

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5034

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

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 15, 2018

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY (for herself, Mr. ENGEL, Mrs. LOWEY, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. DEUTCH, Ms. TSONGAS, Ms. MOORE, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. BORDALLO, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. CUMMINGS, Ms. DEGETTE, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. ESTY of Connecticut, Ms. FRANKEL of Florida, Mr. GALLEGGO, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. HANABUSA, Mr. HECK, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. KEATING, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. KIHUEN, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Ms. LEE, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. MENG, Mr. MOULTON, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. POCAN, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. RASKIN, Miss RICE of New York, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. SIRES, Mr. SOTO, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Ms. TITUS, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. WELCH, Ms. WILSON of Florida, and Mr. YARMUTH) 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.

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

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE AND TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
 5 “International Violence Against Women Act of 2018”.

6 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for
 7 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 Vi-
 olence Globally.

Sec. 102. Implementation of the United States Strategy to Prevent and Re-
 spond 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.

8 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

9 Congress makes the following findings:

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

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

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

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

13 (5) Adult male respondents in six countries who
14 had experienced violence as children were signifi-
15 cantly more likely to report perpetrating intimate
16 partner violence themselves according to the Inter-
17 national Men and Gender Equality Survey dataset.

18 (6) Gender-based violence harms economies and
19 the workers that fuel them. Despite under-reporting,
20 striking statistics document prevalent forms of gen-
21 der-based violence globally that affect the world of
22 work. Worldwide, women are concentrated in low-
23 wage, insecure jobs in workplaces where they lack
24 bargaining power, protections against gender-based
25 violence, safe and confidential reporting systems, re-

1 course to justice, and access to legal, medical, and
2 psychosocial services.

3 (7) Women living in poverty are particularly
4 vulnerable to gender-based violence. Lack of eco-
5 nomic opportunities often compel women to use des-
6 perate and dangerous means to provide for them-
7 selves and their families, risking significant exposure
8 to sexual exploitation and abuse. These women often
9 cannot afford critical social and medical services.

10 (8) Research conducted in India, Colombia,
11 South Africa, and Uganda indicates that when
12 women have greater control of assets, they are less
13 likely to experience intimate partner violence. Addi-
14 tionally, when women participate in the economy
15 they are able to develop a wider support network,
16 which allows them to more easily escape intimate
17 partner violence.

18 (9) Gender-based violence impacts livelihoods
19 and food security by reducing work capacity and
20 productivity, including the ability to grow food for
21 consumption. Studies have shown that women af-
22 fected by gender-based violence are exposed to ill-
23 nesses and injuries that hamper their ability to work
24 productively and care for their families. Diminished

1 food production consequently increases hunger and
2 women's vulnerability to further violence.

3 (10) Country studies indicate that the risk of
4 HIV among women who have experienced violence
5 may be up to three times higher than among those
6 who have not experience violence. The World Health
7 Organization found that women who experience inti-
8 mate partner violence are at more than 50 percent
9 greater risk of HIV infection, and in some instances
10 their risk of HIV infection increases four-fold.
11 Women living with HIV are more likely to experi-
12 ence violence than other women, and fear of violence
13 can prevent women from accessing HIV/AIDS infor-
14 mation and receiving treatment and counseling.

15 (11) Addressing gender norms and inequities is
16 essential to reducing HIV risk and increasing access
17 to HIV prevention, care, and treatment services for
18 women and men. The President's Emergency Plan
19 for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) supports significant
20 work in the field to incorporate efforts to prevent
21 and respond to gender-based violence into existing
22 HIV treatment and prevention programs.

23 (12) Prevalence of sexual and physical violence
24 is higher among persons with disabilities, particu-
25 larly for adolescents and intimate partners with dis-

1 abilities, and for men and women with intellectual
2 impairments living in institutions. The World Health
3 Organization reports that rates of gender-based vio-
4 lence are between 4 and 10 times greater among
5 persons with disabilities compared to non-disabled
6 persons.

7 (13) Displaced, refugee, and stateless women
8 and girls in humanitarian emergencies, conflict set-
9 tings, and natural disasters face extreme violence
10 and threats, including—

11 (A) being forced to exchange sex for food
12 and humanitarian supplies; and

13 (B) being at increased risk of rape, sexual
14 exploitation, and abuse.

