



APPEL DE GENÈVE  
GENEVA CALL

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**Prohibiting sexual violence  
and gender discrimination  
in armed conflict: key rules  
from Geneva Call's  
*Deed of Commitment***



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English



1

Sexual violence is strictly prohibited – at all times



2

Do not commit sexual violence against anyone (woman, man, girl or boy)



3

Rape is not the only form of sexual violence



4

Do everything possible to  
sexual violence in areas

prevent and respond to  
under your control



5

Protect detainees from sexual violence



6

Do your best to ensure victims have access  
medical, psychological, legal, rehabilitation

to the assistance and support they need –  
and any other assistance or service





**7** Ensure confidentiality and protection for victims of sexual violence at all times





8

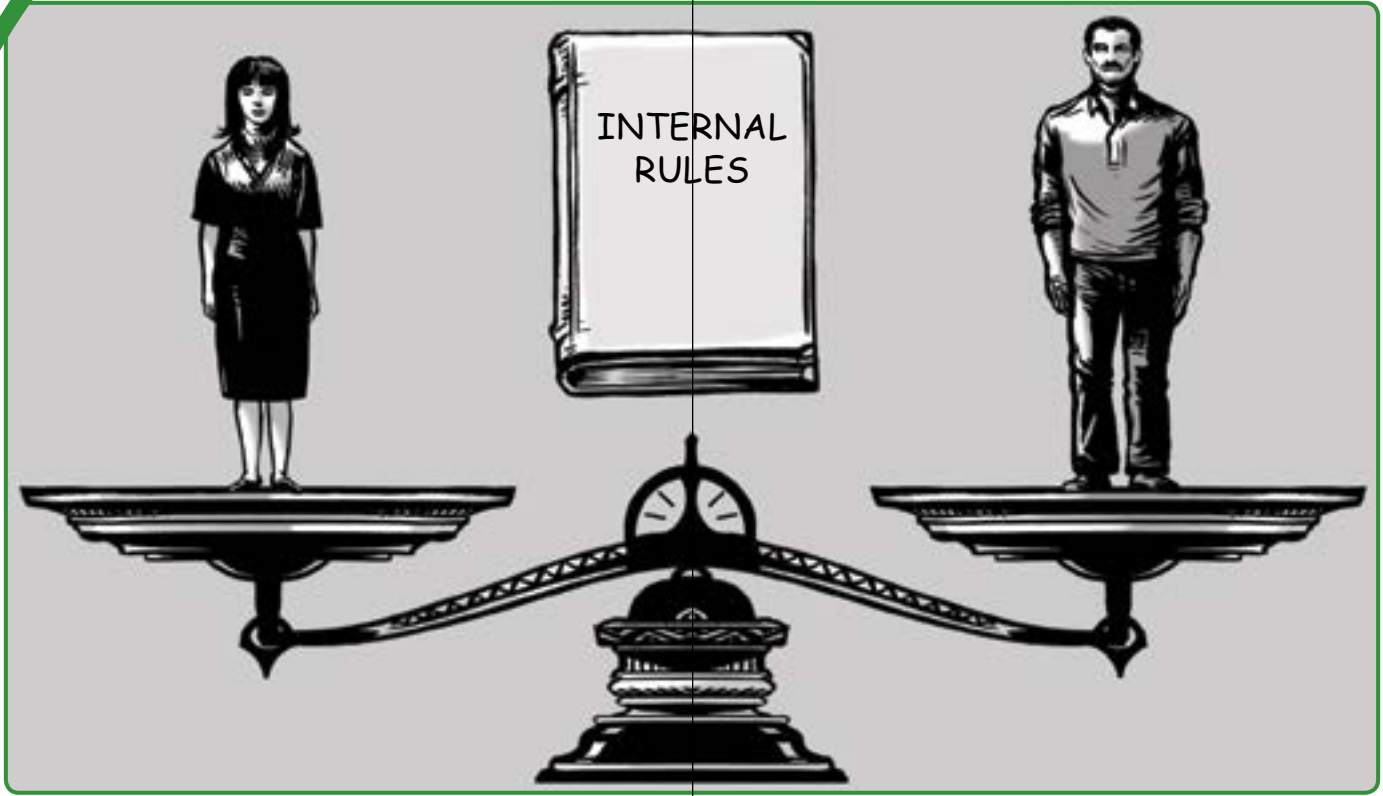
Report sexual violence to your commander



9

Investigate swiftly all cases

that are reported



10

Do your best to eliminate discriminatory policies and practices against women or men



11

Encourage participation of women

in decision-making processes at all levels



12

Put these rules into practice



13

Violations must be sanctioned in accordance with international standards





14

Cooperate with Geneva Call

to monitor respect of these rules





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## Geneva Call

Geneva Call is a neutral and impartial non-governmental organization that engages in dialogue with armed non-State actors to promote their adherence to, and respect, for international humanitarian norms.

Geneva Call focuses its action on the protection of civilians in armed conflict, and in particular:

- The protection of children
- The prohibition of sexual violence and the elimination of gender discrimination
- The ban of anti-personnel mines

## The Deed of Commitment

The *Deeds of Commitments* are formal documents signed by armed non-State actors which undertake to respect specific international humanitarian norms. To date, Geneva Call has developed three such documents:

- The *Deed of Commitment for Adherence to a Total Ban on Anti-Personnel Mines and for Cooperation in Mine Action*
- The *Deed of Commitment for the Protection of Children from the Effects of Armed Conflict*
- The *Deed of Commitment for the Prohibition of Sexual Violence in Situations of Armed Conflict and towards the Elimination of Gender Discrimination*

Geneva Call supports and monitors the implementation of the *Deeds of Commitment* by signatory armed non-State actors.

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## Sexual violence and gender discrimination

Sexual violence can be defined as *“any violence, physical or psychological, carried out through sexual means or by targeting sexuality”*. The following list gives examples of prohibited acts of sexual violence, while recognizing that no list can be comprehensive: *“Rape, sexual slavery, trafficking for sexual purposes, forced prostitution, forced pregnancy, forced abortion, enforced sterilization, forced incest, forced marriage, sexual torture or any other form of sexual violence of comparable gravity against women, men, girls or boys”*.

Gender discrimination is a distinction, exclusion or restriction against a person or group on the grounds of sex or gender identity.