

http://wilpf.org/wilpf_statements/press-release-new-initiative-to-boost-holistic-action-for-women-peace-and-security/

Press release: New initiative to boost holistic action for women, peace and security

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The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) will on 19 October launch an expanded Security Council Scorecard on Women, Peace and Security to boost holistic action for conflict prevention and peace.

The scorecard – available at <http://peacewomen.org/scorecards> – documents international and national action on the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) Agenda addressing gender and conflict prevention, participation, protection, and relief and recovery.

WILPF, a non-profit peace organisation with national sections in 33 countries, developed the WPS Scorecard to address ongoing gaps by Security Council permanent members between commitments and accomplishments, especially around conflict prevention and disarmament for holistic implementation of the WPS agenda worldwide.

“Crisis response is not a long-term plan,” stated Abigail Ruane, Director of WILPF's Women, Peace and Security program (PeaceWomen). “Preventing conflict is critical for peace. Investing in women's rights is the key to conflict prevention and also a human rights obligation.”

Research by WILPF affirms the need to address the conflict prevention gap. States such as the United Kingdom have taken the lead on strengthening women's participation and addressing sexual violence. However all of the permanent members of the council are among the top contributors to military spending and arms trade, which contribute to sexual, gender-based, and other forms of violence. Addressing this gap is critical to move from response to conflict prevention and peace.

The WPS Scorecard will be launched on October 19, 2016 at 9:00AM ET / 3:00PM CEST at a webinar entitled, “Measuring State Commitments to Women, Peace and Security: Launch of WILPF's Expanded WPS Security Council Scorecard.”

Find Women, Peace and Security Security Council Scorecard

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