



WOMEN, PEACE, AND SECURITY IN THE MILITARY

NEWS ROUND UP—AUGUST 2023

The WPS in the Military News Round Up is a new initiative from the Peacekeeping and Stability Operations Institute (PKSOI), the U.S. Army Combined Arms Center-designated Office of Primary Responsibility for WPS implementation. It provides the U.S. Army WPS community of interest with a monthly round up of military related WPS articles to increase knowledge on WPS and raise awareness 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, CAC, or PKSOI.

Women, Peace, and Security in the Military News Round Up—August 2023

ARTICLE: Enhancing National Security—Increasing Female Faculty in Professional Military Education Would Strengthen U.S. Security

REPORTER: *By Magdalena Bogacz, Joint Force Quarterly (July 2023)*

EXCERPT: Thus, PME with such a small percentage of women instructors is at best limited in scope, because it eliminates a variety of different perspectives, and at worst unreliable, because it produces limited knowledge. There might be truths to which national security will have no access unless PME increases the diversity of instructors' experiences.

READ MORE: <https://ndupress.ndu.edu/JFQ/Joint-Force-Quarterly-110/Article/Article/3449965/enhancing-national-security-increasing-female-faculty-in-professional-military/>

ARTICLE: Integrating Women, Peace, and Security Into Security Cooperation

REPORTER: *By Barbara Salera, Joint Force Quarterly 110 (07.07. 23)*

EXCERPT: For SC activities in partner nations to achieve results the US seeks, all segments of society must be included. Currently, the benefits of SC programs fall disproportionately on male members of partner-nations' militaries. Not only are women excluded, they are often perceived as passive observers or victims of insecurity as opposed to thinkers and actors involved in ensuring a nation's security.⁵ As a reflection of American values, women should have equal access to the benefits of SC and other U.S.-provided assistance programs and need to be included in wider peace and security efforts.

READ MORE: <https://ndupress.ndu.edu/Media/News/News-Article-View/Article/3450814/integrating-women-peace-and-security-into-security-cooperation/>

ARTICLE: Joint Statement on Australia-U.S. Ministerial Consultations (AUSMIN) 2023

REPORTER: *By DOD release, Defense.gov (07.29.23)*

EXCERPT: The principals reiterated their commitment to achieving gender equality and advancing the human rights of all women and girls, in all their diversity, globally and through initiatives in the Indo-Pacific. They welcomed the inaugural annual Australia-U.S. Strategic Dialogue on Gender Equality held in June 2023, and their commitment to collaborate on implementing the Women, Peace and Security agenda, ending all forms of sexual and gender-based violence, advancing gender equality in trade and progressing women's economic empowerment.

READ MORE: <https://www.defense.gov/News/Releases/Release/Article/3476104/joint-statement-on-australia-us-ministerial-consultations-ausmin-2023/>

ARTICLE: Vermont Army National Guard promotes first female to Brigadier General

REPORTER: *By Auditi Guha, VTDigger.com (07.28.2023)*

EXCERPT: The Vermont Army National Guard on Wednesday celebrated the first woman to be promoted to brigadier general. During a ceremony at Camp Johnson, Col. Tracey Poirier acknowledged the promotion gives her greater visibility, but said she is more interested in being available to and mentoring officers who want to reach the rank of general.

READ MORE: <https://www.vnews.com/vt-guard-has-first-female-brigadier-general-51787467>

ARTICLE: The Women's Army Corps and the Manhattan Project

REPORTER: *By The National WWII Museum (07.27.2023)*

EXCERPT: A separate Women's Army Corps (WAC) detachment was established on June 3, 1944, to supply female forces for the Manhattan Project, with an initial 74 women reporting. Each of these individuals underwent a personal interview by the WAC staff director who commanded the Oak Ridge company and was hand-selected for the assignment. Most of the WACs were split between Oak Ridge and Los Alamos, but a few were at Hanford in Pasco, Washington, and Washington, D.C., Chicago, New York City, and even London. By the war's end, 422 WACs had served with the Corps of Engineers on the Manhattan Project.

