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15 – 16 April, 2024
Hotel Emerald,
Prishtina,
Republic of Kosovo



REPUBLIKA E KOSOVËS - PRESIDENTJA
REPUBLIC OF KOSOVO - THE PRESIDENT
REPUBLIKA KOSOVO - PRESDENICA



Monday, 15 April 2024

10:00 – 11:00
Main Stage
Beethoven Hall

WPS Forum 2024 Opening Ceremony

The international WPS Forum official video

Opening act

Welcoming speech by:

- ▼ H.E. Dr. Vjosa Osmani Sadriu, President of the Republic of Kosovo

Keynote speeches by:

- ▼ H.E. Dr. Nataša Pirc Musar, President of the Republic of Slovenia
- ▼ H.E. Bajram Begaj, President of the Republic of Albania
- ▼ H.E. Talat Xhaferi, Prime Minister of the Republic of North Macedonia

Special address by:

- ▼ Hillary Clinton – 67th United States Secretary of State

Masters of the ceremony: Grida Duma & Adriatik Kelmendi

11:00 – 11:30
Main Stage
Beethoven Hall

Signing ceremony on the Regional Women, Peace, and Security Center of Excellence in Kosovo

Video address by: Dr. Geeta Rao Gupta, United States
Ambassador-at-Large for Global Women's Issues (S/GWI)

Special address by:

Katrina Fotovat, Principal Deputy Director for the Secretary of State's
Office of Global Women's Issues (S/GWI)

Signatories:

H.E. Dr. Vjosa Osmani Sadriu, President of the Republic of Kosovo and the
U.S. Secretary's Office of Global Women's Issues (S/GWI), with the presence
of Ambassador Jeffrey Hovenier, U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Kosovo

11:35 – 11:55
Main Stage
Beethoven Hall

24 years of the WPS Agenda: A storyline from inception to implementation

Fireside chat with H.E. Ambassador Melanne Vermeer, Executive Director of the Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace and Security

Moderated by: Linda Robinson, Senior fellow for women and foreign policy at the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR)

12:00 – 12:10
Main Stage
Beethoven Hall

Hear my story

- ▼ Vasfije Krasniqi & Shyrete Tahiri Sulimani -
- ▼ Survivors of sexual violence during the last war in Kosovo

12:15 – 12:25
Main Stage
Beethoven Hall

Presidential Medal Awarding Ceremony

Special video tribute to the women of Afghanistan

Special addresses by:

- ▼ Rina Amiri, U.S. Special Envoy for Afghan Women, Girls, and Human Rights
- ▼ Zahra Nader, Editor-in-Chief of ZAN Times

Recipients:

Madina Darwazi, Arifa Fatimi, Muhammad Junaid Sahibzadah, Muhammad Sakhi, Fareed-ud Din Noori, Asadullah Zarmalwal, Nadia Gulabzade, Ahmed Shaker Sang

Beethoven Hall
Networking area
Throughout the day

WPS in Action: Civil Society Support Scheme

Pitching session

13:45 – 14:45
Main Stage
Beethoven Hall

Voices matter: A global call to end conflict related sexual violence

Conflict related sexual violence, gender-based violence, violation of fundamental human rights, deprivation of basic freedoms, are just some of most pressing challenges faced by women in conflict zones, be that in Ukraine, Middle East, Afghanistan, or elsewhere. This panel will focus on addressing the urgent issue of sexual violence in armed conflicts and its impact on women, peace, and security (WPS) agenda. It aims to explore the intersections between sexual violence and conflict, highlighting the importance of collective action, international cooperation, and policy measures to prevent and respond to these atrocities.

