



WOMEN, PEACE, AND SECURITY IN THE MILITARY

NEWS ROUND UP—DECEMBER 2022

The WPS News Round Up is a new monthly initiative from the Peacekeeping and Stability Operations Institute (PKSOI), the U.S. Army Office of Primary Responsibility for WPS implementation, that will provide the U.S. Army WPS community of interest with a monthly round up of articles to raise awareness and knowledge of WPS efforts and initiatives. The articles in the WPS News Round Up are provided for your situational awareness, only. The contents do not reflect the official views of, nor are they endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, the Department of the Army, or PKSOI.

Women, Peace, and Security in the Military

News Round Up—December 2022

ARTICLE: Colombian army hosts combined Women’s Peace and Security panel discussion

REPORTER: *Sgt. 1st Class Alan Brutus, U.S. Army (11.23.22)*

EXCERPT: The Colombian army hosted a WPS panel discussion alongside U.S. Soldiers on Nov. 16, 2022, at the conclusion of Exercise Southern Vanguard 23 at Tolemaida Military Base, Colombia.

READ MORE:

https://www.army.mil/article/262274/colombian_army_hosts_combined_womens_peace_and_security_panel_discussion

ARTICLE: Women, Peace, Security: More than just words on paper

REPORTER: *Staff Sgt. Scott C. Warner, 621st Contingency Response Wing Public Affairs (11.21.22)*

EXCERPT: Between September 13-29, eight team members from the 571st MSAS deployed to Paraguay to train Paraguayan Armed Forces, demonstrate interoperability, and build partnership capacity with the host nation. During their deployment, a real-life example of WPS in action was during a flight with the Paraguayan Armed Forces (also known as the Fuerzas Armadas de Paraguay).

READ MORE: <https://www.expeditionarycenter.af.mil/News/Article-Display/Article/3224587/women-peace-security-more-than-just-words-on-paper/>

ARTICLE: Women, Peace, and Security in Professional Military Education

REPORTER: *From NATO (11.15.22)*

EXCERPT: On 15 November 2022, the Canadian Defence Academy, in partnership with the Swedish Defence University and the George C. Marshall Centre, hosted an event at NATO HQ, dedicated to Women, Peace and Security (WPS) in the Professional Military Education.

READ MORE: https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/news_209206.htm

ARTICLE: Commentary: Why Dictators Are Afraid Of Girls: Rethinking Gender And National Security

REPORTER: *By Kathleen J. McLinnis, Benjamin Jensen, and Jaron Wharton (11.07.22)*

EXCERPT: ...A powerful protest movement is gaining momentum in Iran that was sparked and carried forward by women and girls. Russia is using notions of hyper-masculinity as a key vehicle for both maintaining regime control domestically while promulgating disinformation across Western publics. As Xi consolidates his power in Beijing, the Chinese Communist Party is fomenting concerns that boys are being “feminized,” a move that appears to contradict decades of Chinese policy promoting gender equality. The common thread between all these examples: gender. Gender plays a powerful role in the

construction and promulgation of power and identity that is particularly meaningful in authoritarian regimes.

READ MORE: <https://warontherocks.com/2022/11/why-dictators-are-afraid-of-girls-rethinking-gender-and-national-security/>

ARTICLE: Women, Peace, and Security and Defence

REPORTER: *Katharine Wright, UK's The Women Peace and Security (WPS) Helpdesk (11.04.22)*

EXCERPT: The Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) agenda has significant relevance to defence, yet tensions remain between defence and the normative foundations of the agenda drawn from the activism of anti-militarist civil society, who sought to end war, rather than making war safe for women. This report highlights that there is still significant scope for the engagement of defence with WPS in a way which is sensitive to such concerns... (Note: includes interviews with US WPS Experts)

READ MORE: <https://wps-helpdesk.org/articles/women-peace-and-security-and-defence/>

ARTICLE: First-ever Continuing Promise WPS Agenda

REPORTER: *By Geraldine Cook/Diálogo (11.03.22)*

EXCERPT: For the first time, U.S. Navy hospital ship USNS Comfort (T-AH 20), sailing toward Latin America and the Caribbean as part of U.S. Southern Command- (SOUTHCOM) sponsored humanitarian mission Continuing Promise 2022, is breaking down gender barriers by expanding the perspective on traditional security and health issues. The current mission is engaging with the Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) Initiative to strengthen a common goal to address gender-based violence and women empowerment.

