



National Commission  
for the Promotion  
of Equality for  
Men And Women

Kummissjoni Nazzjonali  
ghall-Promozzjoni  
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# Peace, Security and Gender Equality

## The WPS Agenda

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NCPE Commissioner

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## Why a Women, Peace and Security (WPS) Agenda?

- Research has consistently shown that
  - gender equality **contributes to peace**, and
  - that peace negotiations involving women have a **better chance of being sustainable and effective**
- **Gender-equal societies** enjoy better health, stronger economic growth and higher security.



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# Why a Women, Peace and Security (WPS) Agenda?

- **Gender norms** may play a role in **driving or perpetuating conflict**
  - ex. young men may join armed groups because it is seen as providing an alternative path to manhood; systematic SGBV against women by men of a rival class, race or ethnic group can trigger violent defensive reactions
- **Differential impact** of armed conflict on women, men, girls and boys.
  - Violent conflict disproportionately affects women and girls and intensifies pre-existing gender inequalities and discrimination
  - Sexual violence is sometimes used as a weapon of war



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# Why a Women, Peace and Security (WPS) Agenda?

- Women, men, girls and boys play a **variety of roles** in relation to the conflict

ex. combatants, supporters of armed groups, community leaders, civil society, peacemakers.



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## Role of WPS

- Addresses the **impact of conflict** on women and recognises their contribution in preventing and resolving conflict
  - Recognises conflict-related **sexual violence** and its use as a tactic of war
  - Strengthens efforts to end sexual violence in conflict, also by establishing monitoring, analysis and reporting arrangements, and introducing **accountability** measures for perpetrators
  - Establishes **women protection advisers** within peacekeeping missions
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## Role of WPS

- To increase the number of women participating in **peace talks**
- To improve women's participation and representation in **conflict resolution**, especially through leadership positions
- To enhance women's roles in countering violent **extremism** and **terrorism**
- To provide measures to address **sexual exploitation** and abuse in peace operations



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## Role of WPS

WPS highlights the **linkage** between women's roles and experiences in conflict and peace and security.

**Obligations** in these resolutions extend from the international to the local level, and include intergovernmental organisations, e.g. the United Nations as well as national governments

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## Role of WPS

WPS looks at peace and security from  
a **gender perspective**:

a perspective that exposes gender-  
based differences in **resources**,  
**status** and **power**, and

considers how such differences shape  
the **immediate needs** and the **long-  
term interests** of women and men.

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## Role of WPS

Peace is not just an  
absence of violence, but  
also **equality** and **social  
justice**.

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# Women's meaningful participation in peace processes

