

VOTES WITHOUT VIOLENCE

ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY



This tool was developed by Caroline Hubbard and Claire DeSoi for NDI's Votes Without Violence program and toolkit.

Overview of the Annotated Bibliography

Violence against women in elections (VAW-E) is not a new phenomenon, but until recently it has been poorly defined and conceptualized. However, despite the gaps in knowledge on the specific topic of VAW-E, there are several subject areas that provide much greater depth and scholarship on the key theoretical concepts that underpin our understanding of VAW-E. The following bibliography outlines resources that have informed the *Votes Without Violence* toolkit by providing a theoretical foundation for understanding the concept of VAW-E. The order of the resources is strategically designed to reveal in logical succession, from broad to specific, the layers necessary to inform the reader on the subject.

SUMMARY OF TOPICS

- 1. International and Domestic Law:** Legal frameworks that define human rights norms, gender equality, and political agency, thereby informing practitioners on standards for justice in regard to VAW-E.
- 2. Gender, Women and Democracy:** The status of women's political participation and democracy development are crucial concepts to developing a basic understanding of women's involvement in elections and the barriers women face, including VAW-E, when exercising their political agency.
- 3. Women Peace and Security:** In addition to being excluded from politics, women are rarely involved in peace negotiations and the maintenance of security. This section outlines the barriers to inclusion, which are helpful to understanding VAW-E that occurs in conflict and post-conflict settings
- 4. Violence against Women:** This section will educate the reader on the key definitions, theoretical pieces as well as guidance on the sensitive nature of data collection of violence against women.
- 5. Election Observation:** In order to accurately monitor VAW-E, literature on election observation will better inform the reader on the best practices of transparent observation.
- 6. Media Monitoring:** Similar to election observation, media monitoring plays an important role in overseeing elections. This section provides advice for effective media monitoring generally as well as with a gender lens that can be applied to VAW-E.
- 7. Gender and Electoral Observation:** This section identifies the importance of election observation through a gender perspective as well as guidance and best practices for its administration.
- 8. Electoral Violence:** Developing a foundation of electoral violence will lead to a richer understanding of VAW-E. This section includes a broad range of resources including the root causes and recommendations to alleviate electoral violence on the ground.
- 9. Electoral Security:** In order to maintain electoral integrity, there needs to be electoral security to mitigate VAW-E. The tools in this section provide guidance on security frameworks that can inform practitioners on risk management tactics in elections as applied to women.
- 10. Gender and Early Warning Signs:** This section includes resources that will help practitioners identify early warning signs in order to prevent violence targeted at women.
- 11. Violence against Women in Politics (VAW-P):** Developing a foundation of the risks and root causes of VAW-P will lead to a richer understanding of VAW-E—which is, ultimately, a specific form of violence that fits under the wider umbrella of VAW-P. This section highlights how women candidates, voters and politicians often face increased levels of violence, including key definitions and regional and country level case studies.
- 12. Violence against Women in Elections:** This section includes the specific texts written about violence against women in elections including guides, case studies and recommendations for combating VAW-E.
- 13. Websites:** The included websites are useful to practitioners looking for data and tools pertaining to women's political participation and combating violence against women.

ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY

INTERNATIONAL LAWS AND TREATIES

The following section includes both international law and domestic law that are relevant to gender equality and the prohibition of violence against women in politics.

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

United Nations

Enacted in 1979, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) is an international treaty adopted by the United Nations General Assembly. The treaty is typically regarded as the international bill of women's rights, and asserts that all women and men have the right to the same economic, social, cultural, civil and political rights.

Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action

United Nations

The Beijing Declaration was adopted by the United Nations UN at the end of the Fourth World Conference on Women on 15 September 1995. The Platform for Action made commitments under 12 critical areas of concern for gender equality, including Women in Power and Decision Making, Violence Against Women and Human Rights of Women.

Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women

United Nations

The Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against women recognizes the urgent need to mitigate violence against women, including a definition of violence against women that states "violence against women" means any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life.

