



Women, Peace, and Security

On the 23rd Anniversary of UN Resolution 1325 and NESA's Formation:
22 Countries and 33 Women's Voices

May 2023



NESA's Women, Peace, and Security Workshop (1–5 May 2023 in Bangkok, Thailand).

Dedication

This E-Book is dedicated to all the strong and courageous women who came before us... to all those who will follow... and to those sisters fighting the dauntless battle every day.

Hopefully our small efforts will serve them well.

We are ever grateful for and proud of their sacrifices.

Acknowledgements

*I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to **Gabrielle Garneau** without whose assistance with multiple editing this E-Book would never have been completed. It was also the patience, dedication, and perseverance of all the wonderful women contributors of both the Opinion Pieces and short Videos that never lost faith even after multiple unexpected delays. I thank you all...*

*Also, I would like to thank **Nancy Luong**, NESAs Media and Communications Manager for all her expert assistance with the imaging and graphics and **Gillian Hurtt**, NESAs GlobalNET Content Manager for her final editing support. Both of their involvement were critical in publishing the first-ever Near East South Asia (NESAs) Center for Strategic Studies E-Book. Their efforts did not go unnoticed with the precedent setting the NESAs Women, Peace, and Security E-Book document on the 23rd Anniversary of the passage of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325, on women, peace, and security, adopted unanimously by the UN Security Council on 31 October 2000.*

Letter from the Director



On behalf of the Near East South Asia (NESA) Center for Strategic Studies, it is with great pleasure that we share the publication of NESA's first-ever Women, Peace, and Security E-Book. This book launch celebrates the 23rd anniversary of both NESA and the United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325.

The adoption of UNSCR 1325 (2000) on Women, Peace, and Security was ground-breaking in that it was spearheaded by women leaders and organizations. It is the first resolution that recognized women's leadership to achieve international peace and security and their contributions to conflict prevention, peacekeeping, conflict resolution, and peacebuilding. Likewise with NESA's launch in 2000, NESA joined the other DoD Regional Centers: George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies (est. 1993); the Daniel K. Inouye Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies (est. 1995); the William J. Perry Center for Hemispheric Defense Studies (est. 1997) and the Africa Center for Strategic Studies (est. 1999); and recently followed by the Ted Stevens Center for Arctic Security Studies (est. 2021). The goal was to provide international venues for bilateral and multilateral research, communication, exchange of ideas, and training involving U.S. and foreign military, civilian, and nongovernmental participants.

Authorized under 10 U.S.C. § 342, the NESA Center is the preeminent U.S. government institution for building relationships and understanding in the NESA region to forge strong, sustainable international networks of security leaders. The NESA Center covers one of the most diverse and engaging areas of the world, stretching from the western end of North Africa to the Himalayas — “from Marrakech to Bangladesh.” Our mission is to enhance security in the NESA area by building sustained, mutually beneficial relationships and partnerships; fostering regional cooperation on security issues; and promoting effective communications and strategic capacity building through free and candid interaction in an academic environment.

The spirit of NESA is best captured in the words of President Barack Obama. “We seek broad engagement based upon mutual interests and mutual respect. We will listen carefully, bridge misunderstanding, and seek common ground... We will be respectful, even when we do not agree... Our focus will be on what we can do to advance our common hopes, and our common dreams. And when people look back on this time, let it be said of America that we extended the hand of friendship.”

As the Director of NESA, I am honored and humbled to share NESA's 23rd Anniversary with the proud and courageous women who forged and continue to fight and promote the spirit behind UN Resolution 1325!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Terry A. Wolff". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

TERRY A. WOLFF

Lieutenant General, U.S. Army Retired

Director, Near East South Asia Center for Strategic Studies

Introduction



United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace, and Security (WPS), was adopted unanimously by the UN Security Council on 31 October 2000. The resolution acknowledged the disproportionate and unique impact of armed conflict on women and girls. It called for the adoption of a gender perspective to consider the special needs of women and girls during conflict, repatriation and resettlement, rehabilitation, re-integration, and post-conflict reconstruction.

Resolution 1325 was the first formal and legal document from the Security Council that required parties in a conflict to prevent violations of women's rights, to support women's participation in peace negotiations and in post-conflict reconstruction, and to protect women and girls from wartime sexual violence. More specifically, the resolution reaffirmed the important role that women play in conflict prevention, conflict resolution, and peace-building; emphasized the importance of women's equal involvement in peace and security and

the need for women's increased participation in conflict prevention and peace-building; reaffirmed the importance of human rights law in the protection of women and their rights while acknowledging the need to adopt a gender perspective in peacekeeping operations and training of peacekeeping personnel; and recognized that the protection of women and girls and their participation in peace processes is important and directly tied to international peace and security.

Women have faced many challenges in the past 23 years in implementing all four pillars of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 (UNSCR 1325). The pillars include **participation** in the peace-building and conflict resolution processes; **prevention** of attacks on women and considering gender issues at the policy level; **protection** of women's rights, including guarding women and girls against gender-based violence, especially in conflict; and **resolution and recovery** urging local actors, Member States, and the UN agencies to adopt a gender perspective in peace operations, negotiations and agreements, and to include women in the resolution and recovery phase. It is undeniable that UNSCR 1325 represents a milestone in the fight for women's fundamental human rights and the first steps towards reaching equality between women and men. However, in hindsight, after 23 years, more progress should have been made since its signing, and the results in the NESAs region are too often underwhelming.

The majority of women in our region, even after the signing of UNSCR 1325 23 years ago, as well as efforts by NESAs for its 23 years in existence, remain excluded from negotiating tables and decision-making processes, or for the very few, simply fill token positions. Similarly, the weaponization of violence continues to affect women despite commitments to prevent such violence and protect women and girls. Gender perspectives, in most cases, continue to be ignored in the development and implementation of post-conflict relief and recovery measures, although all studies argue that the inclusion of women creates more stable and longer-lasting policy resolutions and peace. The bottom line is that society as a whole benefits from the advancement of *women's equality*, not only *women*. It is also crucial that men engage in this effort and more actively promote these ideals. An additional challenge lies in the inability to translate commitments as signatories of UNSCR 1325 into concrete and substantive actions at the national level. Too often, policymakers see the implementation of the WPS agenda as a low-ranking priority or solely a gender issue rather than a national security issue. In difficult times this is the first program's budget to be cut.

In dealing with the new and changing nature of security, threats from health and security such as the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as food and energy insecurity as a result of the Ukraine War and climate change, women have and

continue to disproportionately bear the brunt. Even the malign use of technology and online venues has undermined progress that women might have made by further weaponizing violence against women, *especially* those who speak out in the media, in political arenas, and even in their homes. We cannot continue to allow these crises as excuses to postpone, abandon, or underfund efforts; but must anchor the vision of security to the inclusion of women in all activities, policy decisions, and security challenges.

