



WOMEN, PEACE, AND SECURITY IN THE MILITARY

NEWS ROUND UP—SEPTEMBER 2024

The WPS in the Military News Round Up is an 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 of 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—September 2024

ARTICLE: A reflection contribution by African women to peace and security agenda in the continent

REPORTER: *By African Union (08.30.24)*

EXCERPT: On August 30, 2024, the African Union (AU) reaffirmed its commitment to enhancing women's leadership in peace and security as part of Agenda 2063. In recognition of African women's contributions to the women, peace, and security agenda, the AU and the United Nations are set to publish a commemorative book that highlights 20 women who have significantly advanced the goals of UN Security Council Resolution 1325. This initiative seeks to inspire young women engaged in mediation and peacebuilding by showcasing their remarkable stories.

READ MORE: <https://au.int/en/articles/reflection-contributions-african-women-peace-and-security-agenda-continent>

ARTICLE: Celebrating Women's Equality Day 2024

REPORTER: *By Capt. Ego Ekenta, U.S. Army (08.26.24)*

EXCERPT: On Women's Equality Day 2024, the 11th Air Defense Artillery Brigade at Fort Bliss, Texas, commemorated the ratification of the 19th Amendment, which granted women the right to vote. The event highlighted the progress made toward gender equality and the Army's ongoing commitment to inclusivity. Leaders emphasized the importance of diverse leadership styles and recognizing the struggles women have faced in their military careers and discussed the significance of resilience and breaking traditions.

READ MORE: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2024/07/1152246>

RELATED: A Proclamation on Women's Equality Day, 2024

REPORTER: The White House, (08.23.24)

EXCERPT: In A Proclamation on Women's Equality Day, 2024, President Joe Biden recognizes the historic significance of the 19th Amendment and the ongoing struggle for gender equality in the United States. He emphasizes the importance of protecting the right to vote for all women and highlights various initiatives undertaken by his administration to support women's rights, health, and economic opportunities.

READ MORE: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2024/08/23/a-proclamation-on-womens-equality-day-2024/>

ARTICLE: CECOM celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month by recognizing six Hispanic women in Army history

REPORTER: *By Maya Green, U.S. Army (08.26.24)*

EXCERPT: The U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command (CECOM) is celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month by honoring the significant contributions of notable Hispanic women in Army history. Recognized figures include Technician 4th Grade Carmen Contreras-Bozak and Pfc. Carmen Garcia Rosado for their foundational work in the Women's Army Corps, as well as Col. (Ret.) Maritza Sáenz Ryan and Brig. Gen. Irene Zoppi Rodríguez for breaking gender barriers in leadership positions. Additionally, achievements by Staff Sgt. Ariana Sanchez and Staff Sgt. Cinthia Ramirez highlight the importance of women's representation in combat roles, emphasizing the ongoing commitment to gender equity and inclusion in the Army.

READ MORE: [CECOM celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month by recognizing six Hispanic women in Army history | Article | The United States Army](#)

ARTICLE: Achieving Milestones and Empowering Soldiers: 1st Lt. Mackenzie Corcoran becomes triple-tabbed with the Ranger, Sapper, and Jungle tabs

REPORTER: *By Sgt. Johanna Pullum, U.S. Army (08.24.24)*

EXCERPT: 1st Lt. Mackenzie Corcoran recently achieved the prestigious status of being "triple-tabbed," earning the Ranger, Sapper, and Jungle tabs, a significant accomplishment in the U.S. Army. Inspired by other female soldiers, Corcoran overcame self-doubt with the support and belief of her peers in the 29th Brigade Engineer Battalion at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. Her journey began with the Jungle Operations Training Course and progressed through the demanding Sapper Leader Course and Ranger School. Despite the challenges, including physical exhaustion and mental hurdles, she persevered, becoming the 135th woman to graduate from Ranger School.

READ MORE: [Achieving Milestones and Empowering Soldiers: 1st Lt. Mackenzie Corcoran becomes triple-tabbed with the Ranger, Sapper, and Jungle tabs | Article | The United States Army](#)

ARTICLE: 2024 Tri-Command Women, Peace and Security Symposium at Camp Humphreys

REPORTER: *By U.S. Indo-Pacific Command, Office of Women, Peace, & Security (08.22.24)*

EXCERPT: The U.S. Forces Korea hosted the Tri-Command Women, Peace, and Security Symposium at Camp Humphreys on July 9-10, 2024, bringing together 300 participants from various organizations, including the U.S., Republic of Korea, and United Nations Command Member States. The symposium aimed to integrate WPS principles into military operations on the Korean Peninsula.

READ MORE: <https://www.pacom.mil/Media/News/News-Article-View/Article/3882230/2024-tri-command-women-peace-and-security-symposium-at-camp-humphreys/>

ARTICLE: Libya: We express our grave concern about the lack of women's full, equal and meaningful participation

REPORTER: *By Permanent mission of France (08.20.24)*

EXCERPT: On August 20, 2024, a coalition of Security Council members expressed deep concern over the insufficient participation of Libyan women in political processes during a joint press stakeout following a meeting on Libya. They also addressed alarming issues, such as shrinking civic space for women's rights organizations, gender-based violence, and inadequate legal protections for women and girls. Despite commitments for women's quotas in elections, recent electoral laws allocate only six seats for women in a 90-seat senate.

