



Middle East: The Role of Women in Conflict & Post Conflict Resolution

Workshop report



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Women are uniquely affected by conflicts, but they are also unique and important contributors to conflict resolution and peacebuilding processes.

Women have demonstrated their capabilities and successes in peace negotiations and mediation processes through Track 2 dialogues, where they utilize informal mechanisms to engage communities, build trust and raise awareness. These types of initiatives can and should have a coherent link between the different processes, where information flows both ways, thereby facilitating a multi-track approach to peacebuilding. A prerequisite for such multi-track approaches to peace-making is to empower women with the skillsets and opportunities to participate in and contribute to more formal negotiation processes.

More investment in and attention should be paid to women's organizations in the Middle East (ME), which are leading Track 2 dialogues at a grassroots level and are empowering women and communities to contribute to their own stability and security. If these female leaders are supported and provided with avenues to form collective networks and strategies, their organizations can improve societal resilience in the ME and help mitigate the effects of violent conflict within the region and beyond.

Women's vulnerabilities can be exploited during conflict as a tactic of war, while also contributing to prolonged instability in the aftermath of violence. Vulnerable women in the ME need social safety nets, psychosocial support, education and skills training authorized by institutions to empower them and reduce their negative coping mechanisms. Providing women, in particular vulnerable women, with the tools to become agents of change and contribute to peace-making and peacebuilding processes is critical to reducing their insecurity and laying the foundations for lasting peace in post-conflict regions.

Different problems require different solutions in the ME, which is why sex-disaggregated data is so important, as it can help clarify which holistic and multi-sectoral approaches are required to reduce vulnerability and improve security and stabilization in the ME.

Women can also perpetrate violence and are often targeted by extremists as entry points to radicalization of entire families. Women and men who perpetrate violence need to be brought to justice. Fair and equitable justice systems provide a form of accountability and prevention. They are highly important for deterrence and enabling survivors to heal. However, justice alone is not sufficient to prevent violent extremism. Women and their families need to be de-radicalized and re-integrated into their communities in the longer-term.

The protracted economic marginalization and disempowerment of women and their families can lead to further radicalization. Investing in programs whose focus is to prevent violent extremism is a form of proactive deterrence.

Women pay a high price during war and they should also be at the forefront of efforts to put an end to violent conflict and to rebuild in its aftermath. Enabling women to participate in domestic politics, hold positions of power and be involved in state security defence mechanisms can help ensure that women's unique perspectives are incorporated into stabilization and peacebuilding processes. In particular, changing perceptions around the role of women in state security defence mechanisms requires a shift in public discourse. Additional support for improving women's access to media and technology can contribute towards reshaping such narratives.

INTRODUCTION

Across the ME, especially where instability and insecurity are still prevalent, the number of female-led households has increased (i.e. in the context of the ongoing civil wars in Yemen and Syria, following the influx of refugees in Syria and Jordan, in the aftermath of the economic crises in Lebanon, etc.). Concurrently, across the region, transnational terrorism continues to pose a threat to domestic and regional stability. In such a complex scenario, women are not only victims, but also play a critical role in preventing crises and facilitating peace during mediation processes (UNSCR1325).

Scope of Research

The purpose of this workshop was to improve the understanding of the nexus between women and security in the ME region with a view to contributing to NATO's situational awareness in this area. Panellists were asked to explore the role of women in conflict settings bearing in mind the following: 1) The myriad ways in which conflicts specifically impact women; 2) The role women can and should play in both mitigating and preventing conflicts; 3) How women's ongoing socio-economic and political marginalization contributes to their increased vulnerability in conflict; 4) The role some women play in perpetuating conflicts (ie. DAESH "brides"); and 5) How international organizations can empower women to play a larger role in conflict resolution, especially in relation to peace processes.

