

116TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 5267

To prevent international violence against women, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 26, 2019

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY (for herself, Mr. ENGEL, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mrs. DEMINGS, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. MOORE, Ms. MENG, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. DEUTCH, Ms. TITUS, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. RUSH, Ms. NORTON, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mr. POCAN, Mr. COOPER, Mr. SUOZZI, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. RICHMOND, Ms. PINGREE, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Miss RICE of New York, Mr. DEFazio, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. GOMEZ, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Ms. FRANKEL, Ms. HOULAHAN, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. DELBENE, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. SOTO, Mr. KILMER, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mrs. BEATTY, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. WELCH, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mr. O'HALLERAN, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. KIND, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Ms. WILD, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. CLAY, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CASTEN of Illinois, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. BEYER, Mr. SERRANO, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Ms. FUDGE, Ms. LOFGREN, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. WEXTON, Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. BERA, Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. COX of California, Mr. MCEACHIN, Mr. BROWN of Maryland, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. COSTA, Mrs. LURIA, Mr. PAPPAS, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. EVANS, Mrs. BUSTOS, Mr. PASCRELL, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. TONKO, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Ms. HAALAND, Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. TRONE, Mr. MALINOWSKI, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Ms. OMAR, Ms. ADAMS, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Ms. JACKSON LEE, and Mr. CISNEROS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

# A BILL

To prevent international violence against women, and for  
other purposes.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-  
tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

## SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE AND TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the  
“International Violence Against Women Act of 2019”.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for  
this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title and table of contents.
- Sec. 2. Findings.
- Sec. 3. Statement of policy.
- Sec. 4. Definitions.

### TITLE I—STRATEGY, POLICY, AND PROGRAMS

- Sec. 101. United States Strategy to Prevent and Respond to Gender-Based Violence Globally.
- Sec. 102. Implementation of the United States Strategy to Prevent and Respond to Gender-Based Violence Globally.
- Sec. 103. Monitoring the United States Strategy to Prevent and Respond to Gender-Based Violence Globally.

### TITLE II—OVERSIGHT AND ACCOUNTABILITY

- Sec. 201. Office of Global Women’s Issues.
- Sec. 202. Senior Coordinator for Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment.
- Sec. 203. Briefing and assessment.
- Sec. 204. Addressing violence against women and girls in humanitarian relief, peacekeeping, conflict, and postconflict settings.

## SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

- (1) An estimated one out of every three women  
throughout the world will be beaten, coerced into  
sex, or otherwise abused in her lifetime.

1           (2) Up to 70 percent of women in some coun-  
2 tries report experiencing gender-based violence at  
3 some point in their lives.

4           (3) Intimate partner violence is the most preva-  
5 lent form of violence against women, preventing  
6 them from playing more active roles in the social,  
7 economic, and political development of their commu-  
8 nities.

9           (4) Sexual violence among adolescents and pre-  
10 adolescents is alarmingly high. National surveys in  
11 Swaziland, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, Kenya, and Haiti  
12 have found that between 28 and 38 percent of girls  
13 and between 9 and 18 percent of boys report experi-  
14 encing sexual violence before reaching 18 years of  
15 age.

16           (5) Adult male respondents in six countries who  
17 had experienced violence as children were signifi-  
18 cantly more likely to report perpetrating intimate  
19 partner violence themselves according to the Inter-  
20 national Men and Gender Equality Survey dataset.  
21 Analysis by the International Center for Research on  
22 Women further shows that men who witnessed vio-  
23 lence against their mothers are consistently and sig-  
24 nificantly more likely to report perpetrating sexual  
25 violence. Further, sexually aggressive behaviors start

1 young for these men, and overlap significantly with  
2 other forms of physical violence.

3 (6) Gender-based violence harms economies and  
4 the workers that fuel them. Despite under-reporting,  
5 striking statistics document prevalent forms of gen-  
6 der-based violence globally that affect the world of  
7 work. Worldwide, women are concentrated in low-  
8 wage, insecure jobs in workplaces where they lack  
9 bargaining power, protections against gender-based  
10 violence, safe and confidential reporting systems, re-  
11 course to justice, and access to legal, medical, and  
12 psychosocial services.

13 (7) Women living in poverty are particularly  
14 vulnerable to gender-based violence. Lack of eco-  
15 nomic opportunities often compel women to use des-  
16 perate and dangerous means to provide for them-  
17 selves and their families, risking significant exposure  
18 to sexual exploitation and abuse. These women often  
19 cannot afford critical social and medical services.

20 (8) Research conducted in India, Colombia,  
21 South Africa, and Uganda indicates that when  
22 women have greater control of assets, they are less  
23 likely to experience intimate partner violence. Addi-  
24 tionally, when women participate in the economy,  
25 they are able to develop a wider support network,

1       which allows them to more easily escape intimate  
2       partner violence.

3           (9) Gender-based violence impacts livelihoods  
4       and food security by reducing work capacity and  
5       productivity, including the ability to grow food for  
6       consumption. Studies have shown that women af-  
7       fected by gender-based violence are exposed to ill-  
8       nesses and injuries that hamper their ability to work  
9       productively and care for their families. Diminished  
10      food production consequently increases hunger and  
11      women’s vulnerability to further violence.

