Recognizing that the disproportionate impact of sexual violence in armed conflict and post-conflict situations on women and girls is exacerbated by discrimination against women and girls and by the under-representation of women in decision-making and leadership roles, the impact of discriminatory laws, the gender-biased enforcement and application of existing laws, harmful social norms and practices, structural inequalities, and discriminatory views on women or gender roles in society, and lack of availability of services for survivors, and further affirming the importance of promoting gender equality by addressing these and other root causes of sexual violence against all women and girls as part of conflict prevention, conflict resolution and peacebuilding,

21. Welcomes the regular briefings by women from civil society, particularly in country-specific meetings, which has enlightened the Council on conditions in conflict countries including in relation to sexual violence, and calls upon States to condemn acts of discrimination, harassment and violence against civil society, and journalists who report on sexual violence in conflict and who are important to changing norms on roots causes, namely structural gender inequality and discrimination, and develop and put in place measures to protect them and enable them to do their work;

28. Stresses that acts of sexual and gender-based violence in conflict can be part of the strategic objectives and ideology of, and used as a tactic by certain parties to armed conflict, including non-state armed groups, designated as terrorist groups and therefore affirms that victims of sexual violence, committed by certain parties to armed conflict, including non-state armed groups designated as terrorist groups, should have access to national relief and reparations programmes, as well as health care, psychosocial care, safe shelter, livelihood support and legal aid and that services should include provisions for women with children born as a result of sexual violence in conflict, as well as men and boys who may have been victims of sexual violence in conflict including in detention settings; contribute to lifting the
sociocultural stigma attached to this category of crime and facilitate rehabilitation and reintegration efforts;

32. Notes that sexual violence in armed conflict and post-conflict situations disproportionately affects woman and girls, recognizes also that men and boys are also targets of sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict settings, including in the context of detention settings and those associated with armed groups; urges Member States to protect victims who are men and boys through the strengthening of policies that offer appropriate responses to male survivors and challenge cultural assumptions about male invulnerability to such violence; requests further that the monitoring, analysis and reporting arrangements on conflict-related sexual violence focus more consistently on the gender specific nature of sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict situations against all affected populations in all situations of concern, including men and boys;

Women Peace and Security Resolution

Mapping of references to the roles of men and boys; gender transformative language seeking to address the drivers of conflict and the dismantling of power structures and patriarchal systems that perpetuate gender imbalances during peacebuilding and peacekeeping.

UNSCR 1325 (2000)
Considered a milestone in the establishment of the WPS Agenda, UNSCR 1325, makes no mention to challenging patriarchal power structures which impede the active participation of women in peacebuilding and peacekeeping, addressing root causes or drivers of violence, nor does it address the role that men play at the individual or systemic level.


OP3. Demands that all parties to armed conflict immediately take appropriate measures to protect civilians, including women and girls, from all forms of sexual violence, which could include, inter alia, enforcing appropriate military disciplinary measures and upholding the principle of command responsibility, training troops on the categorical prohibition of all forms of sexual violence against civilians, debunking myths that fuel sexual violence, vetting armed and security forces to take into account past actions of rape and other forms of sexual violence, and evacuation of women and children under imminent threat of sexual violence to safety; and requests the Secretary-General, where appropriate, to encourage dialogue to address this issue in the context of broader discussions of conflict resolution between appropriate UN officials and the parties to the conflict, taking into account, inter alia, the views expressed by women of affected local communities;

OP7. Requests the Secretary-General to continue and strengthen efforts to implement the policy of zero tolerance of sexual exploitation and abuse in United Nations peacekeeping operations; and urges troop and police contributing countries to take appropriate preventative
action, including pre-deployment and in-theater awareness training, and other action to ensure full accountability in cases of such conduct involving their personnel;

OP8. Encourages troop and police contributing countries, in consultation with the Secretary-General, to consider steps they could take to **heighten awareness and the responsiveness of their personnel participating in UN peacekeeping operations to protect civilians, including women and children**, and prevent sexual violence against women and girls in conflict and post-conflict situations, including wherever possible the deployment of a higher percentage of women peacekeepers or police;


