

# ACTION

## SEXUAL VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS IN SUDAN

### SEPTEMBER 2025

## Background information

On 15 April 2023 a conflict erupted between the Sudanese Armed forces (SAF) led by General Abdel Fattah al-Burhan and the Rapid support Forces (RSF) led by General Mohamed Hamdan Dagalo, known as Hemedti. Both military parties worked together to overthrow the previous military-civilian coalition government in October 2021, which followed the Bashir's ouster. The initial hotspots of the current conflict were Khartoum and its sister cities of Omdurman and Khartoum North but spread out to the whole country. In March 2025 the SAF recaptured Khartoum, but many parts are still controlled by the RSF. This civil war has resulted in a humanitarian catastrophe. Tens of thousands of people have been killed, over 11 million people fled their homes including 8.6 million who are internally displaced. Over three million others fled to neighbouring countries.

Those still in Sudan face killings, summary executions, injury and women and girls suffer from rape, gang-rape, sexual slavery and other forms of sexual violence. The report «They raped all of us: Sexual violence against women and girls in Sudan» by Amnesty International documents sexual violence on 36 women and girls as young as 15 in four Sudanese states between April 2023 and October 2024, which in this case was all attributed to the RSF or allied Arab militia. This is in line with research of Human rights Watch. The RSF's atrocities amount to war crimes and possible crimes against humanity. They also violate several human rights, including the rights to equality and non-discrimination, to physical integrity, and the prohibition of torture and other ill-treatment. In general both sides have committed serious violations of international humanitarian law. The physical consequences of the sexual violence which are described by the women and girls interviewed for this research include kidney pains, irregular periods, walking difficulties or long-term psychological trauma. None of the survivors of sexual violence had access to post rape-care services or reported the cases to authorities.

Health care facilities and local groups including emergency response rooms have been providing essential services to survivors of sexual violence but face challenges accessing financial and logistical support or have been destroyed. Since Cuts to vital USAID-funded programmes the prospects for accessing comprehensive sexual health care have diminished further.

For more than two years, the women and girls of Sudan have been neglected and ignored during this devastating conflict.

Deprose Muchena, Amnesty International Senior Director for Regional Human Rights Impact : "The world must act to stop the RSF's atrocities by stemming the flow of weapons into Sudan, pressuring the leadership to end sexual violence, and holding perpetrators including top commanders to account."

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) supplies weapons, ammunition and armoured personnel carriers (APCs) to the RSF.

In September 2024, the UN Security Council extended for another year an arms

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embargo in place since 2004 which applies only to the Darfur region. It failed to expand the embargo to the rest of Sudan. The existing arms embargo had been poorly implemented and frequently violated and covers only the Darfur region making it inadequate to meet the needs of the current crisis.

## Source

AI-Bericht in englischer Sprache vom 10.04.2025

“They raped all of us” - Sexual violence against women and girls in Sudan

[Report - AFR 54.9201.2025.pdf](#)

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