Societal and cultural changes often find their roots in the younger generations. That is why education, economic opportunities, and entrepreneurship play crucial roles in raising awareness about the benefits of advancing the WPS agenda. Women and men can only work together as equal partners when women are educated and possess economic independence. Although not enough by itself, achieving universal girls' education would help to boost gender equality. Each additional year of schooling, according to the UN report on education, can increase a girl's future earnings by up to 20 percent, with further impacts on poverty reduction, better maternal health, lower child mortality, greater HIV prevention, and reduced violence against women. And *all of society* benefits from these advances.

Despite all its shortfalls, UNSCR 1325, for the first time, did bring these exact gender issues into the mainstream and insisted that gender issues were incorporated into all existing and new policies. It also highlighted women's legally binding right to be active/critical players rather than passive recipients. This forced women to be seen as human beings with "universal rights" that include protection, but also as equals who are valuable contributors at all levels of decision-making. It inspires, it challenges, and it empowers women to demand that they be heard. This is a vital step to changing archaic social and cultural norms.

There is still much work to be done. Against the backdrop of UNSCR 1325's 23rd Anniversary, a recent report published by the **United Nations Women and the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA)**, outlines how gender disparities have worsened in the face of "stacked/cascading" global crises – such as the pandemic, violent conflict, and climate change – coupled with the ongoing backlash against women's sexual and reproductive health and rights over their own bodies. It states that achieving full gender equality, one of the UN's 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), could now not take decades, but rather *centuries* if the current rate of progress continues.

The [UN Gender Snapshot 2022](#) report starkly highlighted the unacceptably slow pace of progress. With legal systems that neither ban violence against women, nor protect their rights in marriage and family, it predicts that inequality may continue to exist for generations to come. The report warns that at the current rate of progress, it will take optimistically up to 286 years to close gaps in legal protection and remove discriminatory laws. It will even take as much as 140 years for women to achieve equal representation in leadership positions in the workplace, and 40 years for the same to happen in national parliaments.

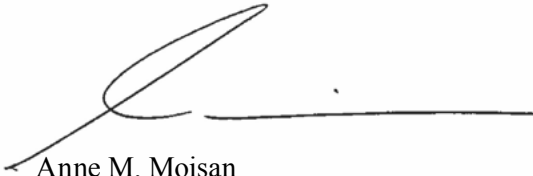
Meanwhile, without radical changes women and girls from the poorest rural households and in conflict-affected areas will suffer the most from child marriage, poverty, lack of education, inadequate access to health care, etc. If current trends continue, roughly 383 million women and girls are predicted to live in extreme poverty. Many more will have insufficient income to meet basic needs such as food, clothing, and adequate shelter in most parts of the world, where in many cases, women are the sole providers. Other daunting facts from the report reveal that globally, women lost as much as \$800 billion in income due to the pandemic alone, and this is only expected to slowly rebound but only to even lower levels of recovery.

The importance of women's equality in terms of national security cannot be overstated. Just this March 2023 here in the United States, "The Status of Women is the Status of Democracy: Advancing Women's Political and Civic Participation and Leadership" kicked off President Biden's **Second Summit for Democracy** further empathizing the importance of women's participation and equity as trademarks of successful, prosperity, and peaceful societies. Reiterated was the belief that "wherever women and girls are under threat, so, too, is democracy, peace, and stability—from Iran, where wom-

en are courageously demanding respect for their human rights and fundamental freedoms in the face of oppression; to Ukraine, where we are once more seeing rape used as a weapon in Russia's brutal and unjust war; to Afghanistan, where the Taliban bars women and girls from attending school and fully participating in society."

The simple truth is that research shows that nations that support gender discrimination and allow oppressive gender norms to flourish are more than likely to be unstable and failed/failing states. The U.S. Biden-Harris Administration's commitment at the Democracy Summit was reflected in a variety of new foreign assistance initiatives that increase the Administration's ongoing work to bolster democracy and defend human rights globally with an even stronger emphasis on women's rights and demand for equity. As Melinda Gates, an American philanthropist, women's advocate, and former multimedia product developer/manager at Microsoft, so aptly put it, "A women with a voice is by definition a strong woman. But the search to find that voice can be remarkably difficult."

You are those strong women... as reflected in the passion and commitment embodied in your Opinion Pieces and short Videos that address the many issues that continue to plague women in the NESAs region and beyond. We celebrate the incredible achievements of women like you from across the globe, breaking down barriers and fighting for dignity and the rights for all women. As we all know too well, there is still much work to be done. Thank you all for leading the efforts with your enduring dedication, courage, and resolve in this struggle.



Anne M. Moisan

Professor

WPS E-Book Coordinator

Near East South Asia Center for Strategic Studies

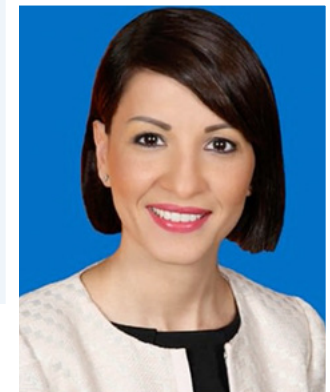
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ALGERIA



Dr. Dalia Ghanem

Dr. Dalia Ghanem is a resident scholar at the Malcolm H. Kerr Carnegie Middle East Center in Beirut, where her work examines political and extremist violence, radicalization, Islamism, and jihadism with an emphasis on Algeria.

“Violence Against Women and Femicide in Algeria”

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**ARGENTINA*****Dr. Carolina Sampó***

Dr. Carolina Sampó is a visiting scholar at the Latin American Studies Center at the University of Maryland and a postdoctoral fellow at the Latin American and Caribbean Studies Center at the University of Maryland. Her research focuses on gender, violence, organized crime, and criminal organizations in South and Central America. She is a researcher at the Argentinean National Scientific and Technical Research Council (CONICET). She also coordinates the Center for Studies on Transnational Organized Crime (CeCOT), International Relations Institute (IRI) University of La Plata (UNLP). Dr. Sampó is also an International Consultant working for international institutions such as the OAS, UNODC, and the Global Initiative against Transnational Organized Crime.

