

ADDRESSING THE

PERSISTENCE 

GENDER INEQUALITIES

IN **CONFLICT** PREVENTION
AND **PEACE** PROCESSES

| UNSCR
1325 |

EDDA – Center of Excellence at the University of Iceland, in collaboration with the Icelandic Ministry for Foreign Affairs, will host an international conference entitled **Addressing the Persistence of Gender Inequalities in Conflict Prevention and Peace Processes**. The Conference will take place on 4-5 April 2014 at the University of Iceland, Askja building, room 132, and is open to all and free of charge.

The UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security was passed 14 years ago. While one of its pillars is the participation of women in conflict prevention and peace building, they have continued to be largely absent from such processes due to a lack of gender sensitive transitional justice mechanisms. The aim of this conference is to stimulate critical thinking in advance of the 2015 high-level review of progress on resolution 1325. The Conference will seek answers to the following questions: Why is it so difficult to get women to the peace table – and is that even the right question to ask? What are the lessons learnt from implementing UNSCR 1325 in the context of peacekeeping? What are the key challenges to implementing UNSCR 1325 in the defence and security sectors? How do we move beyond the current paradigm of war and peace negotiations?

The conference is hosted by EDDA – Center of Excellence at the University of Iceland in collaboration with the Icelandic Ministry for Foreign Affairs, the Norwegian Embassy in Iceland, the United Nations University Gender Studies and Training Programme at the University of Iceland, the Institute of International Affairs at the University of Iceland, and the National Committee of UN Women in Iceland.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE / ICELAND / REYKJAVIK / 04-05 APRIL



CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

Friday 4 April

14:30–15:00 OPENING SESSION

Chair: **Dr. Irma Erlingsdóttir**, Director of EDDA – Center of Excellence and Executive Director of UNU-GEST, University of Iceland

- **Gunnar Bragi Sveinsson**, Icelandic Minister for Foreign Affairs
- **Bente Angell-Hansen**, Secretary General, Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- **María Erla Marelsdóttir**, Director General, Directorate for International Development Cooperation, Icelandic Ministry for Foreign Affairs

15:00–17:00 PANEL 1

Asking the Right Questions – Panel with Fellows from the United Nations University Gender Equality Studies and Training Programme (UNU-GEST)

Chair: **Dr. Annadís G. Rúdólfsdóttir**, Studies Director of UNU-GEST, University of Iceland

- Keynote Address: **Dr. Carol Cohn**, Director of the Boston Consortium on Gender, Security and Human Rights and Professor of Women's Studies, University of Massachusetts
Why is it so Hard to get Women to the Peace Table? And why is that not even the Right Question?
- Panel Discussions with UNU-GEST Fellows and Gender Experts: **Susan Asio**, Uganda; **Fatima Wahaidy**, Gaza, Palestine; and **Joseph Kazima**, Malawi

17:00 RECEPTION

Saturday 5 April

10:00–12:00 PANEL 2

Iceland's Participation in Peacekeeping Operations in the Context of UNSCR 1325: Lessons Learnt

Chair: **Soffía Sigurgeirsdóttir**, Acting Executive Director, National Committee of UN Women in Iceland

- **Svanhvít Aðalsteinsdóttir**, Senior Advisor, Directorate for International Development Cooperation, Icelandic Ministry for Foreign Affairs
Implementing UNSCR 1325: Lessons Learnt from Iceland's NAP to NAP
- **Flora Macula**, Head of the UN Women Project Office in Kosovo
Iceland's Contribution to Women's Empowerment and Gender Equality in Post-Conflict Kosovo and the Balkans
- **Silja Bára Ómarsdóttir**, Adjunct Lecturer in Political Science, University of Iceland
How to Improve Institutional Learning from Peacekeeping in the Context of UNSCR 1325?
- **Hrund Gunnsteinsdóttir**, Independent Consultant on Gender, Conflict and Development
How a Bad Drawing can 'Save the World': Building on Lessons Learned
- Panel Discussions with Icelandic Gender and Security Specialists: **Birna Þórarinsdóttir** and **Auður H. Ingólfssdóttir**

12:00–13:00 LUNCH BREAK

13:00–15:00 PANEL 3

Key Challenges to Implementing UNSCR 1325 in the Defence and Security Sectors

Chair: **Silja Bára Ómarsdóttir**, Adjunct Lecturer in Political Science, University of Iceland

- **Mari Skåre**, Special Representative for Women, Peace and Security, NATO
Challenges and Contributions: NATO's Role in the Women, Peace and Security Agenda
- **Dr. Anita Schjølset**, Adviser to the Gender Project at the Norwegian Defence University College
Gender in the Armed Forces: Lessons from Norway
- **Helga Þórólfssdóttir**, Independent Consultant on Gender and Security for the Icelandic Ministry for Foreign Affairs
Men, Women and Corruption in the Defence and Security Sector
- Panel Discussions

15:00–15:30 COFFEE BREAK

15:30–17:30 PANEL 4

Moving Beyond the Current Paradigm of War and Peace Negotiations

Chair: **Pia Hansson**, Director of the Institute of International Affairs and Centre for Small State Studies, University of Iceland

- **Dr. Annika Bergman Rosamond**, Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, Lund University
Women, War and Peace – UNSCR 1325 and Beyond
- **Dr. Henri Myrntinen**, Senior Research Officer for Gender in Peacebuilding, International Alert
Re-thinking Gender in Peacebuilding: What does it mean to Engage with Men, Masculinities and Sexual Minorities?
- **Ingibjörg Sólrún Gísladóttir**, Representative of UN Women to Turkey and Regional Director for Europe and Central Asia, and former Icelandic Minister for Foreign Affairs
Ensuring Greater Involvement of Women in Peace Mediation: From Rhetoric to Reality
- Panel Discussions with UNU-GEST Fellows and Gender Experts: **Khaled Mansour**, West Bank, Palestine; **Moses Sebbale**, Uganda; and **Fidaa Al Zaanin**, Gaza, Palestine