

GALMUN 2017



ECOSOC

Research Report

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Background:

The World Health Organization defines violence as, "the intentional use of power or physical force, threatened or actual, against oneself, another person or against a group or community that either results in or has a high likelihood of resulting in injury, death, psychological harm, mal-development or deprivation."

There are multiple harassments and forms of violence which occur during conflicts. These are: physical, sexual, emotional and verbal violence. Today, violence is ubiquitous, especially in areas of conflict where it is increasing rapidly. It is one of the leading causes of death, reaching more than 1.6 million deaths worldwide every year.

Victims of conflicts have been tortured and used as weapons of war in the most outrageous ways. Sexual violence and rape have been used as psychological weapons to humiliate the enemy. In crises, sexual abuse and gender based violence persist. Usually women and girls are devastatingly affected in the short and long-term.

It is important to mention that victims affected by armed conflicts are often uprooted from their homes, internally displaced, orphaned or separated from their families and communities. Therefore, our aim is to offer fast relief which maximizes access to basic needs; obtaining clean water and proper sanitation, food, shelter and health services to meet their needs and to satisfy their right to "life with dignity" and to prevent malnutrition.

Our goal is to raise public awareness and mobilize people everywhere to bring change. Violence is a choice and it is preventable!

Questions to consider:

- How can we guarantee that crimes of violence are brought to the attention of the ICC?
- What protective methods can be provided in conflicted areas?
- Should foreign intervention be allowed to help rape victims in affected areas?
- Has physical violence and sexual harassment been taken into consideration in post-conflict reconstruction and peace building processes?
- What body should enforce and supervise the UN decisions?

Useful links:

<https://www.icrc.org/eng/resources/documents/misc/57jpzn.htm>

<http://www.reuters.com/article/us-children-violence-sexual-idUSBRE93909120130410>

<http://www.who.int/topics/violence/en/>

<http://www.usip.org/guiding-principles-stabilization-and-reconstruction-the-web-version/10-social-well-being/access-and->

<http://unausa.org/global-classrooms-model-un/how-to-participate/model-un-preparation>