“The Case of Migrant Women from the Central American Northern Triangle: How to Prevent Exploitation and Violence During the Crossing”

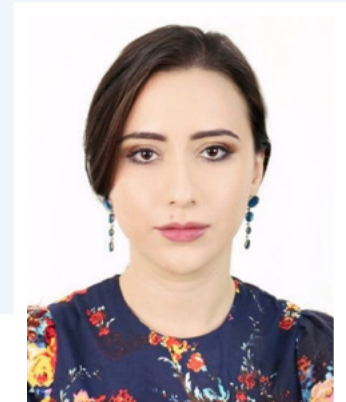
By Dr. Carolina Sampó and Dr. Concepción Anguita (*Originally Published: Scielo 25 Brazil; Revista Brasileira de Política Internacional (RBPI)*)

[Link to Opinion Piece](#)





ARMENIA



Gohar Hovsepyan

Gohar Hovsepyan is the Attaché of the USA and Canada Division, the Department of American Countries, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Armenia, and the Canada Desk Officer. In 2019, G. Hovsepyan was posted to the Embassy of Armenia to the United States. From February 1–11, 2021, Gohar attended the executive seminar led by the Near East South Asia Center for Strategic Studies (NESA) on Global Power Competition. She holds a Masters in International Relations and graduated from the Diplomatic Academy of Armenia. Recently, G. Hovsepyan participated in the “Program on Applied Security Studies” (PASS) course organized by the George C. Marshall Center. She took part in various conferences, workshops, and trainings on peace and security. In 2013, she participated in “Methods of Peaceful Conflict Resolution, Mediation, Conflict Analysis, and Leadership in Crisis Situations,” organized by Fachhochschule Potsdam, University of Applied Sciences, DAAD. In 2021, she received a certificate from the Clingendael Institute (Netherlands) on “New Networks and Shared Challenges in International Diplomacy.” She speaks Armenian, English, Russian, and German. Gohar lives in Etchmiadzin, an old small town with a unique national style of Armenian architectural monuments and churches like the famous Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin.

“Women’s Economic Empowerment in Conflict and Post-Conflict Countries as a Security Guarantee: A Case Study of Armenia”

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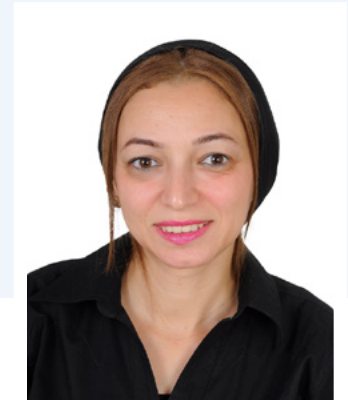
**BURKINA FASO*****Dabire Zaghe Terafudem Jocelyne***

Dabire Zaghe Terafudem Jocelyne is a Senior Police Commissioner, Jurist, Tax Specialist, and Investigator at the Autorité Supérieure du Contrôle d'État et de la Lutte contre la Corruption (ASCE-LC)/Burkina Faso. Dabire is also President of the Association of Female Officials of the National Police of Burkina Faso (AFFPN-BF). As an expert and trainer in Gender, Security and Sustainable Peace, she specializes in capacity building of police services, gender mainstreaming in the security, and control and anti-corruption sectors. Dabire holds many professional positions as a Human Rights Auditor, Trainer in Protection of Civilians, and Gender and Sustainable Security Consultant for the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) and Center of Excellence for Stability Police Units (CoESPU) in Vicenza, Italy as well as at the Koffi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Center (KAIPTC) in Accra, Ghana. Dabire is from Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso and the proud mother of two children.

“The Reality of Resilience for Women in Security”

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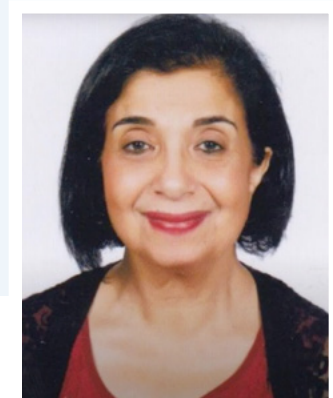
**EGYPT*****Miral Sabry AlAshry***

Miral Sabry Al-Ashry, Ph.D., is the Vice Dean for Community Service and Environmental Development at Future University in Egypt and Associate Professor at the Department of Political Mass Media. She is the co-lead for the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) at the Centre for Freedom of the Media, hosted in the Department of Journalism Studies at the University of Sheffield. In addition, she is a reporter covering the conflict in Libya at the Eurasia Review website and the chairwoman of Alumni in the Middle East at DW Akademie. She received the award for Outstanding Paper in the 2022 Emerald Literati Awards. Her research interests include conflict zones, government-media relationships, and the implementation of laws in the media systems of Middle Eastern countries with developing democracies and media realities under different political systems.

“Silenced Voices: An Investigation of Gender-based Violence Experienced by Women Journalists in Libya”

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**EGYPT*****Dr. Hoda Ragheb Awad***

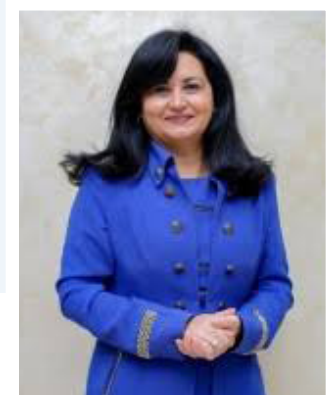
Dr. Hoda Ragheb Awad is an Egyptian Ph.D. and Professor in Political Science at Misr International University where she teaches government and political systems; Political and Economic Challenges in Middle East; International Politics of the Middle East; Introduction to Political Science, Public Opinion and Propaganda, Political Communication; and Arab Society and Contemporary Issues. Hoda Ragheb Awad holds an MA from the American University in Cairo and a PhD in political science and Middle Eastern studies from the faculty of political science and economics at Cairo University. Dr. Awad has published a number of books and articles on women political participation in the MENA region, gender and political violence in Egypt, the political role of Muslim Brothers in Egypt since 1970–2010, climate change, and renewables and water shortage in Egypt and Saudi Arabia. She is also a Fulbright Scholar in Residence, Fulbright Consultant, and a member of the Egyptian Council for Foreign Affairs.

“Women and Power: Female Leadership vs. Male Leadership Based on Female Values vs. Male Values. Case Study Egypt”

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**EGYPT*****Dr. Noha Bakr***

Noha Bakr is a Ph.D. in the interdisciplinary field of International Relations and International Organizations. She has an academic career as a Political Science professor teaching International Organizations, Human Rights, and Gender issues. She is the former Assistant to the Minister of International Cooperation. Her publications are focused in the field of security and international organizations. Dr. Bakr has headed different panels, served as a speaker and participant in conferences, workshops, and programs on the national, regional, and international level. She is a Member of the Advisory Board of the Egyptian Center for Strategic Studies, Board Member of KEMET Botros Ghali Foundation, Board Member of the Arab Network for Tolerance, Member of the Egyptian Council of Foreign Relations, Member of the Egyptian International Economic Forum, and a guest in different media programs providing analysis on current events, and hard and soft security challenges.

“Egyptian Women in Peace and Security: Challenges and Opportunities”

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EGYPT



Dr. Eman Ragab

Dr. Eman Ragab is a senior policy expert with 19 years of experience of work in think tanks, research institutions, government and presidential administrations. She has served at the Egyptian Presidency as General Director (Directorate General of policy research) at the Secretariat of the National Security Council (2019–2022). She was the first woman to be appointed to this leading executive position since the establishment of the Secretariat.

Throughout her career she has served in numerous capacities focusing on: national security policies in the MENA region; public policy and public governance; socio-economic development; corruption and sustainable development; strategic planning; crisis management and prevention; political marketing and communications; gender and youth empowerment; international relations; institutional development and transformation; as well as research and academia. She is an adjunct professor and trainer at highly ranked institutions, including the American University in Cairo, Faculty of Economics and Political Science at Cairo University, the National Defense College at Nasser Higher Academy for Military Sciences, and the National Training Academy.

