

1325 and Beyond An Essay Competition

As we mark the 20th anniversary of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 (UNSCR 1325 (2000)) UN Women in Kosovo together with University of Pristina and Transitional Justice Resource Center, are launching an essay competition “1325 and Beyond,” open to students of the University of Pristina.

Background

UNSCR 1325 on Women, Peace and Security (WPS) was adopted in October 2000. The resolution calls to: (1) increase the representation and participation of women in conflict prevention and conflict resolution processes, including in security institutions; (2) integrate gender perspectives in the analysis of international security issues; and (3) adopt special measures to protect women and girls from gender-based violence in conflict settings. Nine subsequent UN Security Council resolutions have reinforced and refined the WPS agenda.

Although not being able to sign the resolution, Kosovo has made significant progress in the Women, Peace and Security area. UN Women, has supported the implementation of this resolution in Kosovo. It has contributed to the inclusion of gender equality in the security sector and the judiciary as well as it has supported women's organizations in their advocacy efforts and it has developed their capabilities in the field of women's human rights and peace building and security. The government has committed to implementing the UNSCR 1325 and strengthened their support for the Women Peace and Security agenda through the creating of the first National Action Plan in 2014.

The Competition: 1325AndBeyond

The *1325AndBeyond* competition aims to highlight innovative and imaginative strategies to achieve the objectives of 1325 in the next decade—the 2020s. The top three winning essays will be published on United Nations Kosovo Team web-page, and the social media channels of UN Women Kosovo and University of Prishtina “Hasan Prishtina”.

Essay Focus – UNSCR 1325AndBeyond

- Essays must focus on both the past and future, specifically, previous two decades and the next decade. The question is how best to move the objectives of UNSCR 1325 and the WPS agenda forward in the 2020s, given the successes and failures of the last two decades.
- Essays must contain specific and practical (realistic) recommendations for civil society, states, and/or international organizations. Essays can focus on only one international actor (e.g. civil society, a particular state or group of states, the United Nations, a regional organization) or on a multitude of international actors.

Essay Eligibility

Essay submissions are open to students currently enrolled in a Bachelor program for the academic year 2020 - 2021. All genders are encouraged to apply.

Essay Requirements

1. Essays must be the individuals' own original pieces of work, not previously published;

2. Essays must be written in Albanian, Serbian, Bosnian, Croatian, Turkish and Roma language and be between 1,000 and 1,500 words;
3. Submissions must also include: (1) a 250-word summary; (2) a bibliography; (3) a brief biography; and (4) a copy of school/university enrollment;
4. The biography should include: a) full name of student; b) name of the school or university and program in which the student is enrolled; c) student contact information (email and phone number); a. The summary, bibliography, and biography do not count toward the maximum word count of 2,000 words;
5. Essays must be typed (single spaced) in 12-point Times New Roman and submitted in both Word and PDF format;
6. Essays and other submission requirements must be submitted by **January 20th 2021 at midnight EST** to the online submission form.

Evaluation Criteria

The jury composed by professors of University of Pristina will evaluate the essays. Essays will be judged on clarity and clear elaboration of arguments as well as the innovative and original nature of policy-recommendations. Winners will be announced on **January 29th 2021**.

Please send your submissions via email: info.kosovo@unwomen.org with subject: 1325 and beyond