.gov/remarks-at-the-un-security-council-high-level-annual-open-debate-on-conflict-related-sexual-violence-via-rtc/>

<sup>3849</sup> Remarks at the UN Security Council High-Level Annual Open Debate on Conflict-Related Sexual Violence (via VTC), United States Mission to the United Nations (New York) 17 July 2020. Access Date: 25 August 2020. <https://usun.usmission.gov/remarks-at-the-un-security-council-high-level-annual-open-debate-on-conflict-related-sexual-violence-via-rtc/>

On 23 September 2019, the Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development Neven Mimica announced that the European Union will contribute EUR2 million to the International Fund for Survivors of Conflict-Related Sexual Violence.<sup>3850</sup>

On 29 November 2019, at the United Nations Security Council Open Debate, Towards the Implementation of the Women, Peace, Security agenda, EU Ambassador Mara Marinaki stressed the need for “the urgency of ensuring full access to comprehensive, coordinated and quality services, including sexual and reproductive health care, psychological support, legal counselling” in the context of “sexual and gender-based violence.”<sup>3851</sup> She also insisted that further action is required to ensure perpetrators are brought to justice, including through the enforcement of a “zero tolerance policy” towards sexual abuse on the part of UN personnel.<sup>3852</sup>

On 3 December 2019, the Nigerien Prime Minister Brigi Rafini announced the beginning of the EU-UN Spotlight Initiative.<sup>3853</sup> The EU-UN Spotlight Initiative is to focus on “eliminating all forms of violence against women and girls, with a focus on ending sexual violence and harmful practices that have a negative impact on women’s sexual and reproductive health” and “[protecting] the rights of women and girls through a multisectoral approach including education, justice, health.”<sup>3854</sup> The EU also intends for the Initiative to “[strengthen] the legal framework to adequately address Gender Based Violence ... and harmful practices.” The EU is investing USD17 million in the project.<sup>3855</sup>

On 19 December 2019, European Union External Action issued a statement stressing the need for further action regarding the sexual abuse of children in Afghanistan.<sup>3856</sup> The EU spokesperson stated that European Union External Action had recently held a policy debate on this topic and currently has a Policy Advisory Project on the subject of “cases of abuses (of minors) inside the armed forces,” with particular attention paid to the gender component of the issue.<sup>3857</sup>

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<sup>3850</sup> European Union supports survivors of Sexual Violence in conflict, European Commission (Brussels) 23 September 2019. Access Date: 14 December 2019. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_19\\_5791](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_19_5791).

<sup>3851</sup> EU Statement – United Nations Security Council: Open Debate on Women, Peace and Security, European Commission (New York) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. [https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-new-york/69606/eu-statement-%E2%80%93-united-nations-security-council-open-debate-women-peace-and-security\\_en](https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-new-york/69606/eu-statement-%E2%80%93-united-nations-security-council-open-debate-women-peace-and-security_en)

<sup>3852</sup> EU Statement – United Nations Security Council: Open Debate on Women, Peace and Security, European Commission (New York) 29 October 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. [https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-new-york/69606/eu-statement-%E2%80%93-united-nations-security-council-open-debate-women-peace-and-security\\_en](https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-new-york/69606/eu-statement-%E2%80%93-united-nations-security-council-open-debate-women-peace-and-security_en)

<sup>3853</sup> Niger, the European Union and the United Nations Join Forces to Eliminate Violence Against Women and Girls, United Nations Population Fund (New York) 3 December 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://wcaro.unfpa.org/en/news/niger-european-union-and-united-nations-join-forces-eliminate-violence-against-women-and-girls>

<sup>3854</sup> Niger, the European Union and the United Nations Join Forces to Eliminate Violence Against Women and Girls, United Nations Population Fund (New York) 3 December 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://wcaro.unfpa.org/en/news/niger-european-union-and-united-nations-join-forces-eliminate-violence-against-women-and-girls>

<sup>3855</sup> Niger, the European Union and the United Nations Join Forces to Eliminate Violence Against Women and Girls, United Nations Population Fund (New York) 3 December 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. <https://wcaro.unfpa.org/en/news/niger-european-union-and-united-nations-join-forces-eliminate-violence-against-women-and-girls>

<sup>3856</sup> Afghanistan: Remarks by High Representative/Vice-President Josep Borrell at the European Parliament Plenary Session Debate on Violations of Human Rights, European External Action Service (Strasbourg) 19 December 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. [https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/72400/afghanistan-remarks-high-representativevice-president-josep-borrell-european-parliament\\_en](https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/72400/afghanistan-remarks-high-representativevice-president-josep-borrell-european-parliament_en)

<sup>3857</sup> Afghanistan: Remarks by High Representative/Vice-President Josep Borrell at the European Parliament Plenary Session Debate on Violations of Human Rights, European External Action Service (Strasbourg) 19 December 2019. Access Date: 2 January 2020. [https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/72400/afghanistan-remarks-high-representativevice-president-josep-borrell-european-parliament\\_en](https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/72400/afghanistan-remarks-high-representativevice-president-josep-borrell-european-parliament_en)

The European Union contributed to the International Fund for Survivors of Conflict-Related Sexual Violence, which addresses the medical, psychological, and social needs of survivors. As well, the EU-UN Spotlight Initiative in Niger includes an effort to make those responsible for sexual violence accountable in the context of an ongoing conflict. Therefore, the EU has taken efforts to address the medical, psychological, and social needs of victims and make those responsible accountable.

Thus, the European Union receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Micaela (Mica) Pacheco*