
Chairmanship: Sweden**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
FORUM FOR SECURITY CO-OPERATION
(897th Plenary Meeting)**

1. Date: Wednesday, 31 October 2018

Opened: 10.05 a.m.

Closed: 1.05 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Ambassador U. Funered

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

Agenda item 1: SECURITY DIALOGUE: 18th ANNIVERSARY OF THE
ADOPTION OF UNSCR 1325

- *Joint presentation by Brigadier D. Eastman MBE, Head (Military) Euro-Atlantic Security, and Lieutenant Colonel R. Grimes MBE, Staff Officer Level 1 (Military) for Women, Peace and Security, Ministry of Defence, United Kingdom*
- *Presentation by Captain I. Zavorotko, Officer of the Military Law Section, Department of Legal Affairs, General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine*
- *Presentation by Captain L. Ekvall, Swedish Military Helicopter Fleet, Swedish Armed Forces, and former Adviser on Gender Issues, Office of the Secretary General, OSCE Secretariat*

Chairperson, Brigadier D. Eastman, Lieutenant Colonel R. Grimes (FSC.DEL/217/18 OSCE+), Captain I. Zavorotko (FSC.DEL/210/18 OSCE+), Captain L. Ekvall (FSC.DEL/209/18 OSCE+), Austria-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Andorra, Georgia, Moldova, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (FSC.DEL/214/18), Slovenia (Annex 1),

Switzerland, Holy See (FSC.DEL/212/18 OSCE+), Azerbaijan (FSC.DEL/216/18 OSCE+), Poland (FSC.DEL/213/18), Liechtenstein (FSC.DEL/211/18 OSCE+), Spain (Annex 2), Turkey, Georgia (FSC.DEL/218/18), OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, Canada (Annex 3), Albania, Armenia, United States of America, Russian Federation, Ukraine, FSC Co-ordinator on Matters Relating to UNSCR 1325 (Italy), OSCE Senior Adviser on Gender Issues

Agenda item 2: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) *Briefing on the military exercise “Trident Juncture 18”, being conducted from 25 October to 7 November 2018: Norway*
- (b) *Symposium on the OSCE Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security, to be held in Berlin on 22 and 23 November 2018: FSC Co-ordinator for the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security (Romania), Chairperson*

4. Next meeting:

Wednesday, 7 November 2018, at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal



897th Plenary Meeting
FSC Journal No. 903, Agenda item 1

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF SLOVENIA

Madam Chairperson,

Hats off to you personally – and to the Swedish Chairmanship as a whole – for devoting this special meeting of the FSC to the 18th anniversary of the groundbreaking UN Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women, peace and security. I am expressing this sentiment not only because I happen to be the Chairperson of the OSCE MenEngage Network, but also because the promotion of gender equality, both at home and abroad, is a priority for Slovenia. That is also why the topic of women, peace and security was one of the recurring themes of our recent FSC Chairmanship. In addition to what has been said on behalf of the European Union, I should therefore like to make a few observations in my national capacity, drawing on some of the Security Dialogues that took place at FSC meetings in the previous months.

I think it is especially important to underline the changing nature of contemporary conflict and of the associated security challenges. Not only has the line between combatants and civilians been blurred, but it has also proved necessary to apply new skills and a flexible approach. As a result, the engagement of women is now recognized as essential in fields as diverse as mine action and nuclear security. In other words, gender mainstreaming across the OSCE's politico-military dimension is both the right thing and the smart thing to do. As I can see, this is also a key premise of the new OSCE handbook on gender in military operations, authored by Captain Lotta Ekvall and published by the Secretariat's Gender Section, which starts off by pointing out that integrating a gender perspective in operational planning and activities benefits military missions and operations.

This does not mean that gender mainstreaming is easy. As discussed within this Forum, despite our collective efforts, the proportion of female monitors in the OSCE's biggest operation, the Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine, is still below our expectations. However, other organizations also face challenges in the promotion of an even more active role for women in their field missions. In this respect, I should like to recall the very frank yet inspiring discussion that we had about some gender-related aspects of deployments to the Kosovo Force (KFOR), which is the longest-running NATO operation. Moreover, the success of a recent project on gender mainstreaming in the armed forces in the Western Balkans shows that change is not only possible, but that the newly acquired attitudes and knowledge can be internalized to the point of being successfully transmitted to other countries as well.