PP8 Remaining deeply concerned about the **persistent obstacles to women’s full involvement in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and participation in postconflict public life**, as a result of violence and intimidation, lack of security and lack of rule of law, cultural discrimination and stigmatization, including the rise of extremist or fanatical views on women, and socio-economic factors including the lack of access to education, and in this respect, recognizing that the marginalization of women can delay or undermine the achievement of durable peace, security and reconciliation,

OP5 Requests the Secretary-General to ensure that all country reports to the Security Council provide information on the impact of situations of armed conflict on women and girls, their particular needs in post-conflict situations and obstacles to attaining those needs;


PP14 Welcoming the proposals, conclusions and recommendations included in the report of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations (A/64/19) on the need for adequate capabilities and clear and appropriate guidelines to enable peacekeeping missions to carry out all their mandated tasks, including prevention of and response to sexual violence; **stressing the importance of ensuring engagement by senior mission leadership on protection of civilians**, including the prevention of and response to instances of sexual violence in armed conflict, with a view to ensuring that all mission components and all levels of the chain of command are properly informed of and involved in the mission’s mandate and their relevant responsibilities;


PP4 Recognizing that consistent and rigorous prosecution of sexual violence crimes as well as national ownership and responsibility in addressing the root causes of sexual violence in armed conflict are central to deterrence and prevention as is challenging the myths that sexual violence in armed conflict is a cultural phenomenon or an inevitable consequence of war or a lesser crime,

PP5 Affirming that women’s political, social and economic empowerment, gender equality and the enlistment of men and boys in the effort to combat all forms of violence against women are central to long-term efforts to prevent sexual violence in armed conflict and post-conflict
situations; and emphasizing the importance of the full implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) while noting the ongoing work on a set of indicators for the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) and subsequent resolutions on women and peace and security, and recognizing UN-Women’s efforts in this area,

PP6 Noting with concern that sexual violence in armed conflict and post-conflict situations disproportionately affects women and girls, as well as groups that are particularly vulnerable or may be specifically targeted, while also affecting men and boys and those secondarily traumatized as forced witnesses of sexual violence against family members; and emphasizing that acts of sexual violence in such situations not only severely impede the critical contributions of women to society, but also impede durable peace and security as well as sustainable development,

OP8 Recognizes the distinct role of Gender Advisors in ensuring that gender perspectives are mainstreamed in policies, planning and implementation by all mission elements; calls upon the Secretary-General to continue to deploy Gender Advisors to the relevant United Nations peacekeeping and political missions as well as humanitarian operations and to ensure comprehensive gender training of all relevant peacekeeping and civilian personnel;


PP14 Recognizing the need to address the gaps and strengthen links between the United Nations peace and security in the field, human rights and development work as a means to address root causes of armed conflict and threats to the security of women and girls in the pursuit of international peace and security,

OP10 Stresses the need for continued efforts to address obstacles in women’s access to justice in conflict and post-conflict settings, including through gender-responsive legal, judicial and security sector reform and other mechanisms;

OP11 Urges all parties concerned, including Member States, United Nations entities and financial institutions, to support the development and strengthening of the capacities of national institutions, in particular of judicial and health systems, and of local civil society networks in order to provide sustainable assistance to women and girls affected by armed conflict and post-conflict situations;


PP11 Welcoming the emphasis placed on achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in the recent adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, reaffirming that women’s and girls’ empowerment and gender equality are critical to conflict prevention and broader efforts to maintain international peace and security, noting in this regard
the emphasis of the Report of the Independent High-level Panel on Peace Operations (S/2015/446), the Report of the Advisory Group of Experts for the Review of the United Nations Peacebuilding Architecture (S/2015/490), and the Global Study on the need, inter alia, to invest more in conflict prevention and women’s empowerment, and further emphasizing that persisting barriers to the full implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) will only be dismantled through dedicated commitment to women’s participation and human rights, and through concerted leadership, consistent information and action, and support, to build women’s engagement in all levels of decision-making,