12          (10) Country studies indicate that the risk of  
13      HIV among women who have experienced violence  
14      may be up to three times higher than among those  
15      who have not experienced violence. The World  
16      Health Organization found that women who experi-  
17      ence intimate partner violence are at more than 50  
18      percent greater risk of HIV infection, and in some  
19      instances their risk of HIV infection increases four-  
20      fold. Women living with HIV are more likely to ex-  
21      perience violence than other women, and fear of vio-  
22      lence can prevent women from accessing HIV/AIDS  
23      information and receiving treatment and counseling.

24          (11) Addressing gender norms and inequities is  
25      essential to reducing HIV risk and increasing access

1 to HIV prevention, care, and treatment services for  
2 women and men.

3 (12) Prevalence of sexual and physical violence  
4 is higher among persons with disabilities, particu-  
5 larly for adolescents and intimate partners with dis-  
6 abilities, and for men and women with intellectual  
7 impairments living in institutions. The World Health  
8 Organization reports that rates of gender-based vio-  
9 lence are between 4 and 10 times greater among  
10 persons with disabilities compared to non-disabled  
11 persons.

12 (13) Displaced, refugee, and stateless women  
13 and girls in humanitarian emergencies, conflict set-  
14 tings, and natural disasters face extreme violence  
15 and threats, including—

16 (A) being forced to exchange sex for food  
17 and humanitarian supplies; and

18 (B) being at increased risk of rape, sexual  
19 exploitation, and abuse.

20 (14) Rape and sexual assault against women  
21 and girls are used to torture, intimidate, and ter-  
22 rorize communities. Rape and sexual assault are  
23 used as tools of war in conflict zones, including the  
24 Democratic Republic of the Congo, Iraq, Syria, Af-  
25 ghanistan, El Salvador, and South Sudan. UNFPA,

1 the United Nation's reproductive health and rights  
2 agency, leads the Gender Based Violence Area of  
3 Responsibility, which is responsible for global coordi-  
4 nation and collaboration on GBV prevention and re-  
5 sponse in humanitarian settings and is a leading  
6 provider of post-rape care and other reproductive  
7 health services and commodities in humanitarian  
8 settings.

9 (15) Child and forced marriage of girls—

10 (A) is a harmful practice that deprives  
11 girls of their dignity and rights and creates bar-  
12 riers to development for communities and coun-  
13 tries;

14 (B) is projected to affect more than  
15 150,000,000 girls who will become brides be-  
16 tween 2019 and 2030;

17 (C) can prematurely end girls' education,  
18 increase vulnerability to gender-based violence,  
19 and significantly raise the risk of maternal and  
20 infant morbidity or mortality, including the risk  
21 of obstetric fistula and sexually transmitted dis-  
22 eases, including HIV/AIDS;

23 (D) is perpetuated by poverty, a lack of  
24 educational or employment opportunities for  
25 girls, a lack of legal policies and enforcement of

1 laws, and religious, cultural, and social factors  
2 related to girls' perceived lack of value, factors  
3 which become particularly acute in conflict and  
4 disaster settings where fears of sexual violence  
5 and overstretched coping mechanisms often  
6 drive child and forced marriage; and

7 (E) child marriage is estimated to con-  
8 tribute, on average, to a loss in earnings of  
9 about nine percent for women who married  
10 early, which translates into a loss of about one  
11 percent in earnings for the entire labor force  
12 when factoring in all working adults.

13 (16) Female genital mutilation/cutting (FGM/  
14 C) is carried out most often on girls between infancy  
15 and 15 years of age and has impacted more than  
16 200,000,000 girls and women who are alive today.  
17 FGM/C can cause long-term health problems, includ-  
18 ing infertility, complications in childbirth, increased  
19 risk of newborn deaths, and psychological trauma.  
20 Mental health is one of the least explored domains  
21 of impact of gender-based violence; indeed, self-harm  
22 and suicide is the leading cause of death globally for  
23 adolescent girls aged 15–19.

24 (17) World Bank data shows that gender in-  
25 equality directly corresponds to increased levels of



1 political and economic instability within states. Gen-  
2 der-based violence impedes women's meaningful par-  
3 ticipation in social, political, and economic spheres,  
4 which is essential to the stability and democratiza-  
5 tion of a country. Since women disproportionately  
6 experience gender-based violence during conflict and  
7 post-conflict reconstruction, they can play a pivotal  
8 role in preventing, mitigating, and resolving conflict,  
9 and countering extremism.

10 (18) Gender-based violence is a contributing  
11 factor to human trafficking. Experts in the field  
12 have reported that women and girls who have experi-  
13 enced gender-based violence and live in societies that  
14 tolerate severe gender discrimination appear to be  
15 more vulnerable to being trafficked. Comprehensive  
16 efforts to reduce human trafficking must include ef-  
17 forts to prevent and respond to gender-based vio-  
18 lence due to the intertwined relationship of the two  
19 crimes.

20 (19) Health services are among the first places  
21 survivors of violence seek assistance. Health-focused  
22 nongovernmental organizations and United Nations  
23 agencies like UNFPA, the Reproductive Health and  
24 Rights Agency, have critical opportunities to reach  
25 affected women and girls.

