

# Everywoman Everywhere

Her right to a life free from violence.

## The Everywoman, Everywhere Coalition

***How do I hold States accountable if there is no specific legally binding instrument on VAW? It is time to adopt a comprehensive international convention on violence against women at the UN level.*** –UN Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women, Rashida Manjoo, 2012

### The Legal Chasm

Violence against women and girls is the most widespread human rights violation on earth, affecting one out of three women. Despite international outcry, largely it is not a violation of international law. State prevention, protection, and justice continue to be discretionary, leaving billions of women and girls with little legal protection.

For decades, leaders in the international women's movement have had many hard-won victories. CEDAW, the Istanbul Convention, the Convention of Belém do Pará among many treaties have played a critical role in advancing women's rights. These instruments form a foundation and building blocks for a treaty.

### The Call for a Treaty

A well-drafted treaty would move violence against women and girls from soft law into a comprehensive, specific, legally binding instrument that establishes global minimal norms and standards to outlaw violence against women, including monitoring and implementation mechanisms to track state progress.

What might this achieve? UN Conventions, when ratified, translate to domestic law, providing a legally binding structure that women's rights advocates can use to drive better implementation of existing laws, while holding governments accountable to this new global standard.

### The Everywoman Everywhere Coalition

The Everywoman Everywhere Coalition was created by and for the rapidly-growing community of women's rights advocates who see a UN treaty- the *right* UN treaty- on violence against women as a major step forward in advancing women's security in their local contexts and worldwide.

With diversity and inclusion as primary values, we are operating through a regional working group structure. As of March 2015, we have 145 member organizations, and 232 total membership, with representation from more than 55 countries, and every major geographic area in the world.

### Join Us

Are you a women's rights leader, activist, survivor? Please join this budding global movement!

1. Join the coalition! No time or financial commitment required—just sign our statement of support: *"I stand for the right to a life free from all forms of violence for everywoman, everywhere. I hereby join the global call for an international treaty on violence against women and girls worldwide."*
2. Help us develop our Core Platform. Participate in our Expert Consultation.
3. Connect with regional working group members in your area to explore further leadership opportunities, as we expand our work.

To join the coalition, or for more information, visit our website, [www.everywomaneverywhere.org](http://www.everywomaneverywhere.org). To join the global consultation, explore further leadership opportunities, or contact a regional working group member in your area, email us at [info@everywomaneverywhere.org](mailto:info@everywomaneverywhere.org)