UNSCR 1325 on Women, Peace and Security

United Nations

Resolution 1325 acknowledges how women are affected by war in different ways than men. Further, it holds that women are critical stakeholders in advancing peace and preventing conflict, and encourages member states to ensure that women are involved in peacekeeping missions. Six subsequent resolutions have been passed related to the women, peace and security agenda:

- » UNSCR 1820 (2008): Recognizes sexual violence as a weapon and tactic of war
- » UNSCR 1888 (2009): Reiterates that sexual violence exacerbates armed conflict and impedes international peace and security
- » UNSCR 1889 (2009): Focuses on post-conflict peacebuilding and on women's participation in all stages of peace processes
- » UNSCR 1960 (2010): Reiterates the call for an end to sexual violence in armed conflict

- » UNSCR 2106 (2013): Includes language on women’s participation in combating sexual violence
- » UNSCR 2122 (2013): Sets out concrete methods for combating women’s participation deficit

UNSCR 66/130 Women and Political Participation

United Nations

This resolution reaffirms the importance of women’s political participation and calls on member states to create mechanisms that eliminate barriers to women’s participation and enhance women’s role in politics.

International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

United Nations

The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) is a part of the International Bill of Human Rights. The focus of the multilateral treaty is on the civil and political rights of individuals, including the right to assemble, freedom of speech and electoral rights. Women are specifically addressed a mere three times in the document. Of importance, article three of the ICCPR grants “The States Parties to the present Covenant undertake to ensure the equal right of men and women to the enjoyment of all civil and political rights set forth in the present Covenant.”

Law Against Harassment and Political Violence Against Women

National Law - Bolivia

Bolivia’s landmark Law Against Harassment and/or Political Violence Against Women is the first and only law specifically targeted at violence against politically active women that has been approved and enacted by a national parliament. The law penalizes individuals who pressure, persecute, harass or threaten elected women or those exercising public functions with prison sentences. More severe prison sentences are prescribed to those who physically, psychologically, or sexually accost women politicians or candidates.

Several other countries have considered similar laws, including Costa Rica, Ecuador, Peru and Mexico. Mexico has also enacted a *national protocol* for its electoral tribunal to respond to political violence against women.

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

The following section provides the reader with *materials that define and provide guidance for practitioners on the topic of violence against women* entails.

Guidelines on Producing Statistics on Violence Against Women

United Nations

These Guidelines provide detailed instruction on how countries can measure the scope, prevalence and incidence of violence against women. While the Guidelines do not specifically address political or election violence, they do discuss important indicators for data collection related to the topic such as physical, sexual, psychological, and economic violence. The Guidelines also explain basic survey methodology and data collection methods.

Ending Violence Against Women: From Words to Action

United Nations

Mandated by United Nations Resolution 58/185, the UN Secretary General’s study focuses the broad context of ending violence against women within the framework of resolution 58/185. The publication exposes the gaps and challenges in the availability of data as well as suggested methods for analyzing the prevalence of violence against women. Further, the study examines the causes and consequences of violence against women, including

direct and indirect costs. In the concluding portion of the publication, the author draws on the responsibilities of states, best practices and strategies to combat violence against women.

Putting Women First: Ethical and Safety Recommendations for Research on Domestic Violence Against Women

World Health Organization

Domestic violence is one of the most common forms of violence against women worldwide. The sensitive nature of this topic requires researchers and practitioners to be extra cautious about the way they collect data from research participants. In order to provide guidance on this issue, the WHO developed guidelines regarding the ethical conduct of domestic violence research. While these guidelines are not necessarily completely applicable to research on violence against women in elections, the publication provides advice on how to talk to and interact to survivors of gender-based violence that is directly applicable to work in violence against women in elections.