READ MORE: <https://dialogo-americas.com/articles/first-ever-continuing-promise-wps-agenda/#.Y3uo7XbMJPY>

- **Related:** *Gen. Laura J. Richardson delivers remarks on Women's Peace and Security, in Cartagena, Colombia:* <https://www.navy.mil/Resources/Videos/videoId/864336/>
- **Related:** *USNS Comfort Brings WPS to Colombia:* <https://www.dvidshub.net/news/434021/usns-comfort-brings-wps-colombia>

ARTICLE: Experts React: The Biden Administration's National Defense Strategy

REPORTER: *From the Stimson Center (11.02.22)*

EXCERPT: "A Strategy that Reflects our Values Would have Mentioned the Women, Peace, and Security Agenda—The lack of mention of Women, Peace, and Security in the NDS is a strategic opportunity missed that leaves the US out of step with our partners and Allies and devoid of a leadership role in the changes happening within the field." (Note: WPS Section written by Samantha Turner, former EUCOM WPS Advisor)

READ MORE: <https://www.stimson.org/2022/experts-react-the-biden-administrations-national-defense-strategy/>

ARTICLE: UNITAS LXIII – Women In Combat Arms

REPORTER: *By Cpl. Ryan Schmid, Marine Corps Forces South (10.25.22)*

EXCERPT: UNITAS is the world's longest-running multinational maritime exercise that focuses on enhancing interoperability among multiple nations and joint forces during littoral and amphibious operations in order to build on existing regional partnerships and create new enduring relationships that promote peace, stability, and prosperity in the U.S. Southern Command's area of responsibility (i.e.,

Latin America and the Caribbean). One initiative that U.S. Marine Corps Forces, South and U.S. Naval Forces Southern Command highlighted in the exercise is the Women, Peace, and Security Program.

READ MORE: <https://www.marines.mil/News/News-Display/Article/3199208/unitas-lxiii-women-in-combat-arms/>

ARTICLE: U.S. and Mexico incorporate 'Women, Peace, and Security Program' in 'Fuerzas Amigas 2022'

REPORTER: *By Sgt. 1st Class Seth Barham, U.S. Army North (10.24.22)*

EXCERPT: The U.S. military conducted exercise Fuerzas Amigas 2022 with the Mexican military Oct. 16-21, 2022, at Campo Militar Reynosa in Reynosa, Mexico. The exercise aims to strengthen the bilateral military-to-military partnership conducting disaster response operations along the U.S.-Mexico border. This year's exercise included a Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) objective for the first time, integrating a gender perspective into exercise planning, design, and execution in support of our mutual WPS objectives.

READ MORE: <https://www.dvidshub.net/news/431981/us-and-mexico-incorporate-women-peace-and-security-program-fuerzas-amigas-2022>

Upcoming Events

WHAT: Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services: Quarterly Meeting

WHEN: Dec. 6-7, 2022

WHERE: AUSA Conference Center, 2425 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, Virginia 22201

The next quarterly meeting for the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services (DACOWITS) will take place at the Association of the United States Army Conference Center in Arlington, VA. The purpose of the meeting is for the DACOWITS to receive briefings and have discussions on topics related to the recruitment, retention, employment, integration, well-being, and treatment of women in the Armed Forces of the United States. The meeting will be open to the public 0800-1130 on Dec. 6, and 0800-1145 on Dec. 7.

READ MORE: <https://dacowits.defense.gov/> or

<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2022/10/25/2022-23102/defense-advisory-committee-on-women-in-the-services-dacowits-meeting>

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