15 (14) Rape and sexual assault against women
16 and girls are used to torture, intimidate, and ter-
17 rorize communities. Rape and sexual assault are
18 used as tools of war in conflict zones, including the
19 Democratic Republic of the Congo, Iraq, Syria, Af-
20 ghanistan, Colombia, and South Sudan.

21 (15) Child and forced marriage of girls—

22 (A) is a harmful practice that deprives
23 girls of their dignity and rights and creates bar-
24 riers to development for communities and coun-
25 tries;

1 (B) is projected to affect more than
2 140,000,000 girls who will become brides be-
3 tween 2011 and 2020;

4 (C) can prematurely end girls' education,
5 increase vulnerability to gender-based violence,
6 and significantly raise the risk of maternal and
7 infant morbidity or mortality, including the risk
8 of obstetric fistula and sexually transmitted dis-
9 eases, including HIV/AIDS; and

10 (D) is perpetuated by poverty, a lack of
11 educational or employment opportunities for
12 girls, a lack of legal policies and enforcement of
13 laws, and religious, cultural, and social factors
14 related to girls' perceived lack of value, factors
15 which become particularly acute in conflict and
16 disaster settings where fears of sexual violence
17 and overstretched coping mechanisms often
18 drive child and forced marriage.

19 (16) Female genital mutilation/cutting (FGM/
20 C) is carried out most often on girls between infancy
21 and 15 years of age and has impacted more than
22 125,000,000 girls and women who are alive today.
23 FGM/C can cause long-term health problems, includ-
24 ing infertility, complications in childbirth, and in-
25 creased risk of newborn deaths.

1 (17) World Bank data shows that gender in-
2 equality directly corresponds to increased levels of
3 political and economic instability within states. Gen-
4 der-based violence impedes women’s meaningful par-
5 ticipation in social, political, and economic spheres,
6 which is essential to the stability and democratiza-
7 tion of a country. Since women disproportionately
8 experience gender-based violence during conflict and
9 post-conflict reconstruction, they can play a pivotal
10 role in preventing, mitigating, and resolving conflict,
11 and countering extremism.

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

22 **SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF POLICY.**

23 It is the policy of the United States—

24 (1) to take effective action to prevent and re-
25 spond to violence against women and girls around

1 the world as a matter of basic human rights and to
2 promote gender equality, economic growth, and im-
3 proved public health;

4 (2) to systematically integrate and coordinate
5 efforts to prevent and respond to violence against
6 women and girls internationally into United States
7 foreign policy and foreign assistance programs, in-
8 cluding peace-building efforts and humanitarian re-
9 lief and recovery;

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

15 (4) to consult, cooperate, coordinate, and col-
16 laborate with a wide variety of nongovernmental
17 partners with demonstrated experience in preventing
18 and responding to violence against women and girls,
19 including faith-based organizations and women-led
20 organizations;

21 (5) to employ a multisectoral approach to pre-
22 venting and responding to violence against women
23 and girls internationally, including activities in the
24 economic, education, health, nutrition, legal, and ju-
25 dicial sectors;

1 (6) to work at all levels, from the individual to
2 the family, community, local, national, and inter-
3 national levels, to prevent and respond to violence
4 against women and girls around the world;

5 (7) to enhance training by United States per-
6 sonnel of professional foreign military and police
7 forces and judicial officials, including specific and
8 thorough instruction on preventing and responding
9 to violence against women and girls around the
10 world;

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

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

18 (10) to require that all United States contrac-
19 tors and grantees establish appropriate policies and
20 take effective measures to prevent violence against
21 women and girls and sexual exploitation and abuse
22 within their workforce;

23 (11) to exert sustained international leadership
24 to prevent and respond to violence against women

1 and girls, including in bilateral and multilateral fora;
2 and

3 (12) to implement the United States Strategy
4 to Prevent and Respond to Gender-based Violence
5 Globally.

6 **SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

8 (1) **AMBASSADOR-AT-LARGE.**—The term “Am-
9 bassador-at-Large” means the Ambassador-at-Large
10 for Global Women’s Issues at the Department of
11 State appointed by the President pursuant to section
12 201(a).

13 (2) **APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-**
14 **TEES.**—The term “appropriate congressional com-
15 mittees” means—

16 (A) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and
17 the Committee on Appropriations of the House
18 of Representatives; and

19 (B) the Committee on Foreign Relations
20 and the Committee on Appropriations of the
21 Senate.