WHO Ethical and Safety Recommendations For Researching, Documenting and Monitoring Sexual Violence in Emergencies

World Health Organization

The WHO recommendations were formed in conjunction with a consultative review by practitioners, activists, researchers and the WHO's Expert Consultation in 2006. The outcome of the reviews filled a gap in the current literature by outlining the highly sensitive nature of ethical and safety issues associated with researching, monitoring and documenting sexual violence in emergencies. The recommendations outlined in the publication can serve as a resource for framing sensitive data collection methods as they pertain to sexual violence against women in elections and in the political process.

GENDER, WOMEN AND DEMOCRACY

The resources in this section cover a wide range of gender equality issues, including academic research that identifies the current landscape of gender equality in democracy development.

Democracy and the Challenge of Change: Training Modules to Increase Women's Political Participation

NDI

NDI compiled best practices and approaches from its work around the world and translate them into a set of tools to increase the quality of training programs for women as voters, advocates, elections officials, political party members, candidates and office-holders. The training materials build on the 2011 guide, Democracy and the Challenge of Change: A Guide to Increasing Women's Political Participation, a resource for democracy practitioners to help them develop and carry out effective programs to bring more women in government and politics.

Empowering Women for Stronger Political Parties: A Guidebook to Promote Women's Political Participation

NDI and UNDP

Political parties are key allies in the quest to elevate women's status in the political process. This joint NDI-UNDP publication identifies targeted interventions that political parties can take to empower women. It includes several detailed case studies that outline ways political parties have promoted women's involvement in the specific phases of the electoral cycle.

Designing for Equality: Best-fit, medium-fit and non-favourable combinations of electoral systems and gender quotas

International IDEA

In response to the slow pace of increasing women's political participation after the 1995 Beijing Platform for Action, International IDEA authors Larsrud and Taphorn focus on two crucial variables to increasing women's representation in practice--the type of electoral system and the quota system. This reference tool analyzes various combinations of electoral systems and quotas and ranks the combinations by those that result in better outcomes for women's political participation.

Democracy and Gender Equality: The Role of the UN

International IDEA

International IDEA and various United Nations System organizations, including UN Women, conducted a roundtable discussion with the objective of examining the links between democracy, gender equality and the role of the United Nations. This publication is the summary of the roundtable discussion, including key recommendations made by the participants. Violence against women in politics was the subject of recommendation five, “Challenge gender stereotypes and work on creating a culture of zero tolerance of both direct and indirect gender bias within political parties and the wider political culture, and ensure that women politicians who face harassment and violence have access to justice.” Violence against women, generally, was identified as a key barrier to gender equality throughout the publication.

Gender and Political Parties: Far from Parity

International IDEA and the Inter-American Development Bank

Despite the election of multiple female heads of state in Latin America, gender parity in politics is far from being achieved in the region. In response, International IDEA and the Inter-American Development Bank conducted a study. This publication outlines the analysis of the data gathered from political parties, determining that there is progress to be made in political parties order to reach gender parity. The study concludes with recommendations and strategies to promote gender equality in political parties and public life.

Journeys from Exclusion to Inclusion: Marginalized Women’s Successes in Overcoming Political Exclusion

International IDEA

Drawing on case studies, the authors specifically highlight the struggle for women with intersecting marginalized identities. The objective of the publication is to influence democratic decision makers in institutions, governments, and customary bodies to engage marginalized women in meaningful political participation. The report also examines specific strategies that marginalized women have used to combat exclusion in the political sphere.

Women as Agents of Change: Having Voice in Society & Influencing Policy

NDI

This publication examines the status of women in politics and makes the case for the full and equitable participation of women in public life. The paper reviews existing data, identifies the barriers that prevent women’s political participation and analyzes strategies that are used to increase women’s representation in politics.

WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY

The following section includes *guides, academic articles and briefing papers in the context of women, peace and security based on the framework of UN Resolution 1325.*

Bridging The Theory And Practice Gap: Key Issues In The Field Of Women, Peace and Security

Mayesha Alam, Kelsey Larsen, Ryan Nichols, and Jennifer Windsor

Significant gaps remain in theory and practice between scholars and practitioners on the topic of Women, Peace and Security. This paper is an attempt to close the theory and practice gap. It covers a range of topics in the women, peace and security field. The authors address elections in post-conflict societies, noting that designing electoral and legal frameworks that are gender-sensitive can encourage women’s political engagement.