READ MORE: <https://onu.delegfrance.org/libya-we-express-our-grave-concern-about-the-lack-of-women-s-full-equal-and>

Video: <https://media.un.org/unifeed/en/asset/d324/d3246918>

PUBLICATION: Military Humanitarianism in Southeast Asia, Through a Women, Peace and Security Lens

REPORTER: *By S. Nanthini, RSIS Nanyang Technological University (08.20.24)*

EXCERPT: The paper was published on August 20, 2024., explores the rising role of militaries in humanitarian efforts due to the increasing frequency and severity of natural disasters linked to climate change. While recognizing the operational strengths that military forces bring to disaster response, the paper stresses the necessity of incorporating a gender-sensitive approach, particularly through the Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) agenda. It addresses the increased vulnerability of women and girls to sexual and gender-based violence in such contexts and highlights the importance of understanding the specific risks they encounter.

READ MORE: <https://www.rsis.edu.sg/rsis-publication/rsis/military-humanitarianism-in-southeast-asia-through-a-women-peace-and-security-lens/>

PAPER: <https://www.rsis.edu.sg/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/NTS-Insight-IN-24-04.pdf>

ARTICLE: Integrating women in the military: US, Botswana hold Women, Peace and Security exchange during Southern Accord

REPORTER: *By Lennea Montandon, U.S. Army (08.19.24)*

EXCERPT During the Southern Accord 2024 exercise, U.S. Army personnel and Botswana Defence Force (BDF) members participated in a two-day Women, Peace and Security (WPS) workshop aimed at improving the integration of women into the military. Held on August 13-14, 2024, the workshop covered best practices for enhancing the role of women in military operations, addressing issues like sexual harassment and the need for tailored equipment. The workshop also focused on learning from one another and implementing effective gender initiatives, as both the U.S. and Botswana face challenges in accommodating female soldiers within their ranks.

READ MORE: [Integrating women in the military: US, Botswana hold Women, Peace and Security exchange during Southern Accord | Article | The United States Army](#)

ARTICLE: Our Secure Future (OSF) Releases Findings on New Poll; Champions a Legislative Blueprint for Peace and Security in Asia

REPORTER: *By GlobeNewswire (08.19.24)*

EXCERPT: Our Secure Future published findings from a global poll showing that 82% of women feel excluded from security discussions in their countries. The report underscores significant barriers to women's participation in peace and security efforts, particularly in South Korea, Japan, and China. Despite these challenges, 16 Asian countries, including Japan and the Philippines, have adopted National Action Plans on Women, Peace, and Security. Japan is leading the way by establishing a dedicated task force and a parliamentary caucus to enhance gender integration in security policies.

READ MORE: <https://www.macaubusiness.com/our-secure-future-osf-releases-findings-on-new-poll-champions-a-legislative-blueprint-for-peace-and-security-in-asia/>

ARTICLE: Military Honors Mothers, Infants by Supporting Breastfeeding

REPORTER: *By Nicole Mayo, Ph.D., Defense Health Agency-Public Health (08.19.24)*

EXCERPT: The Department of Defense has developed and updated policies to support military mothers in breastfeeding for six months post-birth, ensuring access to necessary resources and leadership support. Policies require designated lactation spaces that are private, equipped, and convenient for nursing mothers. Additionally, various military services provide resources and counseling to assist service members during this time.

READ MORE: <https://www.health.mil/News/Dvids-Articles/2024/08/19/news478929>

ARTICLE: They rape us before we can cross': Women, girls fleeing violence in Mali

REPORTER: *By Philip Obaji Jr., Al Jazeera (08.10.24)*

EXCERPT: Women and girls fleeing violence in Mali have reported suffering sexual assaults by armed men, including Malian soldiers, at the border with Niger. Many have been raped at gunpoint while trying to escape from the violence and instability in Mali, exacerbated by ongoing conflicts with armed groups like the Islamic State in the Greater Sahara. Additionally, reports indicate that government-backed forces, including Russian paramilitaries, have contributed to sexual violence in recent years.

READ MORE: <https://www.aljazeera.com/features/2024/8/10/they-rape-us-before-we-can-cross-women-girls-fleeing-violence-in-mali>

REMARKS: Remarks at a UN Security Council Briefing on Women, Peace and Security

REPORTER: *by The United States Mission to the United Nations (08.07.24)*

EXCERPT: Ambassador Lisa Carty, U.S. Representative to the Economic and Social Council, highlighted the importance of supporting communities during mission transitions with a focus on gender-responsive approaches. Carty stressed the need for adequate funding for Women, Peace and Security responsibilities and called for ongoing monitoring to ensure women's safety and rights. She urged for greater involvement of women's voices in planning processes and emphasized these as moral obligations to fulfill during critical transition periods.