22 (3) **GENDER ANALYSIS.**—The term “gender
23 analysis” means the examination of the differential
24 impact of policies on different genders.

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

3 (A) means any harmful threat or act di-
4 rected at an individual or group based on actual
5 or perceived biological sex, gender identity or
6 expression, sexual orientation, or lack of adher-
7 ence to varying socially constructed norms
8 around masculinity and femininity; and

9 (B) includes the use or threat of physical,
10 psychological, sexual, economic, legal, political,
11 social and other forms of control or abuse.

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

15 (6) SENIOR COORDINATOR.—The term “Senior
16 Coordinator” means the Senior Coordinator for Gen-
17 der Equality and Women’s Empowerment at the
18 United States Agency for International Development
19 appointed pursuant to section 202.

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

22 (A) means any act of violence against
23 women or girls that results in, or is likely to re-
24 sult in, physical, sexual, or psychological harm
25 or suffering to women or girls, including threats

1 of such acts, coercion, or arbitrary deprivations
2 of liberty, whether occurring in public or private
3 life; and

4 (B) includes—

5 (i) physical, sexual, and psychological
6 violence occurring in the family, including
7 battering, sexual abuse of female children
8 in the household, dowry-related violence,
9 marital rape, female genital cutting and
10 mutilation, forced child marriage, and
11 other harmful practices to women and
12 girls, nonspousal violence, and violence re-
13 lated to exploitation;

14 (ii) physical, sexual, and psychological
15 violence occurring within the general com-
16 munity, including rape, sexual abuse, sex-
17 ual harassment and intimidation at work,
18 in educational institutions and elsewhere,
19 trafficking in women and girls, and forced
20 prostitution; and

21 (iii) physical, sexual, and psycho-
22 logical violence perpetrated or condoned by
23 the state, wherever it occurs.

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

**SEC. 101. UNITED STATES STRATEGY TO PREVENT AND RE-
SPOND TO GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE GLOB-
ALLY.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and every 4 years thereafter, the Ambassador-at-Large, in consultation with the Senior Coordinator, shall—

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

(2) submit the strategy under paragraph (1) to the appropriate congressional committees for comment and review; and

(3) make the strategy publicly available on the Internet.

(b) INITIAL STRATEGY.—For the purposes of this section, the “United States Strategy to Prevent and Respond to Gender-Based Violence Globally”, issued in Au-

1 gust 2012 and updated in 2016, shall be deemed to fulfill
2 the initial requirement of subsection (a).

3 (c) IMPLEMENTATION PLAN.—Not later than 60
4 days after submission of the strategy under subsection (a),
5 the Ambassador-at-Large, in consultation with the Senior
6 Coordinator, shall submit to the appropriate congressional
7 committees an implementation plan detailing how the
8 strategy will be implemented in the upcoming 4 fiscal
9 years, including the budget resources requested, and the
10 specific activities to be supported, by each Executive agen-
11 cy under the strategy.

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

- 15 (1) the heads of relevant Federal agencies;
- 16 (2) the Senior Policy Operating Group on Traf-
17 ficking in Persons; and
- 18 (3) representatives of civil society, including
19 nongovernmental organizations, faith-based organi-
20 zations, multilateral organizations, local and inter-
21 national civil society groups, and local service pro-
22 viders and beneficiaries with demonstrated experi-
23 ence in addressing violence against women and girls
24 or promoting gender equality internationally.

1 (e) CONTENT.—The implementation plan required
2 under subsection (c) shall—

3 (1) identify eligible low-income and lower-mid-
4 dle income countries with significant levels of vio-
5 lence against women and girls, including within dis-
6 placed communities, that have the governmental or
7 nongovernmental organizational capacity to manage
8 and implement gender-based violence prevention and
9 response program activities and should, when pos-
10 sible, be geographically, ethnically, and culturally di-
11 verse from one another;

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

17 (3) assess and describe the current or potential
18 capacity of the government of each eligible country
19 selected under paragraph (2) and civil society orga-
20 nizations in each such eligible country to address
21 and respond to violence against women and girls;

22 (4) identify coordination mechanisms with Fed-
23 eral agencies that—

24 (A) have existing programs relevant to the
25 strategy;

1 (B) will be involved in new program activi-
2 ties; and

3 (C) are engaged in broader United States
4 strategies around development;

5 (5) describe the monitoring and evaluation
6 mechanisms established for each eligible country,
7 and their intended use in assessing overall progress
8 in prevention and response;

9 (6) project general levels of resources needed to
10 achieve the stated objectives in each eligible country,
11 including an accounting of—

12 (A) activities and funding already ex-
13 pended by the Department of State, the United
14 States Agency for International Development,
15 and other Federal agencies, donor country gov-
16 ernments, and multilateral institutions; and

17 (B) leveraged private sector resources;

18 (7) integrate gender analysis into the strategy
19 for each country; and

20 (8) include, as appropriate, strategies designed
21 to accommodate the needs of stateless, disabled, in-
22 ternally displaced refugees and religious or ethnic
23 minority women and girls.