1           (20) Gender-based violence also manifests on-  
2           line; gender-based cyberviolence is a growing con-  
3           cern, with women and girls disproportionately af-  
4           fected and targeted based on their appearance, activ-  
5           ism, and sexuality.

6           (21) Taking meaningful action to address gen-  
7           der-based violence is an imperative acknowledgment  
8           of a woman's agency and personal right to leading  
9           a dignified life.

10          (22) Addressing gender norms and inequities is  
11          essential to reducing HIV risk and increasing access  
12          to HIV prevention, care, and treatment services for  
13          women and men.

14   **SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF POLICY.**

15          It is the policy of the United States—

16               (1) to take effective action to prevent and re-  
17               spond to violence against women and girls around  
18               the world as a matter of basic human rights and to  
19               promote gender equality, economic growth, and im-  
20               proved public health;

21               (2) to systematically integrate and coordinate  
22               efforts to prevent and respond to violence against  
23               women and girls internationally into United States  
24               foreign policy and foreign assistance programs, in-

1 including peace-building efforts and humanitarian re-  
2 lief and recovery;

3 (3) to support and build local capacity in devel-  
4 oping countries, including the capacity of govern-  
5 ments at all levels and nongovernmental organiza-  
6 tions, especially women-led organizations to prevent  
7 and respond to violence against women and girls;

8 (4) to consult, cooperate, coordinate, and col-  
9 laborate with a wide variety of nongovernmental  
10 partners with demonstrated experience in preventing  
11 and responding to violence against women and girls,  
12 including faith-based organizations and women-led  
13 organizations;

14 (5) to employ a multisectoral approach to pre-  
15 venting and responding to violence against women  
16 and girls internationally, including activities in the  
17 economic, education, health, nutrition, legal, and ju-  
18 dicial sectors;

19 (6) to work at all levels, from the individual to  
20 the family, community, local, national, and inter-  
21 national levels, to prevent and respond to violence  
22 against women and girls around the world;

23 (7) to enhance training by United States per-  
24 sonnel of professional foreign military and police  
25 forces and judicial officials, including specific and

1 thorough instruction on preventing and responding  
2 to violence against women and girls around the  
3 world;

4 (8) to engage men and boys as partners, as an  
5 essential element of making sustained reductions in  
6 violence against women and girls;

7 (9) to include the prevention of child and forced  
8 marriage as an important part of United States  
9 Government efforts to prevent violence against girls  
10 and promote gender equality and global health;

11 (10) to require that all United States contrac-  
12 tors and grantees establish appropriate policies and  
13 take effective measures to prevent violence against  
14 women and girls and sexual exploitation and abuse  
15 within their workforce;

16 (11) to exert sustained international leadership  
17 to prevent and respond to violence against women  
18 and girls, including in bilateral and multilateral fora;  
19 and

20 (12) to implement the United States Strategy  
21 to Prevent and Respond to Gender-Based Violence  
22 Globally.

23 **SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.**

24 In this Act:

1           (1) AMBASSADOR-AT-LARGE.—The term “Am-  
2       bassador-at-Large” means the Ambassador-at-Large  
3       for Global Women’s Issues at the Department of  
4       State appointed by the President pursuant to section  
5       201(a).

6           (2) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-  
7       TEES.—The term “appropriate congressional com-  
8       mittees” means—

9           (A) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and  
10       the Committee on Appropriations of the House  
11       of Representatives; and

12          (B) the Committee on Foreign Relations  
13       and the Committee on Appropriations of the  
14       Senate.

15          (3) GENDER ANALYSIS.—The term “gender  
16       analysis” means the examination of the differential  
17       impact of policies on different genders.

18          (4) GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE.—The term  
19       “gender-based violence”—

20           (A) means any harmful threat or act di-  
21       rected at an individual or group based on actual  
22       or perceived biological sex, gender identity or  
23       expression, sexual orientation, or lack of adher-  
24       ence to varying socially constructed norms  
25       around masculinity and femininity;

1 (B) is rooted in structural gender inequal-  
2 ities, patriarchy, and power imbalances; and

3 (C) includes the use or threat of physical,  
4 psychological, sexual, economic, legal, political,  
5 social and other forms of control or abuse.

6 (5) OFFICE.—The term “Office” means the Of-  
7 fice of Global Women’s Issues established by the  
8 Secretary of State pursuant to section 201(a).

9 (6) SENIOR COORDINATOR.—The term “Senior  
10 Coordinator” means the Senior Coordinator for Gen-  
11 der Equality and Women’s Empowerment at the  
12 United States Agency for International Development  
13 appointed pursuant to section 202.

