



Republic of Rwanda
By Carl von Kirchbach

POSITION OF RWANDA REGARDING RIGHTS OF WOMEN IN THE DRC



General information

After the massive degree of violence inflicted on women as part of the Rwandan genocide, Rwanda has made a successful turn on women's rights, though cultural barriers still cause some difficulties. They were the first African country to ratify CEDAW (Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women) and their Constitution guarantees voting rights and that women occupy at least 30% of positions in decision-making bodies. Currently Rwanda is the first nation to have a female majority in parliament, with 61.5% of the parliament being women. In the Global Gender Gap report Rwanda ranked 5th in the world in 2022. However, in the last couple years they have dropped to 39th, because of doubts that the reforms in UN Resolution 1325 had actually reached women outside of the political sphere.

Position on the matter

Rwanda has been accused of support of M23 by the DRC, which it denies. Rwanda further claims that the DRC is aiding the FDLR, a paramilitary group within Rwanda's borders, which the DRC denies. Independent reports link them both to those groups.

Rwanda isn't likely to support pretty much any form of assistance to the DRC, as they

currently have a standing army within their borders. As a nation Rwanda would assist in women's rights usually, but their current conflict with the DRC has included multiple peace agreements immediately violated by M23. Due to the war being a key reason for the women's rights crisis in the area, and them making few comments about women's rights, it is dubious they want to change much.

Proposed solutions

As Rwanda is part of the East African Community (EAC), if support of any type were to go to DRC, they would want themselves to be the coordinators. However their dislike of DRC might lead to a very tepid approach. They might spread doubt that this committee or resolution is even necessary and claim that DRC should figure it out on their own.

Potential Blocks

Seeing as the US and the DRC currently have sanctions against Rwanda, these aren't allies. However, Rwanda probably will work with the rest of the EAC, as they are a member state. Due to their non-interventionist approach, China and Russia could also be allies.





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[History of Progress?](#)

[Rwanda 2003 \(rev. 2015\) Constitution](#)

[Gender equality in Rwanda - Wikipedia](#)

[Democratic Republic of the Congo–Rwanda
conflict \(2022–present\) - Wikipedia](#)

