

WOMEN IN PEACEKEEPING

Women are deployed in all areas of peacekeeping – police, military and civilian – and positively impact operations. While the number of women in uniformed positions has grown over the years, the UN is actively increasing their representation. By 2028, they aim to have women comprise at least 15% of military, 25% of military observers and staff officers and 20% of police units. The Security Council has also adopted ten resolutions since 2000 – many introduced by the U.S. – supporting women in conflict prevention, peace and security and advancing human rights.

Progress

In 2023, of the more than 72,000 peacekeepers at the time, women constituted nearly 7% of military contingents and 16% of police units, up from just 1% of total personnel in 1993. These increases were spurred by UN Security Council Resolution 1325, passed in 2000, reaffirming the vital role of women in maintaining and promoting international peace and security.

1 in 3 justice and correction officers in the Department of Peace Operations are female.



Improving Operational Effectiveness

A broadened skillset means improved decision-making, planning and results, leading to greater effectiveness and performance.



Building Trust and Confidence

Women improve access and support for local women, especially in societies with restrictions on women speaking with men.



Preventing and Reducing Conflict

Women are disproportionately impacted by conflict. More women peacekeepers support reintegration of child soldiers and women ex-combatants.



Accessing Communities

Women are excellent at connecting with survivors of gender- and adolescent based violence, gaining information that can be otherwise difficult to reach.



Role Models

Women serve as mentors and role models for women and girls in post-conflict settings as examples to advocate for their rights and pursue non-traditional careers.