“Where Does Egypt Stand on the Issue of Violence Against Women?”

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**EGYPT*****Dr. Dalal Mahmoud El Sayed***

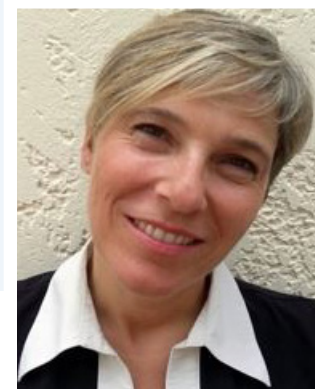
Dr. Dalal Mahmoud El Sayed is Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Faculty of Economics and Political Science at Cairo University. She also holds many other positions to include Visiting Professor, Nasser High Military Academy, Arab Republic of Egypt; Visiting Professor, National Academy of Youth Rehabilitation, Arab Republic of Egypt; and Director of the Security and Defense Issues Program at the Egyptian Center for Thought and Strategic Studies. Dr. El Sayed is a member of the North African Regional Platform for Gender and The Prevention of Violent Extremism of the United Nations Arab Women; and since 2019 she has also been a member of the Advisory Board of the Global Advisory Index of fatwa, issued by the Egyptian Fatwa House. As Executive Director of a research project on women, peace and security in Egypt, she has worked in partnership with the United Nations and the National Council of Women, as well as holding the post as an arbitration member of the Academy of Scientific Research - Quality Councils and Future Studies.

Dr. El Sayed has been editor-in-chief of the “Russian Strategic Report” issued by the Dialogue Center for Political and Media Studies since 2019. She received her Ph.D. in Political Science Philosophy from the Faculty of Economics and Political Science, Cairo University with excellent honors for her thesis entitled “Continuity and Change in Israeli Defense Policy from 1973 to 2010.” She holds a Master’s degree in Political Science from the Faculty of Economics and Political Science, Cairo University with excellent honors with work on “The Israeli Administration of Strategic Crises: A Comparative Study of the 1967 Crisis, the 1973 Crisis and the 1982 Crisis.”

“Women and Preventing Violent Extremism”

[Link to Opinion Piece](#)



**GREECE*****Dr. Elena (Helene) Mandalenakis***

Dr. Elena (Helene) Mandalenakis received her B.A. and her Doctorate in Political Science (Dr. Phil.) from McGill University and her Masters' degree in European Studies from the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven. She has been a researcher (Fellow and Associate) at the Institute of International Relations of Panteion University and McGill University. Dr. Mandalenakis' teaching experience includes courses on foreign policy, international political economy, comparative European politics, EU and American politics as well as on minority issues at McGill University and the University of Peloponnese. She taught at the "Seminar on Regional Security" and in the "Program in Applied Security Studies" at the George C. Marshall Center (GCMC). Her research has been presented in international conferences and has been published in peer-reviewed academic and policy journals as well as in books. Her current research interests involve international, regional, and European security, state formation and identity, conflict resolution, ethnic relations, migrant and refugee integration, cybersecurity, maritime security, and media literacy. Dr. Mandalenakis is a member of the "Regional Stability in the South Caucasus", the "Regional Stability in South East Europe" and the "Emerging Security Challenges" Partnership for Peace Consortium Study Groups. She was a coremember of the GCMC's "Mediterranean Discourse on Regional Security".

"Greece's Traditional and Non-Traditional Security Challenges"

[Link to Opinion Piece](#)



**INDIA*****Dr. Swati Pal***

Dr. Swati Pal is the Principal of Janki Devi Memorial College at Delhi University. She has been a Charles Wallace Scholar as well as the first Asian to receive the John McGrath Theatre Studies Scholarship at Edinburgh University. Professor Pal is also the author of several books on Theatre, creative and academic writing as also of several translations from Hindi to English. Her newspaper articles articulate her views on education and her research in drama.

Professor Pal is the Vice Chair of the Indian Association for Commonwealth Literature and Language Studies (IACLALS) and an Executive Body Member of the Indian Association for the Study of Australia (IASA). She has presented a number of papers at both national and international conferences and has been the recipient of several awards. Professor Pal also writes poetry, and her debut collection of poems is entitled 'In Absentia'.

“Pandemic Crisis Management and Working Women in India”

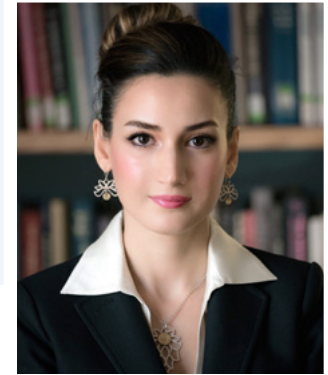
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IRAN



Dr. Mahsa Rouhi

Dr. Mahsa Rouhi is a Research Fellow at the Center for Strategic Research at the Institute for National Strategic Studies (INSS) at National Defense University (NDU). Her research and expertise focuses on nuclear policy and security strategy in the Middle East, particularly Iran. She is currently working on a project on grand strategy, security, and nuclear decision making in Iran. Prior to joining INSS, Dr. Rouhi was a Research Fellow in the Non-proliferation and Nuclear Policy program at the International Institute for Strategic Studies where she co-directed a track two project on the Geopolitics and Nuclear Issues in the Middle East and continues to engage as an associate. She was a post-doctoral fellow with the Managing the Atom project at the Belfer Center from 2016–2018. She was a Visiting Assistant Professor from 2014–2016 at the University of Miami where she taught undergraduate and graduate courses on U.S. Security in the Middle East, International Relations, Security and Diplomacy, Conflict Resolution, Islam, and Politics. She received her Ph.D. from King’s College, University of Cambridge, UK. She received her B.A. in Economics from Shahid Beheshti University in Tehran, Iran, and her Master’s Degree in Political Theory from the University of Sheffield, UK.

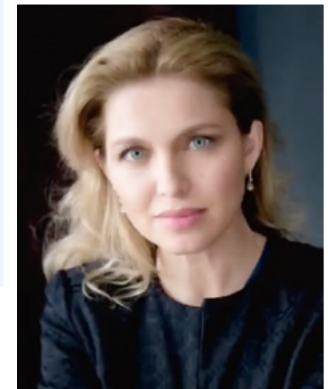
Dr. Rouhi’s analysis and commentary has been published by Foreign Policy, NYT, The Guardian, Boston Globe, The National Interest, and other academic and policy journals. She has consulted with government and non-government organizations on nuclear issues and Iran.