Of course, while thinking globally, we should never forget to act locally. I am therefore happy to report that during our FSC Chairmanship we managed to fulfil the panel parity pledge during all FSC Security Dialogues. In fact, almost half of our panellists (42 per cent to be precise) were women, including the first female Deputy Chief of the General Staff of the Slovenian Armed Forces and the new NATO Special Representative for Women, Peace and Security. I am therefore glad that the Swedish FSC Chairmanship is also actively avoiding “manels”, that is, all-male panels. I am sure that the future Swiss FSC Chairmanship will do the same.

Finally, as the Chairperson of the OSCE MenEngage Network, I cannot but emphasize the need for men to engage in promoting gender equality, especially in traditionally male-dominated fields, such as those falling under the politico-military dimension of the OSCE. I should therefore like to recall how in June, on the first day of the Annual Security Review Conference, members of the Network came together to perform the acclaimed documentary play *SEVEN*, which celebrates women’s empowerment. This staging was all the more noteworthy because while half of the performers were ambassadors, the other half were military advisers. Let me therefore conclude by inviting other members of this Forum to join the OSCE MenEngage Network and heed the inspiring call of UN Security Council resolution 1325.

I kindly ask you, Madam Chairperson, to attach this statement to the journal of the day.

Thank you.



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STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF SPAIN

Madam Chairperson,

I thank you for including this highly topical issue in our agenda today and for the interesting presentations. Spain fully endorses the European Union statement and would like at the same time to make a statement in its national capacity so as to share with the delegations of all participating States its most recent experience with the implementation of resolution 1325.

Gender equality is one of the main aims of Spanish foreign policy and diplomacy. In 2007, Spain approved the first National Action Plan for the implementation of resolution 1325. During our Presidency of the United Nations Security Council in 2015, which coincided with the 15th anniversary of the resolution, we advocated the holding of a high-level open debate on women, peace and security, which resulted in the unanimous approval of a new Security Council resolution on this subject, resolution 2242. Spain also undertook to work towards the establishment of a network of national contact points on women, peace and security with a view to fostering the elaboration and initiation of national plans to implement UN Security Council resolution 1325 and to promote capacity-building at the local, national and regional level for actors working with women, peace and security, among other aims. This network was launched in September 2016.

A second six-year National Action Plan (2017–2023) is currently in force. Its main aim is to give priority to the role of women as agents of peace by stepping up their contribution to conflict prevention and settlement and the establishment of lasting peace, above all through our participation in missions abroad.

An important event was celebrated in Spain last September, namely the 30th anniversary of the presence of women in our armed forces.

What was a novelty three decades ago has today become an established reality, in which every day men and women live together and carry out their work as a completely normal state of affairs based on a model of legal and effective equality. The integration has been extended to all positions and jobs, such that soldiers of both sexes now have identical tasks, training, payment and disciplinary regimes. This year, the first woman has just been

selected to participate in a course for promotion to general, and in 2019 Spain could see the first woman in its armed forces promoted to the rank of general.

In numerical terms, however, the participation of women in the armed forces could be improved. There are currently 15,286 women in active service, 12.7 per cent of the total, which is higher than the European average.

The Spanish integration model is progressive and regarded as a benchmark. An institutional structure within the Ministry of Defence, in the form of the Military Observatory for Equality and the Permanent Secretary for Equality, provides support and continuously updates the regulatory framework.

Thus, the Military Career Law (2007) established the gender perspective as a cross-cutting principle in staff regulations and provided for the adoption of measures for maternity protection. Similarly, the Law on the Rights and Duties of the Armed Forces (2011) emphasized the principle of equality and non-discrimination on account of gender and the duty to promote specific means to ensure genuine equality between men and women, particularly regarding access, service, training and military careers. Finally, through the Constitutional Laws on the Armed Forces Disciplinary Regime (2014) and the Military Penal Code (2015) a new punishment framework has been established for sexual harassment, gender discrimination and other behaviour prejudicial to women.