14 (7) VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS.—  
15 The term “violence against women and girls”—

16 (A) means any act of violence against  
17 women or girls that results in, or is likely to re-  
18 sult in, physical, sexual, or psychological harm  
19 or suffering to women or girls, including threats  
20 of such acts, coercion, or arbitrary deprivations  
21 of liberty, whether occurring in public or private  
22 life; and

23 (B) includes—

24 (i) physical, sexual, and psychological  
25 violence occurring in the family, including

battering, sexual abuse of female children in the household, dowry-related violence, marital rape, female genital cutting and mutilation, forced child marriage, and other harmful practices to women and girls, nonspousal violence, and violence related to exploitation;

(ii) physical, sexual, and psychological violence occurring within the general community, including rape, sexual abuse, sexual harassment and intimidation at work, in educational institutions and elsewhere, trafficking in women and girls, and forced prostitution; and

(iii) physical, sexual, and psychological violence perpetrated or condoned by the state, wherever it occurs.

## **TITLE I—STRATEGY, POLICY, AND PROGRAMS**

### **SEC. 101. UNITED STATES STRATEGY TO PREVENT AND RESPOND TO GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE GLOBALLY.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and every 4 years there-

1 after, the Ambassador-at-Large, in consultation with the  
2 Senior Coordinator, shall—

3 (1) develop or update, in consultation with civil  
4 society, including service providers, a United States  
5 global strategy to prevent and respond to violence  
6 against women and girls, using evidence-based inter-  
7 ventions and standards that address the root causes  
8 of, and provide comprehensive responses to, violence  
9 against women and girls;

10 (2) submit the strategy under paragraph (1) to  
11 the appropriate congressional committees for com-  
12 ment and review; and

13 (3) make the strategy publicly available on the  
14 internet.

15 (b) INITIAL STRATEGY.—For the purposes of this  
16 section, the “United States Strategy to Prevent and Re-  
17 spond to Gender-Based Violence Globally”, issued in Au-  
18 gust 2012 and updated in 2016, shall be deemed to fulfill  
19 the initial requirement of subsection (a).

20 (c) IMPLEMENTATION PLAN.—Not later than 60  
21 days after submission of the strategy under subsection (a),  
22 the Ambassador-at-Large, in consultation with the Senior  
23 Coordinator, shall submit to the appropriate congressional  
24 committees an implementation plan detailing how the  
25 strategy will be implemented in the upcoming 4 fiscal



1 years, including the budget resources requested, and the  
2 specific activities to be supported, by each Executive agen-  
3 cy under the strategy.

4 (d) COLLABORATION AND COORDINATION.—In devel-  
5 oping the strategy under subsection (a), the Ambassador-  
6 at-Large and the Senior Coordinator shall consult with—

7 (1) the heads of relevant Federal agencies;

8 (2) the Senior Policy Operating Group on Traf-  
9 ficking in Persons; and

10 (3) representatives of civil society, including  
11 nongovernmental organizations, faith-based organi-  
12 zations, multilateral organizations, local and inter-  
13 national civil society groups, and local service pro-  
14 viders and beneficiaries with demonstrated experi-  
15 ence in addressing violence against women and girls  
16 or promoting gender equality internationally.

17 (e) CONTENT.—The implementation plan required  
18 under subsection (c) shall—

19 (1) identify eligible low-income and lower-mid-  
20 dle income countries with significant levels of vio-  
21 lence against women and girls, including within dis-  
22 placed communities, that have the governmental or  
23 nongovernmental organizational capacity to manage  
24 and implement gender-based violence prevention and  
25 response program activities and should, when pos-

1       sible, be geographically, ethnically, and culturally di-  
2       verse from one another;

3           (2) select 5 to 20 of the eligible countries iden-  
4       tified under paragraph (1) in which to develop com-  
5       prehensive and holistic individual country plans that  
6       incorporate at least two of the program activities  
7       listed in section 102(b);

8           (3) assess and describe the current or potential  
9       capacity of the government of each eligible country  
10      selected under paragraph (2) and civil society orga-  
11      nizations in each such eligible country to address  
12      and respond to violence against women and girls;

13          (4) identify coordination mechanisms with Fed-  
14      eral agencies that—

15           (A) have existing programs relevant to the  
16      strategy;

17           (B) will be involved in new program activi-  
18      ties; and

19           (C) are engaged in broader United States  
20      strategies around development;

21          (5) describe the monitoring and evaluation  
22      mechanisms established for each eligible country,  
23      and their intended use in assessing overall progress  
24      in prevention and response;

1           (6) project general levels of resources needed to  
 2           achieve the stated objectives in each eligible country,  
 3           including an accounting of—

4                   (A) activities and funding already ex-  
 5                   pended by the Department of State, the United  
 6                   States Agency for International Development,  
 7                   and other Federal agencies, donor country gov-  
 8                   ernments, and multilateral institutions; and

9                   (B) leveraged private sector resources;

10          (7) integrate gender analysis into the strategy  
 11          for each country; and

12          (8) include, as appropriate, strategies designed  
 13          to accommodate the needs of stateless, disabled, in-  
 14          ternally displaced refugees and religious or ethnic  
 15          minority women and girls.

16 **SEC. 102. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UNITED STATES**  
 17 **STRATEGY TO PREVENT AND RESPOND TO**  
 18 **GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE GLOBALLY.**

19          (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State and the  
 20 Administrator of the United States Agency for Inter-  
 21 national Development are authorized to provide assistance  
 22 to prevent and respond to violence against women and  
 23 girls internationally.

