



# Introduction and purpose

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Mandated to support the dual roles of the Minister of Justice and the Attorney General of Canada, the Department of Justice Canada works to ensure the federal government is supported by high-quality legal services and that the justice system is fair, relevant, accessible and reflective of Canadian values. These values include commitments to human rights, gender equality, the rule of law and access to justice for all, which aligns with the overall agenda under Canada's third National Action Plan: Foundations for Peace: Canada's National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security. In addition, Justice Canada provides legal advice and support to a broad range of government initiatives and federal departments and agencies to ensure the implementation of evidence-based, responsive and inclusive public policy and governance.

Justice Canada is committed to advancing the implementation of the women, peace and security (WPS) agenda by supporting the promotion and protection of human rights and the achievement of gender equality for women and girls in all their diversity at national and international levels. The department recognizes that progress on both fronts is necessary to achieve the ultimate outcome of enhanced peace, security and equality for all people. In addition, Justice Canada is dedicated to achieving the goals set out in the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The goals mentioned include those that relate to women, peace and security, such as Sustainable Development Goal 5, which focuses on eliminating discrimination and promoting gender equality; Sustainable Development Goal 10, which aims to eliminate inequalities; and Sustainable Development Goal 16, which prioritizes peace, justice and strong institutions.

Justice Canada will take a new narrative-based approach to reporting on the Foundations for Peace: Canada's National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security by focusing on overall outcomes and success stories throughout the lifespan of the implementation plan. The department aims to inform reporting over the long term by applying existing indicators to women, peace and security-related outcomes. Furthermore, the department will enhance reporting by examining and consolidating departmental indicators to support a centralized performance measurement process within and outside of Foundations for Peace: Canada's National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security. These measures will lead to more accurate and robust reporting that supports the department's continued success in promoting gender equality and women's empowerment.

# Context

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The pillars of the United Nations Security Council resolution 1325<sup>1</sup> align closely with the pursuit of the sustainable development goals.<sup>2</sup> Justice Canada is the lead department for advancing [Sustainable Development Goal 16 of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#), which commits the global community to working together to "promote peaceful and inclusive societies for



# Narrative

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## Focus area 2: Security, justice and accountability

Justice Canada is fully committed to achieving the gender equality goals of the United Nations Security Council resolution 1325 by empowering women, girls and gender-diverse people, improving institutions advancing access to justice, and promoting and protecting human rights.

The scope of Justice Canada's involvement in Focus area 2 includes promoting gender-responsive justice institutions and transitional justice processes; improving access to justice; advancing federal initiatives to empower women, girls and gender-diverse people; and meaningfully shaping justice and security institutions, processes and outcomes. The department's primary activities, which support Focus area 2, are as follows:

The department will continue to work in collaboration with various partners across governments and agencies to provide victim services and support for Indigenous people who have been victims and/or survivors of crime and violence, as well as provide support to families of missing or murdered loved ones. The department's approach involves funding the design and delivery of Indigenous-led, trauma-informed and co-developed services.

The department will continue to offer legal advice and support to federal departments and agencies, with a focus on ensuring that government legislation, policies and international initiatives are legally sound, inclusive and responsive to the diverse experiences of Canadians.

The department will continue to identify and address inequities and barriers that may exist by incorporating critical considerations (e.g., intersectionality, diversity and inclusion, privacy, modern treaty implications, strategic environmental assessments, and the prioritization of a people-focused approach to justice) in its work, which includes providing legal input during the policy development process and conducting legal risk analysis.

The department will continue to promote gender equality for women, girls and gender-diverse people by implementing equity-enhancing lenses, such as intersectional GBA Plus, into the work of Justice Canada. This approach helps to remove barriers



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## Focus area 6: Inclusion

Under Focus area 6, Canada will leverage its role as a global leader in gender equality and 2SLGBTQI+ rights to incorporate gender, peace and security considerations in its work while recognizing that the WPS agenda applies to and benefits all people. Canada's ongoing leadership in women, peace and security requires an alignment between work on the global stage and actions at home. Justice Canada's priorities under Focus area 6 involve the increased incorporation of an intersectional equity and inclusion lens in domestic initiatives related to improving access to justice for groups facing intersectional discrimination in Canada. These groups include Indigenous, Black and racialized women, girls and gender-diverse people in Canada.

Focus area 6 recognizes that pursuing reconciliation with Indigenous peoples and addressing racism and discrimination are integral to Canada's domestic implementation of the WPS agenda, in accordance with the Government of Canada's commitment to consult and cooperate with Indigenous peoples in implementing the [United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act](#) (UN Declaration Act). The UN Declaration Act, and the Government of Canada's subsequently tabled [action plan](#), affirm the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as a universal international human rights instrument with application in Canadian law. They both ensure that Canada recognizes and upholds the human rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Justice Canada's domestic implementation of the WPS agenda recognizes that girls, women and gender-diverse people who are impacted by intersecting identity factors face additional barriers.<sup>4</sup> The department will continue to promote an intersectional gender approach, which will help catalyze inclusion efforts in Canada.<sup>5</sup>

The work related to Focus area 6 will lead the department to an enhanced commitment of initiatives that advance a more equitable and inclusive Canada, with increased access to justice for all, including Indigenous, Black and racialized communities.





OUTPUTS

<p><b>1211</b> Disaggregated data related to access to justice collected and reported to Canadians and parliamentarians</p> <p><b>1221</b> Gendered component in a resolution on access to justice included in the UN Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice agenda</p> <p><b>1241</b> New or strengthened justice system partnerships in support of Indigenous victims and survivors of crime</p> <p><b>1242</b> Additional support for Indigenous victims of crime and violence that is Indigenous-led or co-developed</p>	<p><b>1411</b> Independent legal advice and legal representation provided to victims and survivors of sexual assault and victims and survivors of intimate partner violence in Canada</p> <p><b>1412</b> Additional support provided for victims of intimate partner violence to navigate the family justice system</p> <p><b>1413</b> Support for supervised parenting time services provided to children and their families</p> <p><b>1421</b> Training provided to criminal justice professionals on human trafficking in Canada</p>	<p><b>1611</b> Development and implementation of federal justice initiatives that advance a more equitable and inclusive Canada for all peoples in Canada</p>
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# Key terms

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Diversity