“Woman, Life, Freedom in Iran”

By Dr. Mahsa Rouhi (*Originally Published: Survival; Global Politics and Strategy, Volume 64, 2022 – Issue 6/ Taylor & Francis Online*)

[Link to Opinion Piece](#)



**ISRAEL*****Micky Rozin-Aharonson***

Micky Rozin-Aharonson is currently the Chief of Staff and Foreign Policy Adviser to the Minister of Transport. She was formerly a senior Researcher at the Jerusalem Institute for Strategy and Security. Prior to that, Ms. Rozin-Aharonson concluded nearly a decade as the director for foreign policy in the Israeli National Security Council in the Prime Minister's Office. She is a media commentator on foreign policy and a former lecturer.

“Women’s Participation in Conflict Resolution/Management: Examples from Israel”

Link to Video ([ENGLISH](#)) ([ARABIC](#)) ([FRENCH](#))



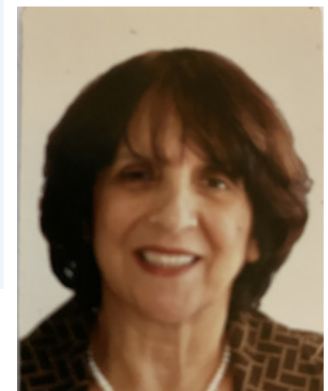
**ISRAEL*****Pnina Sharvit Baruch***

Pnina Sharvit Baruch is a senior research fellow and the head of the program on law and national security at the Israel Institute for National Security Studies (INSS). She retired from the Israel Defense Forces in 2009 with the rank of Colonel after twenty years in the International Law Department, heading the Department from 2003. In this capacity she was responsible for advising the government on issues relating to international law. During the years 1993–2006, Pnina served as a member of Israel’s delegations to the negotiations with the Palestinians. In 2000, she also participated in the negotiations with Syria as the legal advisor of the security committee. After 2009 Pnina taught courses on public international law and on the legal aspects of the Israel – Arab conflict in the law faculty of the Tel-Aviv University. In recent years she has participated in several track II negotiations with Palestinian counterparts. Pnina is an active member of Forum Dvora - Women in Foreign Policy and National Security and represents the Forum in NATO’s Civil Society Advisory Panel on Women, Peace and Security (WPS). She is Vice President of the international association of Jewish lawyers and jurists (IJL), a member of the managing board of the Israeli section of the International Women Forum (IWF) and a member of the Mediterranean Women Mediators Network (MWMN).

“Using National Security Tools in the Fight against Intimate Partner Violence”

[Link to Opinion Piece](#)



**ISRAEL*****Mazal Renford C.V.***

Mazal Renford is Former Director of the Golda Meir International Training Center, Israel, holds an M.A. in Business Administration. Under the auspices of MASHAV – the Center for International Cooperation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs – Mazal has organized hundreds of training courses designed to promote women’s leadership and capacity-building towards socio-economic development, throughout Africa, Asia, Latin America, Eastern Europe and the Mediterranean Region. Mazal represented Israel at many international conferences (UNECE, World Bank, European Union, UNESCO, and ILO), and from 1999 to 2014 participated annually in the official delegation of Israel to the UN Commission on the Status of Women. In 2007 she was elected to represent Israel for a three year term on the Executive Board of INSTRAW – the UN International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, Mazal Renford is a member of the International Council of Women (ICW); Soroptimist International of Europe; IFLAC (the International Forum for Literature and Culture of Peace); SID - Society for International Development; Women Wage Peace; and Israeli Women’s Network, As Israeli Delegate to the Permanent Commission of the Mediterranean Women’s Forum she created a dialogue with women from the Arab world, breaking down stereotypes. In 2004, she initiated an ongoing series of seminars for Palestinian and Israeli women and youth, promoting education for peace.

“Women’s Voice in Conflict Resolutions and Peace Building – Israeli & Palestinian Women as Partners”

[Link to Opinion Piece](#)



**LEBANON*****Dr. Jasmin Lilian Diab***

Dr. Jasmin Lilian Diab (she) is a Canadian-Lebanese Scholar and Expert in Migration, Gender and Conflict Studies. Dr. Diab is the Director of the Institute for Migration Studies at the Lebanese American University, where she also serves as an Assistant Professor and Coordinator of Migration Studies. In 2022, she became the United Nations University Centre for Policy Research’s first ever Global Fellow on Migration and Inequality. Dr. Diab is a Research Affiliate at the Centre for Refugee Studies at York University, a Global Fellow at Brown University’s Center for Human Rights and Humanitarian Studies, as well as a Visiting Fellow at University of Cambridge and the Centre for Lebanese Studies’ British Academy Bilateral Research Chair on Education in Conflict. She is a former Visiting Professor at the United Nations-mandated University for Peace at their Peace and Conflict Studies Department.

“Barriers to Gender Equality, Peace, and Security for Refugee Women in Lebanon During COVID-19”

[Link to Opinion Piece](#)





LIBYA



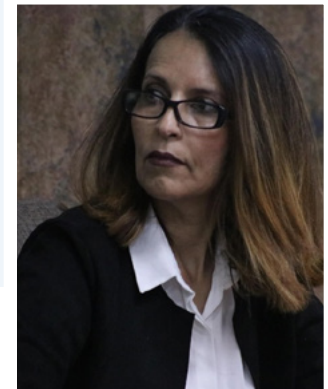
Bushra Alhodiri

Bushra Alhodiri is the President and Operating Manager of Fezzan Libya Organization (FLO), an NGO in Sebha focused on youth-led reporting and community-based peacebuilding. She is a master's student in Sustainable Development at the University of Sussex. Bushra has spent the last eight years working closely with the community in the South through various community development projects. She has led the implementation of several projects with FLO since 2016 that includes development, social cohesion initiatives, community-based peacebuilding, women and youth empowerment, and media. Bushra is interested in social justice, equality, and peace buildings and through her work at FLO she has been able to build positive relationships with the various social backgrounds, tribal groups, and local authorities. Bushra has also previously worked with International NGOs such as IOM, DRC and ACTED.

“UNSCR 1325: Possibilities and Obstacles to Adoption”

[Link to Opinion Piece](#)



**LIBYA*****Dr. Abeir I. Imneina***

Dr. Abeir I. Imneina is a University Professor of Political Science and Public Administration, University of Benghazi since 1995. There she held the position of Head of Public Administration Department from 2014-2018; Head of the Civil Society Commission from 2016–2018; and Consultant with UN Women since 2020. She is also the Head of the Washam Center for Women’s Studies since 2019.

“Gender Equality in Libya: The Impact of The COVID-19 Pandemic”

[Link to Opinion Piece](#)





MAURITANIA



Mounina Abdellah

Mounina Abdellah has held many key positions such as the Chief of Staff of the Ombudsman of the Republic (2016–2018); the Chargé de Mission, Independent National Electoral Commission (CENI); The Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Mauritania to the United Nations and International Organizations Geneva and Switzerland (2007–2008); the State Secretariat for the Status of Women (Director, Adviser (1990–2007); and the National Coordinator for the Women’s World Conference (preparation, follow-up) (1994–2005).