Panellists analysing the role of women in post-conflict settings, examined: 1) How and in which domains women can help strengthen security in the ME in the short- and long-term; 2) The impact of economic crises and political instability on women's security; 3) The role women can and do play in post-conflict recovery and development; and 4) How International Organizations can better support women to lay the foundations of lasting peace.

In addition to elaborating the findings of the workshop, as outlined above, this particular report also incorporates a series of recommendations. These are drawn from research conducted to date and also build on the suggestions put forth by the experts during the workshop. These are all intended to contribute to NATO's regional awareness regarding security in the ME.

MAIN FINDINGS

Role of Women in Conflict and Post-Conflict Mediation Processes

Mediation and peace processes generally require multi-level interventions. Women have historically been and continue to be visibly absent from Track 1 peace negotiations¹ as Track 1 mediation processes tend to be formal and male dominated. Therefore, panellists emphasized the need for further recognition and support of other types of informal diplomatic mechanisms where women currently lead, namely Track 1.5 and Track 2 dialogue processes. These types of processes tend to be a lot more informal and more inclusive, being led by women who operate outside the existing power structures. Oftentimes, the lack of association with formal structures of power enables women leaders to build trust and awareness with more ease, as compared to their male counterparts.

As highlighted by Professor Randa Slim, “*Women are bridge builders. They take a collaborative approach that facilitates the durability of negotiations. Women have been active mediators at the local level, negotiating and enforcing local ceasefires in Yemen, Syria and Libya.*” In fact, Track 2 dialogues are where women have been able to build networks, gain mediation skills and test new ideas. However, the outcomes of these grassroots initiatives are often disconnected from the national level mediation processes (Track 1), which tend to proceed in a more confidential fashion and subsequently implement their outcomes with a top-down approach. This is why, participants cautioned, a multi-level approach to mediation is needed. This approach can connect the different actors involved in peace processes, formal and informal, and it can help ensure that women are engaged throughout the different stages of negotiation.

Still, predominant cultural stereotypes in the ME about the role of women in mediation processes are hampering progress in this area. Professor Slim emphasized the need for quotas and other mechanisms (e.g. skills development), to ensure that more women are appointed in senior, decision-making positions. The UN and other international organizations can lead by example, empowering and investing in women and men who advocate on behalf of women, in particular women who are most vulnerable.

Track 2 Dialogues: Women-Led Movements and Initiatives

Currently, there are many women and women-led initiatives leading Track 2 dialogues throughout the ME. It is vitally important to support and empower these organizations to continue and expand their work – like the Arab Women Organization (AWO), the Mediterranean Women Mediator Network (MWMN), the Arab Renaissance for Democracy and Development (ARDD), FemWise and other governmental and non-governmental organizations. These organizations are implementing grassroots interventions to reform education, engage youth and civil

¹ <https://wps.unwomen.org/pdf/CH03.pdf>

society and advocate with national governments and international bodies. As mentioned by Nora Osama, Head of the Technical Office of AWO, “*Women are the entry points for achieving all sustainable development goals.*” Her organization focuses on providing gender sensitive training to female election observers, judges, educators, diplomats and youth networks, with a focus on targeting classrooms where gender stereotypes often originate and providing tools to diplomats who sit at the negotiation tables. AWO also provides economic and political empowerment to overlooked and vulnerable groups of women - youth, refugees, Internally Displaced People (IDPs) and those living in rural areas.

Dr. Fadia Kiwan, president of AWO, noted the “*lack of coherence and coordination between these organizations*”, emphasizing the importance of interconnections between the different networks and collective strategizing around a common agenda. “*We will succeed if we work jointly*”, she concluded. This coherence is critical to emerging security challenges or areas of concern, such as food insecurity and climate change. These issues contribute to the insecurity of the entire Middle East, as currently illustrated by the negative effects of the invasion of Ukraine, and they will have a particularly negative impact on women. In order to address this, there is a need to improve the resilience of fragile regions by investing in women-led initiatives and empowering women at the grassroots level.

