

WOMEN IN INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

2021

ANNUAL REPORT



WIIS

WOMEN IN INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

OUR MISSION

WIIS IS THE PREMIER GLOBAL ORGANIZATION DEDICATED TO ADVANCING WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP AND ACHIEVING GENDER EQUALITY IN THE FIELD OF INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY.



Founded in 1987, WIIS (pronounced “wise”) is an international professional development network with members in nearly 50 countries. WIIS publishes research, conducts trainings, and convenes policy forums that bridge the gap between gender and security.

Message from our President & CEO



*I joined WIIS in July to help the organization achieve its important mission of **women's advancement and gender equality in the field of peace and security**.*

I am honored to follow in the footsteps of retiring President Dr. Chantal de Jonge Oudraat, who remains on our Board of Directors.

Since WIIS was founded in 1987, women have advanced to increasingly important international security roles.

But equal representation of women is not yet a reality. This work is much harder now due to the COVID-19 "shadow" pandemic and worsening gender equality gap.

This gap is even more pronounced in relation to women of color and members of the LGBTQIA+ community.

"Our global security challenges have never been more complex. But thanks to WIIS's **35-year legacy**, the case that women's leadership and gender empowerment are vital ingredients to achieving security and stability has never been more compelling."

Ariela Blätter
President & CEO

Moving forward, for real change to occur, we must ensure there is an inclusive, and intersectional approach to the Women Peace & Security Agenda. Both are critical and necessary components for a peaceful and prosperous world.

In Gratitude,

Ariela Blätter

OUR TEAM



ARIELA BLÄTTER
President & CEO



DR. KARIN JOHNSTON
Senior Fellow



DR. ELLEN HARING
Senior Fellow



ANA LAURA VELASCO UGALDE
Fellow



DR. DIORELLA ISLAS LIMIÑANA
Fellow



DR. JANA WATTENBERG
Fellow



ROKSANA VERAHRAMI
Public Affairs and Program Manager



DIANA WHITTEMORE
*Gender and Global Security
Program Assistant*



AVA KALINAUSKAS
*Gender and Global Security
Program Assistant*

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



PAMELA AALL
Chair of the Board



DR. VIRGINIA HAUFLE
Treasurer



DR. DEEPA OLLAPALLY
Board Member



DR. CHANTAL DE JONGE
OUDRAAT
Board Member



VALERIE GILPIN
Board Member
(Through Aug. 2021)



ANNE WITKOWSKY
Board Member
(Through Aug. 2021)

Catherine M. Kelleher Fellowship for International Security Studies



DR. CATHERINE KELLEHER
Honorary Board Member and Founder
of WIIS

In 2019, WIIS and the University of Maryland School of Public Policy launched the Catherine M. Kelleher Fellowship for International Security Studies.

Professor Kelleher is a founding faculty member of the UMD School of Public Policy, where she also established the Center for International and Security Studies at Maryland and WIIS. Throughout her policy, government, and academic careers, Professor Kelleher has been a champion for women in the field of international security policy.

CHAPTERS & AFFILIATES

Throughout 2021, WIIS continued to expand its global reach. The WIIS global network now consists of nearly 15,000 individuals located in 47 different countries.



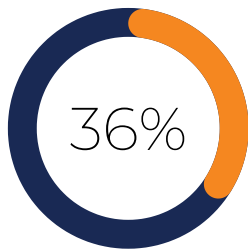
WIIS Italy: A Conversation with Jigmiddash Bayartsetseg (President of WIIS Mongolia)

WISCOMP (WIIS India): South Asia Union Summit Led by Women

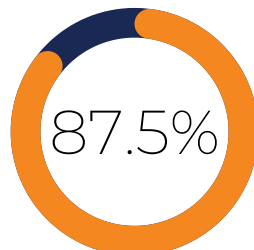
WIIS Horn of Africa: Capacity Building Workshop on Gender Mainstreaming and Preventing Violent Extremism

WIIS Netherlands: The Gender Agenda in International Courts and Tribunals

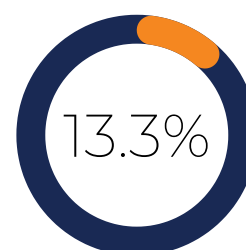
A GROWING NETWORK



INCREASE IN MEMBERSHIP



INCREASE IN GLOBAL
SUBSCRIBERS



INCREASE IN ONLINE
CITATIONS

SPOTLIGHT: WIIS MEMBERS APPOINTMENTS



PRESIDENT OF WIIS
ITALY, IRENE FELLIN

***Appointed NATO Secretary
General's Special
Representative for Women,
Peace and Security.***



FMR WIIS PRESIDENT,
AMBASSADOR LAURA
HOLGATE

***Appointed US Ambassador to the
United Nations (Vienna) and the
International Atomic Energy
Agency***



FMR WIIS BOARD MEMBER,
ANNE WITKOWSKY

***Appointed US Assistant
Secretary of State for Conflict
and Stabilization Operations***

WIIS NEXT GENERATION GLOBAL SCHOLARS: 2021/2022

Kelly E. Atkinson
Tevvi Bullock
Kelly Fisher
Pratha Garkoti
Molly Gilligan
Claire Harrison
Julia-Silvana Hofstetter