Gender and Conflict Analysis

Anne-Marie Goetz and Anne-Kristin Treiber

This briefing paper discusses how conflict analysis can better incorporate gender into its framework and practice. It outlines basic elements on gender-sensitive conflict analysis and presents key findings from three pilot programs on gender-sensitive conflict monitoring.

Surfacing Gender: Re-Engraving Crimes Against Women in Humanitarian Law

Rhonda Copleon

Copleon examines the legal status of rape in war, arguing that the concept of crimes against humanity in international human rights law must encompass mass rape as distinct from persecution by drawing on conflict case study examples from Bosnia, Peru, Bangladesh, and Rwanda. In Part I the author examines whether sexual crimes are recognized as war crimes under the Geneva Conventions. Part II addresses whether the jus cogens concept of crimes against humanity distinguishes between genocidal rape and rape outside of conflict.

Rape, Genocide, and Women's Human Rights

Catharine A. MacKinnon

Operating under the premise that women's rights are not considered within the spectrum of human rights in practice, Catherine MacKinnon argues that violence against women should be considered a violative of human rights principles both during times of war and peace. MacKinnon focuses specifically on the atrocities of genocidal rape carried out against women in the Bosnia-Herzegovina conflict in the 1990s, drawing on specific historical contexts to support the discussion on the invalidation of women's rights in the human rights space.

Analytical and Conceptual Framework of Conflict-related Sexual Violence

Stop Rape Now

This brief note from Stop Rape Now summarizes the scope of conflict-related sexual violence in order to standardize reporting through "Monitoring, Analysis, and Reporting Arrangements (MARA), a system which aims to collect, classify and analyze data on the subject. It provides clear definitions and categories of sexual violence, when it is conflict-related and when it is considered an international crime. The note also points out the surge of sexual violence that often occurs in the context of political unrest, such as pre- and post-electoral violence.

ELECTION OBSERVATION

This section includes *guides for administering election observation in a transparent and democratic elections targeted toward practitioners and civil society organizations.*

How Domestic Organizations Monitor Elections: An A to Z Guide

National Democratic Institute

This handbook is designed to assist domestic civic organizations in monitoring elections. Most of the principles and advice presented in the handbook are also applicable to monitoring efforts that are organized by political parties or international observers as well.

Promoting Legal Frameworks for Democratic Elections

Patrick Merloe

This Guide is designed for use by domestic constituencies, but it can also be used by the international community in assessing electoral laws and promoting democratic elections. The Guide provides a variety of tools such as a checklist for evaluating a legal framework to aid political parties, candidates and citizens groups to determine whether electoral laws provide a democratic foundation for elections.

The Quick Count and Election Observation: An NDI Guide for Civic Organizations and Political Parties (2002)

Melissa Estok, Neil Nevitte, and Glen Cowan

This detailed manual describes how to organize and conduct a quick count, designed specifically for civic activists, political party representatives, and election observers. A quick count, or a parallel vote tabulation (PVT), is a tool used monitor election day developments. Drawing from its experience in election monitoring, NDI's recommended step by step PVT strategy stresses nonpartisan civic organizations help with quick counts, they can help to empower citizens, build local capacity, and provide reliable and comprehensive information.

MEDIA MONITORING

The following section includes manuals and guides to conduct media monitoring initiatives during democratic elections.

Election Coverage from a Gender Perspective: A Media Monitoring Manual

UN Women and International IDEA

International IDEA and UN Women's manual seeks to "foster a balanced and non-stereotyped portrayal of women in the media" during the election process. To do so, the two organizations brought together representatives from six Latin American institutions with experience of monitoring the media in order to devise a replicable methodology tool that would monitor gender using objective and verifiable information.

