



The Gender Monitor



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An introductory note

This issue of *The Gender Monitor* coincides with the 10th anniversary of the UN Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325. This resolution on women, peace, and security helped to change the way the international community views peace building and conflict resolution, urging parties to armed conflicts and to peace negotiations to protect women and girls from gender-based violence in conflict settings and to involve women in early warning, in peace processes and security initiatives. Since the adoption of the UNSCR 1325, a considerable body of research and historical findings show that the involvement of women in conflict prevention and peace reconstruction – from border control to peacekeeping missions – tremendously increases their effectiveness and sustainability.

The OSCE, by definition, has a significant role to play in promoting security initiatives and dialogue that is truly comprehensive and gender-inclusive.

In many current conflicts, women are severely disempowered not only by displacement, the loss of their family members and the annihilation of their economic livelihoods, but also and more devastatingly, by sexual violence, rape or the threat of it.

On the other hand, it has been shown time and time again that without women's participation – at all levels, both as decision-makers and beneficiaries – security initiatives fall short. This is evidenced by experiences from conflicts in the Balkans and places like Chad and Rwanda, where women's participation proved crucial –

from peace-keeping missions to building trust, collecting arms, gaining access to communities and information and thereby effectively contributing to confidence and peace restoration. In a number of post-conflict societies, women are playing a distinctive role in healing wounds, brokering new partnerships to help their communities not only to return to a status quo ante but also to build new foundations in their societies based on tolerance, equality and democracy.

In 2005, the OSCE adopted Ministerial Council Decision 14/05 on Women in Conflict Prevention, Crisis Management and Post-Conflict Rehabilitation which integrates much of UNSCR 1325 into the Organization's own obligations. The OSCE, if it is to make an effective contribution to global security, has no choice but to prioritize the inclusion of women and women's experiences in the prevention of conflicts and in the response to conflicts, when they occur.

Within this issue of *The Gender Monitor* you will find many examples of OSCE work, in particular from the field operations, being done to move forward the progress on the goals and objectives laid out in UNSCR 1325 and MC.DEC 14/05.

We hope that the activities and resources highlighted in this issue contribute to the sharing of good practices and inspire a renewed engagement, based on the understanding that security and peace for women remain a necessary pre-requisite to security and peace for all.

Ambassador Herbert Salber

Director, Conflict Prevention Centre

Jamila Seftaoui

Senior Adviser on Gender Issues



UN Security Council Resolution 1325 and OSCE Ministerial Council Decision 14/05

“This is not our war” is an expression heard time and again from women in conflict-ridden countries and communities. Though they rarely have a say in the waging of war, women and children too often bear the brunt of the worst of its consequences. Across the globe, women and girls are often the object for political and social control – brutalized to humiliate and shatter their communities by opposing sides.

Recognizing the need to protect women and girls from violence during and after armed conflicts and the necessity to increase their influence in efforts to prevent war, build peace and restore devastated communities, the UN Security Council passed Resolution 1325 in 2000. The resolution underscores what decades of experience has made clear: women’s needs and contributions should be at the forefront of conflict prevention, conflict resolution and post-conflict reconstruction initiatives, not only because women are the primary victims of conflict and because they make up more than half of the world’s population, but also because including their full participation results in a more egalitarian, more realistic, more co-operative and hence, more lasting peace.

The objectives and responsibilities laid out in the resolution can be broadly assigned to four major categories:

- 1) The participation of women at all levels of decision-making, including in national, regional and international institutions, mechanisms for the prevention, management and resolution of conflict and in peace operations, as soldiers, military advisers, police persons and civilians;
- 2) The protection of women and girls from sexual and gender-based violence;
- 3) The prevention of violence against women through the promotion of women’s rights, accountability and law enforcement;
- 4) The mainstreaming of gender perspectives in peace operations by considering the specific needs of women and girls in the development and design of policy in all areas and incorporating the perspectives, contributions and experience of women’s organizations in policy and programme development.

The basic principles on women, peace and security, set out in the resolution, are designed to be universal in nature and must, therefore, be integrated into the work of all governments and international organizations. Using UNSCR 1325 as a framework, the OSCE adopted Ministerial Council Decision 14/05 on women in conflict prevention, crisis-management and post-conflict rehabilitation, which integrates many of the UNSCR 1325 commitments into the OSCE’s own obligations and mandate. It sets out OSCE-specific responsibilities in the areas of recruitment, programming and reporting in relation to conflict. Acknowledging that gender-based violence and

abuse carried out during times of conflict are only a symptom of the larger problems of entrenched inequalities and lack of respect for women’s rights in times of peace, the OSCE has furthered its commitment to the achievement of gender equality with the adoption of MC.DEC 14/04, the 2004 OSCE Action Plan for the Promotion of Gender Equality, MC.DEC 15/05 on preventing and combating violence against women and MC.DEC 07/09 on women’s participation in political and public life.

