

UNSCR1325 Women, Peace and Security (WPS)

The disproportionate harmful impacts of armed conflict on women and girls and the importance of gender equality in peace processes and conflict resolution has been acknowledged since the 31st October 2000 when the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) adopted **Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security (WPS)**.

The **Resolution** recognises the role of women as active agents of peace and emphasises that peace is linked to equality between women and men. Sustainable peace can only be achieved through women's economic and political empowerment, alongside their involvement in decision-making processes. Hence, the main prerequisite for peace, security, sustainable development and justice is gender equality.

In this respect, **Malta** is continuously striving towards the full and effective promotion of peace and security, the prevention and response to conflict, and the assistance of the rebuilding of societies after conflict. Malta is also committed to the engagement and protection of women and girls on a local and international level; the achievement of gender equality and empowerment of women and girls; and to stop violence against women.

Indeed, in 2020, the **Ministry for Foreign and European Affairs (MFEA)** launched Malta's first **National Action Plan (NAP)** on WPS to ensure the implementation of this Resolution at a national level.

The main four pillars of the NAP's framework are to:

1. **Promote** the WPS agenda domestically and internationally
2. **Prevent** all forms of violence, including gender-based violence (GBV) and sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA)
3. Increase **participation** and representation of women at all decision-making levels, including conflict prevention and peacebuilding
4. Increase and strengthen **partnerships** to accomplish the WPS agenda domestically.

Each pillar has its objectives with a five-year timeframe. To ensure its effective implementation, the MFEA has appointed an **Oversight Committee** to serve as a monitoring body to implement the NAP.



Chaired by **Malta's Ambassador for Women, Peace and Security** Cecilia Attard Pirotta, the **Committee** brings together representatives from government ministries, civil society organisations, and academics from the University of Malta.

In 2021, following nomination as a member of the Oversight Committee, the **NCPE Commissioner** Ms Renee Laiviera:

- participated in the 1st meeting of the Committee held on 18th March 2021
- held preparatory meetings and is currently collaborating with Malta's Ambassador for WPS on an upcoming seminar/workshop for NGOs focusing on the WPS Agenda.

12th May 2021