

EUROPEAN UNION MILITARY STAFF



INTEGRATING WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY (WPS) IN THE EU COMMON SECURITY AND DEFENSE POLICY

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GEOPOLITICAL CONTEXT (1)

- **Complex geopolitical context and changing security environment in Europe and worldwide – THE EU STRATEGIC COMPASS 2022**
- **Increasing erosion of the values of gender equality, human rights, international humanitarian law worldwide – FUNDAMENTAL EU VALUES AT RISK**
- **Women and girls seriously affected by modern conflicts, where gender based violence is used as a weapon of war – WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY**





GEOPOLITICAL CONTEXT (2)

- **Council Conclusions on WPS – 14 November 2022**
“Women, Peace and Security (WPS) Agenda is central to contemporary global peace and security challenges”
- **New security challenges such as climate change, cyber attacks and disinformation undermine efforts to promote gender equality and human rights**
- **Human rights violations and gender inequality are often among the root causes and drivers of conflict**





EU GENDER AND WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY POLICY FRAMEWORK (1)

- *United Nations Security Council Resolutions on Women, Peace and Security* (since year 2000)
- *EU Gender Action Plan (GAP) III (2021-27)* – including EU implementation of Women, Peace and Security (WPS) Agenda
- *Strategic Compass (2022)* –Integrate a gender and human rights perspective in the European security
- *EU Council Conclusions on Women, Peace and Security (WPS)* – 14 November 2022





EU GENDER AND WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY POLICY FRAMEWORK (2)

- The EU proposes a three-pronged approach:
 - *Gender Mainstreaming* – integrate a gender perspective into normal tasks
 - *Targeted projects* – support to dedicated gender related activities
 - *Dialogue* – raising gender issues with all partners
- Focus on both *internal and external integration of a gender perspective* in the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP)





EU MILITARY CSDP APPROACH TO WPS (1)

- Three levels of intervention
 - *Strategic level* – CSDP Mandates, Concepts and capabilities, political-strategic objectives
 - *Operational level* – CSDP military tasks that translate political-strategic objectives, gender specific analysis in the operational environment
 - *Tactical level* – everyday CSDP activities in Missions and Operations, engagement with the civilian population and local security actors





EU MILITARY CSDP APPROACH TO WPS (2)

- **Three key areas of interest in the WPS agenda**
 - ***Participation of Women***
 - Internal – representation of women in the CSDP Missions and Operations
 - External – integration of women in the crisis management, conflict resolution and peacebuilding
 - ***Protection of Women / Addressing gender based violence***
 - Internal – Codes of conduct, discipline
 - External – protection of civilians, support to victims
 - ***Integrating a gender perspective***
 - Internal – Gender responsive leadership, gender expertise / networking
 - External – Gender analysis, Gender Action Plan





MILITARY CSDP WPS WORK IN PRACTICE (1)

- **EU Strategic Compass Military Implementation Plan – Gender and Human Rights Integration (2022)**
- **Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) on Gender Expertise and Networking (2022)**
- **EUMS Code of Conduct (2022)**
- **EUMS Action Plan on Gender Action Plan III (incl. WPS) (2022)**
- **Operational Guidance on Gender Mainstreaming in the Military CSDP (2022)**
- **Military Concept on Gender in the Military CSDP (June 2024)**





MILITARY CSDP WPS WORK IN PRACTICE (2)

- **Senior Adviser on Gender in EUMS and Gender Focal Point Network in the EUMS – regular updates in the Command Group, regular networking with EEAS gender and diversity**
- **Military CSDP policy development (e.g. Military Concept)**
- **Annual Meeting – Civilian and Military CSDP GENADs and Human Rights Advisers (cooperation with EEAS / CPCC)**
- **Two military networks monthly meetings – training, feedback, sharing of experiences**
 - **Gender Military Network - EUMS gender focal points**
 - **Missions and Operations Gender Monitoring Team (MOGMT) - Military GENADs in missions and operations**





MILITARY CSDP WPS WORK IN PRACTICE (3)

- **High Level engagement – Strategic Compass and Gender in Military CSDP Seminar with Swedish Presidency (March 2023) and Belgian Presidency on WPS (March 2024)**
- **Exercise MILEX 23 and 24 – Integration of a gender perspective in the scenario / lessons learnt**
- **Partnerships e.g. EUMS – NATO IMS WPS Roadmap – regular updates at the Director Generals’ meetings, joint initiatives such as Food for Thought Papers, Seminars)**
- **Strategic Communications – International Women’s Day and other human rights days**
- **Gender Analysis and Reporting – lessons learnt**





EXTERNAL INTEGRATION OF A GENDER PERSPECTIVE – MILITARY CSDP

- EU Integrated Approach is a key!
- Sex-disaggregated data collection – all CSDP activities
- *External Integration – the whole CSDP project cycle*
 - Gender Action Plan and Gender Analysis
 - Planning of Activities / quick impact projects
 - Mandate implementation
 - Reporting, monitoring and evaluation
 - Strategic Reviews
 - Engagement with Stakeholders (International Organisations, Host nations, civil society)





INTERNAL INTEGRATION OF A GENDER PERSPECTIVE – MILITARY CSDP

- ***“Leading by Example”* Gender Responsive Leadership – CSDP Senior Management commitment is a key to success**
- **Working Environment / Human Resources**
- **Internal Gender Trainings**
- **Gender Expertise (Gender Advisers / Focal points)**
- **Gender Networking / Sharing of Lessons Learnt / Knowledge Management**





CONCLUSIONS

- Promoting gender equality and WPS Agenda remains one of the core values and key operational priorities for the EU
- They are increasingly at risk in the complex security environments
- Systematic integration of a gender perspective in all external and internal CSDP activities aims to *improve the operational effectiveness* of the CSDP

