



**61st JOINT MEETING OF THE  
FORUM FOR SECURITY CO-OPERATION  
AND THE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

1. Date: Wednesday, 7 October 2015

Opened: 10.05 a.m.

Closed: 12.45 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Ambassador R. Kvile (FSC) (Norway)  
Ambassador V. Žugić (PC) (Serbia)

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

Agenda item 1: SECURITY DIALOGUE: UNSCR 1325

*Presentations on gender equality in the armed forces – best practices:*

- *Rear Admiral J. Haggren, Head of Policy and Plans Department, Swedish Armed Forces Headquarters*
- *Captain A. Björsson, Gender Adviser and Project Co-ordinator for the Gender Coach Programme, Swedish Armed Forces Headquarters*
- *Ms. L. Olsson, PhD, Researcher and Project Leader, United Nations Security Council resolution 1325 programme, Folke Bernadotte Academy*
- *Brigadier General S. Joksimović, Head of the Strategic Planning Department, Ministry of Defence, Republic of Serbia*
- *Ms. H. H. Syse, Senior Adviser, Ministry of Defence, Norway*

Chairperson (PC), Chairperson (FSC), Ms. L. Olsson (FSC-PC.NGO/2/15 OSCE+) (FSC-PC.NGO/2/15/Add.1 OSCE+), Ms. A. Björsson (FSC-PC.NGO/2/15 OSCE+) (FSC-PC.NGO/2/15/Add.1 OSCE+), Mr. J. Haggren (FSC-PC.NGO/2/15 OSCE+) (FSC-PC.NGO/2/15/Add.1 OSCE+), Mr. S. Joksimović (FSC-PC.DEL/12/15 OSCE+)

(FSC-PC.DEL/12/15/Add.1 OSCE+), Ms. H. H. Syse (FSC-PC.DEL/11/15 OSCE+), Luxembourg-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland and Montenegro; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association countries Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Andorra, Georgia, Moldova, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (FSC-PC.DEL/13/15), United Kingdom (Annex 1), Canada, Turkey, Finland (Annex 2), the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Spain (Annex 3), Iceland (FSC-PC.DEL/15/15 OSCE+), Portugal, Azerbaijan (FSC-PC.DEL/14/15 OSCE+), United States of America, Armenia, Switzerland (Annex 4), Russian Federation, Ukraine (FSC-PC.DEL/16/15)

Agenda item 2: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

*Matters of protocol:* Italy, Chairperson (FSC)

4. Next meeting:

To be announced



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

FSC-PC.JOUR/48  
7 October 2015  
Annex 1

Original: ENGLISH

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**61st Joint Meeting of the FSC and the PC**  
FSC-PC Journal No. 48, Agenda item 1

## **STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF THE UNITED KINGDOM**

The United Kingdom fully supports the statement delivered on behalf of the European Union and its Member States, and would like to add some remarks in a national capacity.

We join others in thanking the speakers for their interesting presentations. Today's discussion is timely in view of next week's High-level Review of United Nations Security Council resolution 1325, in which the pivotal role that women should and do play in conflict management, conflict resolution and building sustainable peace is recognized.

However, despite repeated reaffirmations of their important role in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and the powerful role they can play in their communities to broker peace locally, women continue to be excluded from many formal peace and post-conflict processes. The High-level Review is an important and unique opportunity for change. We need to move from paper to action and to introduce robust evaluation mechanisms. The United Kingdom plans to make ambitious commitments at the Review meeting, to make them as measurable and time-bound as possible and to report on their progress each year at the annual women, peace and security debate at the United Nations. We would encourage other participating States to do likewise.

Mr. Chairperson,

The UK Ministry of Defence is actively pursuing the "women, peace and security" agenda within our own armed forces and in our international support operations. Internally, we are dedicated to aligning all relevant armed forces doctrine with the "women, peace and security" and "preventing sexual violence in conflict" agendas. We want to embed these agendas in the bloodstream of our modern armed forces. Our armed forces welcome people from all backgrounds regardless of gender, race, ethnic origin or religious belief and have a strict code of conduct to ensure that everyone is treated fairly.