Opening speech: H.E. Lindita Nikolla, Speaker of the Parliament of the Republic of Albania

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13:45 – 14:45

Main Stage
Beethoven Hall

Panelists:

- ▼ H.E. Ambassador Kate Marie Byrnes, Civilian Deputy and Foreign Policy Advisor to U.S. European Command
- ▼ The Hon. Robert Oliphant, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Canada
- ▼ Albulena Haxhiu, Minister of Justice of the Republic of Kosovo
- ▼ Marko Makovec, Director and Deputy Managing Director, European External Action Service

Video address by:

- ▼ Irene Fellin, NATO Secretary General's Special Representative for Women Peace and Security

Moderated by:

- ▼ H.E. Ambassador Eric Nelson, Associate Director of the George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany

13:45 – 14:45

Strauss 1

**Breaking the Cycle of Impunity:
Advancing Accountability for Conflict-Related Sexual Violence**

One of the main challenges in addressing conflict-related sexual violence is the persistent culture of impunity. Perpetrators often escape accountability for their actions due to various factors, such as weak or corrupt legal systems, lack of political will to prosecute, and challenges in collecting evidence in conflict zones. Impunity not only denies justice to survivors but also perpetuates a cycle of violence and undermines deterrence efforts. This panel will seek to explore the key factors contributing to the culture of impunity for conflict-related sexual violence, the specific obstacles that are faced in collecting evidence for sexual violence cases in conflict zones, as well as the necessary components that are essential to a robust legal framework at national and international levels to ensure accountability for conflict-related sexual violence.

Panelists:

- ▼ Ambassador Gesa Bräutigam, Special Envoy for Feminist Foreign Policy and Director for Human Rights, German Federal Foreign Office
- ▼ Drita Hajdari, Prosecutor for the Special Prosecution Office of the Republic of Kosovo (2013 - 2023)
- ▼ Minna-Liina Lind, Undersecretary for Global Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Estonia
- ▼ Sonja Biserko, President of the Helsinki Committee for Human Rights in Serbia
- ▼ Brikena Muharremi, Barrister, The United Kingdom

Moderated by: Nicole Farnsworth, Program Director, Lead Researcher, Kosovo Women's Network

15:00 – 16:00

Main Stage
Beethoven Hall

Special session:

How to increase the role of women in peace processes?

In the quest for lasting peace and equitable dialogue processes, the critical role of women cannot be overstated. Yet, women remain vastly underrepresented in peace negotiations and political dialogues. This panel discussion aims to address this gap and chart a path forward to ensure women are not just included but are also influential voices. The conversation will revolve around the need to put a spotlight on defining a roadmap to ensure higher women inclusion in peace processes and political dialogues, but also to serve as a catalyst for change.

Opening speech: H.E. Albin Kurti – Prime Minister of the Republic of Kosovo

Panelists:

- Ambassador Jeffrey Hovenier – U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Kosovo
- Edita Tahiri, Former deputy Prime Minister and Chief Negotiator of the Republic of Kosovo (2011 – 2017), Kosovo – Serbia Dialogue
- Meliza Haradinaj – Minister of Foreign Affairs and Diaspora of the Republic of Kosovo (2020 – 2021)
- Edward Joseph, Adjunct Lecturer at Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies and foreign policy analyst
- Jasmin Mujanović, Political scientist and author

Moderated by: Jeta Krasniqi, Expert Consultant to the Government of the Republic of Kosovo on the Kosovo–Serbia dialogue process

16:15 – 17:15

Main Stage
Beethoven Hall

Uniformed and Unyielding: Women Leading Change in the Security Sector

As we celebrate NATO's 75th anniversary and anticipate the 25th anniversary of the United Nations Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) agenda, this panel seeks to illuminate the multifaceted roles that women in uniform have played and continue to play in shaping the evolution of women's roles within national, regional and international security organizations. It will explore the dynamic and essential roles that women in the defense and security sectors undertake, spanning support, operational and even combat roles which inform and influence diplomatic dialogues, peace negotiations, and conflict resolution strategies.

Opening speech: Ejup Maqedonci, Minister of Defense of the Republic of Kosovo

Panelists:

- Brigadier-General Fadzillah Abdullah, Director General, Defence Operations and Training Division, Malaysian Armed Forces
- Colonel Marijana Pleša Čadonić, Croatian Armed Forces General Staff, CHOD's Cabinet
- Major General Irfete Spahiu, Inspector General of the Kosovo Security Force
- Catherine Bourdès, Commissioner General, Ministry of the Armed Forces of French Republic
- Commodore Saskia Siemensma – Royal Netherlands Air Force and Director of Security at Ministry of Defense
- Major General Manushaqe Shehu, Deputy Chief of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Albania

