

Ireland's National Action Plan on United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325

Consultation Process

UNSCR 1325

The adoption of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 in October 2000 recognised the distinct and diverse issues concerning women affected by conflict and called for all Member States to take specific steps to address these issues. In this way, UNSCR 1325 represented a significant break from traditional views of warfare and its consequences. It not only focused the world's attention on the very different effects that war has on men and women; it also recognised that women can and should be active participants in rebuilding their communities and countries following conflict. The central demands of UNSCR 1325 are for the full and equal *participation* of women in decision-making processes relating to peace and security; the inclusion of gender *perspectives* in all peacemaking and peace-building strategies and initiatives that are undertaken by the UN and by Member States; and for the *protection* of women and girls in conflict and post-conflict settings.

Ireland and UNSCR 1325

The Conflict Resolution Unit (CRU) of the Department of Foreign Affairs is currently in the process of preparing Ireland's National Action Plan on UNSCR 1325 on Women, Peace and Security. This process is multi-faceted and includes the cross-learning initiative with Liberia, Timor-Leste and Northern Ireland and a consultative process involving the Department of Foreign Affairs; the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform; the Department of Defence; civil society organisations and members of academia. An effective NAP and a successful cross-learning project will be central to Ireland's approach to promoting gender equality and representation in all aspects of its international relations and to improving the lives of women in conflict and post-conflict settings.

Consultation Process

The National Action Plan process requires consultation from all sectors of society to ensure a comprehensive, well-rounded policy document. This process has therefore been designed to draw from the experience and expertise of all actors working in the area of women, peace and security to maximise the operational potential of Ireland's National Action Plan on UNSCR 1325 in a broad-based yet coherent manner.

The following questions are designed to capitalise on the knowledge and practice of civil society and will inform the NAP process in several ways, including:

- How Ireland can best structure its approach
- How Ireland can engage effectively with civil society and other key actors
- How the NAP can best be implemented
- How progress can best be measured both short – and long – term

The questions are focussed on key priorities concerning the NAP process to date. However, please take this opportunity to highlight any other issues you feel pertinent to the successful realisation and implementation of Ireland's National Action Plan. Please [submit your reply to the questionnaire](#) by Friday, 5th March 2010.

Thank you for your cooperation.