Refugee and IDP Women – Vulnerability Heightening Insecurity

According to data, 50% of the world’s refugees come from the ME, 80% of which are women and children. Vulnerabilities can be exploited during conflict as a tactic of war and are also contributors of prolonged instability in its aftermath. As Ambassador Soad Shalaby pointed out, “*In the ME, women are income generators and lead their families, but suffer the most during conflict and post-conflict, during which they become side-lined in their communities.*”

Women’s economic security, health and stability is under threat during conflict and post-conflict. Providing women, in particular vulnerable women, with the tools to become agents of change and lead peacebuilding processes is critical to reducing their insecurity and laying the foundations for lasting peace in post-conflict regions. Samar Muhareb, CEO of ARDD, highlighted the “*importance of social safety nets, psychosocial support, education and institutional capacity building to empower women and reduce their negative coping mechanisms*”. This support should be holistic, human-centric, survivor-centric and multi-sectoral to ensure gender-transformative change (i.e. aiming for structural changes that address the root causes of gender inequality).

In the aftermath of conflict, shifts in gender dynamics can create space for women to be more holistically empowered. As LtC Dana Humaid explained, “*Conflicts lead to a change in the role of women in their households and communities. With conflicts causing the deaths of male family members, women increasingly become household heads and*

breadwinners. These additional responsibilities have empowered women." This is particularly relevant for the Yazidi women who were victims of the violence perpetrated by DAESH. As noted by Olivia Wells, Director of Programs and Partnerships at Nadia's Initiative, "*Yazidi women who lost their husbands became the heads of their households and now need targeted support to rebuild their livelihoods and homes, and in support of their children's education. They need to be empowered to participate in post-conflict resolution and peacebuilding.*"

Research suggests that regional GDP in the Middle East could rise by 47% if women had the same economic opportunities as men.² This empowerment can and should extend to women's families. In this context, Ambassador Shalaby and Ms. Muhareb emphasized the need to provide support to families, listen to them and focus on implementing their concrete recommendations. Ms. Muhareb also noted that "*security requires creativity*", highlighting the importance of contextualizing approaches to peacebuilding that are regionally specific. Different problems require different and innovative approaches to resolution. This is why sex-disaggregated data is vitally important. As Dr. Kiwan stated, "*We cannot strategize how to address these issues without any data.*" She suggested that practitioners review and build a better methodology for collecting sex-disaggregated data, working in tandem with various groups, including religious communities.

Women as Perpetrators and Preventers of Violent Extremism

Major Shayma Alsararyeh acknowledged that "*women have been war-makers and peacemakers alike*". Women are often targeted by extremists as entry points for the radicalization of their entire families. As Dr. Vera Mironova pointed out, "*Women's connection to the family threatens to spread extremist ideologies within the family and create a whole new generation of terrorists.*" Female DAESH members are an example of women who have committed horrific crimes yet continue to enjoy impunity. Justice, as a form of accountability and prevention, is important for deterrence and enabling survivors to heal. Female survivors of DAESH captivity and sexual violence, like Yazidi activist and Nobel Peace Laureate, Nadia Murad, have been waiting for justice for eight years. As noted by Olivia Wells, "*survivors want and deserve to face their abusers in a court of law. Local, national, and international judicial accountability is critical to preventing future crimes.*"

However, putting female perpetrators behind bars is essential but insufficient. As Dr. Salma Nims emphasized, "*women and their families need to be de-radicalized and re-integrated into their communities in the longer-term.*" The protracted economic marginalization and disempowerment of women and their families can lead to further radicalization. Investing in programs that focus on the Prevention of Violent Extremism (PVE) is a form of proactive deterrent of future

² <https://www.brookings.edu/blog/markaz/2017/02/06/why-the-arab-world-should-employ-more-women/>

violent crimes. Working to train the trainers of PVE is critical to ensuring that deradicalization programs are transformative and sustainable. Additionally, Dr. Nims reiterated the need for multi-level, multi-stakeholder and community-led interventions to PVE: *“Working with teachers and women to teach conflict mediation skills and provide mental health and psychosocial support contributes to reducing violent extremism”*. She further acknowledged that efforts to prevent violent extremism should constantly be adapted: *“Deradicalization is a work in progress”*. In addition to this, practitioners should be aware of their own prejudices and work to deconstruct harmful narratives around Islamophobia, which often contribute to marginalizing and ostracizing community members, effectively driving them towards potential future extremism.