Liliya Khasanova
Tahina Montoya
Margaret Monyani
Balsam Mustafa
Jacqueline Nakaiza
Veronica Waeni Nzioki
Gaia Pallecchi

Daniela Philipson
Ann-Kathrin Rothermel
Eric Rudberg
Claudia Schettini
Reyhan Topal
Nuri Widiastuti Veronika

NEXT GENERATION SCHOLARS



The Next Generation Symposium (NGS) is a global mentorship and training program to develop the next generation of academics and practitioners in gender and security.

Launched in 2017, with support from the Carnegie Corporation, NGS has produced a diverse and knowledgeable community of international security experts that will remain connected throughout their careers. This year's cohorts come from Australia, India, Switzerland, Russia, Kenya, Iraq, Uganda, Italy, Mexico, Germany, Turkey, Indonesia and the United States.

In November, WIIS held a reunion for the first three cohorts of the WIIS NGS program. The two-day event examined the future of an inclusive Women, Peace, and Security Agenda.



DR. CAROLYN WASHINGTON
Reunion Keynote



DR. VALERIE HUDSON
Reunion Keynote

GENDER, PEACE, AND SECURITY POLICY ROUNDTABLE SERIES



EMBASSY
OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN
WASHINGTON, D.C.

With the generous support of the Embassy of Liechtenstein in Washington, D.C., WIIS facilitated a series of expert roundtables to explore the gender dimensions of key security challenges.



Women's Rights and Gender Equality Under Threat: Conflict and Authoritarianism, Closing Civic Space and COVID-19

"The events in Afghanistan show in the most explicit terms what we are discussing today: that women are on the front line when things turn for the worse - never of their own making. And still, time and again, women stand up for their rights and the rights of all against impossible odds." - H.E. Dominique Hasler, Foreign Affairs Minister of the Principality of Liechtenstein



Afghanistan: Humanitarian Emergency and Gender Discrimination

"We may have lost the country, but we have not lost the nation." - H.E. Adela Raz, Ambassador from Afghanistan to the US on the current situation in Afghanistan.



Gender and Conflict: Inclusive Responses Within the WPS Agenda

"The comprehensive implementation of the Women, Peace, and Security agenda must address underlying harmful stereotypes and power dynamics." H.E Georg Sparber, Ambassador to the US from the Principality of Liechtenstein.

Not pictured: New Technologies and Cybersecurity: The Role of Gender



As part of this year's Gender, Peace, and Security Policy Series, WIIS published a series of policy briefs to explore the gender dimensions of key security challenges.



A Gender Framework for Arms Control and Disarmament,
by Chantal de Jonge Oudraat and Jana Wattenberg



Mexico's First Women, Peace and Security National Action Plan: An Assessment, by Daniela Philipson García and Ana Velasco Ugalde



Galamsey in Ghana: Mitigating its Negative Effects,
by Felicia Dede Addy and Shikshya Adhikari