1 **SEC. 102. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UNITED STATES**
2 **STRATEGY TO PREVENT AND RESPOND TO**
3 **GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE GLOBALLY.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State and the
5 Administrator of the United States Agency for Inter-
6 national Development are authorized to provide assistance
7 to prevent and respond to violence against women and
8 girls internationally.

9 (b) PROGRAM ACTIVITIES SUPPORTED.—Assistance
10 provided under this section shall be used to carry out, in
11 each of the countries identified in the strategy required
12 pursuant to subsection 101(e)(2), two or more of the fol-
13 lowing program activities:

14 (1) Increasing legal and judicial protections
15 by—

16 (A) supporting programs that strengthen a
17 coordinated community response to violence
18 against women and girls, including through co-
19 ordination between judges, police, prosecutors,
20 and legal advocates to enhance prospects for
21 perpetrator accountability;

22 (B) supporting efforts and providing re-
23 sources to provide training and technical assist-
24 ance to police, prosecutors, forensic physicians,
25 lawyers, corrections officers, judges, and judi-
26 cial officials, and where appropriate, to non-

1 lawyer advocates and traditional community au-
2 thorities on violence against women and girls;

3 (C) supporting efforts to reform and revise
4 criminal and civil laws to prohibit violence
5 against women and girls and create account-
6 ability for perpetrators;

7 (D) enhancing the capacity of the justice
8 sector, including keeping official records of all
9 complaints, collecting and safeguarding evi-
10 dence, systematizing and tracking data on cases
11 of violence against women and girls, and under-
12 taking investigations and evidence gathering ex-
13 peditiously;

14 (E) helping women and girls who are vic-
15 tims of violence gain access to the justice sector
16 and supporting them throughout the legal proc-
17 ess, including establishing victim and witness
18 units for courts and promoting support for sur-
19 vivor services, including hotlines and shelters;

20 (F) promoting civil remedies in cases of
21 domestic violence that—

22 (i) prioritize victim safety and con-
23 fidentiality and offender accountability;

24 (ii) grant women and children re-
25 straining, protection, or removal orders

1 with appropriate criminal sanctions for vio-
2 lations against perpetrators of violence;

3 (iii) strengthen and promote women's
4 custodial rights over children and protect
5 children; and

6 (iv) grant courts authority to provide
7 specific relief pursuant to a restraining or
8 removal order, including restitution, spous-
9 al maintenance, child support, payment of
10 debt, or return or equitable distribution of
11 property;

12 (G) reducing the incidence of violence
13 against women and girls committed by govern-
14 ment officials by developing confidential mecha-
15 nisms for reporting violence against women and
16 girls committed by government officials and in-
17 stitutions and developing laws to punish the
18 perpetrators and remove immunity from state
19 officials;

20 (H) promoting broader legal protection for
21 women and girls against all forms of violence
22 against women and girls, such as female infan-
23 ticide and female genital mutilation, and prac-
24 tices that are associated with higher rates of vi-

1 olence against women and girls, such as child
2 and forced marriage; and

3 (I) increasing the number of women advo-
4 cates trained to respond to violence against
5 women and girls at police stations, including
6 the creation of domestic violence units and in-
7 creasing the number of women police.