The OSCE executive structures play an important role in supporting participating States in the creation of National Action Plans (NAPs), implementing specific initiatives and projects to achieve the objectives of the UNSCR 1325 and the relevant OSCE MC decisions.

However, despite the overwhelming potential of each of these important commitments, the realization of the goals for which they were created, is still far from reach, due in large part, to the absence of monitoring indicators, accountability and enforcement mechanisms. For OSCE participating States, the OSCE Code of Conduct on politico-military aspects of security and corresponding questionnaire act as an important monitoring mechanism for their work on first dimension security initiatives. Last year, the possibility to expand the questionnaire to include topics related to women, peace and security, including current policies to implement UNSCR 1325, was discussed. Seventeen participating States volunteered to include this information in their reports, and with the release of this issue, 11 countries have to date responded with relevant gender-related information. In addition, 14 of the 56 OSCE participating States currently have NAPs (listed below). Despite the fact that this figure makes up more than half of the total number (23) of countries with an NAP out of the total number of OSCE participating States, this is a very modest number, leaving ample room for improvement.

For the OSCE, prioritizing gender issues as a component of comprehensive security is not only about fairness and equality, but also, a necessity for the long-term success and sustainability of conflict prevention and resolution.

OSCE participating States with an NAP for the implementation of UNSCR 1325 as of 3 November 2010 (publication date):

Austria (08/2007); Belgium (05/2009); Bosnia and Herzegovina (07/2010); Canada (10/2010); Denmark (06/2005, revised 2008-2013); Netherlands (12/2007); Finland (10/2008); Iceland (03/2008); Norway (03/2006); Portugal (09/2009); Spain (11/2007); Switzerland (02/2007); Sweden (10/2006); United Kingdom (03/2006.)



From the Field...

The OSCE field operations provide the framework for OSCE projects and activities on the ground. It is through their work that the goals of the OSCE take shape. To promote the exchange of ideas and sharing of best practices, each issue of *The Gender Monitor* features projects from a number of field operations that highlight the various methods of successfully incorporating a gender perspective into their work. If you would like your project to be featured in an upcoming issue of *The Gender Monitor*, let us know at equality@osce.org.

OSCE Centre in Astana

Adopted in 1979 by the UN General Assembly, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), lays out an agenda for national action to end discrimination against women. States that accept the Convention commit themselves to undertake a series of measures to end gender-based discrimination.

This past September, the OSCE Centre in Astana co-organized a round table on the implementation, monitoring and reporting on CEDAW in Kazakhstan together with UNIFEM, the National Commission on Women and Family Policy, National Human Rights Centre and the Feminist League. The round table participants included representatives from government ministries, non-governmental and international organizations and civil society members.

The two-day event covered important topics such as domestic violence, women's access to health care, early marriage and women with disabilities. For more information on this event click [here](#).

Contact person: *Mariya Dubovitskaya, Senior Programme Assistant, OSCE Centre in Astana*

OSCE Centre in Bishkek

Increasing the capacity of women activists and women's organizations to participate in post-conflict reconstruction is an issue that is of critical importance in today's Kyrgyzstan. The unprecedented violence that took place this past summer against the civilian population, including numerous cases of sexual, physical and psychological violence against women and children, has resulted in a situation that necessitates the urgent review and enhancing of the ability of women's organizations to contribute to reconstruction initiatives.

The OSCE Centre in Bishkek is currently supporting a project, Gender Aspects of Post-conflict Re-integration, which is being implemented by the NGO "Agency for Social Technologies". The project will focus on three major activities: local work on reconciliation and post conflict integration, increasing the capacity of psychological services including the creation of two pilot centres on psychological rehabilitation and the monitoring of mass media for discriminatory practices. Several training courses will be offered in the context of these three activities including sessions for representatives of civil society and governmental organizations on methods of reconciliation and courses for psychologists, psychiatrists and other social workers who are working with the victims of violence in the Osh and Jalalabad provinces.

Contact person: *Jumagiul Esenalieva, Senior Programme Assistant and co-Gender Focal Point, OSCE Centre in Bishkek*

OSCE Office in Tajikistan

The OSCE Office in Tajikistan is currently involved in several activities to prepare society and public authorities, particularly the police, to respond to domestic violence cases and to address the needs of victims in a gender-sensitive manner.