Women in State Security Defence Mechanisms

Women often pay the highest price in war, which means they need to be at the forefront of efforts to keep the peace. This includes women’s involvement in state security defence mechanisms. Jordanian Armed Forces (JAF) Colonel Maha Al Nasser underlined how women in the military can contribute to peacebuilding: *“Military women can be a bridge between the local community and leadership”*. Since the 1950s, JAF has been implementing strategic changes to increase the integration of women into the armed forces. Seven decades later, the role of women in the Jordanian military has evolved from the traditional medical training staff to include much broader representation, including in operations and overseas peacekeeping missions.

Changing perceptions around the role of women in state security defence mechanisms requires shifting public discourse about the role of women outside the home. As Ltc Dana suggested, *“Increasing women’s access to media and communication technologies will enable gender perspectives, women’s expertise and women’s media to influence public discourse and decision-making on peace and security.”*

RECOMENDATIONS

In line with NATO's Women, Peace and Security (WPS) Policy and Action Plan (2021-2025), NATO could engage in efforts to enhance understanding and recognition, within NATO and among NATO Allies and Partners, of women as strategic partners in peace mediation, peacebuilding and in post-conflict reconstruction in the ME. Specific actions could include:

- Collecting data disaggregated by sex and other socio-economic factors as part of a concerted effort to enhance situational awareness on human dynamics, including the vulnerabilities of women and the different roles they play during conflict and in post-conflict/fragile/unstable states.
- Encouraging the inclusion/integration of WPS in partnership agreements with partners in the ME.
- Exploring further and raising additional awareness of the positive role of women in the context of global security concerns, including in relation to counterterrorism, food security, resilience, human security and climate change. Notably, early warning on potential food security crises in the ME, as well as in other regions, calls for increased attention to the preventive role that women can play in this regard.
- Engaging further on this important topic with civil society, especially women's organizations and international organizations, in order to exchange valuable experiences and lessons learned.
- Exploring engagement with NATO Allies and partners to encourage the sharing of information and good practices/projects/initiatives that are increasing women's participation in mediators' networks, peace negotiations, PVE and post-conflict recovery and development.
- Exploring the topic through the Youth, Peace and Security perspective, elaborating on the vital role that the youth, in particular female youth, play in peacebuilding processes.

Annex 1

Workshop Panellists

Amb. Soad SHALABY, Director of Egyptian African Centre for Women.
<https://womenmediators.net/mediators/egypt/>

Soad Shalaby is an Egyptian diplomat who has served her country for 40 years including as Ambassador to several countries. She is presently the Director General of the Egyptian African Centre for Women and is serving her second term as a member of the Board of the Tana High Level Forum. She is a founding member of FemWise, the Mediterranean Women Mediators Network (MWMN) and a member of the Global Alliance of Regional Women Mediator Networks contact group. She was elected Member of the Committee of Elders of the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa for a 5-year term. Elected twice, she served for ten years as Member of the Council of the International Institute of Humanitarian Law in Sanremo. From 2007 to 2012, she was the Director of the Cairo International Centre for Conflict Resolution, Peacekeeping and Peacebuilding. Her career includes being: a selected member of the AU Panel of Experts for the Evaluation of the African Standby Force in 2014; a member of the expert group which launched the report of the AU Mediation Support Unit (MSU); a member of the POW team for the Evaluation of the present Kenyan pre- Presidential Election; and the head of the COMESA team for monitoring the parliamentary election in the Kingdom of Swaziland. She has completed many courses such as the AU Senior Mission Leaders Course and the Clingendael Institute Course on Negotiation and Mediation as a tool for conflict resolution. She has published several articles, nationally and internationally on WPS, and is a regular commentator and a guest speaker on African issues on Nile TV international, and many regional and international conferences.

