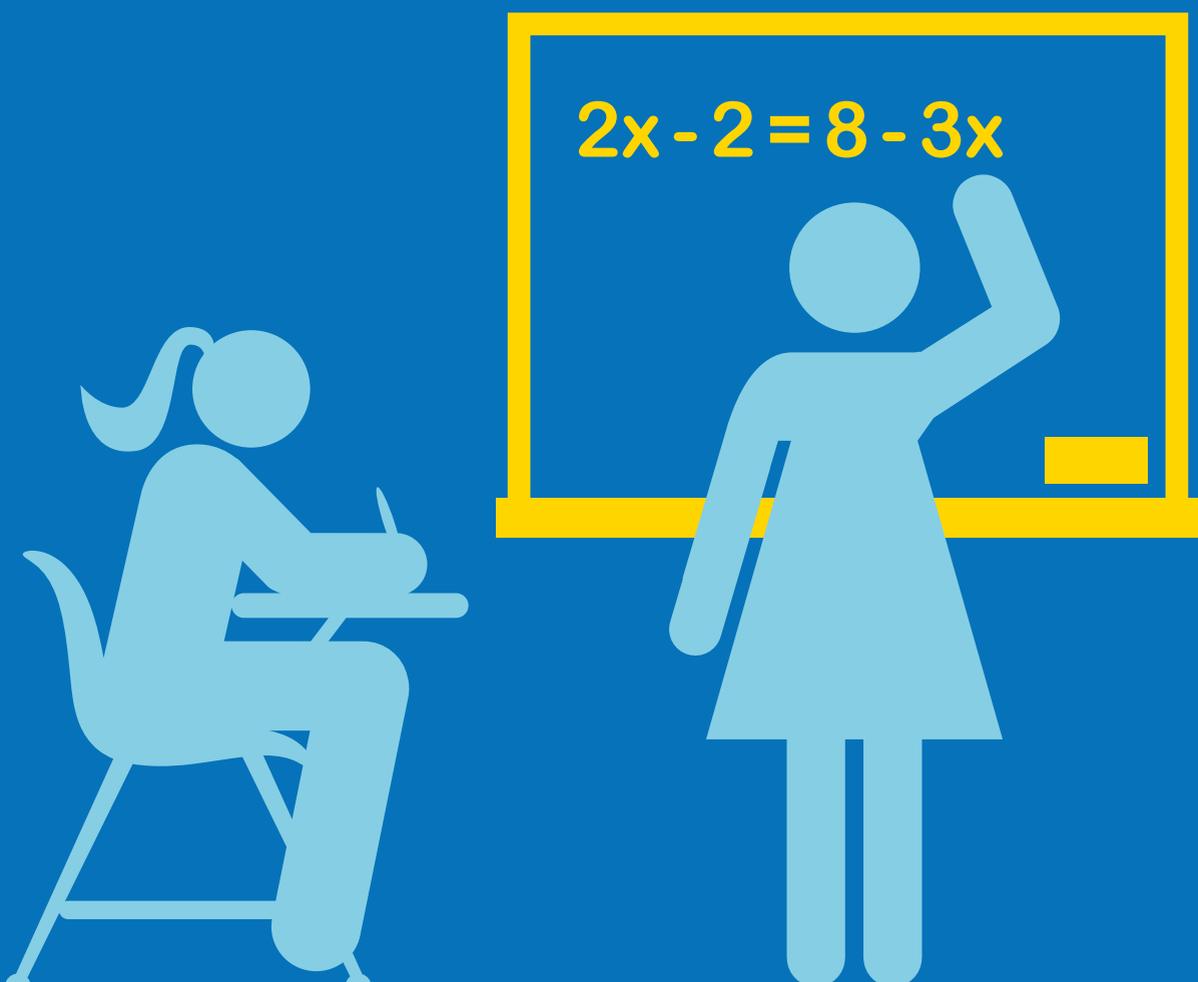


# GIRLS GET SAFE SCHOOLS



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## INSTRUCTIONS

Women and girls are often targeted in attacks on education because of their gender. Girls in conflict countries are almost 2.5 times more likely to be out of school than boys. We need safe schools to protect girls' right to education, in a way that tackles gender inequality and contribute to a culture of peace.