Moderated by: H.E. Ambassador Florian Qehaja – Ambassador of the Republic of Kosovo to the Republic of North Macedonia

16:15 – 17:15

Strauss 1

The End of Silence? Creating supporting systems for the survivors

The panel aims to address the specific needs and challenges faced by survivors of sexual violence in the context of armed conflict. It aims to discuss and elaborate comprehensive policies to provide support, justice, and rehabilitation to survivors across the nation. The panel's primary mission is to put strong emphasis on the absolute necessity for survivors of sexual violence during war to receive recognition, validation, and adequate support, promoting their healing, empowerment, and reintegration into society. In parallel, the panel will shed light on the necessary efforts to keep perpetrators accountable for their actions through appropriate legal means.

Video address: Dr. Denis Mukwege, The Nobel Peace Prize Laureate 2018/
Human Rights Activist

Panelists:

- ▼ Priya Gopalan, International criminal law and human rights lawyer and gender specialist, Malaysia
- ▼ Siobhan Hobbs, Human rights lawyer and gender justice advocate
- ▼ Sarab Barakat, General Director for Survivors' Affairs, Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs of the Republic of Iraq
- ▼ Leonora Selmani, Chairperson of the Government Commission for the Verification and Recognition of Sexual Violence Victim Status in the Republic of Kosovo
- ▼ Feride Rushiti, Executive Director of Kosova Rehabilitation Centre for Torture Victims

Moderated by: Vlora Tuzi Nushi, Head of Office, UN Women Kosovo

16:15 – 17:15

Strauss 2

Incentivizing positive innovation: Advancing Climate Resilience, Environmental Protection, and Conflict Prevention with Inclusive Technology

This panel discussion will explore the transformative potential of technology, by exploring how to incentivize the development of innovative technologies and data-driven solutions in addressing the complex challenges of climate change, environmental protection, and conflict prevention. By examining the intersection of these critical issues through the lens of inclusivity and gender responsiveness, the panel aims to identify practical strategies and best practices to leverage technology towards meaningfully empowering vulnerable communities, promoting mainstream environmental sustainability into all technological development and deploying, as well as enhancing peacebuilding efforts.

Panelists:

- ▼ Elvira Fortunato, Minister of Science, Technology and Higher Education of the Portuguese Republic (2022 – 2024)
- ▼ Ayumi Moore Aoki, Founder and CEO of Women in Tech Global
- ▼ Hava Maloku, Senior Digital Marketing Manager at LinkedIn
- ▼ Tamara Srzentić, Minister of Public Administration, Digital Society and Media of Montenegro (2020 – 2022)
- ▼ Abetare Gojani, Executive Director, Ipko Foundation
- ▼ Teuta Sahatqija – Chapter Director, Women in Tech Kosovo

Moderated by: Gent Shala, Numarics

17:30 – 18:30

Main stage
Beethoven Hall

The Ripple Effects of Conflict-related Sexual Violence on Social Fabric and Mental Health

In the aftermath of conflict, communities grapple not only with physical reconstruction but also with the profound psychological scars left by conflict-related crimes, and particularly so by the conflict related sexual violence (CRSV). This panel delves into the less visible, yet equally devastating, impacts of CRSV on the mental health of survivors and the broader social fabric of affected communities and the society at large. Our discussion will explore the intricate ways in which CRSV disrupts lives, perpetuating cycles of trauma, stigmatization, and social fragmentation long after the immediate conflict has ended. It focuses on examining the societal stigma faced by survivors, often resulting in isolation, marginalization, and a breakdown in community ties, while identifying actionable solutions to heal and strengthen communities torn apart by conflict, creating supporting platforms.

