

Chairmanship: Turkey

943rd PLENARY MEETING OF THE FORUM

1. Date: Wednesday, 11 March 2020

Opened: 10 a.m.
Suspended: 1.05 p.m.
Resumed: 3 p.m.
Closed: 5 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Ambassador R. E. Soysal

Before taking up the agenda, the Chairperson informed the Forum about the Chairmanship's response to the evolving COVID-19 virus outbreak.

3. Subjects discussed – Statements – Decisions/documents adopted:

Agenda item 1: SECURITY DIALOGUE ON UNITED NATIONS
SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1325

- *Presentation by Ms. A. Cihan Sultanoğlu, Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations and United Nations Representative to the Geneva International Discussions*
- *Presentation by Commander E. Kaptan İşçi, Chief of Protocol and Communications Branch, Turkish Fleet Command*
- *Presentation by Ambassador N. Bush, Chairperson of the Security Committee and Chairperson of the OSCE MenEngage Network*
- *Presentation by the OSCE Senior Adviser on Gender Issues*
- *Presentation by Ms. M. Wyss Ross, Deputy Head of the Swiss Delegation for Security Issues and Chairperson of the Informal Group of Women in the First Dimension*

Chairperson, Ms. A. Cihan Sultanoğlu, Commander E. Kaptan İşçi,
Chairperson of the Security Committee and Chairperson of the MenEngage

Network (United Kingdom), OSCE Senior Adviser on Gender Issues, Chairperson of the Informal Group of Women in the First Dimension (Switzerland), Director of the OSCE Conflict Prevention Centre (Annex 1), Croatia-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association country Liechtenstein, member of the European Economic Area; as well as Andorra, Georgia, Moldova, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (FSC.DEL/55/20), Albania, Switzerland (FSC.DEL/58/20 OSCE+), Malta, Sweden, Spain (FSC.DEL/54/20 OSCE+), Armenia, Russian Federation, Greece, Iceland (FSC.DEL/62/20 OSCE+), United States of America (FSC.DEL/57/20 OSCE+), Holy See (FSC.DEL/53/20 OSCE+), Canada, OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, Chairperson of the Informal Group of Friends on Small Arms and Light Weapons and Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition (Latvia) (Annex 2), Georgia (FSC.DEL/63/20 OSCE+), Ukraine (FSC.DEL/60/20 OSCE+), Afghanistan (Partner for Co-operation), FSC Co-ordinator for Matters Related to UNSCR 1325 (Albania) (Annex 3)

Agenda item 2: REPORT BY THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE CLOSING
SESSION OF THE THIRTIETH ANNUAL
IMPLEMENTATION ASSESSMENT MEETING

Chairperson, Chairperson of the closing session of the 30th Annual
Implementation Assessment Meeting (Moldova)

Agenda item 3: GENERAL STATEMENTS

Situation in and around Ukraine: Ukraine (FSC.DEL/61/20 OSCE+), Croatia-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, Montenegro and North Macedonia; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Andorra, Georgia, Moldova, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (FSC.DEL/56/20), Russian Federation, United States of America, Canada, United Kingdom, Montenegro

Agenda item 4: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) *Invitation to observe a certain military activity in the framework of the military exercise “DEFENDER-Europe 20”, the activity to be conducted at the Bergen/Munster training ground from 21 to 24 April 2020:* Germany
- (b) *Military exercise “DEFENDER-Europe 20” and related exercises:* United States of America, Russian Federation
- (c) *Snap military exercise in Belarus, conducted on 9 March 2020:* Belarus, Canada, United States of America
- (d) *Young scholars’ essay competition on confidence- and security-building measures:* Representative of the Conflict Prevention Centre (Annex 4)

- (e) *Briefing on activities in the framework of the military exercise “DEFENDER-Europe 20”, to be conducted on the territory of Poland from March to July 2020: Poland*
- (f) *Premature termination of the military exercise “Cold Response 2020”, planned to be conducted from 2 to 18 March 2020: Norway*
- (g) *Circulation of a letter from the Albanian OSCE Chairmanship concerning further recommendations and measures regarding the COVID-19 virus and the meetings of the Permanent Council (CIO.INF/26/20): Chairperson*

4. Next meeting:

Wednesday, 18 March 2020, at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal



943rd Plenary Meeting
FSC Journal No. 949, Agenda item 1

**STATEMENT BY
THE DIRECTOR OF THE CONFLICT PREVENTION CENTRE**

Dear Excellencies,
Dear colleagues,

I want to thank the Turkish FSC Chairmanship for devoting today's Security Dialogue to United Nations Security Council resolution 1325 on women and peace and security, and for giving me the opportunity to speak on behalf of the Conflict Prevention Centre (CPC).