Specialized OSCE training courses, given to a group of male and female police officers, enhanced their ability to manage cases of domestic violence, including issues related to legal, psychosocial and physical care. To complement this initiative, five police stations in the country have been specially equipped to allow victims to communicate with law enforcement officials in an atmosphere designed to alleviate fear and stigmatization. Several of the stations have demonstrated their capacity by reporting several cases of family violence and establishing a functioning referral system to shelter homes.

This initiative should be considered as a good practice not only in the area of prevention of violence against women, but also gender budgeting, through which the project was made possible within the budget of the Ministry of Interior. The Office in Tajikistan, together with the Civil Servants Training Institute also organized a training-of-trainers session on gender budgeting. Participants identified a wide range of areas where gender-budgeting processes could contribute to improved and equal access to rights and opportunities.

Contact person: *Maria Gratschew, Gender and Anti-trafficking Officer and Gender Focal Point, OSCE Office in Tajikistan*



Spotlight on...

OSCE Mission in Kosovo



The OSCE Mission in Kosovo recently contributed to a study carried out by the Security and Gender Coordination Group (SGCG), entitled “Gender and Security: A Mapping of Security Sector Actors in Kosovo”. The objective of the study is to identify the extent of integration of gender perspectives in security policies, operating procedures, programmes and activities, as well as women’s participation in security institutions and their role in decision making in Kosovo. The report also presents the wide range of areas that relate to gender and women’s security, starting from safety to rule of law, domestic violence, human rights, trafficking, social inclusion, and access to health and education. OMiK is also planning to contribute to an SGCG publication on the implementation of UNSCR 1325 in Kosovo which will provide information on how gender advocates and other stakeholders use UNSCR 1325 as an advocacy tool for the advancement of women’s human rights and gender equality in Kosovo.

OMiK has also been very active in the promotion of women’s participation in local decision making processes. The Mission is currently involved in a regional project in the Gjilan/Gnjilane area that aims to strengthen the visibility, capacity and performance of politically active women through the creation of informal mechanisms, thereby increasing the level of influence of elected female representatives and other women active in political and public life.

The OSCE regional centre in Prishtinë/Priština is implementing a similar project, “Gender Responsive Local Governance in Prishtinë/Priština region”. The project includes a baseline sociological survey on women’s needs at the local level, the organization of 75 visits to women in villages by OSCE Municipal Teams together with municipal officials, and intensive capacity building for women municipal assembly members, municipal officials and civil society representatives.

These activities already show tangible results: women’s informal caucuses have been established and officially inaugurated in seven municipalities, while the village visits enabled rural women to address their concerns directly with municipal officials. Additionally, a group of Kosovo Serb women from Gračanica/Gračanicë municipality visited Prishtinë/Priština for the first time since the end of the conflict. The message is clear – women want to participate in public life and they welcome new initiatives to strengthen their collective voice. More information about this project can be found [here](#).

Contact person: Shpresa Mulliqi, National Public Safety Awareness Officer, OSCE Mission in Kosovo

OSCE Mission to Serbia

The need for better representation of women in state security structures has become increasingly important for Serbia in the process of reforming its security sector. In order to assist the government and civil society in their efforts to ensure gender equality within the security structures of the country, the OSCE Mission to Serbia supported an initiative by the Belgrade Fund for Political Excellence to create guidelines for drafting the NAP for the implementation of UNSCR 1325.

Among the first tangible results of the project is the publication, *United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 in Serbia: On Women, Peace and Security*, which focuses on the possible priorities and content for the NAP. As a follow-up activity, the Serbian government established a working group for the drafting of the UNSCR 1325 NAP in June, in which the OSCE Mission to Serbia took part. The Mission organized public discussions on the draft NAP and will participate in a conference on UNSCR 1325 hosted by the Ministry of Defence.

In addition, the Mission to Serbia also supported the development of the report, *Establishing the Southeast Europe Women Police Officers Network*, which was launched at an event on 7 October. This event also served as a seminar for women in the Serbian police on issues related to the Women Police Officers Network and the governmental action plan on the implementation of UNSCR 1325. The overall objective of this project is to initiate discussions on how the report’s recommendations can be implemented.