Video address: Dina Titus, Member of the U.S. House of Representatives from Nevada

Opening speech: Emilija Redžepi – Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Kosovo

Panelists:

- ▼ Arben Vitia, Minister of Health of the Republic of Kosovo
- ▼ H.E. Sofia Zacharaki, Minister of Social Cohesion and Family Affairs of the Hellenic Republic
- ▼ H.E. Dr. Maitha Salem Al Shamsi, Minister of State, State of United Arab Emirates
- ▼ Tanya Domi, Adjunct Assistant Professor of International and Public Affairs at Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs

Moderated by: Valbona Zeneli, Nonresident senior fellow at the Atlantic Council's Europe Center

17:30 – 18:30

Strauss 2

Inclusive Solutions: A Dialogue on the WPS Agenda and Climate Justice

The impacts of climate change and environmental degradation disproportionately affect women and girls in conflict-affected regions. They often bear the brunt of resource scarcity, displacement, and environmental hazards, leading to increased vulnerability and insecurity. The WPS agenda is adapting to recognize the intersection of climate change and conflict, while striving to address the unique challenges faced by women in such contexts. This panel will explore in what ways can the Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) agenda effectively integrate climate justice considerations to address the unique challenges and vulnerabilities faced by women in conflict-affected areas.

Panelists:

- ▼ Rina Amiri, U.S. Special Envoy for Afghan Women, Girls, and Human Rights, Office of Global Women's Issues
- ▼ Signe Guro Gilen, Special Envoy for Women Peace and Security of Norway
- ▼ Learta Hollaj, Chief of Staff to the President of the Republic of Kosovo
- ▼ Amadée Mudie-Mantz, Policy Advisor, Munich Security Conference

Moderated by: Vesa Reznjqi Pallaska, Gender and Social Inclusion Director at Millennium Challenge Account – Kosovo

Tuesday, 16 April 2024

08:00 – 09:30
Verdi Hall

**Roundtable discussion: From legislation to action:
Parliamentarians at the forefront of the WPS Agenda** *(invitation only)*

This roundtable discussion aims to engage the participants in a dynamic exchange of ideas, experiences, and best practices from diverse parliamentary contexts while discussing the challenges and opportunities parliamentarians face in championing women's rights and participation in peace processes. The discussion will focus on exploring innovative approaches to enhancing the capacity of parliaments to mainstream gender perspectives, strengthen accountability mechanisms, collaborate with civil society and international partners to generally advance the WPS agenda.

Given the significance of cross-border collaboration, knowledge-sharing, and building partnerships to amplify the voices of women in conflict-affected areas and strengthen legislative frameworks for peace and gender equality, this discussion will focus on exploring innovative approaches to enhancing the capacity of parliaments in advancing the WPS agenda.

Presentation by: Fatmire Kollçaku, Eliza Hoxha & Albana Bytyqi, Members of Parliament, Republic of Kosovo/Women Caucus

Video message: Oleksiy Oleksiyovich Goncharenko – People's Deputy of Ukraine

Panelists:

- ▼ Andia Ulliri, Member of Parliament, Republic of Albania
- ▼ Anton Çuni, Member of Parliament, Republic of Kosovo
- ▼ Arbëreshë Kryeziu Hyseni, Member of Parliament, Republic of Kosovo
- ▼ Blerta Hoti, Member of the municipal board, Social Democratic Party, Municipality of Gothenburg
- ▼ Dina Awni Al-Bashir, Member of Parliament, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
- ▼ Emilja Koliqi, Member of Parliament, Republic of Albania
- ▼ Erisa Xhixho, Member of Parliament, Republic of Albania
- ▼ Ina Zhupa, Member of Parliament, Republic of Albania
- ▼ Kawthar bint Musa bin Ayesha al-Arbash, Member of the Shura Council
- ▼ Kenana Strujić-Harbić, Member of Parliament, Montenegro
- ▼ Kreshnik Çollaku, Member of Parliament, Republic of Albania
- ▼ Maria Emília Sousa Cerqueira, Member of Parliament, Portuguese Republic
- ▼ Merita Bakiu, Member of Parliament, Republic of Albania
- ▼ Mimoza Kusari Lila, Member of Parliament, Republic of Kosovo
- ▼ Orjola Pampuri, Member of Parliament, Republic of Albania
- ▼ Santoshi Shahi, Member of Parliament, Karnali Province, Nepal
- ▼ Seid Hadžić, Member of Parliament, Montenegro
- ▼ Sorina Koti, Member of Parliament, Republic of Albania
- ▼ Valentina Bunjaku, Member of Parliament, Republic of Kosovo