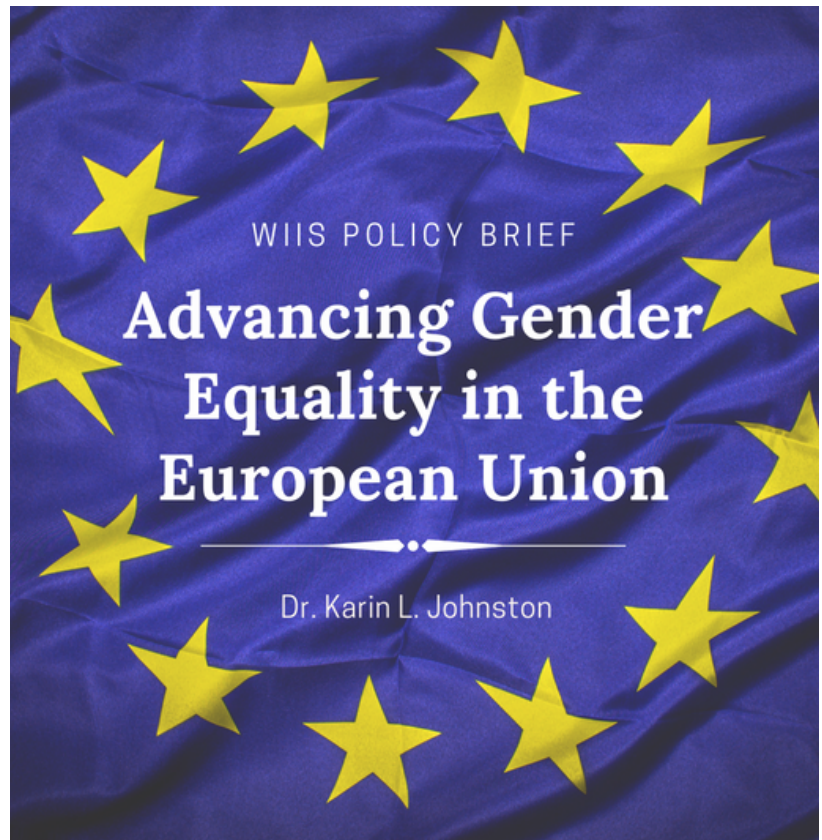


A Gendered Global Fragility Act: Seizing an Opportunity for Change, by Jessica Margolis and Tahina Montoya

SPOTLIGHT: WIIS RESEARCH & LAUNCH EVENT

Achieving gender equality is central to the values and aims of the European Union (EU). In 2019, the EU witnessed the election of its first female president, Ursula von der Leyen, who has made gender equality and gender mainstreaming a top priority.

Senior WIIS Fellow, Dr. Karin L. Johnston authored a policy brief examining the EU's commitment to gender mainstreaming and concluded that it is still often seen as an “add-on” rather than a framework and guide for transformational change.



Launch Event with the Wilson Center's Global European Program



“The EU has done quite a lot of thinking about gender equality in a very traditional, liberal kind of way, however it is still in its infancy when it comes to understanding the intersectional dimension of gender, gender equality, and its role especially when it comes to external affairs.”

Dr. Roberta Guerrina,
University of Bristol

PARTNERSHIPS

WIIS has continued to engage with existing and new partners throughout 2021. We have collaborated with a number of different organizations to support women's leadership and mentorship and to help advance research in the field of gender and security.

The Wilson Center



WIIS partnered with the Wilson Center for two events during 2021. WIIS cosponsored “Pathways to Justice: Gender-Based Violence and the Rule of Law” along with the George W. Bush Institute as well as our research launch event.

Women's Foreign Policy Group



WIIS continues to work alongside the Women's Foreign Policy Group (WFPG) to co-host professional development events for our members. A full list of the events are available [here](#).

Organizations in Solidarity



WIIS remains committed to promoting diversity and inclusion in the fields of peace and security, foreign policy, and national security. This year, we continued our work as part of the Organizations in Solidarity, an initiative created by Women of Color Advancing Peace and Security.

The Missing Peace Young Scholars Workshop

WIIS continued its partnership with the Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO), the United States Institute of Peace (USIP), and the University of California, Berkeley, on the Missing Peace Scholars Initiative, which focuses on preventing sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict settings.

Gender Champions in Nuclear Policy



WIIS continues to work as part of the Gender Champions in Nuclear Policy to promote gender equality and inclusion in nuclear policy.

U.S. Civil Society Working Group on Women, Peace & Security



WIIS works alongside the U.S. Civil Society Working Group on Women, Peace, and Security. The group informs, promotes, facilitates, and monitors the meaningful implementation of the U.S. National Action Plan on Women, Peace, and Security.

LOOKING FORWARD:

IN 2022, WIIS WILL CELEBRATE ITS 35TH ANNIVERSARY AS THE LEADING GLOBAL NETWORK PROMOTING WOMEN'S ADVANCEMENT AND GENDER EQUALITY IN THE PEACE AND SECURITY SECTOR.

Critical global challenges require effective leadership, and this must include women's voices.

Since 1987, WIIS has helped women occupy increasingly important international security roles, but equal representation remains elusive.

Women's diverse voices and skills are still being overlooked, especially at the highest levels of foreign and security policy.

WIIS is addressing the gender equality gap head on.

Despite recent challenges, such as Covid-19 and the "shadow" pandemic, WIIS continues its work, providing our members' access to a growing global community of mentors and experts, professional development resources, as well as insightful analyses on gender and women's representation.

Your continued support is critical to helping us achieve our important mission. Please consider making a tax-deductible donation today.



**1250 Connecticut Avenue NW, Suite 700
Washington D.C. 20036**