READ MORE: <https://usun.usmission.gov/remarks-at-a-un-security-council-briefing-on-women-peace-and-security/>

SPEECH: Facing unacceptable prospects together

REPORTER: *By UN Women (08.07.24)*

EXCERPT: In her statement to the UN Security Council meeting on sustaining Women, Peace, and Security commitments amid accelerated peace operation drawdowns, Ms. Sima Bahous, Executive Director of UN Women, emphasized the vital importance of maintaining gender equality initiatives during these transitions. She warned that reducing peacekeeping forces in the face of escalating conflicts and increasing violence against women neglects on-the-ground realities and risks undoing progress made in gender equality. Bahous urged the Security Council to ensure women's involvement in transitions, integrate gender-responsive analysis from the outset, and allocate sufficient resources to uphold gender equality efforts.

READ MORE: <https://www.unwomen.org/en/news-stories/speech/2024/08/speech-facing-unacceptable-prospects-together>

RELATED: Women and peace and security - Security Council, 9700th meeting/ Video,

<https://webtv.un.org/en/asset/k1o/k1ojc0pbfq>

REPORT: Security Council Report Monthly Forecast, August 2024

<https://reliefweb.int/report/world/security-council-report-monthly-forecast-august-2024>

Event: Women, Peace and Security (OpWPS) 200 course at Fort Liberty, NC

August 2024 — The U.S. Department of the Army and the Joint Staff Mobile Training Team (MTT) are pleased to announce the completion of the in-resident Operationalizing Women, Peace and Security (OpWPS) 200 course at Fort Liberty, NC, which took place from August 5-9, 2024. This five-day course successfully equipped DOD personnel with the essential knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary to perform as organizational GENADs in support of DOD mission areas, with a particular focus on Army missions. Participants engaged in a developing tabletop exercise, applying WPS knowledge, concepts, and skills to real-life DOD scenarios. Congratulations to all participants for their dedication and successful completion of the course.



Upcoming Events

WHAT: THE ARMY WOMEN'S INITIATIVE TEAM

WHEN: 15 Aug - 15 Sep 2024

WHERE: Online

The application period to join the team is from 15 Aug to 15 Sep 2024 and is accessible to all Army members, including enlisted personnel, warrant officers, commissioned officers, and DA civilians. Online applications are required within this timeframe. To enhance your chances of being selected, it is advised to promptly engage with your supervisor to secure a "letter of endorsement." Moreover, submitting a "statement of interest" and a Soldier Talent Profile/Biography is vital for a successful application and eventual team membership.

READ MORE: [Event Link](#)

WHAT: PeaceCon 2024: Status Quo No More

WHEN: 10 September 2024, 11:00am - 5:00pm EDT

WHERE: U.S. Institute of Peace, 2301 Constitution Ave NW, Washington, DC 20037

READ MORE: <https://www.usip.org/events/peacecon-2024-status-quo-no-more>

WHAT: WHINSEC Senior Alumni Conference, Leadership and Innovation: Shaping a Secure Future through Gender Integration

WHEN: 24 September 2024, 0900 - 1600

WHERE: 1918 Club, Fort Moore, GA

REGISTER NOW: WHINSEC_PA@army.mil

CONTACT WHINSEC: 706-545-2238

WHAT: 2024 Women In Defense National Conference

WHEN: 24 September 2024

WHERE: Renaissance Arlington Capital View, 2800 S Potomac Ave, Arlington, VA 22202

READ MORE: <https://www.womenindefense.net/events/2024/9/24/national-conference>

ANNOUNCEMENT



Logo Design Competition Announcement: Army Women, Peace and Security Initiative

Calling all creative minds! We are thrilled to invite you to participate in an exciting new logo design competition celebrating the Army's Women, Peace and Security (WPS) initiative. We are seeking a logo that embodies strength, peace and security, showcasing the vital role women play in creating a safer world.

Competition Details:

Theme: Army Women, Peace and Security

Deadline: November 30, 2024

Who Can Enter: Open to all!

What We're Looking For:

- A design that reflects the values of the Army mission and the powerful role of women in peace and security.
- Creative and original ideas.
- A versatile logo that can be used across various platforms and materials.

Submission Guidelines:

- Please submit your logo design in a high-resolution format (PDF, PNG, or JPEG).
- Include a brief description of your design and how it represents the WPS initiative.
- Send your submissions to mayada.a.shawkat.ctr@army.mil.

Prizes:

- The winning design will be featured as the official logo for the Army's WPS initiative.
- Recognition across our digital platforms.
- A certificate of appreciation.

Join us in creating a symbol that inspires and represents the powerful role of women in peace and security. We can't wait to see your creativity shine! For more information, feel free to reach out to us.

Good luck and may the best design win!

If you would like to be added or removed from the monthly WPS in the Military News Round Up distro list, please email: mayada.a.shawkat.ctr@army.mil. Please forward the email to other members of the US Army WPS community who might find the contents valuable. To access last month's WPS Round Up, please see the archive here: <https://pksoi.armywarcollege.edu/index.php/wps-news-round-up/>