Moderated by: Ambassador Nancy Soderberg, Resident Senior Director, NDI Kosovo

09:30 – 09:45
Main Lobby

**Thinking of you” by Alketa Xhafa Mripa with the presence of
H.E. Dr. Vjosa Osmani Sadriu, President of the Republic of Kosovo**

An open invitation to all to join the initiative dedicated to addressing and challenging the stigmas surrounding sexual violence

In collaboration with Kosova Rehabilitation Centre for Torture Victims, Medica Kosova, Medica Gjakova & Centre for Promotion of Women's Rights

10:00 – 10:15
Main stage
Beethoven Hall

Official Opening of Day 2 of the international WPS Forum

Keynote speech by:

- ▼ H.E. Glauk Konjufca, Speaker of the Assembly of the Republic of Kosovo

Video address by: H.E. José Ramos-Horta, President of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste

10:20 – 11:20
Main stage
Beethoven Hall

Voices of Valor: Kosovo's Women of Resistance

This panel discussion aims to highlight the remarkable stories of women from Kosovo, bringing them to the forefront of global consciousness. During times of peaceful resistance and the tumult of war, these extraordinary women displayed unparalleled resilience and heroism, playing pivotal roles in sustaining both spirit and survival. Their strength, determination, and sacrifice continue to inspire generations. As advocates for peace and champions in rebuilding their society in the aftermath, this panel will reflect on the lessons their courage and leadership offer to contemporary movements for peace and justice worldwide.

Special video tribute to the women of Kosovo

Panelists:

- ▼ Edita Tahiri
- ▼ Melihate Tërmkolli
- ▼ Kaqusha Jashari
- ▼ Sala Ahmeti Çitaku
- ▼ Fitnete Seta

Moderated by: Edi Gusia, Executive Director, Agency for Gender Equality, Office of the Prime Minister of the Republic of Kosovo

11:30 – 12:30
Main stage
Beethoven Hall

Revolutionizing Climate Solutions for Frontline Communities

In the fierce battle against climate change, women on the frontlines embody resilience and innovation, yet their needs and voices often remain sidelined in global strategies and financial mechanisms. This panel is set to challenge the status quo, pushing for a transformative approach where gender equity is not an afterthought but a foundational principle in crafting climate change policies, strategies, platforms, and financing mechanisms. It aims to shed light on the multifaceted role of women as agents of change, guardians of community resources, and leaders in adaptation and mitigation strategies. As such, the panel discussion will cut through the complexity of integrating gender responsiveness into climate action, unpacking how policies can be reimaged to genuinely meet the needs of women.

Panelists:

- ▼ Liburn Aliu, Minister of Environment, Spatial Planning and Infrastructure, Republic of Kosovo
- ▼ Almira Xhembulla, Deputy Minister of Tourism and Environment, Republic of Albania
- ▼ Lindiwe Sisulu, Member of the National Executive Committee of the African National Congress, South Africa
- ▼ Benjamina Karić, Mayor of Sarajevo
- ▼ Lucky Sherpa, GLOBE Nepal/Social Activist

Moderated by: Major Mimoza Budeci, Commander, KSF Center for University Studies

11:30 – 12:30
Strauss 1

Shaping Narratives, Raising Awareness, and Promoting Accountability – Media's Role in Addressing Conflict-Related Sexual Violence

Media plays a pivotal role in shaping public perception and influencing policy responses to critical issues, including conflict-related sexual violence. This panel seeks to explore the multifaceted role of media in addressing this grave humanitarian concern. By analyzing the impact of media narratives, discussing best practices, and exploring challenges, the panel will highlight how the media can contribute to raising awareness, empowering survivors, promoting accountability, and ultimately fostering change in conflict-affected regions, but not only.

Video address by: Stephanie Campbell, Australian Ambassador for Gender Equality

Panelists:

- ▼ Robert Baines, President and CEO of NATO Association of Canada
- ▼ Fatou Warkha Samb, Journalist, WarkhaTV
- ▼ Mira Kazhani, Journalist
- ▼ Elvana Shala, Ambassador of Goodwill for Kosovo
- ▼ Denis Galushi, Journalist

Moderated by: Serbeze Haxhijaj, Investigative Reporter

11:30 – 12:30
Strauss 2

Side event: Male survivors' journey from war trauma to ending the silence

The impact of sexual violence during the war, challenges on the way to overcoming silence and triumph over the consequences of trauma on male survivors.

