

## **16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence**

**Canada continues to be on the forefront of advocating for the elimination of violence against women. Canadian women travelling, living and working abroad are not immune to this violence. If you are a Canadian in France and require consular assistance due to gender-based violence – whether family violence, sexual assault, forced marriage or human trafficking, the Government of Canada's consular officials are well-trained professionals who stand ready to support you.**

# Women Travellers

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While millions of Canadian women travel, live and work abroad every year, the Government of Canada assists thousands of Canadian women in distress abroad each year - from domestic abuse to forced marriage and sexual abuse. Consular officials can assist by:

- providing contact information for local police and medical services
- helping find professionals that help deal with the emotional, medical, and legal consequences of the assault
- helping contact relatives or friends
- providing a list of lawyers in France and;
- providing information on how to apply for emergency financial assistance through the Department of Justice Victims Fund

Find out more about how consular officials can help by visiting: <https://travel.gc.ca/assistance/emergency-info/sexual-assault-abroad> or <https://travel.gc.ca/assistance/emergency-info/physical-assault-abroad>

# Women Travellers

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Canadian consular officials frequently assist Canadian women who are in distress abroad, ranging from cyber-dating scams to domestic abuse to child custody disputes. If you are a Canadian woman in such a situation, you can reach a Consular officer in Paris at [parisconsulaire@international.gc.ca](mailto:parisconsulaire@international.gc.ca) or by telephone at +33 (0)1 44 43 29 02. Consular officers will be able to assist and can provide local contact details:

- Emergency number in France: dial « 112 » for emergencies (police and medical). Victims of violence who cannot leave home or make noise can also reach local authorities by SMS at « 114 ».
- Women who are victims of violence can call a special number for assistance: « 3919 ».
- There is an online service to register sexual and gender-based violent crimes <https://www.service-public.fr/cmi>.
- The official website of the Gouvernement of France is [www.service-public.fr](http://www.service-public.fr). We encourage you to consult this site to learn about the procedures and the resources you can access if you want to report a sexual assault, a rape, or domestic violence. By consulting these sites you can obtain information on legal aid and victim support available to foreigners in France.
- If you are in France, we encourage you to consult our list of health professionals and lawyers in France, to obtain assistance in dealing with the emotional, medical, and legal consequences of an assault.

# Forced Marriage

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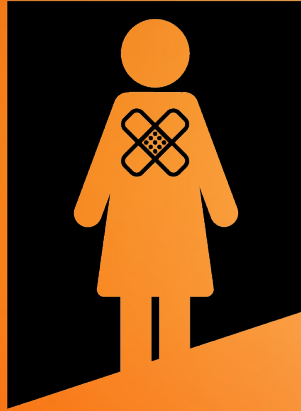


In Canada, it's a crime to force anyone - child or adult - to marry. It's also a crime to take anyone under age 18 to another country to force her to marry. If you are a Canadian abroad and have been forced to marry, please contact the Consular services of the Embassy of Canada in France: [parisconsulaire@international.gc.ca](mailto:parisconsulaire@international.gc.ca) or tel. +33 (0)1 44 43 29 02. For after-hours emergency assistance, please contact: [sos@international.gc.ca](mailto:sos@international.gc.ca) or +1 613-944-8885.



France has also taken action to combat forced marriage. It is mandatory to obtain the consent of both spouses to perform a legal marriage in France and a civil marriage ceremony is mandatory for the marriage to be official. You can obtain more information on [procedures in a case of forced marriage in France](#). It is illegal in France to oblige someone to travel abroad for the purpose of a forced marriage. If you are a dual citizen, you can obtain more information on [France's actions abroad to combat forced marriage](#).





## ***Forced marriage facts:***

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- Nobody under the age of 16 is allowed to get married in Canada. It is also a crime to take anyone who is under 16 out of Canada for the purpose of a marriage in another country, even if the person wants to get married.
- A **forced marriage** means that one or both people do not, or are not able to, consent to the marriage.
- Forced marriage is not the same as **arranged marriage**, in which family members may recommend a marriage partner. In this case, both people agree to the union and choose to marry the potential partner.
- If you need help, check out these resources:  
<https://travel.gc.ca/assistance/emergency-info/forced-marriage>.



## ***Facts about Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV):***

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- Canada has been at the forefront of advocating for the elimination of violence against women for over 20 years.
- Canada leads on the annual Elimination of Violence Against Women resolution at the UN Human Rights Council (HRC) in Geneva.
- In 2019, Canada secured a historical \$1.4 billion annual investment, and since 2023, this fund has been used to promote the health and rights of women and girls around the world. This program includes \$700 million for the most underfunded areas of SRHR, including sexual and gender-based violence such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation.
- Canada is proud to be leading on the *Call to Action* on Protection from Gender-Based Violence in Emergencies. The Call to Action is a multi-stakeholder initiative that aims to fundamentally transform the way gender-based violence is addressed in humanitarian emergencies.

# DID YOU KNOW?

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## Canadian Consular Services



Global Affairs Canada provides consular services and is accessible to Canadians **24/7**.



“Consular services” means the advice the Government of Canada gives to Canadians pre-travel and the assistance when abroad.



Assistance is provided through more than **260** points of service in **150** countries.

# WHO ARE WE?

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Professional and competent consular officials providing consular services Canadians need in times of crises.



Providing the Government of Canada’s official **Travel Advice and Advisories** to help Canadians make informed decisions.



Showcasing an important aspect of Canada’s foreign policy, as demonstrated by Canada’s response to recent world events.



# HOW TO CONTACT US

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## Canadian Consular Services

Need consular assistance?



To reach the Consular service of the Embassy of Canada in France:  
[parisconsulaire@international.gc.ca](mailto:parisconsulaire@international.gc.ca) ou +33 (0)1 44 43 29 02



For emergency Assistance or after working hours:  
• [sos@international.gc.ca](mailto:sos@international.gc.ca)  
• +1 613-944-8885



Sign up for the **Registration of Canadians Abroad service** before you leave or while you are travelling, in case of an emergency.