



International Mechanisms to Hold Perpetrators of Sexual Violence to Account QSD on 2 April 2019

This briefing identifies relevant reports and useful documents, including recent parliamentary materials and press articles, which may be of assistance to Members in preparing for the following debate:

Baroness Hodgson of Abinger to ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the adequacy of international mechanisms to hold perpetrators of sexual violence to account; and what steps they are taking to ensure justice for survivors.

Copies of the materials are available for collection from the Library

Key Information

- House of Lords Library, [International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict](#), 14 June 2018

Briefing on the international effort to eliminate sexual violence in conflict; this includes a summary of the Government's National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security.

- HM Government, [UK National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security 2018–2022: Annual Report to Parliament 2018](#), 19 December 2018, pp 11–13

Excerpts from the Government's annual report concerning the Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict Initiative.

- Foreign and Commonwealth Office, [International Protocol on the Documentation and Investigation of Sexual Violence in Conflict](#), March 2017, pp 11–27

Section from the UK Government-authored International Protocol, which set out standards for the investigation of sexual violence in conflict.

- United Nations Security Council, [Report of the Secretary-General on Conflict-Related Sexual Violence](#), 23 April 2018, pp 1–9

Introduction to the report, summarising efforts by the UN to tackle sexual violence in conflict.

- House of Lords Library, [Work of the Ad Hoc Committees in 2015–16: House of Lords Sexual Violence in Conflict Committee](#), 20 April 2018

Briefing providing summary of the findings of the House of Lords Sexual Violence in Conflict Committee, the Government's response to its report and subsequent debate in the House of Lords.

- International Criminal Court, [Policy Paper on Sexual and Gender-Based Crimes](#), June 2014, pp 5–7

Executive summary outlining the International Criminal Court's policy on prosecutions for sexual and gender-based crimes.

- Dr Louise Arimatsu, [Preventing and Punishing Sexual Violence in War Post-Bemba](#), London School of Economics and Political Science Blog, 1 November 2018

Article on the role of the International Criminal Court in prosecuting perpetrators of sexual violence in conflicts.

Parliamentary Debate, Statements and Questions

- House of Lords, [Written Statement: Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict](#), 19 June 2018, HLWS748
- House of Lords, [Written Question: Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting](#), 9 April 2018, HL6762
- House of Commons, [Written Question: Armed Conflict: Sexual Offence](#), 12 November 2018, 187341

Press Articles and Comment

- Louise Chappell, [A Chance for the International Criminal Court to Fix Sex Crimes Injustice](#), The Conversation, 17 December 2017
- Amnesty International, [Kosovo: Compensation for Wartime Rape Survivors but Still No Justice](#), 13 December 2017
- Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon, [Only by Documenting the Horrors of Sexual Violence in Conflict Zones Can We Hold Perpetrators to Account](#), *Independent*, 23 November 2018
- Ewelina U Ochab, [Sexual Violence in Conflict Continues to be Associated With Stigma](#), *Forbes*, 18 June 2018
- Matt Carrieri, [The Rohingya and the Crime Against Humanity of Persecution: A Blessing in Disguise for Gender Justice?](#), *Harvard Human Rights Journal*, 1 February 2019

Further Information

- House of Lords Sexual Violence in Conflict Committee, [Sexual Violence in Conflict: A War Crime](#), 12 April 2016, HL Paper 123 of session 2015–16
- Department for International Development and Foreign and Commonwealth Office, [Lord Ahmad Announces Funding Boost for Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict](#), 23 November 2018

- Gender Action for Peace and Security, [Assessing UK Government Action on Women, Peace and Security in 2018](#), January 2019
- [QSD on 'Conflict-affected Countries: Adolescent Girls'](#), HL Hansard, 8 January 2019, cols 2186–206
- [Debate on 'Sexual Violence in Conflict \(Select Committee Report\)'](#): HL Hansard, 10 October 2016, cols 1740–78
- Amnesty International, [Rape and Sexual Violence: Human Rights Law and Standards in the International Criminal Court](#), 2011
- Human Rights Watch, [“They Told Me to Keep Quiet”: Obstacles to Justice and Remedy for Sexual Assault Survivors in Mauritania](#), 5 September 2018

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