Opening remarks:

- ▼ Vashije Krasniqi Goodman, Presidential Special Envoy on Sexual Violence During War
- ▼ Shyrete Tahiri Sulimani, Survivor and activist
- ▼ Feride Rushiti, Executive Director, The Kosova Rehabilitation Center for Torture Victims (KRCT)

Video address by: Kolbassia Haoussou, UK Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict Initiative (PSVI) Champion

Panelists:

- ▼ Artan Krasniqi, Sociologist, University of Prishtina “Hasan Prishtina”
- ▼ Selvi Izeti Çarkaxhiu, Psychologist, KRCT

Moderated by: Latif Mustafa, Communication Officer, KRCT

12:45 – 13:45

Main Stage
Beethoven Hall

Refugees, Climate Change, and Sexual Violence: Addressing Vulnerabilities and Building Resilience

The world is currently grappling with multiple crises, from armed conflicts and economic challenges to the impacts of climate change. These crises have resulted in a surge of people forced to leave their homes and seek refuge in other countries. The interplay between global crises, such as armed conflicts, climate change effects, and economic instability, has led to an unprecedented increase in the number of refugees and displaced persons worldwide. This panel aims to explore the complex nexus between refugees, climate change, and sexual violence. By delving into the challenges faced by displaced populations, particularly vulnerable women and girls, the discussion will center on strategies to address sexual violence in refugee settings and build resilience for affected communities. The ongoing conflicts around the world and the deepening economic crisis in various regions further contribute to the influx of refugees.

Opening speech: Xhelal Sveçla, Minister of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Kosovo

- ▼ Viola von Cramon, Member of European Parliament
- ▼ Clare Hutchinson, NATO Secretary General's Special Representative for Women, Peace and Security (2018 – 2021)
- ▼ Luca Fratini, IT Coordinator for the Women, Youth, Peace and Security Agendas
- ▼ Annick Wibben, Professor, Deputy Head of Department of War Studies and Military History
- ▼ Manira Alva, Vice President, Issue Advocacy at Vital Voices Global Partnership

Moderated by: Rachel Firth, Managing Director, Global Office Consulting

12:45 – 13:45

Strauss 1

Side event: IRPIN IS MY HOME: An enthralling book presentation featuring special guests from Ukraine

As part of this year's edition, the Ukrainian Kosovo Association "Bridges of Friendship" will be launching the book "Irpın is my home". The discussion will delve into the experiences of Ukrainian refugees in Kosovo, including journalists and families with children. It will cover various aspects of their life in Kosovo, such as the "Journalists in Residence in Kosovo" program, as part of the support provided by the Kosovo institutions and the people of Kosovo to the Ukrainian journalists. Additionally, it provides insights into the living experiences, educational endeavors, and cultural activities. Furthermore, the Ukrainian Kosovo Association "Bridges of Friendship" will have the chance to present its goals, activities, and the plans to further advance the bilateral relations between Ukraine and Kosovo.

Panelists:

- ▼ Tetiana Kraselnykova, Ukrainian journalist
- ▼ Liudmyla Makei, Ukrainian journalist
- ▼ Olha Priadko, Ukrainian journalist
- ▼ Alla Korchakova, Ukrainian psychologist, refugee
- ▼ Flori Zevi, Activist and Co-founder of Ukrainian Kosovo Association "Bridges of Friendship"
- ▼ Sofia Martyniuk, Author of book "Irpın is my home", Special guest from Ukraine
- ▼ Iryna Mykulska, Young poet, Special guest from Ukraine

12:45 – 13:45
Strauss 2

Ensuring Protection for Women Human Rights Defenders in times of conflict

The past decade has witnessed an alarming increase in the targeting, attacks, and abuse of women human rights defenders (WHRDs) globally. These courageous individuals who speak up for human rights and justice often face severe reprisals, including sexual and gender-based violence, intimidation, and surveillance. This panel aims to shed light on the unique challenges faced by WHRDs in conflict and crisis areas, particularly concerning conflict-related sexual violence. Conflict and crisis zones pose even greater dangers to WHRDs, as they become more vulnerable to violence and harassment. These contexts demand urgent attention and international political support to safeguard the lives and rights of WHRDs.