24          (b) PROGRAM ACTIVITIES SUPPORTED.—Assistance  
 25 provided under this section shall be used to carry out, in

1 each of the countries identified in the strategy required  
2 pursuant to subsection 101(e)(2), two or more of the fol-  
3 lowing program activities:

4 (1) Increasing legal and judicial protections  
5 by—

6 (A) supporting programs that strengthen a  
7 coordinated community response to violence  
8 against women and girls, including through co-  
9 ordination between judges, police, prosecutors,  
10 and legal advocates to enhance prospects for  
11 perpetrator accountability;

12 (B) supporting efforts and providing re-  
13 sources to provide training and technical assist-  
14 ance to police, prosecutors, forensic physicians,  
15 lawyers, corrections officers, judges, and judi-  
16 cial officials, and where appropriate, to non-  
17 lawyer advocates and traditional community au-  
18 thorities on violence against women and girls;

19 (C) supporting efforts to reform and revise  
20 criminal and civil laws to prohibit violence  
21 against women and girls and create account-  
22 ability for perpetrators;

23 (D) enhancing the capacity of the justice  
24 sector, including keeping official records of all  
25 complaints, collecting and safeguarding evi-

1            dence, systematizing and tracking data on cases  
2            of violence against women and girls, and under-  
3            taking investigations and evidence gathering ex-  
4            peditiously;

5            (E) helping women and girls who are vic-  
6            tims of violence gain access to the justice sector  
7            and supporting them throughout the legal proc-  
8            ess, including establishing victim and witness  
9            units for courts and promoting support for sur-  
10          vivor services, including hotlines and shelters;

11          (F) promoting civil remedies in cases of  
12          domestic violence that—

13                (i) prioritize victim safety and con-  
14                fidentiality and offender accountability;

15                (ii) grant women and children re-  
16                straining, protection, or removal orders  
17                with appropriate criminal sanctions for vio-  
18                lations against perpetrators of violence;

19                (iii) strengthen and promote women’s  
20                custodial rights over children and protect  
21                children; and

22                (iv) grant courts authority to provide  
23                specific relief pursuant to a restraining or  
24                removal order, including restitution, spous-  
25                al maintenance, child support, payment of

1 debt, or return or equitable distribution of  
2 property;

3 (G) reducing the incidence of violence  
4 against women and girls committed by govern-  
5 ment officials by developing confidential mecha-  
6 nisms for reporting violence against women and  
7 girls committed by government officials and in-  
8 stitutions and developing laws to punish the  
9 perpetrators and remove immunity from state  
10 officials;

11 (H) promoting broader legal protection for  
12 women and girls against all forms of violence  
13 against women and girls, such as female infan-  
14 ticide and female genital mutilation, and prac-  
15 tices that are associated with higher rates of vi-  
16 olence against women and girls, such as child  
17 and forced marriage; and

18 (I) increasing the number of women advo-  
19 cates trained to respond to violence against  
20 women and girls at police stations, including  
21 the creation of domestic violence units and in-  
22 creasing the number of women police.

23 (2) Carrying out health care initiatives, includ-  
24 ing—

1           (A) promoting the integration of programs  
2           to prevent and respond to violence against  
3           women and girls into existing programs ad-  
4           dressing child survival, women’s health, repro-  
5           ductive health, family planning, mental health,  
6           and HIV/AIDS prevention, care, and treatment;

7           (B) training of health care providers, in-  
8           cluding traditional birth attendants, on methods  
9           to safely and confidentially assess women and  
10          girls seeking health services for intimate part-  
11          ner, family, and sexual violence;

12          (C) developing and enforcing national and  
13          operational women’s health, reproductive health,  
14          children’s health, and HIV/AIDS policies that  
15          prevent and respond to violence against women  
16          and girls, with accompanying resources, includ-  
17          ing through cooperative efforts with ministries  
18          of health;

19          (D) developing information gathering sys-  
20          tems within the health care sector that, con-  
21          sistent with safety and confidentiality concerns,  
22          collect and compile data on the type of violence  
23          against women and girls, access to care, age of  
24          victims, and relationship of victims to perpetra-  
25          tors;

1 (E) working with governments to develop  
2 partnerships with civil society organizations to  
3 create referral networks systems for psycho-  
4 social, legal, economic, or other support serv-  
5 ices; and

6 (F) integrating screening and assessment  
7 for gender-based violence into HIV/AIDS pro-  
8 gramming and other health programming into  
9 all country operation plans, and increasing  
10 women’s access to information, strategies, and  
11 services to protect themselves from HIV/AIDS.

12 (3) Conducting public awareness programs to  
13 change social norms and attitudes, including—

14 (A) supporting women survivors of violence  
15 to educate their communities on the impacts of  
16 violence;

17 (B) engaging men, including faith and tra-  
18 ditional leaders;

19 (C) providing funding and programmatic  
20 support for mass media social change cam-  
21 paigns; and

22 (D) supporting community efforts to  
23 change attitudes about harmful traditional  
24 practices, including child marriage, female gen-  
25 ital mutilation, and so-called “honor killings”.



