

## Implementing UNSCR 1325: New Opportunities and Emerging Challenges

Quaker House, Square Ambiorix 50  
Tuesday, 8 November 2016  
10:00 – 16:30  
Brussels, Belgium

### Introduction

The adoption of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 (UNSCR 1325) on women, peace and security was a milestone. For the first time in history, the UN's highest political body working on peace and security acknowledged that armed conflict affects women and men in different ways and that women and men must participate and be involved equally in the reconstruction of a peaceful communal life. Sixteen years and seven follow-up resolutions later, the pitfalls and limitations of the WPS agenda have started to emerge. The goals of UNSCR 1325 are comprehensive and far-reaching, they implicate action across disciplines and institutions that the Resolution alone cannot achieve by itself.

In recent years, new academic research underlines the importance of linking the Resolution with other international (binding) instruments in order to stimulate gender-responsive peacebuilding. The report recently published by the Swiss NGO Working group "1325" entitled "[Women, Peace, Security, Reloaded. Civil Society Alternative Report on the National Action Plan 1325 as seen from the Gender Perspective: Impulses and Inputs for Actors in Politics, Administration and Civil Society](#)" argues that UNSCR 1325 gains effectiveness if anchored in other international instruments, such as the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW).

Most recently, public policy and discourse focuses on violent extremism, migration and its linkage with internal security challenges which highlights in turn the need for coherence and the urgency of linking more strongly internal and external policies. Designed as a response to one of those challenges, the fight against terrorism is taking up more and more space in peace and security policies, mostly adopting a security driven approach. This approach contributes to a broader relapse from the concept of human security into the remilitarisation of peace policies and comprehensive civil security issues. Placing UNSCR 1325 and follow-up resolutions into the normative framework of counterterrorism not only has implications for gender relations, but might also endanger the broader concept of human security, by leaving out the protection of women's rights, structural violence, the gender constructions supporting violence or the political and social economy of care as a key space for gendered exploitation.

### Objectives:

The meeting will be an opportunity for experts from civil society, international organisations, and EU Member States to share knowledge and explore different ways of working on the implementation of UNSCR 1325 in an effort to advance the WPS agenda.

The specific objectives of this meeting are to:

- Discuss opportunities for linking UNSCR 1325 to other international binding instruments (such as CEDAW) and the practical implications at national and regional levels of this approach;
- Explore the links between internal and external policies on the WPS agenda through the prism of masculinities and feminities and their impacts on violence and subordination;
- Analyse the current debates on gender and countering violent extremism (CVE) and discuss opportunities and challenges of this agenda from a gender perspective.

**Participants:**

The meeting will bring together 15-20 experts from civil society, international organisations, and EU Member States

**Format:**

Participants will gather in a round-table format and each session will have guiding questions and skilled facilitation in order to allow for interactive discussions. The meeting will be held in English, under the Chatham House Rule and is by invitation only. Light lunch and coffee will be provided by the Quaker Council for European Affairs (QCEA).

## Draft Agenda

10:00-10:30	<b>Registration and coffee</b>
10:30-10:45	<p><b>Welcome and objectives of the meeting</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Andrew Lane, Quaker Council of European Affairs (QCEA)</li> <li>• Irina Bratosin D'Almeida, European Peacebuilding Liaison Office (EPLO)</li> </ul>
10:45-12:15	<p><b>Session 1 – Implementing UNSCR 1325: Exploring linkages with other international instruments</b></p> <p>Sixteen years after the adoption of UNSCR 1325 all actors agree that in order to move from administrating a gender-responsive peacebuilding policy to actually shaping it can only be taken by linking the Resolution with other normative tools. This session will therefore focus on the implementation of UNSCR 1325 and links that could be established to the implementation of other international instruments such as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW).</p> <p><b>Questions to be addressed:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What opportunities are there to link UNSCR 1325 with other international instruments?</li> <li>• Are there opportunities to use CEDAW in the promotion of women's rights in conflicts and peacebuilding policy in conjunction with UNSCR 1325?</li> <li>• Can the CEDAW reporting be used to operationalise gender equality in peacebuilding and to promote the implementation of UNSCR 1325?</li> </ul> <p><b>Contributions from:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annemarie Sancar, swisspeace</li> <li>• Hannah Bond, Gender Action for Peace and Security (GAPS)</li> <li>• Dicky de Morrée, Cordaid</li> </ul> <p><b>Facilitated by</b> Henri Myrntinen, International Alert</p>
12:15-12:45	<b>Lunch Break</b>
12:45-14:15	<p><b>Session 2 – Addressing violent masculinity in EU internal and external security challenges</b> (<i>this session is open to all interested participants</i>)</p> <p>Hundreds of people were murdered or seriously injured in Paris, Nice and other violent attacks in Europe over the last two years. After each attack, security officials are quickly challenged to explain the motivation of the crime, in terms of violent ideology, an unmet mental health need, resentment or something else. Political leaders then build on this explanation when seeking a visible policy response that will provide public reassurance.</p> <p>One recurrent factor is that the violence is most often committed by young men. Public debates, analysis and policy-making then often seem to be dominated by men. Are we missing something more obvious about why men commit violence, the context in which this type of violence happens, and how it can be prevented?</p>

	<p>Answering this question will provide insight into a wide range of other policy challenges. Internally, violence against women remains the most common form of violence on the continent, mostly hidden from the public services seeking to address it. Externally, the EU is struggling to effectively counter a range of conflicts and crises. EU foreign policy instruments continue to be dominated by male decision-makers and male mission staff – building male capacity and negotiating peace between men.</p> <p>This discussion will hear perspectives from colleagues interested in addressing violent masculinity in EU internal and external policy.</p> <p><b>Contributions from:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pierrette Pape, European Women's Lobby (EWL)</li> <li>• Patric Jean, independent masculinity advisor</li> <li>• Irina Bratosin D'Almeida, European Peacebuilding Liaison Office (EPLO)</li> </ul> <p><b>Facilitated by</b> Andrew Lane, Quaker Council of European Affairs (QCEA)</p>
14:15–14:30	<p><b>Coffee break</b></p>
14:30-16:15	<p><b>Session 3 – Linking UNSCR 1325 to countering extremism and terrorism strategies: pitfalls and opportunities</b></p> <p>The fight against terrorism is taking up more and more space in security and peace policies. The latest UNSCR 2242 on women, peace and security explicitly incorporates women's rights in conflict prevention and peacebuilding into the strategies for the prevention of violent extremism. Violent extremism harms women worldwide in many respects. However placing UNSCR 1325 and its follow-up resolutions in the counter terrorism normative framework brings also significant challenges.</p> <p><b>Questions to be answered:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How much gender mainstreaming can there be in the field of counterterrorism and is it indeed actually applied? What role could women's rights organisations play in this?</li> <li>• Are women and women's rights being threatened by the combination of gender-sensitive peacebuilding and the prevention of terrorism?</li> <li>• Is the women's rights and protection perspective provided by the WPS agenda being undermined by securitisation rhetoric and actions? What alternative directions could CSOs go to?</li> </ul> <p><b>Contributions from:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annemarie Sancar, swisspeace</li> <li>• Isabelle Geuskens, Women Peacemakers Program (WPP)</li> <li>• Claudia von Braunmühl, Free University of Berlin</li> </ul> <p><b>Facilitated by</b> Irina Bratosin D'Almeida, European Peacebuilding Liaison Office (EPLO)</p>
16:15–16:30	<p><b>Concluding remarks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annemarie Sancar, swisspeace</li> </ul>