Recognizing that the perspectives, voices, knowledge, skills and experience of both women and men are essential to peace, sustainable democracy and economic development, and therefore to security and stability in the OSCE area, the OSCE is committed to further exploring the linkage between gender mainstreaming and security, focusing on the role of women in peace and security matters at all levels.

Within the FSC mandate, I want to highlight three areas of work in 2020:

- Drawing up a study on the implementation of United Nations Security Council resolution 1325 in the OSCE area;
- An assessment of the impact of the OSCE Scholarship for Peace and Security on its graduates;
- Development of the Guidance Note on Assistance Projects (GNAP), devoted to mainstreaming gender into practical assistance projects under the OSCE assistance mechanism for small arms and light weapons (SALW) and stockpiles of conventional ammunition (SCA).

National implementation of the 2004 OSCE Action Plan for the Promotion of Gender Equality is the subject of voluntary information exchange as part of the Questionnaire on the OSCE Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security. Every year, more States provide information on their implementation of United Nations Security Council resolution 1325, also giving information on the development and implementation of their national action plans. In 2019, 37 participating States engaged in voluntary information exchange on United Nations Security Council resolution 1325.

The CPC is tasked with the annual distribution of a quantitative analysis of the annual information exchange on the Code of Conduct, which is presented at the Annual Implementation Discussion on the Code of Conduct in June. In order to prepare inputs for the OSCE Gender Equality Review Conference in June this year, the CPC has initiated an expert study to assess the responses made by participating States with regard to the voluntarily provided information pertaining to women, peace and security.

The study will focus on three main questions. How do participating States place the information on United Nations Security Council resolution 1325 in the context of the democratic control of the armed forces? What is the causal relationship between the implementation of women, peace and security policies and the level of women's participation reported? And what are the most common lessons learned with regard to the participation of women in the armed forces?

The study will range from prevention, through participation and protection, to other information related to United Nations Security Council resolution 1325. It will assess measures reported as having been taken to increase the number of women in the armed forces and ministries of defence, both in general and in decision-making positions.

Furthermore, the study aims to look at causal links between the measures to improve the addressing of violations of the rights of women and girls in line with international standards and the outcomes mentioned in reports by participating States, such as levels of violence and access to information.

The study will shed light on shared information on best practices and lessons learned regarding policies pertaining to women, peace and security, and on reports by participating States on their implementation of United Nations Security Council resolution 1325 with respect to national policies and national engagement.

To contribute to the OSCE's task of rectifying the continued under-representation of women in the OSCE area in decision-making structures within the legislative, executive, including police services, and judiciary, the CPC's FSC Support Section is conducting the Third Edition of the OSCE Scholarship for Peace and Security with the support of the OSCE participating States.

The main aim of the training programme is to empower women in the field of arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation and to contribute to creating equal opportunities for young professionals, with a particular focus on women's participation in policy-making, planning and implementation processes in this field.

In anticipation of the Third Edition, the FSC Support Section has conducted a survey aimed at studying and analysing the impact the Scholarship has had on the academic, professional and personal development of graduates of the previous editions of the training programme.

The FSC Support Section has prepared a report on the outcomes of the survey, as distributed under SEC.GAL/36/20, clearly showing the positive impact of the training programme. Most of the respondents indicated that participation in the training programme inspired their professional or academic choices and many declared that they use skills such as

building relationships in their professional and academic activities on a daily basis, and feel more confident in the pursuit of their professional goals. Most of them acknowledged that the training had increased their knowledge, raised their awareness of security issues, facilitated networking opportunities, and allowed them to develop professional and personal competencies such as knowledge, self-confidence and motivation.

In the words of one of the graduates of the Scholarship for Peace and Security: “Before the programme, I was planning and wishing to contribute to world development and peace. Now I acknowledge it as my mission and I work hard in this regard.” Many graduates provided concrete examples of actions they had undertaken in the field. Respondents indicated that they had incorporated the messages of the training programme into their professional and personal lives and now had a sounder understanding of the ways in which they contributed to the world becoming a better and safer place.

Finally, I would like to inform you about a knowledge product we have developed on the nexus between gender and SALW and SCA. The OSCE Documents on SALW and SCA prescribe the norms, principles and measures for addressing the threat posed by the excessive and destabilizing accumulation and uncontrolled spread of SALW and SCA. They also describe the assistance mechanism and outline procedures for requesting and providing assistance.

After more than fourteen years of experience in SALW and SCA practical assistance, it was felt to be high time for the Secretariat and the field operations to document the lessons they had identified and learned. These experiences and lessons, which were collected in the interest of improving the performance of the FSC Support Section, are now being developed into the Guidance Note on Assistance Projects (GNAP) devoted to integrating gender aspects into such projects, also known as the Gender Guidance Note.

The GNAP has two important aspects. The first aspect is the fact that the effects of SALW and SCA are highly gendered, having different impacts on women and men, boys and girls. The second aspect is that all of the lessons identified related to the links between gender and SALW need to be integrated within the implementation of the assistance mechanism provided by the Documents on SALW and SCA.