1           (4) Improving economic opportunities for  
2 women and girls, including—

3           (A) supporting programs to help women  
4 meet their economic needs and to increase their  
5 economic opportunities, in both rural and urban  
6 areas, including through support for—

7           (i) the establishment and development  
8 of businesses (micro, small, and medium-  
9 sized enterprises) through access to finan-  
10 cial and nonfinancial services; and

11          (ii) education, literacy, and numeracy  
12 programs, leadership development and job  
13 skills training, especially in nontraditional  
14 fields and expected growth sectors;

15          (B) supporting programs to help increase  
16 property rights, social security, and home own-  
17 ership and land tenure security for women by—

18          (i) promoting equitable extension of  
19 property and inheritance rights, particu-  
20 larly rights to familial and marital prop-  
21 erty;

22          (ii) promoting legal literacy, including  
23 among faith and traditional leaders, about  
24 women’s property rights; and

1 (iii) helping women to make land  
2 claims and protecting women's existing  
3 claims and advocating for equitable land ti-  
4 tling and registration for women, including  
5 safeguards for women title-holders in the  
6 case of domestic violence disputes;

7 (C) integrating activities to prevent and re-  
8 spond to violence against women and girls into  
9 existing economic opportunity programs by—

10 (i) integrating education on violence  
11 against women and girls into women's  
12 microfinance, microenterprise, and job  
13 skills training programs; and

14 (ii) training providers of economic op-  
15 portunity services and programs in sensi-  
16 tivity to violence against women and girls;  
17 and

18 (D) addressing violence against women and  
19 girls in the workplace.

20 (5) Improving educational opportunities for  
21 women and girls, including—

22 (A) supporting efforts and providing re-  
23 sources to provide training for all teachers and  
24 school administrators on school-related violence,  
25 in particular increasing awareness of violence

1 against women and girls, and to improve re-  
2 porting, referral, and implementation of codes  
3 of conduct;

4 (B) working to ensure the safety of girls  
5 during their travel to and from school and on  
6 school grounds;

7 (C) supporting programs for girls and boys  
8 on the unacceptability of violence against  
9 women and girls;

10 (D) comprehensive sexuality education pro-  
11 grams which include consent education; and

12 (E) conducting national and baseline sur-  
13 veys to collect data on school-related violence  
14 against women and girls.

15 (c) BUILDING LOCAL CAPACITY.—Not less than 10  
16 percent of the amount of assistance provided to an eligible  
17 country under this section should be provided to commu-  
18 nity-based nongovernmental or faith-based organizations,  
19 with priority given to nongovernmental organizations led  
20 by women.

21 **SEC. 103. MONITORING THE UNITED STATES STRATEGY TO**  
22 **PREVENT AND RESPOND TO GENDER-BASED**  
23 **VIOLENCE GLOBALLY.**

24 (a) IN GENERAL.—In each strategy submitted under  
25 section 101(a), the Ambassador-at-Large and Senior Co-

1 ordinator shall include an analysis of best practices for  
2 preventing and addressing violence against women and  
3 girls internationally, which shall include—

4 (1) a description of successful efforts by foreign  
5 governments, multilateral institutions, nongovern-  
6 mental organizations, educational organizations, and  
7 faith-based organizations in preventing and respond-  
8 ing to violence against women and girls;

9 (2) recommendations related to best practices,  
10 effective strategies, and improvements to enhance  
11 the impact of prevention and response efforts; and

12 (3) the impact of activities funded by the strat-  
13 egy in preventing and reducing violence against  
14 women and girls internationally.

15 (b) AMENDMENTS.—The Foreign Assistance Act of  
16 1961 is amended—

17 (1) in section 116(d) (22 U.S.C. 2151n(d))—

18 (A) in paragraph (11)(C), by striking  
19 “and” at the end;

20 (B) in paragraph (12)(C)(ii), by striking  
21 the period at the end and inserting “; and”;  
22 and

23 (C) by adding at the end the following new  
24 paragraph:

1 “(13) wherever applicable, the nature and ex-  
2 tent of violence against women and girls (as such  
3 term is defined in section 4 of the International Vio-  
4 lence Against Women Act of 2019).”; and

5 (2) in section 502B (22 U.S.C. 2304)—

6 (A) by redesignating the second subsection  
7 designated as subsection (i) as subsection (j);  
8 and

9 (B) by adding at the end the following new  
10 subsection:

11 “(k) INCLUSION OF INFORMATION RELATING TO VI-  
12 OLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS.—The report re-  
13 quired by subsection (b) shall include, wherever applicable,  
14 the nature and extent of violence against women and girls  
15 (as such term is defined in section 4 of the International  
16 Violence Against Women Act of 2019).”.

17 (c) MONITORING AND EVALUATION.—In coordination  
18 with relevant officials, and consistent with the monitoring  
19 and evaluation policies of their respective agencies, the  
20 Ambassador-at-Large and the Senior Coordinator shall  
21 develop a plan for monitoring and independent evaluation  
22 of programs, projects, and activities carried out under this  
23 Act. The plan shall—

24 (1) apply rigorous monitoring and evaluation  
25 methodologies to focus on learning, accountability,

1 and policymaking, choosing from among a wide vari-  
2 ety of qualitative, quantitative, summative, and  
3 formative methods common in the field of social sci-  
4 entific inquiry, including impact evaluations; and

5 (2) be included in the implementation plan re-  
6 quired under section 101(c).