READ MORE: <https://www.nationalww2museum.org/war/articles/womens-army-corps-and-manhattan-project>

ARTICLE: In Historic Move, Biden Nominates Adm. Lisa Franchetti as First Woman to Lead Navy

REPORTER: *By (07.22.2023)*

EXCERPT: President Biden has chosen Adm. Lisa Franchetti to lead the Navy, an unprecedented choice that, if confirmed, will make her the first woman to be a Pentagon service chief and the first female member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

READ MORE: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/lisa-franchetti-nominated-first-woman-navy-joint-chiefs-of-staff/>

ARTICLE: I Was a Real-Life 'Special Ops: Lioness' Just Like on the Taylor Sheridan Show

REPORTER: *By Asia Grace, NY Post (07.21.23)*

EXCERPT: The Rochester, New York, native's personal milestone coincided with her first day of deployment to Ar-Rutbah, Iraq, where she served as a "Lioness" with Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 2nd Marines, for three months. As a Lioness — a team of intrepid female service members quietly established by the Marines in 2003 — Folwell was one of the three female troopers to be attached to a combat unit. ... The trailblazing Lionesses served as the inspiration for Paramount's forthcoming action thriller "Special Ops: Lioness," which debuts Sunday and stars Zoe Saldana, 45, alongside Oscar winners Nicole Kidman, 56, and Morgan Freeman, 86.

READ MORE: <https://nypost.com/2023/07/21/real-women-inspire-taylor-sheridans-special-ops-lioness/>

ARTICLE: Instructors Teach Human Rights, Women, Peace and Security for TRADEWINDS 23

REPORTER: *By Spc. Joshua Taeckens, U.S. Army South (07.20.23)*

EXCERPT: As the Caribbean-focused multinational exercise, TRADEWINDS 23, hits full stride in Guyana, a team of U.S. Southern Command (SOUTHCOM) and Dominican Republic instructors traveled by land and sea to various training sites to speak about humanitarian law, human rights and Women, Peace and Security (WPS).

READ MORE: <https://www.dvidshub.net/news/449670/international-instructors-teach-human-rights-women-peace-and-security-tradewinds-23>

ARTICLE: Launching New Agenda for Peace Policy Brief, Secretary-General Urges States to “Preserve Our Universal Institution” amid Highest Level of Geopolitical Tension in Decades

REPORTER: *By (07.20.23)*

EXCERPT: The policy brief also calls for the transformation of gendered power dynamics across the board, including in peace and security. Incrementalism has not delivered the women, peace and security agenda. Governments must take targeted steps, including the introduction of quotas, to ensure women’s meaningful participation and leadership in decision-making, eradicate all forms of violence against women and uphold women’s rights.

READ MORE: <https://press.un.org/en/2023/sgsm21885.doc.htm>

ARTICLE: Leaders Need to Be More Than Allies and Work to Close the Gender Gap (OPINION)

REPORTER: *By Frances Castillo, Air Force Times (07.19.23)*

EXCERPT: Within months of her appointment as undersecretary of the Air Force, former Under Secretary Gina Ortiz Jones directed a gender policy review that identified over 80 policies that disproportionately impacted women in a negative way. ... Similarly, last year Army Secretary Christine Wormuth approved one of the most comprehensive directives on parenthood, pregnancy and postpartum policies across the Department of Defense, institutionalizing grassroots-generated recommendations that modernized regulations for the current environment. We need more of this sort of tangible output from every leader at every level...

READ MORE: <https://www.militarytimes.com/opinion/2023/07/19/leaders-need-to-be-more-than-allies-and-work-to-close-the-gender-gap/>

ARTICLE: Assessing Person-Centered Outcomes in Women and Children Returning from Violent Extremist Conflict (Discussion Paper)

REPORTER: *By Stevan Weine; Mary Bunn; Dina Birman; Chloe Polutnik Smith; Enryka Christopher; Michael King; John McCoy; Gulnaz Razdykova; Emma Cardeli; Heidi Ellis, USIP (07.17.23)*

EXCERPT: This discussion paper outlines a person-centered approach to outcomes based upon existing evidence and practice knowledge for use with returning women and children in rehabilitation and reintegration (R&R) programs. Being able to identify and assess outcomes, which are the intended accomplishments of these programs, are key for understanding change processes and developing strong programs.

READ MORE: <https://www.usip.org/publications/2023/07/assessing-person-centered-outcomes-women-and-children-returning-violent>

ARTICLE: From Exception to Norm: Closing the Women, Peace, And Security Implementation Gap Through Joint Professional Military Education

REPORTER: *By Tahina Montoya and Joan Johnson-Freese, Modern War Institute (07.13.23)*

EXCERPT: There are multiple benefits to incorporating WPS into JPME. Doing so would not only help align DoD with its Department of States and USAID counterparts to alleviate the already widening WPS knowledge gap between the agencies but would do so with minimal fiscal impact to the DoD budget. JPME institutions already exist, are fully staffed—many including a WPS chair or lead—and are

increasingly working together on WPS implementation. Incorporation of WPS principles into the core curriculum of JPME organizations is a logical next step.