Madam Chairperson,

Sexual harassment represents a betrayal of the values and principles on which the armed forces are based, and for that reason zero tolerance is the only possible policy. The Spanish armed forces have special bodies to combat it: the Harassment Protection Units (UPA), independent of the chain of command, serving as a voluntary channel for the transmission of complaints, and providing help at any time to victims, while at the same time carrying out prevention and awareness-raising work.

Among the aims of the first National Action Plan for the implementation of resolution 1325 is the targeted training of personnel in this area. Among other things, this subject matter has been included in the Department of Defence teaching syllabus, and its communication has been fostered through international activities, seminars and courses. As far as the last item is concerned, mention should be made of the bilateral Spanish-Dutch initiative with the participation of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Defence of the two countries aimed at providing training in gender issues in operations to civilians and military personnel (middle management level) by way of an integrated approach.

This activity is also exportable, since the scope of the training programme could be adapted to any region.

Thank you, Madam Chairperson.

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



897th Plenary Meeting
FSC Journal No. 903, Agenda item 1

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF CANADA

Madam Chairperson,

Good morning everyone. I would like to begin by thanking you, Ambassador Funered, for having this important topic of discussion for today's Security Dialogue. I would also like to extend a warm welcome to our guest speakers and thank them all for their informative and enlightening presentations, and to welcome their efforts to advance gender equality and the goals of UNSCR 1325 and the subsequent resolutions regarding women, peace and security.

Madam Chairperson,

Women, peace and security (WPS) is an integral part of the Government of Canada's feminist agenda, which prioritizes gender equality and the protection of the rights of women and girls. A year after the launch of Canada's second National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security in November 2017, we already submitted our progress report which consequently has increased available funding, launched multiple new initiatives, increasingly worked with civil society, and called upon Canadian officials at home and abroad to mobilize support for women as active agents of peace. The goals set in the second National Action Plan are ambitious, aiming to create behaviour-changing results, but they need to come with the understanding that lasting change takes time and sustained efforts by all.

Canada's approach to WPS is based on the understanding that addressing root causes of gender inequality requires the transformation of power relations associated with discrimination, coercion and violence in Canada and abroad. Over the last year, Canada launched the Elsie Initiative for Women in Peace Operations to increase the number of women peacekeepers globally and make their work environment safer, more inclusive, and ultimately more effective. Canada also launched, with the United Kingdom and Bangladesh, the WPS Chief of Defence Staff Network to drive transformative cultural and institutional change within national armed forces. During Canada's 2018 G7 presidency, the government sought to advance gender equality throughout its many lines of effort. It mobilized G7 States behind a G7 Summit announcement, which committed close to 3.8 billion dollars to increase educational opportunities for women and girls in fragile, crisis and conflict situations. The G7 WPS Partnerships Initiative, launched jointly by G7 members and eight partnership countries, further advances gender equality and women's rights in fragile and conflict-affected States.

Madam Chairperson,

Canada's efforts to advance the WPS agenda is not without its challenges. We have come to realize that achieving enduring results that meet government ambitions will require frequent and honest reflection on the areas where it needs to improve. Administrative hurdles, measurement and attribution challenges, as well as ongoing difficulties in operating in conflict contexts, oblige the government to adapt its tools. Despite the obstacles confronting the Action Plan, Canada remains wholly committed to ensure that progress toward our WPS objectives continues steadily.

Madam Chairperson,

Let me repeat once more our main message: the empowerment of women and girls in efforts to prevent, end and recover from armed conflict benefits us all. Gender equality and inclusive peace processes build more stable societies and are a critical precondition for a peaceful world for everyone: women, men, girls and boys. The rights of women and girls cannot and should not be compromised, and Canada will continue to implement policies and programmes to support them.

Madam Chairperson, I would ask that you attach this statement to the journal of the day.

Thank you.