

WPS Milestones

United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR)

1325 on Women, Peace and Security

dated 31 Oct 2000, and related resolutions:

1820 (2008); 1888 (2009); 1889 (2009); 1960 (2010); 65/283 (2011); 2106 (2013); 2122 (2013); 2242 (2015); 2272 (2016); 2331 (2016); 2467 (2019), 2493 (2019), and 2538 (2020)

National Action Plans on Women,

Peace and Security in the Asia-Pacific region:

Afghanistan (2015), Australia (2012), Bangladesh (2019), Canada (2010), Chile (2009), Indonesia (2014), Japan (2015), Nepal (2011), New Zealand (2015), Philippines (2010, 2017), Republic of Korea (2014), Solomon Islands (2017), Timor Leste (2016), U.S.A. (2011, 2016)

United States Women, Peace and Security Act of 2017

United States Strategy on Women,

Peace and Security (2019)

United States Department of Defense Strategic Framework and Implementation Plan (2020)

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Front cover: Top right: DKI APCSS Fellow listening to a presentation during the Advanced Security Cooperation course (ASC 17-2) Center: Group of female Fellows attending the Comprehensive Security Responses to Terrorism course (CSRT 17-1) Bottom left: DKI APCSS Fellow, giving the commencement speech in the Comprehensive Crisis Management course (CCM 17-1)



Educate Connect Empower



Women, & Peace & Security

Advancing Security through Gender Inclusion



DKI APCSS and Women, Peace and Security

Our Women, Peace and Security (WPS) Program operationalizes the U.S. Department of Defense's National Defense Strategy and WPS Strategic Framework and Implementation Plan to assist partner nations in the advancement of security governance by integrating women leaders and women's perspectives into security sectors, security-related processes, and decision-making. To that end, in our courses we seek a 33% women's participation rate, present gendered security lectures, and encourage fellows to pursue WPS-related Fellows Projects; our workshops accentuate inclusion for more effective security sector governance and development of regional norms and networks. WPS is a global initiative to promote gender inclusive strategies in response to evolving national and transnational threats. The gendered innovations in policy formulation reflect the shift in the traditional understanding of



state security in view of its relationship with community security. WPS is a peace and security approach that advances the critical role women play in defining, understanding and addressing complex security challenges alongside men, as equal stakeholders. In acknowledging the importance of women's participation in advancing these objectives, the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) unanimously adopted its landmark resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security in October 2000. Since then, thirteen supporting resolutions have been adopted to promote



the role of women in: conflict prevention and resolution, peace negotiations, peacekeeping and peacebuilding. Notably, the UN resolutions also highlight the important role men play in enabling the inclusive agenda across the tiers of government, civil society and grassroots communities.

National Action Plans on Women, Peace and Security: Around the World and in the US

DKI APCSS prioritizes the US Government's National Action Plan on WPS as an imperative component of inclusion in the security sector. We are at the forefront of US Department of Defense efforts to further its objectives. As signatories of UNSCR 1325, all 193 member states of the United Nations are legally obligated to advance its objectives. Over 80 states have National Action Plans aligned with this effort and more are being crafted. The United States unveiled its first National Action Plan in 2011 with the enduring and foundational principle that states and societies are more peaceful and prosperous when women are empowered to realize their full potential through full and equal rights and opportunities. In October 2017, the passage of the Women, Peace and Security Act demonstrated the US government's commitment to gender inclusion as a pathway to global peace and stability through a legislative framework.

Top right: A DKI APCSS alumna from the Advanced Security Cooperation course (ASC 14-2) at the UN Headquarters in Vienna, Austria. Top left: DKI APCSS alumna from Comprehensive Security Responses to Terrorism course (CSRT 17-1) being interviewed by the media in the Philippines.

Our Women, Peace and Security efforts include:

1. Increasing the percentage of female course participants

Since 2012, DKI APCSS has taken robust steps to achieve at least 25% enrollment of women in its courses and workshops. The results show a notable rise in our enrollment trends by gender (refer to graph) inspiring us to increase female participation to 33% or one-third. The increased attention to and participation of women have created greater awareness in course attendees of the value of inclusion in security sector institutions. Participants leave our engagements with an increased appreciation of the security imperatives for and contributions of women, creating more opportunities, assisting in their career progression, and enhancing national and international security. Senior male leaders around the Asia-Pacific region in military, justice, law enforcement and other security professions have actively increased female recruitment and are placing women in a broader variety of positions.

2. Integrating WPS in the curriculum

Course offerings include a special emphasis on Women, Peace and Security as a core theme in plenary settings and elective offerings. WPS is integrated in teaching a wide range of topics such as humanitarian assistance and disaster response, terrorism and transnational crime, governance, and global climate change.

