

An international alumna of the Army War College offers students insights about the international environment

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Retired Maj. Gen. Kristin Lund of the Norwegian Army spoke to 380 students—half-remote, half in Bliss Hall, Oct. 28.

An international alumna of the Army War College and former UN Peacekeeping commander returned to Carlisle to engage with students. She shared with them insights about her time as an international Force Commander for the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus, 2014 to 2016 and later as Head of Mission/Chief of Staff of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization from 2017 to 2019.

Retired Maj. Gen. Kristin Lund of the Norwegian Army spoke to 380 students—half-remote, half in Bliss Hall, Oct. 28. She spoke candidly with students about command lessons learned. Her presentation and Q&A complemented lesson on working in the International Environment, as the students begin the War, Policy, and National Security course, better known as WPNS-II.

A member of the resident class of 2007, she served in positions of

increasing responsibility before taking the lead of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus, 2014-2016, and later as Head of Mission/Chief of Staff of the UN Truce Supervision Organization, 2017-2019. Eight years after graduation, she returned to Carlisle to be inducted into the International Fellows Hall of Fame. Inductees are those who attained the highest position in his or her nation's armed forces or who have held an equivalent position by rank or responsibility in a multinational organization. The first woman to join the IF Hall of Fame, she was the 54th graduate to whom the Chief of Staff of the Army reached out with the honor.

Much of her discussion explored the mission in Cyprus. Because of her gender, she said, she was able to interact with men and women on every social level, which provided her with important insights into how peacekeeping impacts issues of gender and security.

"She gave practical examples around all the theories we are learning about and discussing in the Strategic Leadership course as well as our War, Policy and National Security class," said Norwegian Fellow Lt. Col. Bjørnar Bragstad, class of 2022. "She has given us branches to hang the theories on."

Lund drew on military experience as Head of Veteran Affairs for the Norwegian Defense Staff, Chief of Staff of the Norwegian Home Guard, and Deputy Commander of the Norwegian Army Forces Command, the position she took immediately upon graduating.