Contact person: Zorana Sijacki, National Programme Officer and Gender Focal Point, Democratization Department and Branka Bakic, National Programme Officer, Law Enforcement Department, OSCE Mission to Serbia



**OSCE Office in Yerevan &
OSCE Office in Minsk**

The work of the OSCE field operations is of the utmost importance for furthering OSCE gender equality objectives on the ground. On 19 October, the OSCE Office in Minsk organized a round table on the promotion of women's economic empowerment. The event focused on how social partnerships can help women start and run viable businesses. Among those experts presenting at the event was Tsovinar Harutyunyan, Senior Programme Assistant from the OSCE Office in Yerevan (OiY). Harutyunyan's presentation showed lessons learned from the project, "Economic Empowerment of Women in the Syunik Region of Armenia", which proved especially relevant for the participants of the meeting.

This innovative initiative for co-operation between field operations using the Gender Focal Point network is particularly welcomed by the Gender Section.

Contact persons: Tsovinar Harutyunyan, Senior Programme Assistant and Gender Focal Point, OSCE Office in Yerevan and Jandos Asanov, Deputy Head and Gender Focal Point, OSCE Office in Minsk


**OSCE Spillover Monitor
Mission to Skopje**

The security risks and needs of men and women often differ significantly. For police forces to effectively protect the welfare of all citizens, an understanding of these differences is of crucial importance. Through a recently completed project, "Advocacy for Gender Sensitive Police", the OSCE Spillover Monitor Mission to Skopje provided training on the prevention of gender-based violence to Heads of the Ministry of Internal Affairs' prevention units and one prevention officer from each of the eight Sectors for Internal Affairs, plus four prevention officers from the MoIA Prevention Department.

The project also featured a component designed to enhance the co-operation between the Prevention units and civil society: three flyers and posters were designed and printed in Macedonian, Albanian, Turkish, Romani and Serbian in order to increase the access and understanding of gender-based violence prevention throughout the community. They provided a basic understanding of gender-based violence, domestic violence prevention and protection of victims of sexual violence. The flyers and posters were distributed throughout the community through the Sectors for Internal Affairs (SIA) Prevention Units.

Contact person: Hanna Sands, Chief of Monitoring Unit and Gender Focal Point, OSCE Spillover Monitor Mission to Skopje

**OSCE Project
Co-ordinator in Ukraine**

Women's participation at all levels of security structures is an integral component for ensuring their efficiency. In many security initiatives and organizations women's participation is much lower than that of men, especially in the higher-ranking positions. This fact holds true for the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine (SBGSU), where although women make up 20 per cent of personnel, less than 5 per cent of senior positions are held by women.

The OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine recently supported the SBGSU through a project, "Assistance in Reforming and Increasing the Efficiency of the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine." The objective of the project was to strengthen the capacity of the SBGSU to carry out effective border security risks and criminal analyses. Both male and female officers participated in training sessions on Criminal and Risk Analyses as well as sessions targeting senior staff. This opportunity helped to enhance the professional skills of female officers and promote equal opportunities for women and men at the SBGSU.

Contact person: Oleksandr Gladkyy, National Programme Officer, OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine



Highlights

European Union High-level Conference calls for the full and speedy implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325

On 9 September a European Union High-level Conference, "Ensuring Women's Participation in Peace and Security", was held in Brussels to mark the tenth anniversary of UNSCR 1325. The Conference, co-hosted by the EU and Belgium, featured keynote addresses from Baroness Catherine Ashton, High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice President of

the European Commission, Rachel Mayanja, Special Adviser to the UN Secretary-General on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women, and Margot Wallström, Special Representative to the UN Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Armed Conflict, among others.

The overall message of the Conference was that existing efforts to implement the resolution should be commended, but that more progress is needed, urging for greater accountability and monitoring of women's rights in armed conflicts. It also emphasized the need to increase women's participation in international peace and security operations and demanded an end to impunity for violence against women in armed conflicts. HR/VP Ash-

ton described the European Union's approach to implementation of UNSCR 1325 as focusing on gender equality and women's rights as central components to its crisis management and development co-operation.

"UN Security Council Resolution 1325 underlined the importance of women's equal participation and full involvement in all efforts for the maintenance and promotion of peace and security. However, 10 years down the road, this commitment has not yet been fulfilled." –HR/VP Catherine Ashton

For more information on the event, including a detailed agenda, please click [here](#).

Taking Stock of UNSCR 1325: Side event at the Warsaw Review Conference

6 ODIHR's Human Rights, Women and Security (HRWS) Programme was specifically created to assist States in mainstreaming gender in a variety of security sector institutions ranging from the armed forces, law enforcement, border management, private military and security companies, prisons and national security policy-making bodies. This unique, comprehensive approach is reflected in DCAF's Gender and Security Sector Reform Toolkit, a training manual developed in conjunction with the HRWS Programme and the United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW).