Media Monitoring to Promote Democratic Elections: An NDI Handbook for Citizen Organizations

Robert Norris and Patrick Merloe

This guide offers step-by-step instructions on how to initiate a media monitoring project. The guide covers the planning and organization stage, offers detailed information on how to gather data during media monitoring, and provides instructions on how to monitor outlets such as television news, radio news, and newspapers.

Handbook on Media Monitoring for Election Observation Missions

OSCE ODIHR

In 1994, at the OSCE Summit in Budapest, participating states mandated that ODIHR "should access the conditions for free and independent function of the media" before, during and after the electoral process." This publication is born out of this commitment, giving an overview of the ODIHR's media monitoring methodology. First, it sets forth some general guidelines for the coverage of elections campaigns, with a particular emphasis on public and private media outlets. Second, it provides media analysts for election observation missions with some basic information on the technical aspects of media monitoring.

Media and Elections: A Guide for Electoral Practitioners

UNDP

UNDP's Guide on media and elections is designed as a reference tool that electoral practitioners can use in order to improve some key issues related to media and elections. Each of the ten chapters included in this guide touches on topics regarding media and communications during the electoral process. The Guide concludes with brief case studies from five countries—Afghanistan, Sierra Leone, Cambodia, Guyana, and Nepal.

GENDER AND ELECTORAL OBSERVATION

The following section includes guides and manuals to administer gender sensitive elections and election observations.

Handbook for Monitoring Women's Participation in Elections

OSCE ODIHR

The handbook provides basic guidelines on how all OSCE/ODIHR Election Observation Missions (EOM) can monitor women's participation during the electoral cycle. Ultimately, this handbook is intended to assist any EOM in integrating gender into its electoral processes, regardless of its size, length or number of resources.

Manual for Incorporating a Gender Perspective into OAS Electoral Observation Missions (OAS/EOMs)

OAS

This manual begins by outlining a conceptual framework that explains the ways in which gender can be integrated into OAS' four criteria of a democratic election. Next, it explains how this will occur, answering questions such what to observe, how to observe and what data to collect during the process. The manual concludes by describing the necessary tools for election observation from a gender perspective.

Inclusive Electoral Processes: A Guide for Electoral Management Bodies on Promoting Gender Equality and Women's Participation

Julie Ballington, Gabrielle Bardall, Sonia Palmieri and Kate Sullivan

Electoral Management Bodies (EMBs) are uniquely placed to support gender equality and women's empowerment in the electoral process due to their unique role in shaping electoral policies. This guide presents various entry points in which EMBs can use their influence to advance women's participation in the electoral process and electoral administration.

Promoting Gender Equality in Electoral Assistance

Julie Ballington, Randi Davis, and Kristin Haffert

This Guide is based on internal evaluations and lessons learned conducted by the UNDP in an effort to identify methods in which its programs can advance gender equality throughout its international electoral assistance programming. It includes in-depth interviews, surveys with local stakeholders and practitioners, and five national case studies from Bolivia, Burundi, Kyrgyzstan, Nepal and Tunisia between 2011 and 2013. The Guide concludes with four overarching conclusions.

Gender Equality and Election Management Bodies: A Best Practices Guide

USAID and IFES

The target audience for this guide are Election Management Bodies (EMBs) and organizations involved in managing elections. The Guide is to be used as an advocacy tool in providing gender-positive elections. By drawing on best practices used in EMBs around the world, the publication can be a resource for various organizations who are involved in electoral administration. Further, the guide identifies key actions for EMBs in order to administer elections with a gender lens throughout the election cycle. In addition to EMBs, the Guide can serve as a useful resource for civil society organizations and practitioners looking to create a dialogue with EMBs in the violence against women in elections space.

Women and Elections: Guide to Promoting the Participation of Women in Elections

United Nations

This comprehensive handbook by the United Nations provides general guidance on ways to promote the participation of women in post-conflict countries. The handbook covers a wide range of aspects related to gender and elections including the legal framework, political participation, voter registration, voter and civic education, election administration and election observation.