Accordingly, the GNAP provides direction and practical advice to OSCE staff on how to provide support to participating States at all stages of the assistance mechanism, and it is envisaged that it could be beneficial to all other stakeholders involved in the assistance mechanism. At the same time the document provides its readers with guiding questions and examples of how, at each stage of the process, they could demonstrate to the participating States the different impacts SALW and SCA have on women, men, boys, girls and young people. In this way, the document provides practical advice on how such targeted action can be developed, tailored and undertaken in the context of OSCE practical assistance projects in the field of SALW and SCA.

As the custodian of this document, the FSC Support Section is currently in the process of consulting with other departments such as the Gender Section and the Programming and Evaluation Support Unit (PESU) in order to verify specific cross-departmental matters. We expect that this process will be finalized in a few months’ time, when we intend to finalize the document, present it to the broader audience, and make it widely available for further use.

Dear Excellencies,
Dear colleagues,

To conclude, we believe that with the three activities I have presented to you we are contributing to the OSCE's work in a very practical manner and promoting women's inclusion in arms control at large, including the SALW and SCA control processes, and increasing their participation in decision-making.

Mr. Chairperson, thank you for giving me the floor.



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Forum for Security Co-operation**

FSC.JOUR/949
11 March 2020
Annex 2

Original: ENGLISH

943rd Plenary Meeting
FSC Journal No. 949, Agenda item 1

**STATEMENT BY
THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE INFORMAL GROUP OF
FRIENDS ON SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS AND
STOCKPILES OF CONVENTIONAL AMMUNITION (LATVIA)**

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

Dear colleagues,
Distinguished speakers,

In my capacity as Chairperson of the Informal Group of Friends on Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) and Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition (SCA), I would like to start by thanking the speakers for their valuable contributions and thoughts with regard to the implementation of United Nations Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women and peace and security.

In the spirit of today's Security Dialogue, I would like to recall Ministerial Council Decision No. 10/17 on small arms and light weapons and stockpiles of conventional ammunition, which tasked the FSC with "creating equal opportunities for women's participation in policymaking, planning and implementation processes to combat illicit SALW as well as with regard to the OSCE assistance projects in the field of SALW and SCA".

I am pleased to note that many of the tasks set out in that decision have already been taken on by the OSCE, the FSC, and the Informal Group of Friends on SALW and SCA.

With regard to the Informal Group of Friends on SALW and SCA, I would like to inform you that work on updating the OSCE Best Practice Guides on SALW and on conventional ammunition (CA) continues apace. The Informal Group of Friends has taken careful note of the recommendations made by participating States and of those contained in a study of the OSCE Handbooks of Best Practices on SALW and CA conducted in 2018, including recommendations on the addition of gender-related language to the updated guides, as required. I encourage all participating States to remain actively involved and give their wholehearted support to this important work.

Thank you for your attention.

I kindly ask that this statement be attached to the journal of the day.



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Forum for Security Co-operation**

FSC.JOUR/949
11 March 2020
Annex 3

Original: ENGLISH

943rd Plenary Meeting
FSC Journal No. 949, Agenda item 1

**STATEMENT BY THE FSC CO-ORDINATOR FOR MATTERS
RELATED TO UNSCR 1325 (ALBANIA)**

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

Excellencies,
Ladies and gentlemen,

It is a pleasure and honour for me today to address the FSC plenary for the first time in my role as the newly appointed FSC Co-ordinator for Matters Relating to UNSCR 1325.

First and foremost, I would like to thank the Turkish FSC Chairmanship for entrusting me with this responsibility and unique opportunity.

We will continue to build upon the fine work done by my predecessor, Graham Townsend, whom I personally thank for all the assistance, co-operation and advice he has given in paving the way for a smooth transition.

I would like to thank the Turkish FSC Chairmanship for making women, peace and security one of its Chairmanship's priorities and for organizing a truly insightful session today. On this note, let me thank the speakers for their presentations and unveiling of novel and important initiatives.

The twentieth anniversary of United Nations Security Council resolution 1325 in October 2020 will mark an important milestone for all of us. It will serve as a stark reminder of the resolution's strong and firm call for full and equal participation of women in all peace and security initiatives and its appeal for the mainstreaming of gender in peace and security processes.

The 2004 OSCE Action Plan for the Promotion of Gender Equality remains one of the key points of reference for our efforts in the OSCE in promoting gender mainstreaming and highlighting the importance of gender equality in achieving comprehensive security.

Equality is not just a requirement: it is a fundamental human right every individual is born with. Also, as pointed out by many members of the FSC on many occasions, it makes our work for comprehensive peace and security more effective, just and sustainable.

