

## Over the past 20 years, sexual violence against women and girls has become a weapon of every war:

- As many as 50,000 women and girls were raped during the war in Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- During conflicts in Uganda and Sierra Leone, thousands of young girls and women were raped, kidnapped, and forced into sexual slavery.
- Rape is rampant in the Democratic Republic of Congo, where it is used as a weapon of war, a tactic used to terrorise, destroy and humiliate communities.
- Women and girls are raped systematically, every day, in every conflict, in every region, across the world.

## How Can You Help Stop Violence Against Women and Girls?

The International Rescue Committee needs your help in the long-standing fight against sexual violence against women and girls as a weapon of war.

We need you to **sign a petition** that the IRC will present to the presidency of the EU.

The aim is to collect enough signatures to prod the European Commission into action - but also to show Members of the European Parliament that violence against women is an issue of concern to citizens across Europe.

The fight against sexual violence must **become a top policy and funding priority for the European Union.**

## We Need Your Help!

To call on the European Union to:

- Make ending violence against women and girls in conflict zones a top priority of its foreign policy and development assistance;
- Provide specific funding for international programmes that tackle violence against women;
- Make progress on combating violence against women and girls an indicator of human rights performance when assessing relations with affected countries.

Take action now to make your voice heard – join our fight to end violence against women and girls.

Go to [www.ircuk.org](http://www.ircuk.org) to sign the petition.

Thank you for making a difference!

# STOP SEXUAL VIOLENCE AS A WEAPON OF WAR



INTERNATIONAL  
**RESCUE**  
COMMITTEE

**SIGN THE PETITION NOW:**

[WWW.IRCUK.ORG](http://www.ircuk.org)