Together with the United States delegation to the OSCE, the ODIHR HRWS Programme took the opportunity of this year's OSCE Review Conference to celebrate the 10th anniversary of UNSCR 1325 and analyze the current status of women in the security sector during a highly attended side event.

The side event served as a platform for introducing the Russian translation of the Toolkit and featured Wendy Patten, the newly appointed Special Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office for Gender Issues, as well as Nola Joyce, Chief Administrative Officer of the Philadelphia Police Department in the United States. The panel also included distinguished experts and practitioners from Russia, Serbia and Georgia.



UNSCR 1325 10th Anniversary Panelists at Warsaw R.C.

Sharing their in-depth personal experience, speakers discussed successful gender mainstreaming strategies of national security policies and institutions; strategies which are bringing countries closer, to meeting their international obligations. Ms. Joyce described

her police department's innovative work with Women Against Abuse (WAA), a leading anti-domestic violence agency in Philadelphia. WAA representatives review files of domestic violence and rape cases to ensure that police investigators have addressed all relevant aspects and provided the fullest assistance to victims. Gorana Odanovic from Serbia shared her NGO's efforts to integrate women into the police academy and military academy. Her organization, the Belgrade Centre for Security Policy, also participated in the development of Serbia's NAP on the implementation of UNSCR 1325. Irakli Sesiashvili, the Director of the Justice and Liberty Association, presented his organization's plans to establish a support network, or trade union, for women working in Georgia's security sector.

For more information about the side event, the Toolkit, or ODIHR's HRWS Programme, please contact Andreea Vesa, Human Rights Officer, at andreea.vesa@odihhr.pl.

Female majority in the Swiss Cabinet

With the election of a new minister, voted into the government by Switzerland's parliament, Swiss female politicians have captured most of the seats in the Federal Council, the country's seven-member executive branch, for the first time in Swiss history.

The election of Simonetta Sommaruga, who

will take charge of the Federal Department of Justice and Police, joining Micheline Calmy-Rey (Foreign Affairs), Doris Leuthard (Environment, Transport, Energy and Communication) and Evelyn Widmer-Schlumpf (Finance) in the Federal Council, is a historic step in a country where women did not get the right to vote or run in national elections until 1971. Currently, both houses of the Swiss parliament are presided over by women. Within the Federal Council, Doris Leuthard holds the country's rotating presidency until the end of 2010, the

vice-presidency being currently in the hands of Micheline Calmy-Rey. Moreover, the Federal Chancellor (the Federal Council's secretary) is also held by another female politician, Corina Casanova.

The four-three majority makes Switzerland the fifth country in the world to have more women than men in its Cabinet after Cape Verde, Finland, Norway and Spain.



Highlights

New Publication and Training Seminar focus on Gender and Migration

Migration has become one of the most prominent topics on the political agenda of governments throughout the OSCE region. If well-governed and reflective of labour market realities, it can bring significant socio-economic benefits to migrants as well as to their host and home societies. Despite the fact that about half of all migrants are women, and that an increasing number of them are labour migrants, little attention has been paid to the particular challenges they face in the migration process and the labour market.

In order to promote gender sensitive labour migration policies and following the MC

Decision on Migration Management (MC DEC/5/09) on continuing work on gender aspects of migration in the OSCE, the OCEEA and the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) produced the *OSCE Gender and Labour Migration Trainer's Manual* this year.

In addition, a *Regional Training Seminar on Gender and Labour Migration*¹ took place on 14-15 September in Astana and proved to be very successful in highlighting the socio-economic contributions made by female labour migrants in the CIS region, the particular challenges and discriminations they face throughout the migration process, and the need for improved gender analysis and

¹ This event was organized by the OCEEA, together with the OSCE Centre in Astana, the Kazakh authorities, the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the International Labour Organization (ILO).

mainstreaming of gender aspects into labour migration policies. The OCEEA is planning to organize a similar training event in the first half of 2011 for Central/Southern Europe. As these initiatives illustrate, it is clear that gender sensitive labour migration policies can make a significant difference to all countries of origin and destination, as well as to female migrants themselves, and in this regard the OSCE continues to have an important role to play.



For more information on this project, please contact Senior Economic Officer Nina Lindroos-Kopolo at the Office of the Coordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities.

Websites for Democratization - A Side Event at the Warsaw Review Conference

On the margins of the Review Conference in Warsaw, ODIHR and UNDP organized a joint Side Event on Websites for Democratization, held on 1 October 2010.

