

# National Action Plans of the Women, Peace and Security Agenda

moderated by  
Victoria SCHEYER

## OPENING REMARK

**AMARSANAA DARISUREN**

OSCE Office of the Secretary General,  
Gender Issues Programme

WHAT CAN WE LEARN FROM CIVIL SOCIETY?  
HOW USEFUL AND PARTICIPATIVE ARE NAPS REALLY?

**OSCE**

57 states

16 field operations

**SUPPORT**  
the implementation of  
**Resolution**

Import **ROLE** in implementation  
of the global **Agenda**

Women working in security  
SECTOR finding **COMMON  
LANGUAGE** and areas of work  
with **CIVIL SOCIETY** sector



**AREAS of focus:**

- 1 Supporting gender equality
- 2 preventing extremism and radicalism
- 3 preventing violence against women

Political & ECONOMICAL empowering of WOMEN

**STUDY**

OSCE Gender Section  
+  
London School of Economics  
+  
Women in Peace and Security

analysis of  
implementation  
of  
National Action  
Plans  
in OSCE  
states

**BRIDGING the GAPS**

**OUR  
COMMITMENT**  
is practical  
**support**

**PROGRESS** in  
implementation  
NAPs in the region

**68%** of all participated  
STATES  
have their **NAP**

**2** of current **NAPs**  
**3** identified **women's  
participation**  
in building peace & security  
as a **PRIORITY**

**SECURITY INSTITUTIONS**  
strong **OWNERSHIP** of  
the **NAPs**

Implementing activities  
from **NAPs** **benefitted**  
to the work in this field

**CONCRETE  
STEPS:**

- 1 INCREASE women's **PARTICIPATION**
- 2 Appointing **GENDER ADVISORS** in institutions
- 3 Improving **HR** policies (paternity/maternity leave)
- 4 Improve gender trainings for actors of peace operations

**TOOLKIT**  
for effective women's  
**PARTICIPATION** in  
peace building **PROCESS**

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

- more **direct** participation of women as mediators
- link official and unofficial mediation processes
- adopting gender perspective in analysis and processes

**SUPPORTING  
connections &  
dialogue**

between grassroots  
initiatives and official  
mediation process

**CHALLENGES**

- lack of **ACCESS** to **DECISION** making
- lack of resources available to carry activities



### DR. EDLIRA SHIMA

Consultant in Gender, Peace, Security, Albania

**CIVIL Society**

critical ROLE  
realizing changes  
commitment

**CREATING ENVIRONMENT**

to make decisions  
connected with  
gender issues in  
almost all areas

**WPS Agenda**  
still quite new  
in our COUNTRY

It was difficult  
to talk about it  
with **government**

OUR MOST IMPORTANT  
**CONTRIBUTION** is  
development of the 1st  
**NAP**  
which was approved by the  
GOVERNMENT

**EFFORTS** →  
to increase official  
GOVERNMENT  
Capacities and  
COMMITMENT

**STRENGTHEN**  
&  
actively engage  
women  
actors

Now we can consider  
**expertise** and  
PROVIDE  
technical advise to  
SUPPORT the  
government

### ANNIKA SCHABBAUER

Operation 1325, Sweden

**WE**

inform about Resolution  
advocate & lobby decision making  
do capacity building

