

**Statement by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Defence of Nepal to the United Nations, at the Security Council Meeting on Protecting civilians in the context of peacekeeping operations 2016**  
**10 June 2016**

"While the safety and security of civilians is primarily the responsibility of national Governments, it is also critical to the legitimacy and credibility of United Nations peacekeeping missions, since civilians account for the vast majority of casualties in armed conflicts, often as soft targets. There is now a greater need for a fine balance between the realities of the field, the principles of peacekeeping and the responsibility of protecting civilians. Nepali peacekeepers are fully oriented towards protecting civilians, particularly women and girls, during and after conflict."

Read the full statement [here](#) .