DPKO/DFS–DPA Joint Guidelines on Enhancing the Role of Women in Post-Conflict Electoral Processes

DPKO and DFS-DPA

The UN's Department for Peacekeeping Operations designed this guide specifically for field-based staff to promote strategies on how to increase women's participation in the entire electoral process as voters, candidates and electoral officials in the post-conflict context. The recommendations are based on numerous national consultations regarding the best practices for engaging women in post-conflict elections.

GENDER AND EARLY WARNING SIGNS

The following section includes resources that aid in the incorporation of gender and early warning systems, including a briefing, a how-to guide and measurement indicators.

Gender and Early Warning Systems: An Introduction

OSCE ODIHR

Gender is a factor that is seldom incorporated into in early warning systems (EWS). Recognizing this gap and reaffirming their commitment to advancing gender equality, this short brief by OSCE's Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights lays out how it intends to integrate gender into its EWS framework. This introduction provides the reader with key terms he or she must be familiar with. It also emphasizes that in order to effectively integrate gender into EWS, both women and men must have the opportunity report differential experiences.

Gender-Responsive Early Warning: Overview and How-to Guide

Pablo Castillo Díaz and Sunita Caminha

This paper reviews previous efforts to incorporate gender into early warning systems and discusses the latest progress in this field. The paper also provides a simple "checklist of recommendations" for those planning, implementing or evaluating gender-responsive, community-led early warning. The checklist highlights how political and institutional factors (including the use of "women as voters, candidates and election monitors") have been incorporated into gender-sensitive early warning systems.

Matrix of Early Warning Indicators of Conflict-Related Sexual Violence

This document provides personnel working within UN-led missions with a framework to detect and anticipate surges in conflict-related sexual violence. The document is broken down into a handy matrix and lists potential indicators of conflict-related sexual violence, as well as preventative and responsive actions that can be taken the appropriate actors. The matrix touches on the rise of sexual violence in the political and legal context, which includes indicators such elections and pre- and post- election violence.

ELECTORAL VIOLENCE

This section includes a broad range of resources for practitioners, including guidance on the definition and root causes of electoral violence as well as frameworks and recommendations to alleviate electoral violence on the ground.

Monitoring and Mitigating Electoral Violence Through Nonpartisan Citizen Election Observation

NDI

Electoral violence impacts the electoral process by affecting the way citizens cast their votes or by undermining international election standards. Local, national, and international stakeholders have sought not only to determine the causes and triggers of violence, but also assess ways in which it can be disseminated. This publication lays out ways in which nonpartisan election observation groups can develop electoral monitoring and mitigation projects. It takes into account three areas: the underlying source of sources of tension, the potential triggers and the anticipated types of violence.

A Conflict Cycle Perspective on Electoral Violence

Gabrielle Bardall

This short, concise piece details how the conflict cycle perspective to election violence can inform more holistic programmatic responses to electoral conflict rather than the sector specific options that are traditionally used to mitigate election violence.

An Integrated Approach to Elections and Conflict

IFES

In this report, the International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES) argues that attempts to mitigate electoral violence are limited by the “compartmentalization of information and perceptions.” To remedy this problem, IFES recommends that electoral practitioners and other stakeholders look beyond the electoral cycle approach by supplementing it with a conflict cycle approach to address electoral violence.

Election Commission of Nepal; UNDP (2012) Electoral Violence Mitigation Assessment (EVMA) Report

The Election Commission of Nepal (ECN) and the United Nations Development Programme’s (UNDP) research posits six potential electoral violence triggers in Nepal and also presents seven elements of a mitigation strategy, including increasing the role of women in politics. Other relevant recommendations include designing specific voter education campaigns psychological violence and training observer groups on proper reporting guidelines on reporting VAW-E.

Electoral Conflict and Violence

Jeff Fischer

Practitioners and scholars have failed to create a common framework to approach electoral conflict and violence. According to author Jeff Fischer, scholars tend to be more interested in analysis while practitioners care more about electoral security. This article seeks to fill the gap in the literature by providing a reasonable framework for academic and practitioner groups to approach electoral violence by drawing on 57 electoral events in 2001.



