

Call for Papers Workshop EWIS2021
University of Macedonia, Thessaloniki, 30 June-3 July 2021

Women, Peace and Security: A Policy Agenda transforming International Relations Practice?

Conveners:

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Workshop summary:

The 20th anniversary of Women, Peace and Security policy agenda in 2020 have generated more questions than the answers Resolution 1325 sought to offer two decades ago to conflict resolution. The transformative agenda promoted by WPS has moved in slow pace all these years failing to establish at a global level a culture of participatory governance in which women and men could be assuming their futures on the basis of accessing the same opportunities for peace and security. The wide thematic topics and research approaches that the Women, Peace and Security agenda has attracted seem to have rather distorted the fundamental issue that surrounds its implementation at the global level, namely, the notion of *inclusion* in all aspects of governance at all levels.

In this respect, implementation of the Women, Peace and Security policy agenda by international organizations, governments and non-governmental actors as promoted by the nine UN resolutions accompanying Resolution 1325 needs to come to academic scrutiny. An evaluation of the ongoing progress through the inclusion lenses is considered important. This will certainly reinforce and further enhance the ongoing feminist and other approaches to peace but at the same time offer substantive knowledge to the transformative quest on security.

Having in mind, that the success of Resolution 1325 must be gauged by real and measureable security improvements, the workshop aims to bring together scholars and practitioners who work on the academic areas related to international relations and conflict resolution different research traditions, international and humanitarian law, as well as ethnography in order to evaluate critically the progress, the impediments as well as the thematic areas that require wider visibility in the area of implementing the WPS agenda and its prospects for adjusting to current realities on the ground.

We welcome papers that focus on case studies, empirical material, theoretical and comparative analysis. Amongst the topics and questions that the workshop will explore include:

- Have international organizations played a empowering role in mainstreaming globally the logic of Resolution 1325 and its supportive documents? Who claims authority and space over the WPS agenda?
- Do policies tackling contemporary security issues such as terrorism, climate change, hybrid threats or border security issues question the fundamentals of the WPS policy agenda? Do these policies function as impediments or enablers to the promotion of WPS agenda? Is there a missing link?
- Do “security community” logics, i.e, the EU paradigm, contribute to the promotion of the WPS agenda? What are the synergies formed therein and how do they transform International Relations Practice?
- Do states ensure the full and meaningful participation of women in transitional justice mechanisms in line with Resolution 1325? Do states investigate and prosecute the allegations of war crimes and human rights abuses in line with Resolution 1325?
- What is the role of legal reparations in addressing the harm caused to the victims of armed conflict, especially women and girls who are subjected to humanitarian law and human rights abuses during the conflict and post-conflict phases?
- Does progress in transitional justice including truth commissions, criminal trials, and other legal reparations offer space for increasing the visibility and accountability around Conflict-related Gender and Sexual Violence and other abuses of women’s human rights? Does this progress concerning the advancement (or not) of the transitional justice mechanisms and reparations for victims have an impact on the political dimension of the WPS agenda?

Submissions deadline: 18 January 2021