



INSTITUTE FOR SECURITY GOVERNANCE

Advancing Knowledge, Building Capacity, Strengthening Partners



ISG AND WOMEN, PEACE, & SECURITY

Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) is a policy framework that recognizes women must be critical actors and provide meaningful participation in major national security and defense priorities at home and abroad. Evidence overwhelmingly shows that gender plays an important role in governance, conflict resolution, peace and security operations, and countering violent extremism. Accordingly, the United States has worked since 2011 to integrate WPS into all facets of its defense and diplomacy work.

ISG's work with Partners and Allies is rooted in the imperative to enhance the effectiveness of their defense and security processes to meet shared security objectives. Integrating Women, Peace, and Security objectives into this work is part and parcel of enhancing Partner force effectiveness.

GUIDANCE

In 2017, the United States Government (USG) enacted the Women, Peace, and Security Act, which sought to improve the participation of women in peace and security processes, conflict prevention, peacebuilding, and decision-making institutions. Building on this momentum, the USG released the 2019 U.S. Strategy on Women, Peace, and Security, quickly followed by Department of State (DoS) and the Department of Defense (DoD) Implementation Plans in 2020.

The intent of these measures is to:



- ◆ Seek and support the political participation and leadership of women in decision-making processes, particularly in fragile environments such as democratic transitions;
- ◆ Increase the role of women in conflict prevention and conflict resolution, which is critical to national and regional stability;
- ◆ Promote the protection of women's and girls' human rights.
- ◆ Enable the United States to become a global leader in the promotion of women's meaningful participation across political and defense sectors;
- ◆ Encourage partner governments to adopt similar WPS focused plans.

ABOUT ISG

The Institute for Security Governance – situated within the Defense Security Cooperation University (DSCU) – is the Department of Defense's Center of Excellence for Institutional Capacity Building (ICB). As a component of the Defense Security Cooperation Agency (DSCA), and one of its primary international Security Cooperation schoolhouses, ISG is charged with building partner institutional capacity and capability through tailored advising, education, and professional development programs grounded in American values and approaches.

OUR ACTIVITIES

The Institute for Security Governance (ISG) is incorporating Women, Peace, and Security objectives into its work building partner institutional capabilities and enhancing the approach and conduct of Institutional Capacity Building. Guided by [The DoD's Women Peace and Security Strategic Framework and Implementation Plan](#) (SFIP), ISG is working to further enable and strengthen defense and security institutions, build capabilities, and support shared security interests through the integration of the WPS agenda.

Education Programming

ISG has conducted an extensive curriculum review, integrating WPS objectives into teaching modules, table-top-exercises, and instructor-led conversations about Women, Peace, and Security across a wide array of resident and mobile courses.

ISG has developed and run resident and mobile education training courses focused on WPS Defense Objectives, including:

- ◆ [Women's Integration into the Armed Forces](#): Established in 2010, this course is designed to assist Partner Nations in developing policies to recruit and employ women in their national armed forces, and emphasizes the contributions that women can make to armed forces to successfully complete missions and enhance operational effectiveness. This course is delivered solely as mobile education training in-country, and has been successfully conducted in Argentina, Colombia, Niger, Cote D'Ivoire, Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, and Jordan.
- ◆ [Women, Leadership and, National Defense](#): Established in 2020, this course, which supports United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 objectives and WPS principles, is oriented to national gender policies that increase women's representation in decision-making positions at security and defense institutions. Designed for senior international military officers, civilians from the defense and security sectors, and civil society and private sector representatives, this course is delivered both as a resident course and as mobile education training in-country.



Stakeholder Participation

ISG is a strategic collaborative partner in a number of forums created to further WPS SFIP objectives:

- ◆ Participates in a working group led by the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy (OUSD-P), which seeks to increase and amplify women's meaningful participation across the DoD and the Joint Force;
- ◆ Participates in briefings for members of Congress, led by OUSD-P, focused on tracking the progress of Women, Peace, and Security objectives being conducted with Partner Nations by components of the defense community;
- ◆ Participates in the monthly DoD WPS Academic Forum, which includes military schoolhouses from across the Department coming together in a Community of Interest/Practice, to discuss how best to include WPS objectives in curricula for Partner Nations.

The following sources were referenced in this document: [DoD Women Peace and Security Strategic Framework Implementation Plan](#) and [The United States Institute of Peace Advancing Women, Peace and Security Project](#), [PACAF hosts historic Women, Peace, and Security Symposium photo](#)