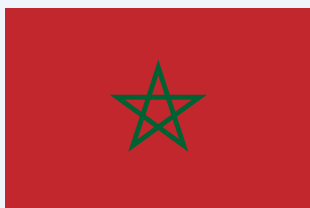
Mounina also serves on a number of important boards and committees to include: Supervisory Board of the Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights, Poverty Reduction and Integration; Member of the Steering Committee of the Mauritanian Center for Strategic Studies (CMAP) and Program, funded by the African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF); and Member of the Supervisory Board of the Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights, Poverty Reduction and Integration from 1999–2004.

She earned a Master of Science in Education from the Lebanese International University (LIU), a Master’s degree in Physics and Chemistry; and a Certificate of “Training of Trainers the Gender Approach”. She also earned Certificates for BRIDGE (Building Resources in Democracy, Governance and Elections) Training in Dakar in 2012 and further honed her skills with a Certificate in Leadership and Electoral Skills competencies in 2013 and 2014.

“Situation of Mauritanian Women in Terms of Traditional Security”

[Link to Opinion Piece](#)





MOROCCO



Dr. Fatima Sadiqi

Dr. Fatima Sadiqi is a Professor of Linguistics and Gender Studies (University of Fez, Morocco); her work focuses on women's and gender issues in modern North Africa, the Middle East, and the Mediterranean world. In June 2018, she was elected President of the Association for Middle East Women's Studies – AMEWS, the first Maghribian to be elected to this post. She is author and editor of numerous volumes and journal issues, including *Women, Gender and Language* (Brill 2003), *Women's Activism and the Public Sphere: Local/Global Linkages* (Journal of Middle East Women's Studies 2006), *Women and Knowledge in the Mediterranean* (Routledge 2013), *Moroccan Feminist Discourses* (Palgrave Macmillan 2014), and *Women's Movements in the Post-"Arab Spring" North Africa* (2016). Her current recent research interest resides in the intersection between violent extremism and gender in North Africa. She is currently finalizing a book on Daesh Ideology and Women's Rights in North Africa.

Fatima Sadiqi is also a public speaker in many languages and a member of many national and international scholarly and policy-making boards. Her work has been supported by numerous prestigious awards and fellowships from Harvard University, The Woodrow Wilson Center, the Rockefeller Foundation's Bellagio Center, Fulbright, and currently by the ZIF center (Bielefeld University, Germany).

"What Does Security Mean for Moroccan Women?"

[Link to Opinion Piece](#)





NEPAL



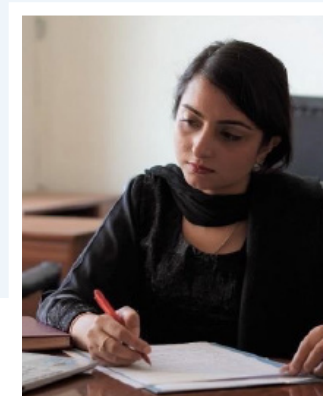
Aashiyana Adhikari

Aashiyana Adhikari is a research associate at Center for South Asian Studies (CSAS). Her research interest lies in politics, diplomacy, gender, inclusivity and development. She is also a founder of an NGO called *Women Policy Nepal* which aims to provide political literacy to women. She is currently pursuing her post graduate degree in Gender and Development Studies at Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand. Her current research deals with the continuum of digital violence as an extension to offline violence among young women in Nepal. She formerly worked as an Intern in the Human and Social Science Department, UNESCO, Thailand. She has also worked with a number of media houses nationally and internationally on inter-sectional issues related to women in South Asia. Her works have been published in international publications as well as in national and international newspapers. Aashiyana brings extensive experience with multilateral stakeholders and broad knowledge of research and advocacy, as well as innovative approaches to communication.

“Migration Exodus in South Asia: The Impact of COVID-19”

[Link to Opinion Piece](#)



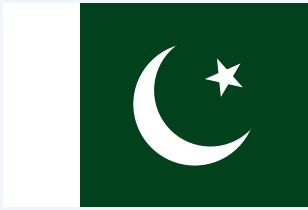
**PAKISTAN*****Maheen Ahmad***

Maheen Ahmad currently serves in the faculty of Social Sciences & Humanities (S3H) at the National University of Sciences & Technology (NUST). Previously, she was associated with the Islamabad Policy Research Institute (IPRI), a research think tank affiliated with the National Security Division, Pakistan. She is a professional who has built her career in academia and research after completing her postgraduate studies in International Public Policy and Management from the Erasmus University Rotterdam in the Netherlands. Passionate of researching areas that pertain to social policy and human security, Maheen regularly publishes her work in academic research journals and national/international dailies.

“Viewing Population Explosion through a Gendered Lens as a Non-Security Threat in the NESAs Region”

[Link to Opinion Piece](#)



**PAKISTAN*****Maida Farid***

Maida Farid is a Peace Scholar at the National University of Sciences and Technology, Islamabad, Pakistan. She belongs to Pakistan Administered Kashmir (PAK) or what is better known as Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK). Growing up in a conflict zone she has different experiences and has developed a different approach towards life. Her experiences however do not lie in black or white, they mostly reside in the grey area which makes it more complicated. Maida's interest in peace and conflict studies emerged along with her realization of the masked realities around her. After a (four year) bachelor's degree in psychology, she pursued not a dream of becoming a psychologist but a passion of probing more into socio-political dynamics of living in a conflict zone especially without the realization of living in a conflict zone, and most importantly being a primary but silenced party in the Kashmir conflict. Maida's ongoing research is also based on studying the political and legal realities of AJK and the role of Kashmiris in the conflict resolution process. As a scholar, her goal is to ask the right questions, provide the right solutions, and be a voice in all the noise around.

“The Inhumane Siege and the Kashmiri Women”

[Link to Opinion Piece](#)





PALESTINIAN AUTHORITY



Brigadier Rana Hassan Issa Khouli

Brigadier Rana Hassan Issa Khouli, leads the National Security Force (NSF) Gender Unit in the West Bank, Palestine. The NSF Gender Unit was established on 18 March 2012, based on the vision of the NSF Commander, Major General Nidal Abu Dukhan, of gender-responsive forces. This comes within the framework of providing services and creating partnerships to develop trust with the civil society, while advancing the status of women, empowering them, building their capacities, developing their performance, and ensuring their progress within the NSF. BG BKhouli was born in the Tulkarem Camp in 1972 and is married with four children. She has served in Public Relations and the Media Section as Director and in the Gender Unit as Director at the NSF. She holds a Masters in Planning and Political Development from An-Najah University (2021), received the second jurists' officers course/Jericho in 1996, and is the recipient of a diploma in Police Sciences graduating with the rank of Lieutenant. BG BKhouli has completed a number of local and international courses on human rights; organized two conferences in 2019 and 2021 on women military issues; participated in research papers for two Arab conferences in 2019 and 2021; and holds the International Arab Women Leadership and Entrepreneurship License.