3. Facilitating the development of Fellow's Projects specific to WPS

A Fellow's Project is a key component of our in-resident courses. Our approach toward project-based learning asks fellows to develop a plan to address a security challenge of interest. Presented here are recent WPS-related Fellow's Projects.

Ms. Saira Ali Ahmed (ASC 17-1), Pakistan. Women's Rights in Sindh: Mighty Obstacles and Slow Progress. Ms. Ahmed brought awareness to the issue of Honor Killings in Pakistan. She developed a Women's Protection Cell and a District Women's Support Group, comprised of members of government, lawyers, police officers, and others to assist gender-based violence survivors with legal help to seek justice. Many forums were organized to bring awareness and seek assistance in addressing issues of human rights and sexual harassment. Ahmed was awarded the Women of Excellency Award from Pakistan's National Assembly in December 2017 and the DKI APCSS 2017 Alumnus of the Year Award. She addressed the Fellows of ASC 18-1 on her accomplishments.

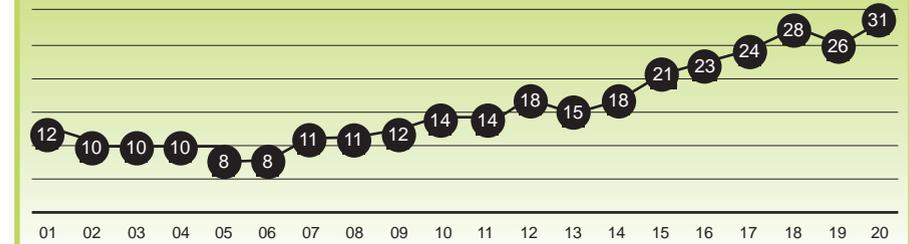
Ms. Aye May (ASC 14-3), Myanmar. Northern Shan State Women Organization Network (NSSWON). In 2018, the NSSWON successfully conducted a historic workshop to improve civil-military relations in Myanmar. This was the first time a local ethnic minority NGO was permitted to discuss Myanmar's democratic transition process. Funded by USAID, the event was officially authorized and registered with the assistance of the Myanmar DKI APCSS alumni network. Four DKI APCSS alumni also served as speakers and facilitators. Over 100 women from 11 different ethnic

minority groups attended the event. The participants developed realistic action plans and specific activities they could implement to develop common understanding and build trust between their ethnic communities and the local military and militia units operating in their areas.

Ms. Hawwa Abdul Raheem (ASC 17-2), Maldives. Role of Women in Countering Violent extremism. Violent extremism has emerged as a pressing issue in the security environment in the Maldives in recent years, increasingly undermining societal harmony through the spread of divisive religious ideologies. A new approach by extremist actors has targeted women as facilitators, recruiters, and moral supporters of men fighting on the front lines. Recognizing the significance of this threat, Expert Lecturer at the College of Defense and Security Studies, Ms. Hawwa Abdul Raheem, developed a curriculum on the role of women in countering extremism as part of her Fellows Project. With the assistance of the Maldives National Counter-Terrorism Center (NCTC), she has conducted several successful awareness programs in selected atolls and the capital Male.

Colonel Michel Abdo (CCM 12-1), Lebanon. Integration of Female Border Security Guards. The border between Syria and Lebanon has been notoriously porous and has seen a steady flow of Syrians escaping the war. These included refugees – children, women and men – as well as armed actors, in some cases disguised as women. Effective governance mechanisms in the border areas have been key to determining Lebanon's stability. While deployed at the border, Colonel Michel Abdo,

Average % of women attending DKI APCSS courses each Fiscal Year (FY)



played a critical role in protecting communities escaping the violence in Syria while also keeping a check on the flow of transnational armed groups. His APCSS Fellows Project was a pioneering effort to recruit female border guards to advance these efforts.

4. Conducting workshops and dialogues on WPS

DKI APCSS organizes multilateral workshops in the Asia-Pacific region to highlight the value of inclusion for more effective security sector governance, and the development of regional norms and networks.

5. Integrating WPS into our research

Faculty and alumni research on the role of gender in a wide range of areas including counterterrorism, humanitarian assistance and disaster response, national security policy formulation, and state-building in post-conflict environments.



DKI APCSS Fellows being welcomed on the first day of the Advanced Security Cooperation course (ASC 17-2)



DKI APCSS Fellows attending a plenary lecture during the Advanced Security Cooperation course (ASC 17-1)



DKI APCSS Fellows participating in a negotiation exercise in the Advanced Security Cooperation course (ASC 16-2)



DKI APCSS Fellows posing for a group photo during the Advanced Security Cooperation course (ASC 16-2)