The event presented iKNOWpolitics, the international knowledge network of women in politics (for more information on this web-

side, please see the June issue of *The Gender Monitor*), Agora, a portal for parliamentary development, and Legislationline, an online legislative database providing direct access to international norms and standards relating to specific human dimension issues. The websites were introduced respectively by Olivier Pierre-Louveaux of UNDP, and Ruben-Erik Diaz-Plaja and Agata Rzewuska of ODIHR.

The activities of ODIHR in developing the Russian version of the Agora Website were also presented, which will possibly be piloted

in the Russian-speaking participating States. Synergies between ODIHR and iKNOWpolitics will also be further explored, in order to increase women's access to web-based resources and to ultimately strengthen women's participation in political and public life in the OSCE region.

For more information on this event, please contact Aja Van Heel, Gender Officer, Democratization Department, Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights at aja.vanheel@odihr.pl.

FSC session on UNSCR 1325: Presentation by Baroness Nuala O'Loan



Baroness Nuala O'Loan (L) and Jamila Seftaoui

In order to help mainstream a gender perspective in the activities of the OSCE Forum for Security Co-operation (FSC), the Gender Section works closely with FSC Chairmanships to organize regular round tables on "gender and security."

External experts and high-level personalities with in-depth field experience are regularly invited to address the FSC to discuss opportunities and benefits of incorporating gender perspectives in OSCE policies and operations.

On 29 September, the Irish Chairmanship of the Forum for Security Co-operation invited Baroness Nuala O'Loan to make a special presentation on UNSCR 1325. Baroness O'Loan is the Special Envoy of Ireland for Women, Peace and Security. During the session Jamila Seftaoui, the OSCE Senior Gender Adviser also addressed the Forum on the importance of including women in security initiatives.

In her presentation, Baroness O'Loan shared lessons learned from a cross-learning initiative designed by Ireland in preparation of its NAP. The initiative was developed for the purpose of promoting understanding and learning directly from those affected by conflict on how best to promote and protect women's leadership and interests in conflict resolution and peacebuilding. Ireland worked in close co-operation with Northern Ireland, Liberia and Timor-Leste throughout this initiative. Baroness O'Loan shared numerous recommendations with OSCE representatives at the FSC regarding the development of NAPs for the implementation of UNSCR 1325 and on enhancing local initiatives.



News in Brief

Bitesize updates on recent gender news

UN Women Executive Director Michelle Bachelet Commends Security Council for Renewed Progress on Women, Peace and Security

UN Women

Addressing a meeting of the UN Security Council marking the 10th anniversary of UNSCR 1325, Under-Secretary-General Michelle Bachelet of the newly created UN Women commended the Security Council for its readiness to accelerate progress on the resolution. During the meeting, the Council reviewed a report on UNSCR 1325 from the Secretary-General proposing a comprehensive set of indicators to track implementation, along with recommendations on how the Security Council could better respond to information on women in conflict.

European Commission Adopts New Strategy on Gender Equality

European Commission

The European Commission adopted a five-year strategy for promoting equality between women and men in Europe. It translates the principles set out in the European Commission's Women's Charter into specific measures, ranging from getting more women into executive positions within companies to combating gender-based violence. The gender equality strategy spells out a series of actions based around five priorities: the economy and labor market; equal pay; equality in senior positions; tackling gender violence; and promoting equality beyond the EU. Full article available here.

Wendy Patten named Special Representative of OSCE Chairperson-in-Office for Gender Issues

Earlier this year, Wendy Patten was named the CiO Special Representative for Gender Issues in order to further promote women's rights and gender equality in the OSCE region. The appointment of a Special Representative for Gender Issues is part of the Kazakh initiative defining the protection of women's rights and gender equality as a priority. Wendy Patten is a senior policy analyst at the Open Society Institute in Washington D.C.

Law on prevention of domestic violence adopted in Azerbaijan

On 22 June 2010, Azerbaijan's Parliament adopted a Law on the Prevention of Domestic Violence. On 1 October 2010, the Decree of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan on the implementation of the Law was signed and the Cabinet of Ministers were tasked by the President to define and develop the duties of all actors who will be involved in the Law's implementation. On a visit to Baku in mid-October, the OSCE Senior Adviser on Gender Issues, Jamila Seftaoui, stressed the importance of involving women's organizations and to increase the number of women police officers tasked with law enforcement in order to ensure an effective prevention of violence against women and their protection.