Video address by: Senator Isabella Rauti, Defence Undersecretary of Italy

Panelists:

- ▼ Rear Admiral (ret'd) The Honourable Rebecca Patterson, Senator at the Senate of Canada
- ▼ Radmila Šekerinska, Minister of Defense of the Republic of North Macedonia (2017 – 2022)
- ▼ Jonathan Miller, Senior Fellow and Director of Foreign Affairs, National Defence and National Security "The MacDonald-Laurier Institute"
- ▼ Dario Šikuljak, NATO HQ Sarajevo LEGAD

Moderated by: Lieutenant Colonel Vjosë Maloku Ramadani, Kosovo Armed Forces

14:00 – 15:00
Strauss 1

The Role of International Justice Mechanisms in Combatting Sexual Violence

Sexual violence in conflict is a grave violation of human rights and a tactic employed to terrorize and control communities. The international community recognizes the urgent need to address this heinous crime and hold perpetrators accountable. This panel discussion aims to explore the critical role of international justice mechanisms in combatting sexual violence, focusing on the importance of prosecuting perpetrators and providing redress to survivors. The panel discussion seeks to foster a comprehensive understanding of the significance of international justice systems in combatting sexual violence in conflict. It aims to provide a platform for experts, practitioners, and stakeholders to engage in an in-depth discussion on the challenges and opportunities in seeking justice and supporting survivors.

Opening speech: Gresa Caka Nimani, President of the Constitutional Court, Republic of Kosovo

- ▼ Remzie Istrefi, Judge at the Constitutional Court, Republic of Kosovo
- ▼ Dr. Ajla Škrbić, Senior Fellow of International Law at Freie University Berlin
- ▼ Adrijana Hanušić, Senior legal advisor at NGO Trial International
- ▼ Natalie Smith – Head of PSVI

Moderated by: Bekim Sejdiu, Professor, University of Prishtina

14:00 – 15:00
Strauss 2

Special session: The role of the Centers of Excellence in advancing the WPS Agenda”
(invitation only)

This discussion will explore how Regional Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) Centers of Excellence will play a pivotal role in advancing the WPS agenda, serving as dynamic platforms for bringing the principles of WPS into action. By fostering collaboration and sharing best practices, these centers are expected to help connect societies worldwide, ensuring the increased participation of women in peace and security processes. Moreover, these centers are designed to provide a unique space for capacity building, offering training and resources that empower women to take on leadership roles in peace and security. This panel will seek to understand how through their work, Regional WPS Centers of Excellence will not only contribute to the global effort to integrate gender perspectives into peace and security but also ensure that women's voices are heard, respected, and acted upon at all levels of decision-making, thereby making a significant impact on the international stage.

Panelists:

- ▼ Robinah Rubimbwa, Founder and National Coordinator, Coalition for Action on 1325
- ▼ Harriette Williams Bright, Secretariat Coordinator, WPS Focal Points Network, UN Women
- ▼ Kayla McGill, WPS Policy Advisor, U.S. Department of State
- ▼ Dr. Jessica Smith – Research and Policy Director, Georgetown University
- ▼ Dora Musa, Advisor to the President of the Republic of Kosovo

Moderated by: Mirsad Jacevic – Vice-chair, Inclusive Security

15:15 – 16:15
Strauss 1

Rethinking Security Through Adequate Financing: Advancing Effective Approaches to Tackle Security Threats

Security threats have become increasingly complex and interconnected, demanding robust and sustainable financing strategies to effectively address and mitigate these challenges. This panel aims to explore the critical role of financing in tackling security threats and how feminist foreign policy can offer innovative solutions. By analyzing the impact of gender-sensitive approaches to funding security initiatives, the discussion will shed light on the potential of feminist foreign policy in fostering more inclusive, equitable, and effective security responses. This panel seeks to highlight the critical role of financing in effectively tackling security threats and the transformative potential of feminist foreign policy in shaping more inclusive and equitable security strategies.