8 (2) Carrying out health care initiatives, includ-
9 ing—

10 (A) promoting the integration of programs
11 to prevent and respond to violence against
12 women and girls into existing programs ad-
13 dressing child survival, women’s health, family
14 planning, mental health, and HIV/AIDS pre-
15 vention, care, and treatment;

16 (B) training of health care providers, in-
17 cluding traditional birth attendants, on methods
18 to safely and confidentially assess women and
19 girls seeking health services for intimate part-
20 ner, family, and sexual violence;

21 (C) developing and enforcing national and
22 operational women’s health, children’s health,
23 and HIV/AIDS policies that prevent and re-
24 spond to violence against women and girls, with

1 accompanying resources, including through co-
2 operative efforts with ministries of health;

3 (D) developing information gathering sys-
4 tems within the health care sector that, con-
5 sistent with safety and confidentiality concerns,
6 collect and compile data on the type of violence
7 against women and girls, access to care, age of
8 victims, and relationship of victims to perpetra-
9 tors;

10 (E) working with governments to develop
11 partnerships with civil society organizations to
12 create referral networks systems for psycho-
13 social, legal, economic, or other support serv-
14 ices; and

15 (F) integrating screening and assessment
16 for gender-based violence into HIV/AIDS pro-
17 gramming and other health programming into
18 all country operation plans, and increasing
19 women's access to information, strategies, and
20 services to protect themselves from HIV/AIDS.

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

23 (A) supporting women survivors of violence
24 to educate their communities on the impacts of
25 violence;

1 (B) engaging men, including faith and tra-
2 ditional leaders;

3 (C) providing funding and programmatic
4 support for mass media social change cam-
5 paigns; and

6 (D) supporting community efforts to
7 change attitudes about harmful traditional
8 practices, including child marriage, female gen-
9 ital mutilation, and so-called “honor killings”.

10 (4) Improving economic opportunities for
11 women and girls, including—

12 (A) supporting programs to help women
13 meet their economic needs and to increase their
14 economic opportunities, in both rural and urban
15 areas, including through support for—

16 (i) the establishment and development
17 of businesses (micro, small, and medium-
18 sized enterprises) through access to finan-
19 cial and nonfinancial services; and

20 (ii) education, literacy, and numeracy
21 programs, leadership development and job
22 skills training, especially in nontraditional
23 fields and expected growth sectors;

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

4 (i) promoting equitable extension of
5 property and inheritance rights, particu-
6 larly rights to familial and marital prop-
7 erty;

8 (ii) promoting legal literacy, including
9 among faith and traditional leaders, about
10 women’s property rights; and

11 (iii) helping women to make land
12 claims and protecting women’s existing
13 claims and advocating for equitable land ti-
14 tling and registration for women, including
15 safeguards for women title-holders in the
16 case of domestic violence disputes;

17 (C) integrating activities to prevent and re-
18 spond to violence against women and girls into
19 existing economic opportunity programs by—

20 (i) integrating education on violence
21 against women and girls into women’s
22 microfinance, microenterprise, and job
23 skills training programs; and

24 (ii) training providers of economic op-
25 portunity services and programs in sensi-

1 tivity to violence against women and girls;
2 and

3 (D) addressing violence against women and
4 girls in the workplace.

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

7 (A) supporting efforts and providing re-
8 sources to provide training for all teachers and
9 school administrators on school-related violence,
10 in particular increasing awareness of violence
11 against women and girls, and to improve re-
12 porting, referral, and implementation of codes
13 of conduct;

14 (B) working to ensure the safety of girls
15 during their travel to and from school and on
16 school grounds;

17 (C) supporting programs for girls and boys
18 on the unacceptability of violence against
19 women and girls; and

20 (D) conducting national and baseline sur-
21 veys to collect data on school-related violence
22 against women and girls.

23 (c) BUILDING LOCAL CAPACITY.—Not less than 10
24 percent of the amount of assistance provided to an eligible
25 country under this section should be provided to commu-

1 nity-based nongovernmental or faith-based organizations,
2 with priority given to nongovernmental organizations led
3 by women.

4 **SEC. 103. MONITORING THE UNITED STATES STRATEGY TO**
5 **PREVENT AND RESPOND TO GENDER-BASED**
6 **VIOLENCE GLOBALLY.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—In each strategy submitted under
8 section 101(a), the Ambassador-at-Large and Senior Co-
9 ordinator shall include an analysis of best practices for
10 preventing and addressing violence against women and
11 girls internationally, which shall include—

12 (1) a description of successful efforts by foreign
13 governments, multilateral institutions, nongovern-
14 mental organizations, educational organizations, and
15 faith-based organizations in preventing and respond-
16 ing to violence against women and girls;

17 (2) recommendations related to best practices,
18 effective strategies, and improvements to enhance
19 the impact of prevention and response efforts; and

20 (3) the impact of activities funded by the strat-
21 egy in preventing and reducing violence against
22 women and girls internationally.

