



IF YOU WANT IMPROVED OPERATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS

YOU HAVE TOOLS



UNSC Resolution 1325

"Urges Member States to ensure increased representation of women at all decision-making levels."



Women, Peace, and Security Act of 2017

"Improve the participation of women... and include goals and evaluation plans to ensure strategy effectiveness. Such a strategy shall include a specific implementation plan from each relevant federal agency."



National Action Plans

"Identifying and addressing, in all our policies and programs, gender differences and inequalities, as well as the roles of women and men."

AND FACTS

Resistance campaigns

24%

MORE LIKELY TO FAIL
without women's front-line participation ¹



82%

of women surveyed in a 2018 global poll said that security discussions in their country do not represent them ²

Since 1945, resistance campaigns with moderate to extensive women's participation were

25%

LESS LIKELY

to use armed struggle ³



Peace agreements are

35%

MORE LIKELY TO LAST
at least 15 years when women participate ⁴

TO IMPROVE SECURITY OUTCOMES



ALWAYS INCLUDE WOMEN

Inviting women to join panels is not enough. They must be included in meetings and asked about in projects. Read and share their work.



ASK CIVIL SOCIETY GROUPS FOR INPUT

Women around the world have found their voice in civil society. Including them in every government process will improve policy outcomes and include the whole community.



ALWAYS DO GENDER PARITY ANALYSIS

Socially constructed roles of men and women must be understood in any project or program design and analysis as must roles related to class, age or ethnicity. Gender parity analysis has helped address everything from the pay gap to emergency food assistance.



IMPLEMENT TRAINING

Outcomes change when the organizations that create them take the lead. Training on gender analysis is not just a good idea, it will lead to better results.



DEDICATE FUNDING FOR WPS

Budgets set direction. Dedicate line-item funding and standards for Women, Peace & Security in legislation, program planning, and project implementation.



LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Creating a culture of inclusion starts with you. Ask women to speak up. Ask your supervisors to implement training. Add gender analysis to a project. See what happens and then tell your story.

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THE ACT

The Women, Peace, and Security Act of 2017 is a major milestone for US law. It recognizes that women are on the frontlines of international security challenges as powerful agents of change to create stability and peace. The law mandates women's meaningful participation in international peace and security.

CRITICAL LINK BETWEEN WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION AND PEACE RECOGNIZED

"(1) the United States should be a global leader in promoting the participation of women in conflict prevention, management, and resolution and post-conflict relief and recovery efforts;

(2) the political participation and leadership of women in fragile environments, particularly during democratic transitions, is critical to sustaining democratic institutions; and

(3) the participation of women in conflict prevention and conflict resolution helps promote more inclusive and democratic societies and is critical to country and regional stability." ⁵

STRATEGY TO GROW WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION REQUIRED

"(1) provide technical assistance and training to female negotiators, peacebuilders, and stakeholders (non-governmental and private sector entities engaged in or affected by conflict prevention and stabilization, peacebuilding, security or related efforts);

(2) address security-related barriers to women's participation;

(3) encourage increased women's participation in U.S.-funded programs that provide foreign nationals with law enforcement, rule of law, or military education training;

(4) support appropriate local organizations, especially women's peacebuilding organizations;

and (5) expand gender analysis to improve program design."

WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY FUNDING

Since the 2014 Fiscal Year budget, Congress has included language in the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations bill on WPS – allowing funds dedicated to other programs be made available for WPS:

Sec. 7059. (d) Women, Peace, And Security.—Funds appropriated by this Act under the headings "Development Assistance", "Economic Support Fund", "Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia", and "International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement" should be made available to support a multi-year strategy to expand, and improve coordination of United States Government efforts to empower women as equal partners in conflict prevention, peace building, transitional processes, and reconstruction efforts in countries affected by conflict or in political transition, and to ensure the equitable provision of relief and recovery assistance to women and girls. [PL 116-6]

In Fiscal Year 2019, Congress provided the first dedicated funds to implement the WPS Act – \$4 million were directed to the Department of Defense, with nothing going to the Department of State or USAID.

ABOUT OUR SECURE FUTURE

Our Secure Future: Women Make the Difference (OSF) is a program of One Earth Future, a Colorado-based organization focused on peace through governance. OSF's mission is to strengthen the Women, Peace and Security movement. We believe women make the crucial difference in achieving peace through governance.

SOURCES:

- 1 Chenoweth, Seyle, Dharmapuri, 2019 Policy Brief: *Women's Participation and the Fate of Nonviolent Campaigns.*
- 2 Our Secure Future, 2019. *Transforming Security: Women Define Security Differently.*
- 3 Chenoweth, Seyle, Dharmapuri, 2019 Policy Brief: *Women's Participation and the Fate of Nonviolent Campaigns.*
- 4 "Women's Participation in Peace Processes," Council on Foreign Relations, 2019.
- 5 Sec. 3 - United States Women, Peace, and Security Act of 2017.