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ENGLISH only

***“Women in the Security Sector: Challenges and Opportunities for  
the OSCE Area and Beyond”***

Vienna, 1 October 2018

– Annotated Agenda –



**Venue:**

Hofburg, Neuer Saal  
Vienna, Austria

**MONDAY, 1 OCTOBER**

10:00 – 10:30

**Registration**

10:30 – 10:50

**Opening remarks:**

- *Ambassador Alessandro Azzoni, Italian OSCE Chairmanship;*
- *Ambassador Thomas Greminger, OSCE Secretary General;*
- *Captain Stefania Palmiero, Italian Air Force, Representative of Italian Armed Forces.*

10:50 – 12:35

**Session 1: “The correlation between women’s participation in the security sector and operational effectiveness”**

The participation of women in the security sector as well as to peace-building activities is critical for ensuring local ownership, situational awareness, effective delivery of security services, and strengthened oversight and accountability. The session will shed light on the correlation between inclusivity and operational effectiveness. This will be done by addressing practical quantitative and qualitative evidence and involving key-note speakers such as gender experts, think tankers and researchers.

**Speakers:**

- **Dr. Susan Atkins**, Author of ODIHR’s Baseline on Women in the Armed Forces;
- **Brigadier General Gordana Garašić**, Deputy Director of RACVIAC Centre for Security Cooperation;
- **Ms. Irene Fellin**, Researcher, Institute of International Affairs and Women in International Security–Italy;
- **Mr. Daniel De Torres**, Head of Gender Unit at Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of the Armed Forces (DCAF).



**Moderator:**

**Col. Dr Hans Lampalzer**, Austrian Ministry of Defense.

12:30 – 14:00

**Buffet lunch**

14:00 – 15:25

**Session 2: “Exchanges of views on national and multilateral experiences and international cooperation”**

Despite international law and national action plans addressing and mandating women’s participation in the security sector, women’s participation in security activities – both in the field and at the decision-making level – is often discounted or overlooked. Nevertheless, positive models of inclusivity do exist within the OSCE Area and beyond. These will be addressed during the session through the participation of representatives of security forces, experts from capitals, gender advisers from field missions and operations and international organisations.

**Speakers:**

- **Ms. Idah Muema**, Women Protection Advisor in the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI);
- **Ms. Taina Järvinen**, Human Rights and Gender Advisor, EU Crisis Management and Planning Directorate, EEAS;
- **Ms. Kaana Aidarkul**, Chair of Kyrgyz Association of Women in Police;
- **Major Gen. Denis Thompson**, former Canadian Armed Forces.

**Moderator:**

**Cdr Graham Townsend RN**, Senior Military Adviser to the UK Delegation to the OSCE.

15:25 – 15:35

**Coffee/Tea break**



15:35 – 16:40

**Session 3: “Persisting challenges and opportunities for the OSCE with special attention to the first dimension”**

Readiness and willingness to continue discussions on the topic was expressed by all participating States following last year negotiations on the MC draft on women’s participation in the security sector. This session will address potential OSCE contribution at the global level. Senior OSCE officials and pS will discuss persisting challenges, potential opportunities and will draw practical recommendations on the way forward.

**Speakers:**

- **Ms. Graziella Pavone**, Human Rights officer/Human Rights, Gender and Security, OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights;
- **Ms. Sanja Fitzgerald**, National Project Officer OSCE Mission Bosnia-Herzegovina;
- **Ms. Yvette Langenhuizen**, Gender Adviser, OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine.

**Moderator:**

**Ambassador Ulrika Funered**, Swedish Chairmanship of the OSCE Forum For Security-Cooperation (FSC).

16:40 – 17:15

**Closing remarks:**

- *Ambassador Melanne Verweir, Special Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-In-Office on Gender;*
- *Ms. Amarsanaa Darisuren, Senior Gender Advisor, OSCE Office of Secretary General/Gender Section;*
- *Mr. Omer Fisher, Head of Human Rights Department, ODIHR.*