

Local Women, Global Impact: Advancing WPS through the Pact for the Future

A panel event in conjunction with the Summit of the Future

21 September 2024 | Time 13:30-15:00 EDT

Event format: hybrid

Location in New York: Yale Club (50 Vanderbilt Ave, New York, NY 10017, United States)

Zoom details will be shared after registration using the [link](#)

Organized by the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) and the Global Network of Women Peacebuilders (GNWP),

The Summit of the Future at the United Nations serves as a pivotal platform for galvanizing support for the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda as a key tool to address pressing global governance challenges and chart a course toward a more inclusive, sustainable future. The WPS agenda is not merely a standalone initiative but a cross-cutting imperative that must permeate all discussions and actions on global peace and security. As such, the Pact for the Future — the actionable outcome document of the Summit — must prominently feature the mainstreaming of WPS and gender considerations across all its facets. By embedding these principles, the Pact ensures that the multilateral system can effectively fulfill the commitments laid out in the UN Charter and the 2030 Agenda, thereby advancing gender equality, peace, and sustainable development on a global scale.

In conjunction with the Summit of the Future, OSCE and GNWP are convening a panel discussion centering the WPS agenda within the discourse around the Summit of the Future. In parallel, this panel will commemorate the twentieth anniversary of the OSCE Action Plan for the Promotion of Gender Equality. To highlight the strides toward gender equality achieved by OSCE and GNWP through the WIN Project, **this event will spotlight local women peacebuilders and mediators working at the intersections of WPS and critical issues in Central Asia, Eastern Europe, and the South Caucasus, including the Localization of WPS, intergenerational partnerships, and sustainable financing.** By amplifying the voices and experiences of women in conflict prevention,

conflict resolution, and peacebuilding, this dialogue will underscore their invaluable contributions to durable peace and inclusive security frameworks called for in the Pact for the Future. Highlighting their expertise and leadership will inform gender-responsive approaches essential for sustainable peace and development in these regions.

Objectives

- **Spotlight the Crucial Role of Grassroots Women Peacebuilders:** Emphasize the essential contributions of grassroots women peacebuilders in achieving equitable peace and security, particularly through the localization of the Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) agenda.
- **Integrate Diverse Women Peacebuilders and Mediators' Experience:** Facilitate discussions on incorporating women peacebuilders and mediators experience from various conflict contexts within Central Asia, Eastern Europe, and the South Caucasus. Focus on the intersecting themes of localizing the WPS agenda, fostering intergenerational partnerships, and ensuring sustainable financing, all within the framework of the Pact for the Future.
- **Promote Effective Localization Strategies:** Showcase local examples and strategies for effectively implementing WPS commitments by supporting grassroots women leaders and initiatives, and share recommendations to policymakers.

Format, speakers and audience

The event will be held in hybrid format. The event will be in English. The audience will comprise a diverse range of stakeholders, including representatives from civil society, Member States, multilateral organizations, and academia.

A provisional agenda

Moderator: Maria Victoria 'Mavic' Cabrera Balleza, Founder and CEO of the Global Network of Women Peacebuilders

Time TBC	<u>Opening remarks</u>
13:30-13:55	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Dr Lara Scarpitta, OSCE Senior Advisor on Gender Issues2. HE Vanessa Frazier, Permanent Representative of Malta to the United Nations in New York3. Bandana Rana, Vice-Chair of the CEDAW Committee and Chair of the Board of Directors at GNWP

13:55-14:05	<p><u>Keynote speaker</u></p> <p><i>Ambassador Melanne Vermeer</i>, Executive Director of the Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace and Security</p>
14:05-14:25	<p><u>Panel discussion</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Anastasiia Nenka</i>, Head of the Women Information and Consultative Center (Ukraine) 2. <i>Yekaterina Ushakova</i>, National Coordinator Y-PEER (Kazakhstan) 3. <i>Ms. Ana Nemsadze</i>, Women, Peace and Security Direction Coordinator, Women's Information Center (WIC) (Georgia)
14:25-14:50	<p><u>Q&A</u></p>
14:50-15:00	<p><u>Closing of the event</u></p> <p>UN WOMEN (TBC)</p>