Prof. Fadia KIWAN, Director General for the Arab Women Organization. Professor Fadia Kiwan is currently the Director General of the Arab Women Organization. Previously, she was the Founder and Director of the Observatory of the Civil Service and Good Governance at Saint Joseph University and Professor at the Institute of Political Science, Founder and Honorary Director of the Institute. She was a Visiting professor at several universities including France, Italy, Spain, Egypt and Tunisia. She was a Member of the Council of the United Nations University from 2007 to 2013, Appointed Representative of the President of the Republic of Lebanon to the Permanent Council of la Francophonie from 2013 to 2017, Chairperson of the Scientific Advisory Committee of the Social Research Program "Most" at UNESCO. She was Member of the Executive Office of the Lebanese National Commission for Women's Affairs and member of the Executive Council of the Arab Women Organization for the Republic of Lebanon. She has published numerous papers in the fields of civil society, good governance of political parties, women's issues and comparative political systems. She holds a PhD in political science from the University of Paris I - Sorbonne.

Ms. Olivia WELLS, Human Rights Advocate, MODERATOR.

Ms. Olivia Wells is a human rights advocate with a Master's degree in human rights law. Her expertise is in prevention of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), international criminal law and sustainable development, with a regional focus on the Middle East. Over the past eight years, she has worked with NGOs and international organizations, developing programs, promoting civic mobilization, managing donor relations, and establishing and maintaining partnerships. She has worked on the ground with marginalized communities in the Middle East, Eastern Europe, and Southern Africa to implement community-led development programs. She has also developed refugee aid programs in Southern Europe and is responsible for designing psychosocial support projects for child refugees in Athens, Greece. At Nadia's Initiative, Olivia leads the programs and development teams, oversees the organization's robust portfolio of projects in Iraq and manages all relationships with donors and partners.

Ms. Randa SLIM, Director of the Conflict resolution and Track II Dialogues Program at the Middle East Institute.

Ms. Randa Slim is a senior fellow and director of the Conflict Resolution and Track II Dialogues program at the Middle East Institute in Washington DC, and is a non-resident fellow at the Foreign Policy Institute of the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS). She works and publishes on regional and international issues of the Middle East with an emphasis on Lebanon, Syria and Iraq.

A former vice president of the International Institute for Sustained Dialogue, Slim has been a senior program advisor at the Rockefeller Brothers Fund, a guest scholar at the United States Institute of Peace, a program director at Resolve, Inc, and a program officer at the Kettering Foundation. A former member of the Dartmouth Conference US-Russia regional conflicts taskforce, she was a member of the US- Russia mediator team in the Inter-Tajik Dialogue (1992 -2000) and participated in the design and implementation of several conflict prevention and peace- building initiatives in Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan and the Ferghana Valley (2000- 2006). Since 2004, she has convened Track 1.5 -2. 0 dialogue initiatives focused on the conflicts in Iraq and Syria, U. S. Türkiye and U. S. - Russia bilateral relations, and regional cooperation frameworks in the Middle East. Slim also worked on the UN-mediated negotiations in Yemen as a consultant with the office of the UN Special Envoy for Yemen (2015-2016).

Lt Col. Dana HUMAID, Director General of the International Affairs Bureau at the Ministry of Interior of the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

Lt Col. Dana Humaid is the Director General of the International Affairs Bureau at the Ministry of Interior of the United Arab Emirates (UAE). She has previously served as the Director of the Ministry's Child Protection Centre and continues to oversee its activities in her current role. She is in charge of the Ministry's international activities. This includes managing the global network of police attaché offices, international

partnerships and membership of organizations, management of MoU's and treaties as well as international working groups, projects, and initiatives. She is closely involved in a number of international initiatives including the Interfaith Alliance for Safer Communities, WePROTECT Global Alliance, Virtual Global Taskforce, the International Security Alliance and the Secure Communities Forum.