Our challenge for this year and beyond is to focus on reinforcing our existing commitments, continuing to raise awareness, conducting gender training, mentoring, and encouraging and promoting the inclusion of women in the security sector. These focuses are to be found in multiple initiatives throughout this year.

Let me take one example. The end of March will witness an important initiative: the third edition of the OSCE Scholarship for Peace and Security, a training programme organized by the OSCE and the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA). The programme is aimed at creating equal opportunities for young professionals to learn more about equal participation in planning, policymaking and implementation processes in this field.

I also welcome the report of the impact of the scholarship on the alumnae and alumni of the previous editions, circulated with the reference number SEC.GAL/36/20, which clearly shows that such initiatives should be promoted, continued, financed and further supported.

Furthermore, I would like to commend the excellent work done by the truly unique network “Women in the First Dimension”. This network provides a unique means of strengthening the work of its members and serves as a platform for dialogue and networking between professionals, by empowering young professionals in the security sector, raising awareness between colleagues, and generating concrete actions on enhancing gender equality and the substantial participation of women in the field of security for the benefit of participating States and the OSCE. It has already proposed initial projects in the form of a list of female experts and a mentoring programme for female and male colleagues working in the first dimension which can serve as a basis for further initiatives in the near future, even in collaboration with other important and already functioning networks in the OSCE and beyond.

I also welcome the initiative of the Conflict Prevention Centre (CPC) related to the conducting of an analysis in the form of an expert study on the participation of women in the armed forces. This is based on the responses of participating States on voluntary information exchange on the implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 within the Questionnaire on the OSCE Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security. I believe that this study will reveal valuable lessons to be learned in this regard.

Moreover, later this year the OSCE is to hold the 3rd Gender Equality Review Conference, which will reflect progress on gender equality since the adoption of the 2004 OSCE Action Plan for the Promotion of Gender Equality. The Gender Equality Review Conference, being a platform for discussing and advancing the implementation of all OSCE commitments, including gender, remains a key means of promoting gender equality in the OSCE area in the fields of security and co-operation. The work done at the FSC will help to enrich our discussions in the session on women’s participation in the security sector. Furthermore, the FSC will contribute to that session with the above-mentioned analysis based on the information exchange on United Nations Security Council resolution 1325 within the Questionnaire on the Code of Conduct for Politico-Military Aspects of Security. The outcome of the analysis will be thoroughly discussed, as has just been indicated by the CPC in its intervention.

I also welcome the development of the Gender Guidance Note on Assistance Projects (GNAP), which combines the acknowledgement of the highly gender-related effects of small arms and light weapons (SALW) and stockpiles of conventional ammunition (SCA) with integration of the lessons identified on the links between gender and SALW within the implementation of the SALW and SCA assistance mechanism.

Participating States can do more to improve and increase their implementation of UNSCR 1325 by compiling, issuing, approving and adopting national action plans (NAPs) on women, peace and security. The findings of the recent study on “Implementing the Women, Peace and Security Agenda in the OSCE Region” reflect an increase in the number of NAPs from 27 to 36 during the last five years, with 63 per cent of OSCE participating States now having an NAP on United Nations Security Council resolution 1325. More needs to be done, of course, as the remaining 37 per cent of participating States must be encouraged to start working on this important matter.

Mr. Chairperson,

To conclude, I believe that there are various ways in which more can be done to promote full implementation of United Nations Security Council resolution 1325, notably: helping to promote gender mainstreaming in working environments, mainstreaming the gender perspective into OSCE activities, using gender-sensitive language, encouraging better gender balance on panels and the like, integrating a gender-sensitive approach in projects, encouraging the participation of women through training programmes, promoting gender equality amongst the OSCE participating States, and assisting participating States to implement their commitments in their countries as well as at the OSCE.

Together we can achieve far more.

Thank you very much for your attention.

I would request this statement be attached to the journal of the day.



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Forum for Security Co-operation**

FSC.JOUR/949

11 March 2020

Annex 4

Original: ENGLISH

943rd Plenary Meeting

FSC Journal No. 949, Agenda item 4(d)

**STATEMENT BY THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
CONFLICT PREVENTION CENTRE**

As announced previously, the OSCE Conflict Prevention Centre, jointly with the Institute for Peace Research and Security Policy at the University of Hamburg (IFSH) and in partnership with renowned research and academic institutions including the Geneva Centre for Security Policy, the Moscow State Institute of International Relations (MGIMO University) and the Vienna Centre for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation, has launched the “Young CSBM Scholar” essay competition. The project is aimed at promoting the continued enhancement of knowledge and expertise on arms control and CSBM processes at the OSCE among students and recent graduates interested in peace and security studies.

We encourage the participating States to disseminate information about the essay competition at universities and relevant research institutes, and among governmental agencies.

The call for papers can be found on the OSCE website under:
<https://www.osce.org/OSCE-IFSH-Essay-Competition-CSBMs>