**LONG** history  
of the movement

We have the **3<sup>rd</sup> NAP**

**CSO** are part and included  
in the NAP process more & more

Now we are PART of the  
**REFERENCE GROUP**

**FULL RESPONSIBILITY**  
is on authorities → Ministry  
of Foreign Affairs

**4 CSOs** to represent  
the interest of  
CIVIL SOCIETY

monitoring  
advising  
giving expertise

INCLUDING WOMEN at  
all LEVELS with  
meaningful  
PARTICIPATION

### PEMBE MENTESH

Feminist Activist, Cyprus

**FROZEN**  
conflict  
since 1963

One of the **LONGEST**  
PEACE OPERATIONS  
running

**FORMAL PEACE**  
PROCESS

WE DON'T HAVE  
**women**  
at the TRACK ONE  
LEVEL

It is **WORD** to  
deal in such **FRAMES**

ESTABLISHMENT of  
**gender**  
advising team

↑  
**LACK** of WOMEN  
involvement

On Cyprus it has  
started with women's  
grassroot initiatives

SERIES of  
workshops &  
**FORUMS**  
by UN →

START of  
CREATION of the  
**NAP** in  
2017

**HOW** • **CIVIL SOCIETY** •  
has impacted the **NAP** processes  
in your COUNTRY ?

Still not  
finalized

**WHITE BOOK** of BEST PRACTICES  
of integration 1325 Agenda

### LEANDRA BIAS

swisspeace, Switzerland

FOR THE **1<sup>st</sup>**  
time  
sort of fully **EQUAL**  
IMPLEMENTING  
**PARTNERS**  
in two areas

**PREVENTION**  
of violence

INCREASING the  
**INCLUSION** of  
women

We have NOW our  
**4<sup>th</sup> NAP**  
(since 2018)

through the  
**SHADOW**  
report →  
WE BECAME INTEGRATED

We PUSHED the  
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT  
of feminist peacebuilders  
**CONTRIBUTION**

### LUISA DEL TURCO

Civilian Defence Research Centre, Italy

**Peace**  
BUILDING as a  
priority

ALSO **CONFLICT**  
**PREVENTION**  
&  
**RESOLUTION**

WE HAVE NOW  
the **3<sup>rd</sup> NAP**  
and about to start  
DRAFTING the NEW  
one

OUR IMPACT to  
the first two wasn't  
relevant ← **LACK**  
of **INTEREST**

OUR **advocacy**  
action  
was **STRONG**

a **BIG**  
**CHANGE**  
from the institutional  
POINT of VIEW for the  
LAST 3-4 YEARS

We **ACHIEVE** some  
really good points regarding  
**STRUCTURE** and **CONTENT**  
of the 3rd **NAP**

**7 PILLARS** →  
one is totally  
DEVOTED to  
**CIVIL SOCIETY**

### OKSANA POTAPOVA

peace and women's rights activist, Ukraine

CERTAIN GROUPS  
of CSO took  
**OWNERSHIP** over  
**AGENDA**

A lot of actors don't know about  
Agenda and don't call their work  
this way

**3 GROUPS**

Who collaborate with  
**international organizations**

- human rights defenders
- dialogue & mediation specialists
- gender equality movement