23 (b) AMENDMENTS.—The Foreign Assistance Act of
24 1961 is amended—

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

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

3 (B) in paragraph (12)(C)(ii), by striking
4 the period at the end and inserting “; and”;
5 and

6 (C) by adding at the end the following new
7 paragraph:

8 “(13) wherever applicable, the nature and ex-
9 tent of violence against women and girls (as such
10 term is defined in section 4 of the International Vio-
11 lence Against Women Act of 2018).”; and

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

13 (A) by redesignating the second subsection
14 designated as subsection (i) as subsection (j);
15 and

16 (B) by adding at the end the following new
17 subsection:

18 “(k) INCLUSION OF INFORMATION RELATING TO VI-
19 OLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS.—The report re-
20 quired by subsection (b) shall include, wherever applicable,
21 the nature and extent of violence against women and girls
22 (as such term is defined in section 4 of the International
23 Violence Against Women Act of 2018).”.

24 (c) MONITORING AND EVALUATION.—In coordination
25 with relevant officials, and consistent with the monitoring

1 and evaluation policies of their respective agencies, the
2 Ambassador-at-Large and the Senior Coordinator shall
3 develop a plan for monitoring and independent evaluation
4 of programs, projects, and activities carried out under this
5 Act. The plan shall—

6 (1) apply rigorous monitoring and evaluation
7 methodologies to focus on learning, accountability,
8 and policymaking, choosing from among a wide vari-
9 ety of qualitative, quantitative, summative, and
10 formative methods common in the field of social sci-
11 entific inquiry, including impact evaluations; and

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

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

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

20 (2) collect and analyze new or existing data on
21 the scope and extent of all forms of violence against
22 women and girls internationally, including under
23 documented forms of violence and violence against
24 marginalized groups;

1 (3) conduct research on effective interventions
2 to respond to violence against women and girls inter-
3 nationally, including efforts to scale up effective pro-
4 gramming; and

5 (4) support systemic data collection using inter-
6 nationally comparable indicators, norms, and meth-
7 odologies for measuring the scope, prevalence, and
8 incidence of violence against women and girls inter-
9 nationally.

10 **TITLE II—OVERSIGHT AND** 11 **ACCOUNTABILITY**

12 **SEC. 201. OFFICE OF GLOBAL WOMEN’S ISSUES.**

13 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of State shall
14 establish in the Office of the Secretary of the Department
15 of State the Office of Global Women’s Issues. The Office
16 shall be headed by an Ambassador-at-Large for Global
17 Women’s Issues, who shall be appointed by the President,
18 by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. The
19 Ambassador-at-Large shall report directly to the Secretary
20 and shall have the rank and status of Ambassador-at-
21 Large.

22 (b) PURPOSE.—In addition to the duties described in
23 subsection (c) and duties determined by the Secretary of
24 State, the Ambassador-at-Large shall coordinate efforts of
25 the United States Government as directed by the Sec-

1 retary regarding approaches that promote equality and ad-
2 vance the status of women and girls in United States for-
3 eign policy.

4 (c) DUTIES.—

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

6 (A) in consultation with the Senior Coordi-
7 nator, shall direct activities, policies, programs,
8 and funding relating to gender equality and the
9 advancement of women and girls internation-
10 ally, including those intended to prevent and re-
11 spond to violence against women and girls, for
12 all bureaus and offices of the Department of
13 State and in the international programs of all
14 other Federal agencies;

15 (B) shall actively promote and advance the
16 integration of gender analysis into the pro-
17 grams, structures, processes, and capacities of
18 bureaus and offices of the Department of State
19 and in the international programs of other Fed-
20 eral agencies;

21 (C) shall direct United States Government
22 resources, as appropriate, to respond to needs
23 for promoting gender equality and the em-
24 powerment of women in United States Govern-
25 ment foreign policies and international pro-

1 grams, including to prevent and respond to vio-
2 lence against women and girls internationally;

3 (D) may design, support, and implement
4 activities regarding empowerment of women
5 internationally, including for the prevention of
6 and response to violence against women and
7 girls internationally;

8 (E) shall conduct regular consultation with
9 civil society organizations working to prevent
10 and respond to violence against women and
11 girls internationally;

12 (F) shall ensure that programs, projects,
13 and activities designed to prevent and respond
14 to violence against women and girls internation-
15 ally are subject to rigorous monitoring and eval-
16 uation, and that there is a uniform set of indi-
17 cators and standards for such monitoring and
18 evaluation that is used across all Federal agen-
19 cies;

20 (G) shall serve as the principal advisor to
21 the Secretary of State regarding gender equal-
22 ity, women's empowerment, and violence
23 against women and girls as a foreign policy
24 matter; and

1 (H) is authorized to represent the United
2 States in diplomatic and multilateral fora on
3 matters relevant to the status of women and
4 girls, including violence against women and
5 girls internationally.

