

# **25 NOVEMBER**

# INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ELIMINATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

"VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IS NEVER ACCEPTABLE,
NEVER EXCUSABLE, AND NEVER TOLERABLE."
– BAN KI-MOON-

### WHY DO WE MARK this DAY?

Violence against women and girls (VAWG) is one of the most widespread, persistent, and devastating human rights violations in our world today. It remains largely unreported due to the impunity, silence, stigma, and shame surrounding it.



In general terms, it manifests itself in physical, sexual, and psychological forms, encompassing:

- intimate partner violence (battering, psychological abuse, marital rape, femicide);
- sexual violence and harassment (rape, forced sexual acts, unwanted sexual advances, child sexual abuse, forced marriage, street harassment, stalking, cyber-harassment);
- human trafficking (slavery, sexual exploitation);
- female genital mutilation; and
- child marriage.



To further clarify, the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women issued by the UN General Assembly in 1993 defines violence against women as "any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual, or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life."

#### questions for Discussion

- ✓ Do you find any violence against women in your society? If so, what type of violences are there?
- ✓ How can we raise awareness of violence against women in our community? Suggest your ideas.

# MEET TODAY'S GLOBAL CITIZEN



#### NADIA MURAD

Nadia Murad is an Iraqi Yazidi human rights activist. In 2018, she was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for her effort to end the use of sexual violence as a weapon of war and armed conflict. She was kidnapped from her hometown Kocho in Iraq and held by the Islamic State for three months. She is the founder of Nadia's Initiative, which is dedicated to helping women and children victimized by genocides, mass atrocities, and human trafficking to heal and rebuild their lives and communities.