A final word about the UK's continuing commitment to the Preventing Sexual Violence Initiative. We believe that the OSCE's multi-dimensional approach to security and its conflict prevention mandate make it an ideal organization for taking forward further work such as implementation of the international protocol on the documentation of sexual violence in conflict. We call on all concerned, including future OSCE chairmanships, to consider how we might make this happen.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson, and I would be grateful if you could attach this statement to the journal of this meeting.



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

FSC-PC.JOUR/48  
7 October 2015  
Annex 2

Original: ENGLISH

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**61st Joint Meeting of the FSC and the PC**  
FSC-PC Journal No. 48, Agenda item 1

## **STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF FINLAND**

Mr. Chairperson,

In addition to the European Union statement, I would like to make a few comments in my national capacity. First of all, I would like to join others in thanking Rear Admiral Haggren, Captain Björsson, Dr. Olsson, Brigadier General Joksimović and Ms. Syse for their truly interesting presentations. Our thanks also go to the Serbian and Norwegian Chairmanships for placing United Nations Security Council resolution 1325 on the agenda of this joint meeting.

The promotion of human rights, gender equality and the rule of law is critical from the outset of new peace operations. The Finnish Defence Forces have actively taken resolution 1325 into account since 2000 in the training of conscripts, reservists and active personnel for national and international activities. It was not until 1995 that women were allowed to serve on a voluntary basis and pursue careers as officers in the Finnish Defence Forces. However, we were already able to send our first female peacekeepers to international peacekeeping operations in 1991.

Today, the Finnish Defence Forces contribute a large number of both civilian and military experts to international crisis management operations. The Finnish Defence Forces are highly appreciated as an employer; out of a total of 12,000 employees, 40 per cent are civilian, and almost 50 per cent of those are female. There are a large number of women who work as specialists and researchers at the different echelons of the Finnish Defence Forces.

Mr. Chairperson,

It is high time we made every effort towards adopting an OSCE-wide action plan on women, peace and security. It is remarkable that up to now, five organizations – the European Union, NATO, the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF) – have adopted dedicated regional action plans on women, peace and security, yet the OSCE has not.

We must also step up efforts to develop and update national action plans on women, peace and security. The topic enjoys wide support among OSCE participating States. There are 51 National Action Plans globally, and 27 of these are within the OSCE region.

Resolution 1325 needs to be implemented in a holistic and comprehensive manner. The added value of the Forum for Security Co-operation comes into play in the area of promoting gender equality in the security sector. In addition to the voluntary reporting on the implementation of resolution 1325 in the context of the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security, we consider it beneficial to discuss the information that has been provided with an eye to lessons learned and possible good practices for national implementation.

We emphasize that crisis management operations and missions themselves must operationalize gender in their activities and that all deployments, including senior management, must receive training on gender mainstreaming and on prevention and response to sexual violence and sexual exploitation and abuse. We encourage all participating States to continue training and deploying women as civilian crisis management experts as well as military experts. The role of leadership is of the utmost importance in this regard.

One of the biggest gaps in the implementation of resolution 1325 concerns the participation of women in mediation and peace processes. Research shows that including women in a negotiating group increases the likelihood of achieving an agreement as well as the sustainability of the agreement, thus paving the way towards more lasting and durable peace. In this regard, Finland and Norway will organize a side event next week at the United Nations in New York on gender and inclusive mediation processes. We also look forward to the active participation of all delegations in the OSCE Security Days event next month, entitled "In Pursuit of Peace and Security: How Gender Makes a Difference".

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. We kindly ask you to attach this statement to the journal of the day.



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

FSC-PC.JOUR/48  
7 October 2015  
Annex 3

ENGLISH  
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**61st Joint Meeting of the FSC and the PC**  
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## **STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF SPAIN**

Mr. Chairperson,

I fully align myself with the statement by the European Union and would like to make a statement on behalf of my country, referring briefly to Spanish policies in this area and talking about the preparations for the Open Debate on Women, Peace and Security that we are organizing in the Security Council in New York on 13 October under the Spanish presidency of the Security Council in the framework of the High-Level Review of resolution 1325 (2000).

First of all, however, I should like to thank this morning's speakers for their informative presentations on good gender equality practices in the armed forces, to which Spain attaches great importance, and the inclusion of this highly relevant topic in today's agenda.

