



WOMEN'S REGIONAL NETWORK
AFGHANISTAN • PAKISTAN • INDIA

WRN India Essay Competition to mark the anniversary of UNSCR 1325

WRN India announces the Women and Peace essay contest to commemorate the passing of UN Security Council Resolution 1325. The Resolution was passed on October 31st, 2000 with the aim of recognizing the gendered impact of conflicts. This set a template for addressing the vulnerability and acknowledging the agency of women in conflict zones. In the years since it was passed, the resolution has established a strong global agenda for Women, Peace and Security as an approach to take cognisance of the significant role played by women to negotiate through power structures in conflict and post-conflict societies. The Resolution calls for Participation, Prevention, Protection and Relief and Recovery as the key pillars of WPS initiatives. The pillars manifest themselves in myriad ways cutting across social, political, economic and cultural realms. Furthermore, conflict is increasingly being seen as not only the prevalence of direct and overt violence but also the absence of security and social justice. Women's lived realities often include the omnipresent nature of insecurity and conflict as they navigate through varied constraints in their lives. In violence-afflicted areas, women are more vulnerable to sexual and physical violence from within and outside their community. In so-called peace times also, women live under the constant fear of being attacked, their liberties snatched and having their agency suppressed. In 2019 the UNSCR 1325 enters its 20th year. In this context, WRN India hopes to ignite a conversation over the scope of the Resolution and its relevance to the context today. The essay contest is a part of this endeavour to listen to the ideas of youth and their perception of women, peace and security.

The rules of the contest are as follows:

- The contest is open to undergraduate and graduate students (up to Master's level) in India from any discipline.
- The contestant has to be enrolled in an academic programme in India as of 16th November 2019.
- Contestants can participate only individually and not in groups.
- The contest has three themes, of which contestants can choose any one.
- The essay entry has to be a maximum of 1500- 2000 words (excluding footnotes).
- The entry must be in English.
- All entries should have a cover page clearly stating the Name and Address of the participant, Course and year, Enrollment/student id number, Name of the Educational Institute and the selected theme.

- To be considered for the competition, the essay should have proper footnoting, citation and bibliography. The citation style must be clearly mentioned in email while submitting the essay.
- Plagiarism is strictly discouraged and any instances of plagiarism will automatically disqualify the entry from the competition.
- The entries will be accepted only in electronic form in a word format. No hard copies received by post or other means will be accepted.

The contest opens on 31st October 2019 and entries will be accepted till 16th November 2019 11:59pm IST. All entries must be emailed to pghosh@womensregionalnetwork.org.

Themes:

- 1. The extraordinary peace work of ordinary women.**
- 2. The protection of Women Human Rights Defenders (WHRD) in conflict settings.**
- 3. Protection of women as provocation of conflict.**