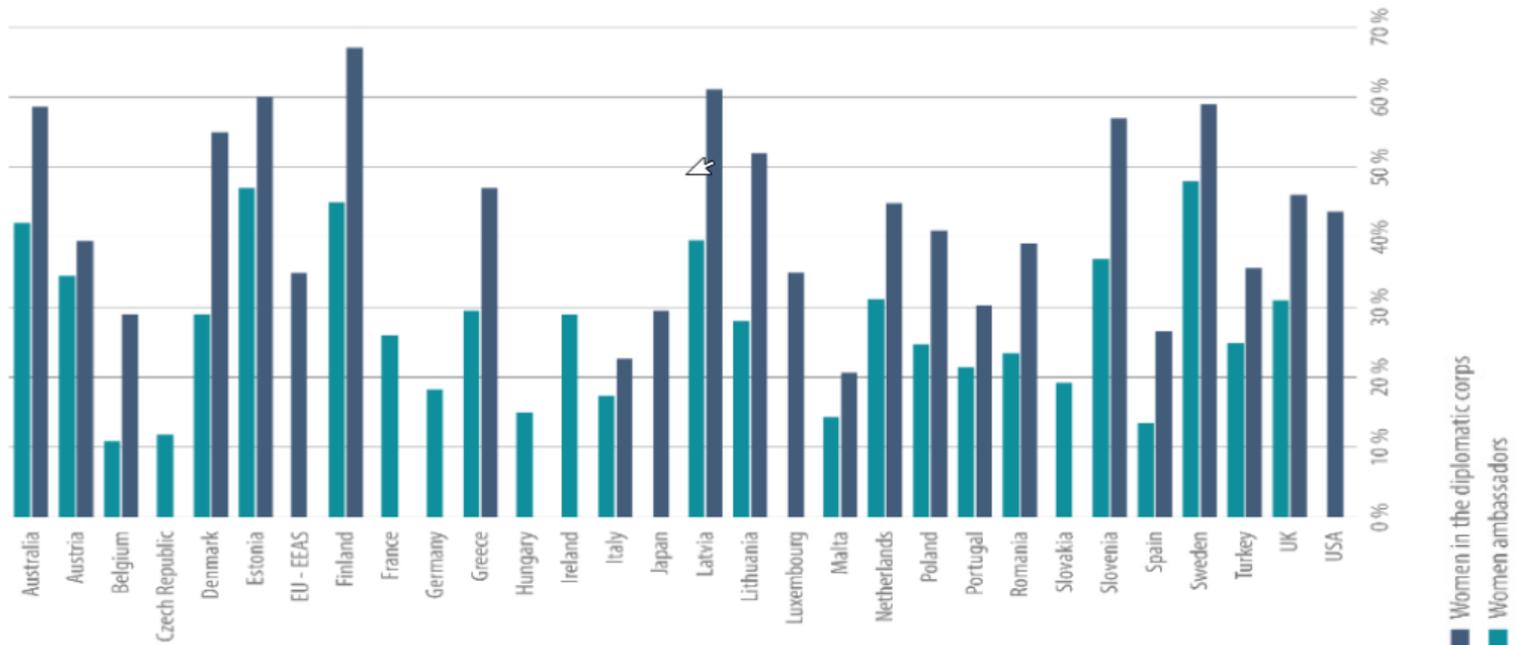
- Between 1992 and 2019, women constituted, on average, 13% of **negotiators**, 6% of **mediators**, and 6% of **signatories** in major peace processes worldwide
- About seven out of every ten peace processes **did not include women** mediators or women signatories
- Worldwide, the proportion of peace agreements with **gender equality provisions** increased from 14% to 22% between 1995 and 2019



# Women's meaningful participation in peace processes

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Data source: [SHEcurity](https://shecurity.org/).

Women in diplomatic corps and women ambassadors, 2019



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# Promoting and protecting the human rights of women and girls

- In 26 conflict-affected countries, the UN has verified 102 **killings of women** human rights defenders, journalists, and trade unionists from 2015 to 2019, a likely undercount.
- In 2019, the United Nations documented 2,838 cases of conflict-related **sexual violence**, of which 96% targeted women and girls.
- In 2018, women and girls accounted for about 65% of more than 45,000 detected **trafficking victims** globally.



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# Promoting and protecting the human rights of women and girls

- Gender norms and power structures play a critical role in determining the impact of **climate-related security risks** on women and men.  
ex. In the Dry Corridor of Central America, climate-related migration has increased women's burdens by having to travel greater distances to secure water and to spend more time caring for ill people of all ages.
  - In certain conflict-affected or fragile states, **maternal mortality** is alarmingly high.
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# Women, peace and security and the COVID-19 pandemic

- The pandemic and worldwide lockdowns exposed the enormous value of **unpaid care** and domestic work for the economy and how disproportionately this burden is **shouldered by women**. In several conflict-affected countries, women perform **three to seven times** as much unpaid care and domestic work as men.
- After the COVID-19 pandemic outbreak, **increased violence** against women and girls has been reported in about 70 countries across different geographic regions.
- The ILO latest data show that under the COVID 19 pandemic, **employment losses** are larger for women than for men.



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**Thank you!**

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