

# WOMEN, PEACE, & SECURITY

**History.** In 2000, the United Nations (UN) Security Council adopted UN Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325 on Women, Peace, and Security (WPS), the first resolution to address the disproportionate and unique effects of armed conflict on women and girls. In 2011, the United States published the first U.S. National Action Plan on Women, Peace, and Security, in accordance with Executive Order 13595. In 2017, the President signed into law the Women, Peace, and Security Act (Public Law 115-68), making this the first legislation of its kind to acknowledge the multifaceted roles of women throughout the conflict spectrum and call on the U.S. Government to promote the meaningful participation and protection of women globally. In June 2019, the U.S. Government released the U.S. Strategy on Women, Peace, and Security (WPS Strategy), making the U.S. the first country in the world with both a comprehensive law and whole-of-government strategy on WPS.



2020

## DoD WPS Strategic Framework & Implementation Plan

Provides DoD objectives to implement WPS Strategy & Act; fulfills WPS Act & Strategy requirement to establish plan



2019

## U.S. Strategy on WPS

Four-year whole-of-government strategy to guide USG WPS implementation; satisfies E.O. 13595 requirements; tasks DoD, Department of State, USAID, & Department of Homeland Security with creating implementation plans



2017

## U.S. WPS Act (Public Law 115-68)

U.S. enacts the first comprehensive law in the world on WPS; Tasks DoD, Department of State, USAID, & Department of Homeland Security as implementing departments



2011

## E.O. 13595

Mandates WPS implementation; U.S. becomes the 50<sup>th</sup> country with a National Action Plan on WPS which translates UNSCR 1325 into national context



2000

## UNSCR 1325

First global recognition of the disproportionate impact of conflict on women and girls and their necessary role in preventing and resolving it

## U.S. STRATEGY ON WPS – LINES OF EFFORT



### Line of Effort 1:

Seek and support the preparation and meaningful participation of women around the world in decision-making processes related to conflict and crises



### Line of Effort 3:

Adjust United States international programs to improve outcomes in equality for, and the empowerment of, women



### Line of Effort 2:

Promote the protection of women and girls' human rights; access to humanitarian assistance; and safety from violence, abuse, and exploitation around the world



### Line of Effort 4:

Encourage partner governments to adopt policies, plans, and capacity to improve the meaningful participation of women in processes connected to peace and security and decision-making institutions



# DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE | WOMEN, PEACE, & SECURITY



The [DoD WPS Strategic Framework & Implementation Plan](#) strengthens U.S. leadership on WPS by continuing the Department's roles as a global model for diversity and inclusivity while working with partner nations to support women's meaningful participation within defense and security sectors.

## GLOBAL

### WPS PRINCIPLES

- Participation of women in peace and security
- Protection of women and girls from violence
- Inclusion of women in conflict prevention
- Equal access to relief and recovery before, during, and after conflict and crisis
- Protection of human rights
- Equal application of the rule of law
- Incorporation of a gender perspective into peace and security efforts

## NATIONAL

### U.S. WPS Strategy LOE 1 directs the DoD to:

- ◊ Seek and support women's meaningful participation in military decision-making processes, disaster preparation and response, and stabilization.
- ◊ Increase the meaningful participation of women in partner nation security sector initiatives, including programs on the rule of law and within professional military education.
- ◊ Lead by example through inclusion of American women in U.S. efforts abroad.
- ◊ Leverage relevant analysis and indicators, including the collection of sex-and-age-disaggregated data, to identify and address barriers to women's meaningful participation.

### U.S. WPS Strategy LOE 2 directs the DoD to:

- ◊ Promote the protection of women and girls' security, human rights, and access to aid with governments and regional or other security sector forces, as appropriate.
- ◊ Address security-related barriers to the protection of women and girls.
- ◊ Prioritize efforts to prevent and respond to sexual abuse and exploitation (SEA).
- ◊ Provide women and girls with safe and equal access to humanitarian assistance.
- ◊ Empower women as partners in preventing and combatting terrorism.

### U.S. WPS Strategy LOE 3 directs the DoD to:

- ◊ Adjust its international programs to improve outcomes in women's equality and empowerment.
- ◊ Train DoD personnel on the needs, perspectives, and security requirements of men and women; protecting civilians from violence, exploitation, and trafficking in persons; and international humanitarian law (IHL) and international human rights law (IHRL).
- ◊ Apply gender analyses to improve DoD program design and targeting.

### U.S. WPS Strategy LOE 4 directs the DoD to:

- ◊ Encourage partner nation governments to adopt policies, plans, and capacity to improve the meaningful participation of women in processes connected to security and decision-making institutions.
- ◊ Work with partner nations to remove legal, regulatory, and structural barriers faced by women in defense and security sectors.
- ◊ Assist partner nations in increasing opportunities for women to serve in security sector forces, including peacekeeping and military organizations, by developing their technical and professional competencies.

## DEPARTMENT

### DoD EQUITIES SUPPORTING WPS PRINCIPLES

- Diversity & Inclusion
- Gender Integration
- Inclusive Leadership Development
- Professionalization of Partner Nation Armed Forces
- Recruitment & Retention
- Sexual Harassment & Assault Prevention
- Sexual Exploitation & Abuse Prevention
- Gender-Based Violence Prevention
- Protection of Civilians
- Protection of Children affected by Armed Conflict
- Countering Trafficking in Persons
- Humanitarian Assistance & Disaster Relief
- Countering Violent Extremist Organizations
- International Humanitarian Law
- International Human Rights
- Protection of Cultural Property



### TAKE AN ONLINE COURSE

Part 1: Introduction to WPS (JT3A-US1398A)

Part 2: DoD Implementation of WPS (JT3A-US1398B)

### QUICK READS

- ❑ [Gender Perspectives and Military Effectiveness: Implementing UNSCR 1325 and the National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security](#)
- ❑ [Women Peace and Security: A Competitive Edge in Latin America's Human Domain](#)
- ❑ [Just the Facts: A Selected Annotated Bibliography to Support Evidence Based Policy Making on Women, Peace, and Security](#)