**LACK** of

**CROSS -**  
**POLLINATION**  
between these groups

**2015** - the only  
country  
that adopted **NAP** during  
actual conflict

**RAISING AWARENESS**  
about Agenda overall

Multiple **PERSPECTIVE**  
is a strong point of CS

**REPRESENTING** needs  
of **WOMEN** on-the-ground



**DR. EDLIRA SHIMA**  
Consultant in Gender, Peace, Security, Albania

INTERNATIONAL organizations & CSOs made the **BIGGEST** contribution of **NCP**

there is no concrete **BUDGET** as a support

**STATE**  
Institutions are committed to **NAP**

not just included in **DEVELOPMENT**

regularly **REPORT** on their efforts

it's crucial to have a budget for **activities**

**COOPERATION** with CSOs & international organizations & government authorities

**PEMBE MENTESH**  
Feminist Activist, Cyprus

It's taking **LONG** to develop a **NAP**

**LANGUAGE** of NAP isn't **PEACEBUILDING** friendly

**NEEDS** to be more **INCLUSIVE**

**LACK** of **WOMEN** in peace building **PROCESS**

needs to have **measurable INDICATORS** of peace building **PROCESS**

**GENDER** quotas in **PARLIAMENT**



**LUISA DEL TURCO**  
Civilian Defence Research Centre, Italy

peacekeeping



needs to be main **EFFORT**

**WOMEN** **MEDIATORS** network

**TO PREVENT** **CONFLICTS**

**new way**

**PRIORITISE** conflict prevention and participation of women

**INVOLVING** **YOUTH** to peace building **PROCESS**

new nap needs to include learned lessons

**ANNIKA SCHABBAUER**  
Operation 1325, Sweden

**PERSPECTIVE**

of non-conflict countries

**DANGER** to **REPEAT** the colonialist view of the world, enforce dependency → **careful**

**ACCOUNTABILITY** mechanisms → never forget **CEDAW**

better **MONITORING & REPORTING** mechanism

**INTEGRATE** a **CLIMATE CHANGE** **AGENDA**

**NATIONAL** implementation:

**PREVENTION** **WORK**

**violent extremism**

**NEED** for **CLEAR** **PEACE** building work

**real security** **RISK**

**LEANDRA BIAS**  
swisspeace, Switzerland

**BIGGEST** struggles & **FRUSTRATIONS** of your **WORK** with the **NAP**

as a platform we offer the experience for policy recommendations

**IMPLEMENTATION** of the **NAP** is a joint **LEARNING** **PROCESS**

**INCREASE** the **Visibility** of **RESOLUTION** to the Parliament

**RAISE** the visibility for the **PUBLIC** not only **REPORT**, but also through **MEDIA** etc

**OKSANA POTAPOVA**  
peace and women's rights activist, Ukraine

**BECAUSE** we are a country at **war**

**WE HAVE** **HEAVILY** militarised **WPS** 1325 risks to turn into "making war more safe for women"

**HOW TRANSFORMATIVE** is this **AGENDA**???

**EXPANDING** list of **PARTNERS** who are **ACTORS** & who have ownership of the **WPS** **AGENDA**

**MORE** **SECURITY** & conflict prevention

**NOT TO** **BUREAUCRATISE** the **RESOLUTION** → focus on maximum **INCLUSION** & intersectionality

to **HEAR** the voices of **grassroots**



# Closing Remarks

by Aiko Holvikivi

Scholarship is increasingly recognizing the importance of localized activity  
NAPs shape the agenda in important ways:

EMPHASIZE SOME AREAS OVER OTHERS

INTRODUCE NEW AREAS OF CONCERN

State level interventions can result in narrowing down the WPS agenda

EXAMPLE: FOCUSING ONLY ON SEXUAL VIOLENCE UNDER PROTECTION PILLAR  
INTERPRETING PARTICIPATION ONLY AS WOMEN'S ROLE IN PEACEKEEPING  
THIS IS PARTICULARLY ALARMING AND IS A VERY PARTIAL READING OF THE AGENDA  
IT CONTINUES TO PRIVILEGE MILITARIZED UNDERSTANDINGS OF SECURITY  
INSTEAD OF ADDRESSING THE ROOT CAUSES OF VIOLENCE AND CONFLICT

On the other hand, the role of women's organisations can help us expand our understanding of what the agenda can do for us

WE NEED TO PAY ATTENTION TO MARGINALIZED WOMEN AND INTERSECTIONAL SENSIBILITIES  
PROBLEMATIZE THE EXTERNAL DIRECTION OF THE WPS AGENDA AS SUCH THAT ONLY FOCUSES ON FOREIGN POLICY OR ONLY RELATES TO COUNTRIES THAT ARE IN CONFLICT OR JUST CAME OUT OF CONFLICT  
OTHER NAPs INCLUDE ISSUES OF CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENTAL DESTRUCTION  
THE PLIGHT OF REFUGEE WOMEN IN EUROPE  
QUESTIONS OF SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

THE NEED TO BE REFLECTIVE ON WHO WE THINK REPRESENTS CIVIL SOCIETY IN RELATION TO NAPs

WHAT IT MEANS TO HAVE A SPECIFICALLY FEMINIST ENGAGEMENT?

IMPORTANCE OF BUILDING AND MAINTAINING NETWORKS – FOR SOLIDARITY, SUPPORT, AND FOR HOLDING EACH OTHER TO ACCOUNT

NEVER BE THE MOST FEMINIST PERSON YOU KNOW! (C. ENLOE)

THE RESOLUTION 1325 BUILT ON OVER 100 YEARS OF WOMEN'S PEACE ACTIVISM

THE CIVIL SOCIETY CONTINUES TO SHAPE THE AGENDA TODAY

THANK YOU FOR URGING US TO THINK EXPANSIVELY ABOUT THE AGENDA  
INVITING THAT IT SHOULD SPEAK TO WOMEN'S LIVED SECURITY CONCERNS

We need to think about barriers to access especially for grassroots groups, such as:

Lack of contacts, lack of experience in engaging with the government, and a sense that WPS is not within the realm of what they are doing

A lot of work to be done around advocacy and awareness raising among women's groups about how to engage