### 1 COMPLY WITH ALL INTERNATIONAL LAW, INCLUDING THE CONVENTION OF THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

The right to education is protected by international Human Rights Law and International Humanitarian Law. During situations of armed conflict, attacks on education may violate international humanitarian and criminal law and may amount to crimes against humanity.



### 6 ASSIST VICTIMS OF GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

All victims of attacks on education need non-discriminatory assistance, taking into account the specific needs of girls and young women, and provided with medical and psychosocial support for victims of gender based violence in all its forms.



### 2 PROMOTE EDUCATION DURING ARMED CONFLICT AS AN IMPERATIVE NEED

Girls living through conflict are nearly 90% more likely to be out of secondary school than their counterparts in countries not affected by conflict. Education is a right in and of itself and one of the most transformative investments to promote gender equality, unlock economic opportunities for all, and advance peace and security.



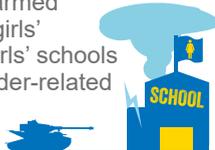
### 7 PROMOTE GENDER EQUALITY IN THE EDUCATION SYSTEM

It is needed to work with partners to develop a gender-responsive curriculum that addresses the gender inequality and differential learning needs of boys and girls. Recruiting female teachers is vital for some communities and education officials must be pro-active in enabling girls to use services.



### 3 PROTECT SCHOOLS FROM ATTACKS AND MILITARY USE

Teachers and students are seen as legitimate targets for violence, rape and other forms of sexual violence, as well as forced recruitment into armed groups. More frequent attacks on girls' education, female teachers, and girls' schools by armed groups highlight the gender-related impacts of attacks on education.



### 8 ADDRESS BARRIERS TO CREATE A SAFE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT

Take all necessary measures to address barriers to education for girls in all conflict affected areas, particularly those barriers resulting from gender-based norms or stereotypes: insecurity in traveling to and from educational facilities, sexual and gender-based violence, recruitment into armed groups, unpaid domestic and care work and child labour.



### 4 END SEXUAL AND GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

Girls and women are targeted in attacks against schools because of their gender<sup>1</sup>, through sexual and gender-based violence and attacks aimed at repressing or stopping the learning or teaching of girls and women. In addition, families tend to restrict the freedom of movement of girls during conflict, thereby affecting their possibility of attending school.



### 9 PROVIDE APPROPRIATE SANITARY FACILITIES AND MENSTRUAL HYGIENE KITS

During conflict, the relevance and effectiveness of menstrual hygiene kits directly impacts school attendance of adolescent girls. Adequate and separate sanitation facilities help girls feel confident and avoid risks related to gender based violence when going to the toilet at school.



### 5 PROMOTE GIRLS' PARTICIPATION IN DECISION-MAKING

Community leaders and local authorities must promote the participation of girls and young women in all decisions affecting their lives. This means providing safe spaces, forums and processes that involve and are led by girls and young women and are sensitive to gender equality.



### 10 PREVENT CHILD MARRIAGE AND EARLY MARRIAGE

As a result of conflict, child, early and forced marriage, as well as early pregnancies, may increase. Being in school during conflict can prevent both, as it advantages girls and young women with regards to economic opportunities and gaining more control over their futures.



<sup>1</sup> Global Coalition to Protect Education from Attack (2018), *op. cit.* According to information collected for that report, girls and women were targeted because of their gender in at least 18 of the 28 countries profiled in the report.

IF WE COMMIT TO GET **SAFE SCHOOLS FOR GIRLS TODAY**,  
WE CAN BUILD A FUTURE OF PEACE AND **GENDER EQUALITY**