Lt Col. Dana Humaid holds a bachelor's degree from Eckerd College United States, an MBA from Zayed University and attended Loughborough University London for postgraduate studies.

Ms. Nora OSAMA, Head of the Technical Office of Arab Women Organization.

Ms. Nora Osama is the head of the Technical Office of Arab Women Organization (AWO) and holds a MA degree in Political Science from the Faculty of Economics and Political Science, Cairo University. She joined the Arab Women Organization in 2004. Over these years, she was responsible for the implementation of several of AWO's programs among them: the economic and political empowerment of women; Women Peace and Security; Arab-Youth; SDGs program; and regional gender statistics. She currently holds the position of the Director of Planning and Programs at AWO and responsible for the international cooperation.

Col. Maha Falah IBRAHIM NASSER, Director of Military Women's Affairs in the Jordan Armed Forces (JAF).

Col. Maha Falah Ibrahim Nasser is the Director of Military Women's Affairs in the Jordan Armed Forces (JAF) and a Member of the high committee of Jordanian National Action Plan (JONAP) for the Implementation of UN Security Council resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security.

Maj. Shayma ALSARAYREH, Jordan Armed Forces (JAF).

Maj. Shayma Alsarayreh is a member of the Jordanian Military with 16 years of experience. She is a Jordanian national who works at the JAF. Shayma served in field unit for 10 years, advancing from a platoon leader to a company commander, completed numerous military courses from basic to advanced within the infantry field and also in gender; participated with the Jordanian National Committee (JNCW) in planning and preparing the first national action plan on implementing UNSCR 1325 (the Jordanian National Action Plan). Maj. Alsarayreh worked in preparing many seminars and workshops in the department of military women's affairs, working as an instructor for focal point courses.

Dr. Vera MIRONOVA, research fellow at Harvard University.

Dr. Vera Mironova is a research fellow at Harvard University. For her award-winning book, 'From Freedom Fighter to Jihadist: Non-State Armed Groups Human Resources' (Oxford University Press, 2019), she personally interviewed hundreds of ISIS and Al Qaeda fighters and was embedded with the Iraqi Special Operation Forces (Golden Division) for 9 months during the Battle of Mosul. Since 2015 she has covered numerous conflicts in the Middle East for Foreign Affairs and Foreign

Policy, and her op-eds have appeared in the Washington Post and New York Times. She also conducted research on the ground in other active conflict zones, including Yemen, Syria, Iraq, Ukraine, Georgia, Sudan, Congo and Myanmar.

Dr. Salma AL NIMS, Secretary General of the Jordanian National Commission for Women.

Dr. Salma Al Nims is the Secretary- General of the Jordanian National Commission for Women since 2014. She has 20 years' experience in the areas of Gender and development and has been an activist for Women Rights since the early 1990 s. Dr. Nims holds a PhD. in Development Planning (2004) and a MSc. in Sustainable Development (1998) from University College London, University of London. Since 2004, she provided professional development and gender consultancy services to several government and international organisations. Those included: the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, Ministry of Social Development, Ministry of Education, UNDP, UN Women, UNFPA, UNICEF and CIDA. She was previously the Executive Director of "Taqaddam" Platform, a social movement aiming at building a positive discourse towards reform and change in Jordan. Dr. Nims served as a member of the Advisory Group to the High -Level Task Force on Financing for Gender Equality for the United Nations.

Samar Muhareb, CEO of Arab Renaissance for Democracy and Development (ARDD).