Recommendations

Continue learning about gender with this selection of informative resources.

Reading...

Good and Bad Examples: Lessons learned for effective implementation of UNSCR 1325

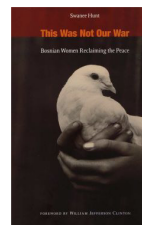
Genderforce

This publication presents concrete examples of how personnel in civilian or military operations can work to promote the rights and involvement of women within the framework of their own mandates. The document is a compilation of interviews from people who have taken part in international assignments with the purpose of sharing their experiences so that their stories can provide support and inspiration for how the contents of UNSCR 1325 can be realized in practice. The document can be accessed here.

The World's Women 2010

United Nations

This fifth issue of *The World's Women* was produced to coincide with the first-ever World's Statistics Day on 20 October. The issue highlights the differences in the status of women and men in eight areas – population and families, health, education, work, power and decision-making, violence against women, environment and poverty. Analyses are based mainly on statistics from international and national sources. *The World's Women 2010* shows that progress towards gender equality has been made in some areas, such as school enrolment, health and economic participation. At the same time the report shows that much more needs to be done to close the gender gap in critical areas such as power and decision-making and violence against women. Click here to access the full report.



This Was Not Our War

By Swanee Hunt

Publisher: Duke University Press
Books; First Edition edition (January 1, 2004)

This Was Not our War, by former U.S. Ambassador to Austria Swanee Hunt, is a compilation of first-person accounts from twenty-six Bosnian women describing daily life in the Balkans during the 1990s. The women, who span a diversity of religions, ethnicities and careers, all come to the same conclusion: they blame politics for the atrocities of the war, explaining that sectarian chauvinism led to ethnic fundamentalism in a country which had previously been multicultural. They note that the imposition of traditional roles on women led to their enforced withdrawal from decision-making, and underscore that women might have been able to influence the direction of the country toward more cultural understanding and better communication if they had been allowed to play more active political, professional, and social roles beyond ethnic and religious boundaries.

UN 1325 in Europe: 21 case studies of implementation

European Peacebuilding Liaison Office

Launched in late July 2010, this publication documents civil society experiences of working on women, peace and security policy and practice in Europe, particularly on NAPs for the implementation of UNSCR 1325 and related commitments. Prepared by representatives from across Europe, the 21 studies cover a wide variety of countries and regions in Europe, including countries with and without action plans; new, old and non-EU Member States; and several conflict-affected areas. Click here for the publication.

Resources ...

- [Global Gender Gap Report](#)
Annual report which aims to serve as a tool for benchmarking and tracking gender inequalities around the world.
- [The Gender Section Fact Sheet](#)
An overview of the OSCE's efforts towards the achievement of gender equality.
- [Gender Section Toolbox](#)
Best practices and recommendations to strengthen a gender perspective in the security sector. Updated regularly.



Recommendations

Continued...

Resources ...

UNSCR 1325 on Women, Peace and Security: Towards an Effective and Inclusive Irish National Action Plan

Ireland 1325

Produced by Ireland 1325, a group of leading women's human rights, development and hu-

manitarian organizations, this guide was published to contribute to the development of an Irish NAP on the implementation of UNSCR 1325. It draws extensively on recommendations from previous research undertaken by the Joint Consortium on Gender Based Violence and, in addition to providing background information on UNSCR 1325 and Ireland's efforts to implement the resolution. The main purpose of the Guide is to set out the eight

essential steps to achieving an effective and inclusive NAP. This is a particularly useful resource for those countries in the process of developing or reviewing their own NAP. The full Guide can be accessed here.

Gender Matters in the OSCE

OSCE Gender Section

While a few tools on gender issues have been developed by various OSCE actors, the CD toolkit, "Gender matters in the OSCE" is the first to provide a comprehensive overview of the meaning and significance of the concept of gender and the method of gender

mainstreaming in OSCE activities. The toolkit contains definitions, gender mainstreaming strategies and examples of successful implementation, international practice to promote gender equality and a comprehensive list of gender-based resources including websites, fact sheets and international documents. The toolkit targets OSCE staff and practitioners in participating States. Click here to access the toolkit.



