



Buan-Ionad na hÉireann
chun na Náisiún Aontaithe
Permanent Mission of Ireland
to the United Nations



PERMANENT MISSION OF SPAIN
TO THE UNITED NATIONS



United Kingdom
Mission to the
United Nations



INVITATION

The Missions of Australia, Ireland, Spain and the United Kingdom to the United Nations in partnership with the Global Network of Women Peacebuilders, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom and UN Women

cordially invite you to:

Financing the Women, Peace and Security Agenda

Good Practice and Lessons Learned for Accountability and Implementation

THURSDAY, 27 OCTOBER 2016

1:15PM – 2:30PM

UN SECRETARIAT (CONFERENCE ROOM 2)

PLEASE RSVP TO ghita.khyari@unwomen.org BY 25 OCTOBER



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Financing the Women, Peace and Security Agenda

GOOD PRACTICE AND LESSONS LEARNED FOR ACCOUNTABILITY AND IMPLEMENTATION

Concept Note

Background

October 2016 marks the 16th Anniversary of UNSCR 1325 and the Women, Peace and Security Agenda. The annual Security Council Women, Peace and Security debate will take place 25 October 2016 at UN Headquarters in New York, with a focus on following on commitments around the 2015 High-Level Review and Global Study on UNSCR 1325.

Despite 16 years of the WPS Agenda and the 2015 Global Study on UNSCR 1325, peace and gender justice remain unrealised. In 2012-2013, only 2 per cent of aid to peace and security for fragile states in 2012-2013 targeted gender equality. In 2015, OECD reported that only 1 per cent of all funding to fragile states went to women's groups or women's ministries. In 2014, of the projects in OCHA's Financial Tracking System which used the IASC Gender Marker, only 1 per cent had the explicit goal of closing gender gaps by taking targeted action for women and girls. A global survey by AWID found 740 women's organisations worldwide in 2010 had a combined income of only \$106 million – less than the cost of one F-35 fighter plane (\$137 million). However, between 2011 and 2014, the OECD found that already small funding for women's rights organisations fell by over half. As the 2015 Global Study on UNSCR 1325 stated, "Research shows a consistent, striking disparity between policy commitments to gender equality and women's empowerment, and the financial allocations to achieve them".¹

One year after the Global Study on UNSCR 1325, we now have the evidence base for action: women's meaningful participation is not only a human right; it is also key to the operational effectiveness of peace and security processes. Research also now shows that gender equality is the number one predictor of peace, and feminist movement building is the number one indicator of policies on reducing violence against women.

¹ Global Study on the Implementation of the UNSCR 1325, 2015, p.372



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The problem for funding gender equality and the feminist movement is not a lack of funding, but the prioritization of existing resources. At the 16th anniversary of UNSCR 1325, the time is now to move the money and invest in holistic Women, Peace and Security agenda that strengthen conflict prevention and gender equality for sustainable peace.

Rationale

This roundtable on WPS financing will create a space to exchange learning around good practice interventions on strengthening financing for effective implementation of the WPS agenda. It will build on discussions on financing the WPS agenda around the Global Study on UNSCR 1325 and the Civil Society survey as well as civil society discussions on action to #MoveTheMoney from war to peace and gender justice. It will result in concrete recommendations on how member states can take practical action for implementation and accountability.

Format

This panel event will include perspectives from Member States, UN agencies and civil society representatives. The aim is to foster an interactive and frank exchange of best practices and lessons identified in supporting the implementation of the WPS agenda on the ground.