PP12 Reiterating the important engagement by men and boys as partners in promoting women’s participation in the prevention and resolution of armed conflict, peacebuilding and post-conflict situations

Global Study: Preventing Conflict, Transforming Justice, Securing Peace commissioned by UNSCR 2122

Executive Summary (Page 14)
Prevention of conflict must be the priority, not the use of force. Greater attention must be paid to the prevention of conflict, and the use of force must always be the last resort when all other options have failed. The Global Study emphasizes the importance of short-term prevention measures such as early warning systems and intensified efforts at preemptive dialogue at the local, national and international levels. It also examines measures to address the root causes and structural drivers of conflict, such as exclusion, discrimination, attacks on dignity and structural inequality. These, along with measures dealing with the proliferation of small arms, violent masculinities and climate change should also be implemented.

The importance of women’s leadership and gender equality in humanitarian action (Page 87)
A large body of evidence in the development sector has established that gender equality programming that ensures equitable access to services, empowerment of women and girls and sensitization of men and boys – including for men and boys to take on non-traditional gender roles – results in significant, concrete benefits for the entire community. We now have evidence that these benefits apply in humanitarian settings as well. A multi-country study that examined the impact of gender equality programming on humanitarian outcomes found that gender equality programming contributes to improving access to and use of humanitarian services by women, men, girls and boys as well as makes programming overall effective.

Sexual Exploitation and Abuse by Peacekeeping Forces (Page 147)
Within reporting on sexual exploitation and abuse, there is consensus on the nature of the problem and its complexities. Major points of agreement include the following:

While most victims are women and girls, men and boys are also affected, and the overwhelming majority do not feel safe reporting or obtaining redress;
Recommendations: DDR & SSR (Page 184)

The UN and Member States should:

Engagement should be with the entire spectrum of actors involved in SSR, including customary and religious leaders, private military and security companies, security sector oversight actors and the penal system. They should also engage men and boys to strengthen gender equality within DDR and SSR processes, and prevent and respond to human rights violations, including sexual abuse.

The UN and other service providers should:

Ensure reintegration processes respond to trauma and improve the availability and quality of psychosocial support services.

Member States, parties to conflict and mediation teams should:

Include capacity on gender and DDR/SSR in the negotiation of formal peace negotiations to ensure women’s participation in DDR programmes.

Early warnings (Page 198)

Gender-sensitive analysis of conflict can reveal otherwise unseen conflict drivers and triggers, and women’s participation is a key avenue to strengthening effectiveness. Women can help identify changing dynamics in grassroots, familial and community level relations that may contribute to national level tensions, which might not otherwise be identified. For instance, women and girls can observe changing patterns in time-allocations spent by men and boys (e.g., training clandestinely), and in the hiding of arms caches in homes and community centers. Studies in Kosovo and Sierra Leone found that women in those contexts had valuable information about the accumulation of weapons and violent attacks being planned, but had no means of reporting or sharing this information.

Building peace at the grassroots level (Page 204)

In Liberia, Palava or ‘Peace Huts’ have been established as safe spaces where women can come together to mediate and resolve community disputes, including incidents of gender-based violence. Peace Huts are traditionally a means of addressing individual grievances in the community, and their new more inclusive role has been supported by the Liberia National Police who have provided cell phones so that calls can be made to a free help-line. Further, Peace Huts are becoming more inclusive of men and boys efforts to combat gender-based violence, as evident in the creation of ‘anti-rape’ football clubs and focus groups for male leaders.

Recommendations: Keeping Peace in an Increasingly Violent World (Page 405)

The UN and Member States should:

Facilitate the participation of women leaders and organizations in all stages of DDR/SSR. Engagement should be with the entire spectrum of actors involved in SSR, including customary
and religious leaders, private military and security companies, security sector oversight actors and the penal system. They should also engage men and boys to strengthen gender equality within DDR and SSR processes, and prevent and respond to human rights violations, including sexual abuse.