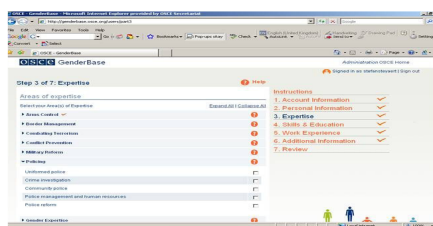
GenderBase

OSCE
genderbase.osce.org

Developed by the Gender Section, in co-operation with SPMU, ATU, DHR and PPIS and funded by Norway, GenderBase is a roster of female experts in the fields of military and police. In line with recommendations outlined in both UNSCR 1325 and the Secretary Gen-

eral's Annual Evaluation Report on the Implementation of 2004 OSCE Action Plan for the Promotion of Gender Equality, the roster was developed to facilitate the compilation of profiles of qualified women in the fields within the first dimension, where there is a marked gender imbalance. Female experts in the areas of arms control, border management, combating terrorism, conflict prevention, military reform and police are encouraged to register. For

more information and to register, click here.



Websites

The Institute for Inclusive Security

The Institute for Inclusive Security is the international programme of the Hunt Alternatives Fund, a foundation for social change co-founded by Ambassador Swanee Hunt. The Institute researches and documents women's contributions to

peace-building, including interviews with policymakers, civil society leaders, and donors to identify best practices for including women and reveal untold stories of women leading peace efforts. The Institute also offers customized trainings and consultations to help civil society and governments move past obstacles

to peace. Included on the website is a link to the Women Waging Peace Network, a network of more than 1,000 women peacemakers from conflict areas around the world, ranging from Sudan to Sri Lanka, Colombia to Bosnia, the Middle East to Sierra Leone. To access the website, click here.

ISIS Europe

ISIS Europe is an independent research and advisory organization that works to increase transparency, stimulate parliamentary engagement and broaden participation in EU and NATO policy-making. Through its publications and events, ISIS Europe facilitates parliamentary and

inter-institutional dialogue and provides policy input to strengthen common approaches to conflict prevention, crisis management, peace building, arms control and disarmament. The website also features an overview of gender and security, including a variety of resources on UNSCR 1325 and the ISIS

Europe 1325 Gender and Security Watchlist, providing subscribers with updates on EU advances on gender and security. To access the website, click here.



Upcoming events and trainings

8 November

Strasbourg. 7th Meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee on Preventing and Combating Violence Against Women and Domestic Violence (CAHVIO.) The CAHVIO was established in early 2009 in order to prepare the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence Against Women and Domestic Violence. The OSCE, represented at the meeting by Jamila Sefsaoui, Senior Adviser on Gender Issues, supports this process in its capacity as an observer.

25 November

Cluj-Napoca, Romania. Gender and Peace Building: Integrating Planning and Action in the Field. The International Peace and Development Training Centre is launching its 2010 Autumn Peace Academy with a range of programmes addressing the core skills, knowledge and experience of practitioners working in the field of peace building, conflict transformation, development work, humanitarian aid, gender, governance and other related fields. Click here to read more.

10 November

Bern. Conference: 10 Years 1325 – Opportunities and Limits. The 10-year anniversary provides an opportunity to cast a critical glance at the progress made and future challenges associated with the implementation of UNSCR 1325. The event will provide the framework for launching a new edition of the NAP on the implementation of UNSCR 1325, which has defined the parameters for applying the resolution to Swiss civil and military peace policy and development. For online registration, click here.

29 November

Härnösand, Sweden. Course: Resolution 1325 in the field. The purpose of the course is to contribute to the knowledge base of and preparation for the application of UNSC resolution 1325 for staff working with gender and conflict. In addition to putting the resolution into its legal and historical framework, the course will offer tools to assist in overcoming the challenges encountered on gender-related issues in the field.

10 December

Chisinau. Roundtable: 16 Days Campaign Against Gender-based Violence. A one-day roundtable with international and national experts, governmental representatives and NGOs to raise awareness about gender-based violence and the commitments of the Republic of Moldova under the OSCE MC Decision and UN resolutions on Women, Peace and Security. The roundtable will also address the role of men in preventing and combating violence against women, recent national legal development and the UN resolutions on Women, Peace and Security and advocate for a NAP. For more information, contact Eugenia Benigni, Anti-trafficking and Gender Officer, OSCE Mission to Moldova.



71 %



29 %

Each issue of the Gender Monitor provides current data on women's share of higher management positions¹ within the OSCE executive structures. Women currently occupy 29 per cent² of these positions, as compared to 30 per cent in May 2010 and 28 per cent in March 2010.

¹ S3+, P5+, Heads and Deputy Heads in Field Operations, Institutions and the Secretariat.

² Data as of October 2010

Send us your comments

We thank you in advance for your feedback and hope to receive your contributions regularly.

For subscriptions and other information on the e-newsletter, contact equality@osce.org

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