With 20 years of experience in working for the development and humanitarian sector, Samar is an expert in the field of human rights, refugee affairs, humanitarian response and women's empowerment in Jordan and the Middle East. In addition she actively supports initiatives focusing on political and social reforms in the Arab region.

Samar holds a B.A. in Law and a master's degree in Human Rights and Human Development from the University of Jordan.

Workshop Supporters

Prof. Laura Sabrina MARTUCCI/PhD, University of Bari Aldo Moro.

From 2015, Prof. Laura Sabrina Martucci PhD has held several positions; including Aggregate Professor of Comparative Ecclesiastical Law, Professor in charge of Law of Ecclesiastical Entities - University of Bari Aldo Moro, Department of Law as well as Professor and contact point of the Dean of the University of Bari Aldo Moro. Selected by the Public Prosecutor for the drafting of "Guidelines for the intervention action of social mediators in the recovery paths aimed at de-radicalization". Coordinator of the Masters programme in "Prevention of radicalization of terrorism and policies for interreligious and intercultural integration". Member of the Italian delegation at the Metropolitan Police London (Counter Terrorism Command - New Scotland Yard) as academic advisor in Islamist radicalization.

Teresa FINIK, NATO WPS advisor. Teresa Finik is a senior advisor in the Canadian federal government with 20 years of experience developing policy and providing advice and analysis in a range of fields including gender equality, international human rights, international development assistance, transport, public infrastructure and health/public health.

From December 2018 to December 2019, Ms. Finik was the Manager of International and Intergovernmental Relations at Women and Gender Equality Canada, Canada's federal ministry mandated to advance gender equality. In December 2019, Ms. Finik was posted to NATO to serve as a Women, Peace and Security advisor in the Human Security Unit at NATO Headquarters in Brussels. One of her main responsibilities involves guiding the monitoring and reporting on the implementation of NATO's Women, Peace and Security Action Plan.

Ms. Finik holds a Master's degree in Political Science from Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada (2000). Her research paper focused on truth and reconciliation for countries in post-conflict transition.

Martina CACCAVALLO is a graduate in Political Sciences and International Relations, with a specialization in Communication and Lobbying for International Relations. After relevant internship experiences at the U.S. Department of State and the Italian Ministry of the Interior, she is currently working in the Culture Division of the Italian National Commission for UNESCO, where she is involved in the promotion of peace, education, sustainability and gender equality.

Annex 2

Workshop Presentations

“Enhancing Women's role in peace and security in the Middle East: Challenges and Opportunities” by Prof. Randa SLIM.

“Syrian Refugee Women in Jordan in the Post-Conflict Era: Perspectives from Vulnerable Widows” (virtual) by Samar Muhareb /Arab Renaissance for Democracy and Development (ARDD).

“The Role of Women in Post-Conflict Redevelopment and Peacebuilding: The Case of Yazidis in Iraq” by Dr. Olivia WELLS.

“Women in Post conflict and the impact of economic crises and political instability on Women's Security in the Middle East” by Amb. Soad SHALABY.

“Arab women in Peace Mediation processes” by Ms. Nora OSAMA (AWO).

“Role of Women in conflict from military perspective and 1325 principles” by LTC Maha AL NASSER and Major Shayma ALSARAYREH.

“The active role of Women in Conflict: Challenges and Opportunities” (virtual) by Lt. Dana HUMAID.

“Female members of ISIS in Al-Hol detention camp (Syria)” (virtual) by Vera MIRONOVA.

“The role of National WPS action plans to supporting the role of local Women in PVE and enhancing diversity and stability” by Dr. Salma AL NIMS.

Remarks from Fadia KIWAN President of Arab Women Organization (virtual).

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[\(PDF\) 'Women and Gender in the Middle East and North Africa: Mapping the Field and Addressing Policy Dilemmas at the Post-2011 Juncture', MENARA Final Reports, n. 3, March 2019](#)

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[Reassessing women's role in peace and security in the Middle East | Middle East Institute](#)



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