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## How Can Canada Address the Needs of Rohingya Sexual Violence Survivors through its Foreign Policy?

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## **How Can Canada Address the Needs of Rohingya Sexual Violence Survivors through its Foreign Policy?**

Deeplina Banerjee, PhD Candidate, Dept. of Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies

Canada's Feminist International Assistance Policy (FIAP) includes an explicit commitment to addressing sexual and gender-based violence -- one of the most severe and pervasive forms of human rights violations during conflicts. Myanmar's genocidal persecution of the Rohingyas in 2017 garnered global attention, and Canada, like many other countries, provided humanitarian relief. I situate my doctoral research at the intersections of studies of genocide, sexual violence, and international development to understand what Rohingya survivors of genocidal sexual violence perceive as their post-conflict needs and how Canada can address those needs via FIAP or other means. By reviewing government statements, practitioner and academic literature, and interviewing key stakeholders within government and civil society organizations, my project will evaluate Canada's potential and limitation in contributing to international post-conflict reconstruction. My research will contribute not just to academic theory and methodology, but also to capacity building and policy formulation to better support survivors of genocidal sexual violence.