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Voting vs. Fighting

Thad Dunning

A theoretical and empirical analysis of the relationship between fighting and voting is the basis for Dunning's attempt to bridge the gap in academic research that fails to engage both conflict studies and politics. The findings suggest that bodies of research in conflict studies and politics should be in closer interaction in order to better understand the complex relationship between elections in conflict and post-conflict societies.

Electoral Violence in Conflict-Ridden Societies: Concepts, Causes, and Consequences (2010)

Kristine Höglund

This article examines the causes of electoral violence and its influence on conflict resolution and democracy. Focused specifically on electoral violence in conflict-ridden societies, the piece argues that electoral violence is a unique category separate from political violence that displays unique attributes. The first two sections of this paper are devoted to conceptual issues relating both to elections and political violence, while the second and third section are focused on the consequences of electoral violence.

ELECTORAL SECURITY

Practitioners combatting violence against women in elections will find the tools in this section useful for best practices and guidance in election security frameworks.

Best Practices in Electoral Security: A Guide for Democracy, Human Rights and Governance Programming

USAID

This guide provides a global overview of best practices in to prevent, manage, or mediate electoral conflict and violence. Electoral security assessments were conducted in Guatemala, Afghanistan, the Philippines and Burundi provide the basis for the recommendations. The guide provides best practice recommendations on three sections including the electoral phase; thematic area; and policy, practice, or program activity by state and non-state stakeholders. The guide puts a particular emphasis in preventing political violence against women, specifically calling on the unique role of EMBs, CSOs, and political parties.

The Overview of the Risk Management Tool

International IDEA

International IDEA's Risk Management Tool (RMT) is an interactive and highly customizable online tool created to assist key actors, such as EMBs, security sector agencies, and other state and non-state actors on ways to prevent and mitigate electoral violence. The Tool "is intended to build users' capacity to understand electoral risk factors, collect and analyze risk data, design prevention and mitigation strategies, and record the results of actions."

Supporting documents from the Risk Management Tool include:

- » **The Guide on Factors of Election-related Violence Internal to Electoral Processes:** Identifies risks and emphasizes the need to incorporate gender into the election monitoring process. It also stresses viewing election processes from a gender perspective.
- » **The Guide on Factors of Election-related Violence External to Electoral Processes:** Identifies "gender-based discrimination and violence" as an important factor in monitoring election violence inclusive of relevant case studies and indicators.
- » **The Guide on Action Points for the Prevention and Mitigation of Election-related Violence:** Suggests gender-perspective recommendations to mitigate electoral violence, including the initiation of legal and institutional reforms by EMBs and security sector agencies.

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN POLITICS (VAW-P)

This section includes a selection of key texts including definitions of terms and concepts as well as regional and country level case studies of violence against women in politics.

Gender and Electoral Integrity: Combatting Violence against Women in Politics (2014)

Mona Lena Krook and Juliana Restrepo Sanin

The main takeaway from the piece is that violence against women in politics is a distinct form of political violence because it targets “women as women” in order to deter their participation in the political sphere. Krook and Sanin identify four main types of violence: physical, psychological, symbolic and economic. The authors conclude by drawing on case studies of initiatives to combat violence against women in politics including legal collective initiatives and individualized strategies.

Violence against Women in Politics: A Study Conducted in India, Nepal and Pakistan

UN Women and Centre for Social Research

Co-written by UN Women and the Centre for Social Research in India, this comprehensive study addresses the nature, extent and reasons for violence that inhibits women’s political participation in India, Nepal and Pakistan. Ultimately, the study finds that violence is a universally accepted feature of politics that disproportionately affects women because of the deep-seated patriarchal nature in the countries examined. A range of recommendations to reduce violence against women in politics are presented.