Video address: Stacey Abrams, Minority Leader of Georgia House of Representatives (2011 – 2017)

Panelists:

- ▼ Dina Awni Al-Bashir, Member of Parliament, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
- ▼ Stephenie Foster, Co-Author of "Feminist Foreign Policy in Theory and Practice" and Partner at Smash Strategies
- ▼ Dr. Aida Hozic, Associate Professor of International Relations and Associate Chair of the Department of Political Science, University of Florida
- ▼ Vera Mjeku, Legislative Policy Analyst, NYC Council
- ▼ Radomir Dimic, Chair of the Multiethnicna Evropska Persektiva Kosova

Moderated by: Dr. Nita Shala, Lawyer and professor specializing in human rights, criminal law and criminal justice

15:15 – 16:15
Strauss 2

Climate security: How to address climate challenges by putting women at the heart of security processes?

Women play a critical role in national security, but regardless of this the overall number of women participating in the national and specialized security agencies remains low. These agencies continue to be male-dominated, which hinders the participation and representation of women in the sector. The panel discussion will center on the transformative power of incorporating women's perspectives and participation in peacebuilding and climate resilience efforts. By highlighting women's vital roles as agents of change in these domains, the panel seeks to explore how gender-inclusive approaches can lead to more effective, sustainable, and resilient solutions in addressing both peace and climate challenges.

Panelists:

- ▼ Dr. Nabil Ayad, Diplomatic Academy, University of Europe for Applied Sciences, Berlin and Dubai
- ▼ Karin Grimm, Adviser (VNC) to the NATO Secretary General's Special Representative for Women, Peace and Security and Human Security
- ▼ Veronika Fajmonová, Director, Department of Cross-Sectoral Agendas of the Department of Gender Equality, Office of the Government of the Czech Republic
- ▼ Enisa Serhati, Portfolio Manager, Inclusive Growth and Climate Resilience at UNDP

Moderated by: H.E. Nita Luci – Ambassador of the Republic of Kosovo in Norway

16:30 – 17:30
Main Stage
Beethoven Hall

New Directions for the Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) Agenda: What comes next?

The Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) agenda has made significant strides in recognizing the gender-specific impacts of conflicts and crises. However, in the face of constant global disruptions, it is essential to reevaluate and chart new directions for the WPS agenda. This panel aims to explore innovative approaches that address the intersectional dimensions of conflicts and crises while protecting the rights of marginalized groups. By analyzing the challenges and opportunities, the discussion will focus on promoting inclusive and sustainable peace-building efforts that center on gender equality and the empowerment of all marginalized populations.

Panelists:

- ▼ H.E. Egriselda López, Permanent Representative of El Salvador to the United Nations
- ▼ Selvete Gërxhaliu – Krasniqi, Judge at the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Kosovo
- ▼ Viktoriia Voronina, Executive Director of the Center for Security Studies, Ukraine
- ▼ Naim Qelaj, Ombudsperson, Republic of Kosovo
- ▼ Tanya Domi, Adjunct Assistant Professor of International and Public Affairs at Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs
- ▼ Prianka Ahsan, Barrister, The Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn, London. Co-Founder, No Passport Voice, Bangladesh. Secretary, Women Affairs, Bangladesh Awami League, Ctg North.

Moderated by: Jennifer Cassidy, Lecturer at University of Oxford

17:45 – 18:30
Main Stage
Beethoven Hall

Closing ceremony of the international WPS Forum

**Voices of Youth: A special session with H.E. Dr. Vjosa Osmani Sadriu,
President of the Republic of Kosovo**

Panelists:

1. Mrika Nikqi, Alpinist
2. Kiana Kryeziu, Skier
3. Marigona Shabiu, Executive Director, YIHR
4. Qendrim Hoxha, LDA
5. Morea Pula, Law Student, University of Prishtina,
6. Ideal Zhaveli, KRVL
7. Ditjon Fetahu, KYC
8. Milot Morina, Diaspora Diplomacy School

Civil Society Organizations (CSO) Grant Award Ceremony

A special performance by the Kosovo National Ballet