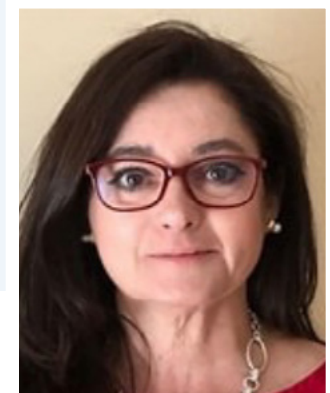
“Palestinian Women and Security Involvement”

[Link to Opinion Piece](#)





SPAIN



Dr. Concepción Anguita Olmedo

Dr. Concepción Anguita Olmedo is a Professor of International Relations and Organized Crime and Terrorism in the Faculty of Political Sciences and Sociology of Complutense University. She has a diploma in High Studies at the Defense at Spanish Ministry of Defense Command and Staff School (2008), and is a Researcher at the Complutense Institute of International Studies (ICEI) in the area of International Security and International Relations. Additionally, Concepción is also a Researcher at the Center for Studies on Transnational Organized Crime (CeCOT) of IRI-University of La Plata. A member of the research team International Relations 21st century-RIS XXI (UCM), she is the current Director of the Master in Defense Policy and International Security organized jointly with the Ministry of Defence of Spain.

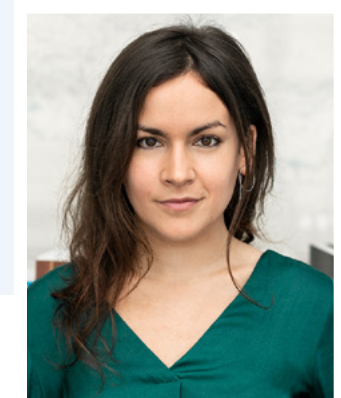
Concepción has been a Visiting Professor at the University of California in San Diego – UCSD (2019), at the University of California in Los Angeles – UCLA (2014), at the University of La Plata and at the University of Lanús (both in Argentina), at the Warsaw University (Poland), at the University of Lisbon and at the University of Coimbra (both in Portugal), at ANEPE (Chile) and University of Friendship of the People of Moscow (Russia).

“The Case of Migrant Women from the Central American Northern Triangle: How to Prevent Exploitation and Violence During the Crossing”

By Dr. Carolina Sampó and Dr. Concepción Anguita (*Originally Published: Scielo 25 Brazil; Revista Brasileira de Política Internacional (RBPI)*)

[Link to Opinion Piece](#)



**SPAIN*****Dr. Meritxell Joan-Rodríguez***

Dr. Meritxell Joan-Rodríguez joined the Euro-Mediterranean Gender Equality Programme at the European Institute of the Mediterranean in 2020. She is also part of the working team of the Euro-Mediterranean Women's Foundation, whose headquarters are located at the IEMed. She has an extensive research and teaching experience on gender-related issues, including individual and collective identity-construction processes, intercultural dialogue and social transformation in the Euro-Mediterranean region.

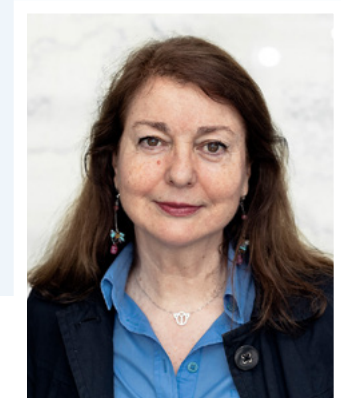
Prior to her involvement at the IEMed, she trained as a researcher at several international institutions, such as the Universities of Barcelona and Paris 8, Goldsmiths College (University of London) and Harvard University. Her academic background has led her to participate in different international research projects at regional, national and global levels. She has also worked as a translator and as a teacher of languages and literatures. Meritxell Joan holds a Ph.D. in Linguistic, Literary and Cultural Studies from the University of Barcelona.

“Gender-Based Violence: A Continuous Threat in the Euro-Mediterranean Region”

By Dr. Maria-Àngels Roque-Alonso and Dr. Meritxell Joan-Rodríguez

[Link to Opinion Piece](#)



**SPAIN*****Dr. Maria-Àngels Roque-Alonso***

Dr. Maria-Àngels Roque-Alonso has been Director of the Department of Mediterranean Cultures and Civil Society since 2001, Editor-in-Chief of the journal *Quaderns de la Mediterrània* since 2000, and Head of Network of the Spanish Network of the Anna Lindh Foundation since 2007. She has more than 30 years of experience in carrying out anthropological and social research, projects and several publications and books.

Previously, she held the position of Director of Studies at the then Catalan Institute of Mediterranean Studies (1989–2000), Technical Director of the 1st Euromed Civil Forum (1995), and Technical Advisor to the Euromed Women’s Conference Barcelona+10 (2005), and the 1st Euromed Ministerial Conference “Strengthening the Role of Women in Society” (Istanbul, 2007). She was also a member of the editorial board of *L’année du Maghreb* (2002–2010) and Visiting Professor at the *École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales* (EHESS) and at the Collège de France. She holds a Ph.D. in Cultural and Social Anthropology from the University of Barcelona.

“Gender-Based Violence: A Continuous Threat in the Euro-Mediterranean Region”

By Dr. Maria-Àngels Roque-Alonso and Dr. Meritxell Joan-Rodríguez

[Link to Opinion Piece](#)





SYRIA



Hadia Kawikji

Hadia Kawikji is a Syrian certified Attorney at law (2004) who, since early 2023, has worked as a Project Coordinator for the Syrian Negotiation Commission Office in Geneva. In early 2016, she joined the Women’s Advisory Committee that is affiliated with the High Negotiation Committee, representing the opposition delegation in the Syria talks in Geneva. Since 2013, she has been a non-resident senior fellow at the Omran for Strategic Studies. Kawikji has more than 14 years of experience in governance and development in both governmental and non-governmental organizations. During the Syrian crisis, she trained a number of Local Councils and Local Communities in Syria on governance, mediation skills, gender issues, and conflict analysis. Kawikji also has a number of published and non-published research papers on these issues. Hadia has a Master of Advanced Studies in Mediation in Peace Process from ETH Zurich (2019), an International Master in Legal, Social, and Economic Sciences from Italy (2007), and she is also a co-founder of several civil society organizations.

“Women’s Role in the Syrian Revolution”

[Link to Opinion Piece](#)



**TUNISIA*****Sahar Ben Younes***

Sahar Ben Younes is a Tunisian PhD Candidate in Political Science and International Relations at Istanbul University, Türkiye. She is the Director of the Research department in Arab Policy Forum in Istanbul. She is co-writer of the “United Nations and Its Conflict Resolution Role/the UN role in Restoring Peace in the Middle East: the Case Of Yemen.” Her fields of research are Iran and Saudi Arabia’s rivalry in the Middle East, the Yemeni proxy war and civil conflict, Middle-Eastern geopolitics, security affairs, and conflict resolution studies.