Violence against Women in Politics: Defining Terminology and Concepts

South Asia Partnership International

Identifying that there was an absence of concrete terminologies for practitioners engaged in combatting violence against women in politics, South Asia Partnership International compiled this handbook of terminologies and concepts for this purpose. Although targeted to practitioners in the South Asia region, the terminologies and concepts are dynamic to all regions.

Gender-based Political Violence in Bolivia: A Barrier to Women’s Political Participation

ACOBOL

The Association of Women Councillors of Bolivia (ACOBOL) highlights the barriers to political participation for women, especially indigenous women, in Bolivia. The central barrier discussed is political violence. Despite the rights granted to women in Bolivian law, including a gender parity provision for political participation in the 2009 Bolivian Constitution, the reality on the ground is that women are hindered from participating in politics due to the threat of violence. The authors conclude with recommendations to alleviate the cycle of disenfranchisement, including building capacity for women and ensuring legal rights are actually granted.

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN ELECTIONS (VAW-E)

This section includes foundational texts specific to violence against women in elections authored by leading experts in this field.

Breaking the Mold: Understanding Gender and Electoral Violence

Gabrielle Bardall

Within the foundational article on violence against women in elections, author Gabrielle Bardall introduces the concept of gender-based electoral violence in transitional democracies. In order to tackle this phenomenon, Bardall introduces a new framework that explains the different forms of public and private violence committed against women during the electoral process, which ultimately strives to ensure that practitioners can address gender-based electoral violence in the short and long term.

Contesting Patriarchy: The Gender Gap and Gender-based Violence in Nepali Politics and the Constituent Assembly Elections 2013 (2015)

International IDEA, the General Election Observation Committee of Nepal (GEOC), and the Nepal Law Society commissioned this research study with the aim of identifying the gender gaps and barriers inherent in the Nepali electoral process, including gender based violence. The publication highlights twelve key findings. The study closes with a summary of key recommendations for combatting violence against women, including implementing legislation and creating a supportive electoral environment.

Gender-Specific Election Violence: The Role of Information and Communication Technologies

Gabrielle Bardall

While women have made tremendous strides politically in recent decades, the rise of new information and communication technologies (ICTs) has created specific challenges for women candidates, voters and representatives. This article argues that, despite these challenges, ICTs can also offer groundbreaking solutions for preventing and mitigating violence against women in elections.

The 2015 Nigeria Elections and Violence Against Women in Politics (2015)

Mayesha Alam and Alexandra Safir, GIWPS

Authors Alam and Safir analyze the status of women's participation in Nigeria, including the socio-cultural status of women and the male dominated political elite. The authors close the report with recommendations to stop violence against women in politics and elections, including the critical importance of identifying indicators to monitor warning signs of conflict.

Towards a More Complete Understanding of Election Violence: Introducing a Gender Lens to Electoral Conflict Research

Gabrielle Bardall

This article uses data from over 2,000 documented incidents of electoral violence to analyze the different effects of electoral violence on women and men, arguing that because violence affects both women and men in different ways, the impact it has on their political participation is also distinct. It provides a gender-sensitive definition of electoral violence and in-depth explanations of the four types of election violence that affect women: physical, social-psychological, sexual and economic.

Women, Elections and Violence in West Africa: Assessing Women's Political Participation in Liberia and Sierra Leone

Tim Kellow

While elections following conflict, in theory, cement women's participation within the formal political system, they also highlight considerable barriers, such as lingering discriminatory mindsets and cultural practices. This paper examines gender and elections in two post-conflict countries, Sierra Leone and Liberia using two different courses of action taken in each country to advance women's political participation.

WEBSITES

The following websites are useful to practitioners looking for data and tools pertaining to women's political participation. Knowledge sharing tools for combating violence against women and the promotion of peace are also included.

- » PeaceWomen is a knowledge sharing tool for women activists and organizations on the subject of women, peace and security, including various resources, tools, and initiatives from various regions.
- » ParlAmericas is an independent forum for parliamentarians in order to foster collaborative dialogue, including a page on violence against women in politics.
- » Quota Project serves as a research database that provides information on various types of quotas, percentages and targets in countries.