Spain pays great attention to policies to facilitate the full involvement of women and gender issues in its armed forces. The full integration of women and gender issues in our armed forces is being promoted through the Permanent Secretariat for Equality in the Ministry of Defence. The process of entry of women into the Spanish armed forces has been rapid and widespread and has been characterized by openness and full equality. Women are present in all corps and at all levels of our armed forces and are employed for all purposes without distinction. They have the same tasks and responsibilities, training, pay and disciplinary regime as men.

In addition, the gender perspective is present in all processes connected with security and peace-building, fostering the participation of women in peace missions, providing specific personnel training in the various aspects of resolution 1325, protecting the rights of women and girls in conflict and post-conflict situations, enhancing the participation and empowerment of women in the negotiation and implementation of peace agreements, and incorporating the principle of equality in the planning and execution of disarmament, demobilization and reintegration activities and the special training on these issues for all personnel participating in the processes involved.

For that reason, the inclusion of this discussion of the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) in our security dialogue today appears most opportune. Fifteen years

ago, the United Nations Security Council adopted resolution 1325 (2000), drawing attention to the differential impact of armed conflicts on women and girls, their exclusion from conflict prevention and resolution, peacekeeping and peace-building, and the inextricable link between gender equality and international peace and security.

Mr. Chairperson,

This year sees the holding of the High-Level Review of the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000). It offers an invaluable opportunity to reflect on the current status of its implementation and to make specific and ambitious commitments for its effective application.

To that end, the Spanish presidency of the United Nations Security Council has organized a high-level Open Debate on Women, Peace and Security on 13 October, chaired by the Prime Minister of Spain. All Member States and representatives of international and regional organizations such as the OSCE involved in the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) have been invited. The event, which is being organized in close co-operation with the United Kingdom, should make it possible to address the obstacles and difficulties that are holding up its implementation, to identify new trends and priorities for action and to renew the involvement of all actors in the agenda of women, peace and security.

Regional organizations like ours have a crucial role to play in the implementation of the women, peace and security agenda. Since the tenth anniversary of resolution 1325 (2000), major efforts have been made by regional and subregional organizations to monitor progress, evaluate results and share best practices on the implementation of the women, peace and security agenda. The Open Debate in a few days' time will offer a good opportunity for regional organizations to exchange information on their respective women, peace and security architectures and to explore new paths for co-operation and the exchange of information with the United Nations.

We hope that the Open Debate on resolution 1325 will produce ambitious and specific commitments and a fixed implementation timetable for all actors involved in the resolution's implementation.

In particular, we urge:

- States to go beyond rhetoric and announce specific commitments in vital areas such as women's leadership and participation in decision-making, the development and implementation of National Action Plans, funding, security and the rule of law, countering violent extremism and terrorism, and post-conflict recovery and reconstruction, among others;
- Countries that have gone or are going through a peace process to share their best practices and achievements regarding the implementation of the women, peace and security agenda, the study of which could be useful to other countries;
- The United Nations system to announce specific, ambitious and time-bound commitments in areas such as accountability and reporting, gender architecture, expertise and resourcing, women's participation, protection, conflict-related sexual

violence and sexual exploitation and abuse, amongst other things, to demonstrate that the Secretariat and United Nations as a whole is effectively prioritizing the agenda;

- The Security Council to improve its performance on a daily basis not only through a more coherent and systematic approach but also taking into account the specific issues in each country, since the solutions should be tailored to the specific contexts;
- Regional organizations such as the OSCE to share information on their own commitments, explain how they monitor progress, and their best practices and visions for strengthening co-operation with the United Nations on women, peace and security.

Mr. Chairperson,

We hope that the debate on 13 October will serve to expedite the implementation of our commitments regarding the women, peace and security agenda and that the Review of resolution 1325 will produce a new baseline resolution on women, peace and security that will strengthen the role of women and their importance in mediation. To that end, it is important to work on briefing and debriefing processes in connection with their deployment, as Spain already does, which would improve the effectiveness of the mission and the accountability mechanisms. We must also work on the identification of gender variables among the risk factors and causes of conflicts as a way of combating the alarming use of sexual violence as a weapon of war.