READ MORE:

<https://mwi.westpoint.edu/from-exception-to-norm-closing-the-women-peace-and-security-implementation-gap-through-joint-professional-military-education/>

ARTICLE: BYU Study—Women’s Involvement in U.N. Peace Negotiations Essential for Long-Term Security

REPORTER: *By Christie Allen (07.13.2023)*

EXCERPT: “We’ve known for a long time that women have a significant role to play in peace and that that role was not getting as much attention as it should,” Jensen said. “Resolution 1325 was the Security Council trying to tell the world, ‘We can’t get to international peace while leaving half our population behind.’ It was laudable in its time, but the resolution hasn’t gone as far as it needs to go. Now it’s time to step it up.”

READ MORE: <https://news.byu.edu/intellect/byu-study-womens-involvement-in-u-n-peace-negotiations-essential-for-long-term-security>

ARTICLE: Artificial Intelligence and its Ingrained Gender Biases

REPORTER: *By Jessica Maksimov, Our Secure Future (07.13.23)*

EXCERPT: Researchers are increasingly assessing and revealing that these systems display racial and gender biases, which can limit the role women will play in leadership positions. The agency that AI models are gaining brings into question how they generate their content. It is, therefore, worth exploring how these models “think” and why their internal perceptions maintain—and at times amplify—bias.

READ MORE: <https://oursecurefuture.org/news/artificial-intelligence-and-its-ingrained-gender-biases>

ARTICLE: Is the Future of Peacekeeping Female? Middle Powers, Liberal Internationalism and the 1325 Agenda

REPORTER: *By Marie-Joelle Zahar and Laurence Deschamps-Laporte, University of Montreal (07.12.2023)*

EXCERPT: At a time when the liberal international order is in crisis, several middle powers including Canada have taken the lead in pushing for the inclusion of women in peace operations under the banner of the 1325 agenda. This article assesses the implementation of the 1325 agenda in peacekeeping operations. We contend that the limited results of the agenda should primarily be attributed to the way liberal middle powers promoted it, rather than to opposition from conservative or less gendered-minded UN member states. We conclude by reflecting on the vulnerability of this agenda to changes in the dominant international ethos.

READ MORE: <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/17502977.2023.2214962>

ARTICLE: Vilnius Summit Communiqué: Issued by NATO Heads of State and Government participating in the meeting of the North Atlantic Council in Vilnius

REPORTER: *By NATO (07.11.2023)*

EXCERPT: We are committed to integrating the Human Security and the Women, Peace and Security agendas across all our core tasks. We will continue to work towards fully operationalizing this objective,

through robust policies and clear operational guidelines, in order to enhance our operational effectiveness and ensure synergies between the civilian and military structures.

READ MORE: https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/official_texts_217320.htm

- **RELATED: 4 in 5 NATO Council Representatives are Men: The Need for More Female Representation**

https://eige.europa.eu/newsroom/news/4-5-nato-council-representatives-are-men-need-more-female-representation?language_content_entity=en

ARTICLE: Women Fighting Putin’s Troops Reveal Their Agonizing Secrets

REPORTER: *Anna Nemtsova, The Daily Beast (07.10.23)*

EXCERPT: Alina, Julia’s 28-year-old sister and fellow soldier, echoed her sentiments. She highlighted the challenges of wearing oversized men’s shoes and oversized pants that hinder their mobility during critical situations. Alina expressed particular frustration with the standard 30-pound bulletproof vest, which does not fit well for women with different body types. She emphasized that their lives and safety often depend on the adequacy of their equipment.

READ MORE: <https://news.yahoo.com/women-fighting-putin-troops-reveal-085124964.html?guccounter=1>

ARTICLE: ASG-Kuwait: Women, Peace, and Security (PHOTOS)

REPORTER: *By Capt. Katherine Alegado, 143rd Sustainment Command—Expeditionary (07.09.23)*

EXCERPT: Balsam Al-Ayoub, the co-founder of Balsam International, shares her inspiring story on women empowerment during the Breaking Ground event hosted by Area Support Group-Kuwait, centered around women, peace, and security, at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, July 9, 2023. The event aimed to empower women and help them find their voices. U.S. service members from different branches and components, along with U.S. civilians and contractors, coalition forces, and the Kuwait Police Force, participated in the event.