7 (d) RESEARCH AND DATA COLLECTION.—The Sec-  
8 retary of State and the Administrator of the United States  
9 Agency for International Development shall—

10 (1) produce original research or analysis of ef-  
11 fective interventions to prevent or respond to vio-  
12 lence against women and girls internationally;

13 (2) collect and analyze new or existing data on  
14 the scope and extent of all forms of violence against  
15 women and girls internationally, including under  
16 documented forms of violence and violence against  
17 marginalized groups;

18 (3) conduct research on effective interventions  
19 to respond to violence against women and girls inter-  
20 nationally, including efforts to scale up effective pro-  
21 gramming; and

22 (4) support systemic data collection using inter-  
23 nationally comparable indicators, norms, and meth-  
24 odologies for measuring the scope, prevalence, and

1 incidence of violence against women and girls inter-  
2 nationally.

3 **TITLE II—OVERSIGHT AND**  
4 **ACCOUNTABILITY**

5 **SEC. 201. OFFICE OF GLOBAL WOMEN'S ISSUES.**

6 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of State shall  
7 establish in the Office of the Secretary of the Department  
8 of State the Office of Global Women's Issues. The Office  
9 shall be headed by an Ambassador-at-Large for Global  
10 Women's Issues, who shall be appointed by the President,  
11 by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. The  
12 Ambassador-at-Large shall report directly to the Secretary  
13 and shall have the rank and status of Ambassador-at-  
14 Large.

15 (b) PURPOSE.—In addition to the duties described in  
16 subsection (c) and duties determined by the Secretary of  
17 State, the Ambassador-at-Large shall coordinate efforts of  
18 the United States Government as directed by the Sec-  
19 retary regarding approaches that promote equality and ad-  
20 vance the status of women and girls in United States for-  
21 eign policy.

22 (c) DUTIES.—

23 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Ambassador-at-Large—

24 (A) in consultation with the Senior Coordi-  
25 nator, shall direct activities, policies, programs,

1 and funding relating to gender equality and the  
2 advancement of women and girls internation-  
3 ally, including those intended to prevent and re-  
4 spond to violence against women and girls, for  
5 all bureaus and offices of the Department of  
6 State and in the international programs of all  
7 other Federal agencies;

8 (B) shall actively promote and advance the  
9 integration of gender analysis into the pro-  
10 grams, structures, processes, and capacities of  
11 bureaus and offices of the Department of State  
12 and in the international programs of other Fed-  
13 eral agencies;

14 (C) shall direct United States Government  
15 resources, as appropriate, to respond to needs  
16 for promoting gender equality and the em-  
17 powerment of women in United States Govern-  
18 ment foreign policies and international pro-  
19 grams, including to prevent and respond to vio-  
20 lence against women and girls internationally;

21 (D) may design, support, and implement  
22 activities regarding empowerment of women  
23 internationally, including for the prevention of  
24 and response to violence against women and  
25 girls internationally;



1           (E) shall conduct regular consultation with  
2           civil society organizations working to prevent  
3           and respond to violence against women and  
4           girls internationally;

5           (F) shall ensure that programs, projects,  
6           and activities designed to prevent and respond  
7           to violence against women and girls internation-  
8           ally are subject to rigorous monitoring and eval-  
9           uation, and that there is a uniform set of indi-  
10          cators and standards for such monitoring and  
11          evaluation that is used across all Federal agen-  
12          cies;

13          (G) shall serve as the principal advisor to  
14          the Secretary of State regarding gender equal-  
15          ity, women's empowerment, and violence  
16          against women and girls as a foreign policy  
17          matter; and

18          (H) is authorized to represent the United  
19          States in diplomatic and multilateral fora on  
20          matters relevant to the status of women and  
21          girls, including violence against women and  
22          girls internationally.

23          (2) INFORMATION SHARING AND TRANS-  
24          PARENCY.—The Office—

1 (A) shall be the central repository of data  
2 on all United States programs, projects, and ac-  
3 tivities that relate to prevention and response to  
4 violence against women and girls; and

5 (B) shall produce a full accounting of  
6 United States Government spending on such  
7 programs, projects, and activities.

8 **SEC. 202. SENIOR COORDINATOR FOR GENDER EQUALITY**  
9 **AND WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT.**

10 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in the  
11 United States Agency for International Development the  
12 position of Senior Coordinator for Gender Equality and  
13 Women's Empowerment. The Senior Coordinator shall—

14 (1) report to the Administrator of the United  
15 States Agency for International Development; and

16 (2) conduct the activities of the Administrator  
17 under this Act.