Spain is looking forward to the Security Day organized by the OSCE Secretary General on 13 November to share the results of the Open Debate and reflect on possible future steps, also in the regional context.

I thank you once again for including this highly relevant item in the Forum agenda and request that this statement be attached to the journal of the day.

Thank you very much.



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FSC-PC Journal No. 48, Agenda item 1

## **STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF SWITZERLAND**

Switzerland commends the Chairpersons of the Permanent Council and the Forum for Security Co-operation for organizing this joint meeting on the important matters addressed in United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 at a very timely moment. Indeed, the adoption of resolution 1325 on women, peace and security was commemorated on 9 September at the United Nations Palais des Nations in Geneva. Switzerland joins other delegations in thanking our keynote speakers for their valuable contributions and presentations.

Although strong norms with regard to gender-specific aspects of violent conflicts were established by resolution 1325, implementation remains uneven. We must acknowledge that major shortcomings remain; more must be done and resolution 1325 should be more vigorously put into practice.

Resolution 1325 is about human security; it is so important because it is the first Security Council resolution to adopt a gender-based perspective on peace and security. It recognizes women not only as victims, but also as vital actors in working on peace and establishing security. The resolution is about participation and protection. In it, the Security Council calls for the increased participation of women in all decision-making on peace and security. It also calls on all parties to protect women's rights and prevent sexual and gender-based violence – before, during and after violent conflicts.

A major tool for translating these provisions into specific and accountable policies and actions is that of National Action Plans on women, peace and security. Switzerland was among the first countries to adopt such a plan in 2007. Our Action Plan has been regularly reviewed and updated since. It includes reporting to the Swiss Parliament, which strengthens accountability for our own commitments. Fifty-one countries have developed national action plans to date. We must encourage more States to develop their own National Actions Plans and prevail upon regional organizations to follow the good examples of the OSCE, the African Union and NATO by developing such plans and policies also.

Switzerland welcomes the efforts of the OSCE and its executive structures to promote gender equality and empowerment of women in a cross-dimensional manner. Switzerland also welcomes the Security Day which will take place in November and strongly supports the adoption of an OSCE-wide Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security.

Strengthening women's participation and inclusion in peace processes and in operational planning is of the utmost importance. This is not just a question of women's having an equal say in matters of peace and security. It is also about achieving better results. The track record is not good. Switzerland is very engaged in mediation support for peace processes. We know from our own experience that women's concerns remain in constant danger of being disregarded, often because of a lack of political will. One lesson learned is that we need to engage with civil society and build capacity and empower women from an early stage. We need to establish a group of women leaders who are ready to become involved at the opportune moment. Women should be included in all mediation training and activities. We are also promoting local women's networks that are active in peace and security. The need to enhance women's participation is also relevant with regard to "traditional" mediation actors and to the armed forces.

With regard to the aspects of resolution 1325 concerning protection, much remains to be done. In theatres of conflict around the world, women and girls continue to find themselves subject to daily assault. We read and watch horrendous reports about sexual violence, abductions and forced sexual slavery of women and girls in several States. The vast majority of victims of sexual violence are women and girls of all ages. We know, however, that men and boys are deliberately targeted too, which often remains taboo but must be rigorously addressed as well. All such acts are a severe violation of human rights and international law. These crimes have devastating consequences for the lives of victims, affecting their physical and social and economic well-being. Impunity is widespread and seeking justice is hard because legal systems in war-torn societies are generally weak, and prosecution procedures may expose survivors to further danger and humiliation.

In the 15 years since resolution 1325 was adopted, the world has changed quite significantly. While terrorism is not mentioned in the resolution, Switzerland believes that it is as essential to include a gender-based perspective in strategies to prevent violent extremism as it is in conflict settlement and State-building strategies. Women and girls also play a wide variety of roles with respect to the prevention of violent extremism.

In conclusion, women's rights and gender equality must be a cornerstone of any peace- and State-building agenda and must be taken into account from the earliest stages of any political settlement, in the development of strategies and in national regulations. This requires long-term engagement and better implementation of resolutions 1325 and 2122.

Thank you for your attention.