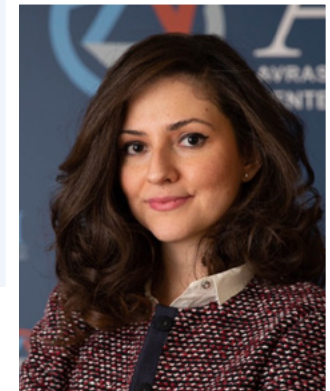
“Re-Contextualizing Women’s Status for Better Rights Implementation”

[Link to Opinion Piece](#)





TÜRKIYE



Hazel Çağın Elbir

Hazel Çağın Elbir graduated from Political Science and Public Administration, Bilkent University in 2008 and holds a MSc. in International Relations from Middle East Technical University (2012). Having completed her Master's thesis on Armenian Terrorism and the Turkish Press (1973–1984), Hazel interned in TGNA (2006), Center for Eurasian Strategic Studies (ASAM) (2007), Institute for Global Strategy (2007) and attended a Project on Model European Parliament in Graz, Austria. She worked in the Institute for Global Strategy for four months in 2008 as a specialist on the Balkans. During her Master's degree, she interned in Center for Eurasian Studies (2011) and as of 2012 Hazel joined AVİM as an analyst in February 2012. She is currently a Ph.D. student in the interdisciplinary department Political Economy from Atılım University.

Çağın Elbir's research areas are the European Union, Türkiye – U.S. Relations, Caucasus, propaganda studies, crimes against humanity, and terrorism.

“On the 21st Anniversary of UN Resolution 1325 and NESAs Formation: 21 Countries and 21-plus Women's Voices”

Link to Video ([ENGLISH](#)) ([ARABIC](#)) ([FRENCH](#))



“We Should Act Together Against Violence Even if We're Not Exposed to Violence”

[Link to Opinion Piece](#)



**TÜRKIYE*****Dr. Sema Kalaycioglu***

Professor Dr. Sema Kalaycioglu was born in Ankara and received a BA in Economics at Istanbul University (1973); a MA in Economics at University of Iowa, Department of Economics; and a Ph.D. in Economics at Istanbul University (1982). She became a full professor in 1992.

At Yildiz Technical University (1982-2003), Dr. Kalaycioglu served as the Director of the Department of Banking, the Graduate Dean, and the Chairperson of the Economics Department. At Işık University, she established the Department of Economics and the “Political Economy of the Middle East” MA program, and served as the Director and the Chairperson. At Dogus University she held the position as the Faculty Dean.

Dr. Kalaycioglu’s research, teaching and publication interests include International Political Economy; Political Economy of Türkiye and the Middle East; and Energy Economics. Dr. Kalaycioglu was an IDE scholar in Japan in 1995-96, and a visiting fellow at the University of Minnesota in 1990 and 1999. She gave seminars at Harvard University, Center for the Middle East in 2017 and 2018.

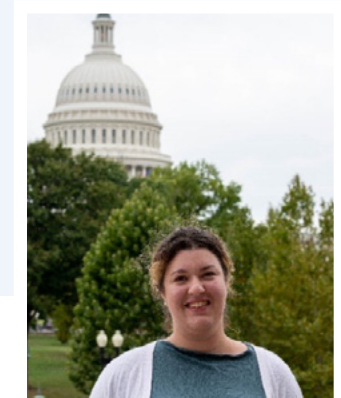
“When Bad Things Happen to Women: The Sad Turkish Saga”

[Link to Opinion Piece](#)





UNITED STATES



Gabrielle J. Garneau

Gabrielle J. Garneau will graduate from the University of New Hampshire Durham in 2023. She will hold a double degree in both International Affairs and Political Science. During the Fall of 2022, she was a Near East South Asia Center for Strategic Studies (NESA) Intern leading small teams of Interns in support of various NESA and NESA-USAFRICOM programs/seminars. During these programs she had the opportunity of interacting with senior government officials, academics, entrepreneurs, think tanks directors, and influencers and agents of change in the NESA region from North Africa, the Levant, Central Asia, the Gulf and South Asia. After leaving NESA, she continued as a Research Assistant and provided research, editing support, as well as authoring an Opinion Piece in NESA's first ever Women Peace and Security (WPS) E-Book. Gabrielle is passionate about human rights and bringing attention to those atrocities around the world with hopes to one day be part of solutions to the threats to human rights and security.

“The United States: Still a Work in Progress Towards Equality”

[Link to Opinion Piece](#)



**YEMEN*****Lamyia Abduljaleel Al-Adeemi***

Since 2019, Mrs. Al-Adeemi has been the First Secretary at the Embassy of the Republic of Yemen in Brussels. Prior to that she worked at the office of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Aden (interim capital) as a member of the International Organizations Department. From 2014–2016, she held the position of Arab Countries Desk Officer at the Minister’s Office (MOFA). She was also been assigned (2010–2014) as Cultural Attaché at the Embassy of the Republic of Yemen in Paris; as the Tunisian Desk Officer (2005–2010) at the Arab World Department; and in 2004 as Diplomatic Attaché at the Information Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Yemen. Mrs. Al-Adeemi has a Bachelor of Information, Public Relations and Advertising Department, from Sana’a University (2000) and has completed numerous English Language Courses at YALI American Institute in Sana’a Yemen, achieving LEVEL 6A (Advance) in 2008.

“Yemen’s History of Women in Power”

[Link to Opinion Piece](#)



Additional Resources



“Women, Peace, and Security: Policy Priorities”

Professor Michael E. Brown

Link to Video ([ENGLISH](#)) ([ARABIC](#)) ([FRENCH](#))



“Women, Peace, and Security: Rhetoric and Reality”

Dr. Chantal de Jonge Oudraat

Link to Video ([ENGLISH](#)) ([ARABIC](#)) ([FRENCH](#))



“National Security, Stability, and Progress: Ten Recommendations for National Leaders”

Professor Michael E. Brown

Link to Video ([ENGLISH](#)) ([ARABIC](#)) ([FRENCH](#))



“Global Trends and International Security”

Professor Michael E. Brown

Link to Video ([ENGLISH](#)) ([ARABIC](#)) ([FRENCH](#))



“The First Political Order: How Sex Shapes Governance and National Security Worldwide”

Dr. Valerie Hudson

Link to Video ([ENGLISH](#)) ([ARABIC](#)) ([FRENCH](#))



“Conflict Generators in the 2020s: Top Ten Priorities”

Professor Michael E. Brown

Link to Video ([ENGLISH](#)) ([ARABIC](#)) ([FRENCH](#))



“Civil Society and Human Security”

Dr. Lisa Schirch

Link to Video ([ENGLISH](#)) ([ARABIC](#)) ([FRENCH](#))



“How Smugglers/Illicit Traffickers Do What They Do”

Dr. Ian Rabby

Link to Video ([ENGLISH](#)) ([ARABIC](#)) ([FRENCH](#))



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“Always Remember:
You are Powerful, Beautiful, Brilliant, and Brave!”



Women, Peace, and Security

On the 23rd Anniversary of UN Resolution 1325 and NESA's Formation:
22 Countries and 33 Women's Voices