18 (b) DUTIES.—The Senior Coordinator—

19 (1) in consultation with the Ambassador-at-  
20 Large, shall direct activities, policies, programs, and  
21 funding of the United States Agency for Inter-  
22 national Development relating to gender equality  
23 and women's empowerment, including those intended  
24 to prevent and respond to violence against women  
25 and girls;

1           (2) shall actively promote and advance the inte-  
2           gration of gender analysis into the programs, struc-  
3           tures, processes, and capacities of all bureaus and  
4           offices of the United States Agency for International  
5           Development as required by the Agency's Gender  
6           Equality and Female Empowerment Policy;

7           (3) shall direct United States Agency for Inter-  
8           national Development resources for gender equality  
9           and women's empowerment, including to prevent and  
10          respond to violence against women and girls inter-  
11          nationally;

12          (4) may design, support, and implement activi-  
13          ties led by the United States Agency for Inter-  
14          national Development regarding gender equality and  
15          women's empowerment, including for the prevention  
16          and response to violence against women and girls  
17          internationally;

18          (5) shall conduct regular consultation with civil  
19          society organizations working to prevent and re-  
20          spond to violence against women and girls inter-  
21          nationally;

22          (6) shall serve as the principal advisor to the  
23          Administrator regarding gender equality, women's  
24          empowerment, and violence against women and girls;  
25          and

1           (7) shall track and analyze monitoring and eval-  
2           uation data and findings on international prevention  
3           and response programs of the United States Agency  
4           for International Development, consistent with  
5           Agency-wide monitoring and evaluation activities, to  
6           assist in the preparation of the strategy developed  
7           under section 101(a).

8   **SEC. 203. BRIEFING AND ASSESSMENT.**

9           Not later than 180 days after the date of the enact-  
10          ment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Amba-  
11          sador-at-Large and the Senior Coordinator shall provide,  
12          to the appropriate congressional committees—

13               (1) a briefing on international violence against  
14          women and girls prevention and response strategies,  
15          programming, and associated outcomes; and

16               (2) an assessment of human and financial re-  
17          sources necessary to fulfill the purposes and duties  
18          under this Act.

19   **SEC. 204. ADDRESSING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND**  
20                   **GIRLS IN HUMANITARIAN RELIEF, PEACE-**  
21                   **KEEPING, CONFLICT, AND POSTCONFLICT**  
22                   **SETTINGS.**

23          (a) ACTIVITIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
24          WITH USAID.—The Secretary of State and the Adminis-

1 trator of the United States Agency for International De-  
2 velopment shall ensure that—

3 (1) bilateral and multilateral assistance made  
4 available for humanitarian relief, conflict mitigation,  
5 and post-conflict reconstruction including funds  
6 made available through Safe from the Start and  
7 other programs and efforts—

8 (A) prevents and responds to violence  
9 against women and girls from the very onset of  
10 and throughout a crisis;

11 (B) builds the capacity of humanitarian  
12 actors, including multilateral agencies and those  
13 leading relevant humanitarian cluster responses  
14 and Areas of Responsibility (AOR), such as the  
15 GBV AOR;

16 (C) builds the capacity of local partners to  
17 address the special protection needs of women  
18 and children;

19 (D) supports survivors of violence through  
20 education, essential medical and psychosocial  
21 assistance, trauma counseling, family and com-  
22 munity reinsertion and reunification, and eco-  
23 nomic opportunity programs; and

24 (E) provides legal services for women and  
25 girls who are victims of violence;

1           (2) specialists in violence against women and  
2           girls are designated and deployed, as appropriate, as  
3           an integral part of Disaster Assistance Response  
4           Teams to ensure the integration of prevention and  
5           response to violence against women and girls inter-  
6           nationally in strategies and programming; and

7           (3) contractors, grantees, and governments that  
8           carry out programs with United States assistance—

9                   (A) train humanitarian workers in pre-  
10                  venting and responding to violence against  
11                  women and girls, including in the use of mecha-  
12                  nisms to report violence against women and  
13                  girls;

14                  (B) conduct appropriate public outreach to  
15                  make known to the host community the mecha-  
16                  nisms to report violence against women and  
17                  girls; and

18                  (C) promptly and appropriately respond to  
19                  reports of violence against women and girls and  
20                  treat survivors in accordance with best practices  
21                  regarding confidentiality.

22           (b) EMERGENCY RESPONSE TO CREDIBLE REPORTS  
23           OF CRITICAL OR WIDESPREAD VIOLENCE AGAINST  
24           WOMEN AND GIRLS.—

1           (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State, act-  
2           ing through the heads of relevant bureaus and of-  
3           fices of the Department of State, shall—

4                   (A) identify critical or widespread incidents  
5                   of violence against women and girls in situa-  
6                   tions of armed conflict when such incidents  
7                   occur, through consultation with other Federal  
8                   departments and agencies, the United Nations,  
9                   international organizations, and nongovern-  
10                  mental organizations;

11                  (B) determine emergency response meas-  
12                  ures not later than 45 days after such identi-  
13                  fication; and

14                  (C) brief Congress, upon request, on the  
15                  implementation of such emergency response  
16                  measures and outcomes not later than 90 days  
17                  after such determination.

18           (2) CONTENT.—The emergency measures devel-  
19           oped under paragraph (1) shall include a description  
20           of bilateral diplomatic efforts with—

21                   (A) the government of the country in  
22                   which the violence is occurring;

23                   (B) governments in the region in which the  
24                   violence is occurring; and

1 (C) other donor governments.

○