



Provisional programme

Strengthening the international response to Conflict-Related Sexual Violence (CRSV)

Wednesday 11 – Friday 13 May 2022 | WP2045

To be held at Wiston House

The UK Foreign Secretary Liz Truss has pledged to improve global responses to conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV) and work towards its elimination, including her intention to pursue a new CRSV Convention. The UK aims to progress understanding of CRSV as a key global security issue and build momentum towards improved initiatives. This will include the consolidation of an international coalition of like-minded countries to steer onward action to prevent and respond to CRSV. The UK will build on its presidency of the UN Security Council to set out the issues and explore how and where initiatives could operate within the existing global architecture to strengthen international commitment to eliminating the use of sexual violence in conflict. Conflicts in Ukraine, northern Ethiopia, Myanmar and Iraq have drawn the issue into even sharper focus.

This Wilton Park conference is one of a number of discussions being held in the run up to the UK hosted international Prevention of Sexual Violence in Conflict (PSVI) conference on 28-30 November 2022.

Through an exchange of good practice and lessons learned, the Wilton Park conference will consider which responses have worked well, areas of shortfall and what more is needed to build international momentum, ensuring that survivor insights and needs are central to action. We will explore campaigns such as the Mukwege Foundation's 'Red Line Initiative' and proposals including a new international Convention.

In association with the UK's Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office

(Speakers invited and themes proposed * denotes confirmed)

Wednesday 11 May

1500-1600

Participants arrive. Tea and coffee on arrival

1500

Welcome and orientation for survivor group in the Common Room

1600-1615

Welcome to Wilton Park

Julia Purcell

Programme Director, Wilton Park

Introduction to Conference

1615-1730

1.Strengthening responses to conflict-related sexual violence

(CRSV): what's working well and what scope for improvement?

Introductory session to provide a high-level overview. How to ensure a strengthened approach to CRSV has the needs and views of survivors at the forefront? What has worked: what successful approaches have been undertaken in response to CRSV and its prevention? What needs to change: what are the gaps and what is hindering progress?

1730-1800

Tea/coffee

1800-1845

2. Identifying barriers and opportunities for action

Break out discussion

What responses to CRSV have been effective, what has been overlooked and why? What can we learn from current crises such as Ukraine, Tigray and Myanmar? How do we know, and what is the evidence base? What are the barriers to effective action and who needs to do what to change this? What is the role of states and multi-lateral bodies? What steps are needed? And what resources?

1845

Short debrief for chairs of Session 2 in the Library

1900

Reception followed by dinner

Thursday 12 May

0800-0900

Breakfast

0900-0915

3. Feedback from group discussions

0915-1045

4. Responding to CRSV: learning from different contexts

What approaches have been used successfully in different national and regional contexts? In responding to CRSV, what are the particular challenges faced by countries emerging from conflict? What is the role for states and multilateral bodies and how can they assist? How far can best practice examples be applied elsewhere, ensuring that survivors needs are met?

1045-1115

Tea/coffee

1115-1245

5. Building good practice and co-ordinating cross sector support

How to re-invigorate and build on practical mechanisms to improve and develop responses nationally and regionally? In what ways can existing resources e.g., training guidelines, access to medical, welfare and psychological support - be more widely deployed and strengthened? How to raise awareness of CRSV and the needs and views of survivors through media, education and other tools for public engagement? How to ensure more effective co-ordination across and between stakeholders?

1300-1400

Lunch

1400-1500

Free time

1400-1430

Briefing for Chairs of Session 7 in the Library

1500-1630

6. Proposed initiatives: strengthening and improving the international response.

What key international frameworks, laws, protocols and mechanisms have proved effective in response to CRSV, in particular ensuring accountability and that the needs of survivors are met? What are the emerging options to advance responses to CRSV, including a new CRSV Convention? How to further promote state buy in to build momentum, ensure international responses to CRSV are prioritised and ensure action when violations have taken place?

1630-1715

Photograph followed by tea/coffee

1715-1830

7. Implementation and ownership: practical prospects and proposals

Break out session

Building on the previous sessions, smaller groups will discuss practical proposals to increase impetus and improve and develop responses to CRSV. Which actors are best placed to take work forward and in what fora? How to ensure that all initiatives have authentic engagement with survivors? How to strengthen and build on existing alliances? What are the resource implications of an initiative for states and civil society?

1830

Short debrief for Chairs from Session 7 in the Library

1900

Reception followed by dinner

After dinner remarks

Lord (Tariq) Ahmad of Wimbledon

Prime Minister's Special Representative on Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict, Minister of State, UK's Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office.

Friday 13 May

0800-0900

Breakfast and checkout

0915-1000

8. Recommendations for the future

Feedback from group discussions with opportunity for further comments

1000-1100

9. What happens next?

1100-1130

Tea/coffee

1130-1145

10. Evaluation survey

Completion of online survey

1145-1245

11. Wrap up and conclusions

1300

Lunch

1400

Participants depart

This is a preview programme and as such may be subject to change.

This is an invitation only conference.

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