6 (2) INFORMATION SHARING AND TRANS-
7 PARENCY.—The Office—

8 (A) shall be the central repository of data
9 on all United States programs, projects, and ac-
10 tivities that relate to prevention and response to
11 violence against women and girls; and

12 (B) shall produce a full accounting of
13 United States Government spending on such
14 programs, projects, and activities.

15 **SEC. 202. SENIOR COORDINATOR FOR GENDER EQUALITY**
16 **AND WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT.**

17 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in the
18 United States Agency for International Development the
19 position of Senior Coordinator for Gender Equality and
20 Women's Empowerment. The Senior Coordinator shall—

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

23 (2) conduct the activities of the Administrator
24 under this Act.

25 (b) DUTIES.—The Senior Coordinator—

1 (1) in consultation with the Ambassador-at-
2 Large, shall direct activities, policies, programs, and
3 funding of the United States Agency for Inter-
4 national Development relating to gender equality
5 and women’s empowerment, including those intended
6 to prevent and respond to violence against women
7 and girls;

8 (2) shall actively promote and advance the inte-
9 gration of gender analysis into the programs, struc-
10 tures, processes, and capacities of all bureaus and
11 offices of the United States Agency for International
12 Development as required by the Agency’s Gender
13 Equality and Female Empowerment Policy;

14 (3) shall direct United States Agency for Inter-
15 national Development resources for gender equality
16 and women’s empowerment, including to prevent and
17 respond to violence against women and girls inter-
18 nationally;

19 (4) may design, support, and implement activi-
20 ties led by the United States Agency for Inter-
21 national Development regarding gender equality and
22 women’s empowerment, including for the prevention
23 and response to violence against women and girls
24 internationally;

1 (5) shall conduct regular consultation with civil
2 society organizations working to prevent and re-
3 spond to violence against women and girls inter-
4 nationally;

5 (6) shall serve as the principal advisor to the
6 Administrator regarding gender equality, women's
7 empowerment, and violence against women and girls;
8 and

9 (7) shall track and analyze monitoring and eval-
10 uation data and findings on international prevention
11 and response programs of the United States Agency
12 for International Development, consistent with
13 Agency-wide monitoring and evaluation activities, to
14 assist in the preparation of the strategy developed
15 under section 101(a).

16 **SEC. 203. BRIEFING AND ASSESSMENT.**

17 Not later than 180 days after the date of the enact-
18 ment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Amba-
19 sador-at-Large and the Senior Coordinator shall provide,
20 to the appropriate congressional committees—

21 (1) a briefing on international violence against
22 women and girls prevention and response strategies,
23 programming, and associated outcomes; and

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

4 **SEC. 204. ADDRESSING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND**
5 **GIRLS IN HUMANITARIAN RELIEF, PEACE-**
6 **KEEPING, CONFLICT, AND POSTCONFLICT**
7 **SETTINGS.**

8 (a) **ACTIVITIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE**
9 **WITH USAID.**—The Secretary of State and the Adminis-
10 trator of the United States Agency for International De-
11 velopment shall ensure that—

12 (1) assistance made available for humanitarian
13 relief, conflict mitigation, and post-conflict recon-
14 struction—

15 (A) prevents and responds to violence
16 against women and girls;

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

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

1 (D) provides legal services for women and
2 girls who are victims of violence;

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

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

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

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

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

1 (b) EMERGENCY RESPONSE TO CREDIBLE REPORTS
2 OF CRITICAL OR WIDESPREAD VIOLENCE AGAINST
3 WOMEN AND GIRLS.—

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

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

14 (B) determine emergency response meas-
15 ures not later than 45 days after such identi-
16 fication; and

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

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

24 (A) the government of the country in
25 which the violence is occurring;

- 1 (B) governments in the region in which the
- 2 violence is occurring; and
- 3 (C) other donor governments.

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