READ MORE: <https://www.dvidshub.net/image/7900564/asg-kuwait-women-peace-and-security>

ARTICLE: Limiting Access to Reproductive Health Care May Undermine National Security (OPINION)

REPORTER: *By Kyleanne M. Hunter and Sarah O. Meadows (07.06.23)*

EXCERPT: Unlike most civilians, members of the military do not get to choose where they live. Many of the states with the largest populations of service members—Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, Texas—also have complete bans or severe restrictions associated with abortion care. Service women stationed in these states have to travel hundreds of miles and incur great personal expense to receive abortion care. ... Beyond abortion care, it is important to note that service women also struggle with access to the full suite of reproductive health care. Take, for instance, the headline-making shortage of obstetrician-gynecologists (OB-GYNs) in Okinawa, Japan, or the delays in OB-GYN appointments at Camp LeJeune in North Carolina.

READ MORE: <https://www.rand.org/blog/2023/07/limiting-access-to-reproductive-health-care-may-undermine.html>

ARTICLE: USARCENT Kicks Off Female Mentoring and Morale Program

REPORTER: *By Sgt. Egypt Johnson (07.06.2023)*

EXCERPT: “We gathered today to formally initiate the Female Mentoring and Morale Program at USARCENT,” said. Col. Valeria Johnson, U.S. Army Central Army Reserve Engagement Cell Director. “The

FMMP isn't just about female mentorship, it's about a cultural change to ensure every person gets the support they need to be successful."

READ MORE: <https://www.dvidshub.net/news/448653/usarcent-kicks-off-female-mentoring-and-morale-program>

ARTICLE: NATO Strategic Direction South Hub Hosts Women Peace And Security Workshop

REPORTER: *By JFC Naples Public Affairs Office (07.04.23)*

EXCERPT: The NATO Strategic Direction South Hub (NSD-S HUB) hosted a workshop titled "Libya and Tunisia: Female Leaders and Female Role Models, to increase stability and security in the region". The workshop was held in Pozzuoli, Naples, Italy on June 29, 2023. Lieutenant General Vasco Angelotti, JFC Naples Chief of Staff, and Aydin KILIC, HUB Director, attended the event.

READ MORE: <https://jfcnaples.nato.int/newsroom/news/news-archive/2023/nato-strategic-direction-south-hub-hosts-women-peace-and-security-workshop>

Upcoming Events

WHAT: Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services (DACOWITS)

WHEN: September 12-13, 2023

WHERE: Arlington, Va.

The next quarterly meeting will be Sept. 12-13, 2023. 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.

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

WHAT: Women In Military Service For America Memorial—26th Anniversary Celebration

WHEN: October 15, 2023

WHERE: Arlington, Va.

Celebration the 26th Anniversary of the Military Women's Memorial. Dedicated to the more than 3 million women who have served our country since the American Revolution, the Military Women's Memorial is located at the gateway to Arlington National Cemetery and is the nation's only major national memorial to honor all women who have defended the nation—from the Revolution to the present.

READ MORE: <https://womensmemorial.org/program/26th-anniversary-celebration/>

WHAT: Preventing Violence Against Women and Promoting Gender Equality in Peace Operations (Free Course)

WHEN: Ongoing

WHERE: Online

This course, developed in partnership with DCAF — Geneva Centre for Security Sector Governance, aims to assist peace operations personnel in promoting the human rights and security of women and girls. It does so through lessons emphasizing the nature and scope of violence against women and girls around the globe, the connections between gender inequality and violence in both public and domestic spaces as well as on interpersonal, community, national, regional, and international levels. Other lessons cover women's rights as human rights and the international United Nations mandate to involve women in key roles within peacemaking and peacebuilding processes at every stage and every level of authority.

READ MORE: <https://www.peaceopstraining.org/courses/preventing-violence-against-women-english-2023/>

Past Events

WHAT: ICYMI—Gender and Strategic Competition

WHEN: July 15, 2023

WHERE: United States Institute of Peace, Washington, DC

Our Secure Future and the Atlantic Council’s Scowcroft Center for Security and Strategy hosted a hybrid event titled “Gender and Strategic Competition” streamed from the Atlantic Council Studio to discuss the essential interconnection of the Women, Peace and Security agenda to rising global strategic and great power competition.

READ MORE: The discussion is now available online: <https://oursecurefuture.org/news/osf-director-moderates-round-table-atlantic-council-event>

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