



WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY CONGRESSIONAL CAUCUS

OVERVIEW

MISSION OF THE BIPARTISAN WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY CAUCUS

The Women, Peace and Security (WPS) Caucus aims to ensure that women have active, meaningful roles in all aspects of their society and communities to promote women's inclusion to advance democracy and stability worldwide, as provided in the Women, Peace and Security Act.

OBJECTIVES OF THE WPS CAUCUS

Starting in 2019, Our Secure Future spearheaded the establishment of a bipartisan [Women, Peace and Security \(WPS\) Congressional Caucus](#) in order to address the ongoing marginalization of women in peace and security processes. A body of research indicates that increasing women's inclusion leads to better governance and advances democracy and long-term stability within societies. In 2017, the US Government codified the WPS agenda into law with the Women, Peace and Security Act of 2017 ([Public Law No: 115-68](#)). This law recognizes the promotion of active, meaningful roles for women in all aspects and levels of their communities. It makes clear that the US Congress recognizes that the meaningful participation of women in decision-making is a US foreign policy priority.

The Caucus was officially established in January 2020. The [WPS Caucus](#) seeks to ensure that the WPS goals stated in [UN Security Council Resolution 1325](#) and in the Women, Peace and Security Act are actively considered national security and foreign policy priorities for the United States. The Caucus provides an opportunity for civil society, the Executive Branch, and Congress to work together to push this critical agenda forward. Specifically, the WPS Caucus provides a congressional platform to:

- Raise awareness on issues related to WPS priorities;
- Educate the public and members of Congress on WPS policy initiatives;
- Exercise Congressional oversight of implementation of the WPS National Strategy; and
- Explore WPS issues related to specific conflicts around the world.

MEMBERSHIP

Leadership

[Lois Frankel](#) (D-FL)

[Michael Waltz](#) (R-FL)

Inaugural Members*

[André Carson](#)
(D-IN)

[Grace Meng](#)
(D-NY)

[Ted Deutch](#)
(D-FL)

[Dean Phillips](#)
(D-MN)

[Raúl Grijalva](#)
(D-AZ)

[Jamie Raskin](#)
(D-MD)

[Vicky Hartzler](#)
(R-MO)

[Martha Roby](#)
(R-AL)

[Chrissy Houlahan](#)
(D-PA)

[John Rutherford](#)
(R-FL)

[Sheila Jackson Lee](#)
(D-TX)

[David Schweikert](#)
(R-AZ)

[Eddie Bernice Johnson](#)
(D-TX)

[Jackie Speier](#)
(D-CA)

[William Keating](#)
(D-MA)

[Van Taylor](#)
(R-TX)

[Stephen Lynch](#)
(D-MA)

* For updated list of members, visit the [Caucus website](#).

Congressional Fellow

Our Secure Future is delighted to support the first WPS Congressional Fellow, [Hans Hogrefe](#), who supports the work of the Caucus, the Members, and the Women, Peace and Security community of practice more broadly. Hogrefe's work is vital to the ongoing success of the Caucus, and he has played an instrumental role in Caucus events, in the membership drive, and in connecting civil society with Caucus members.

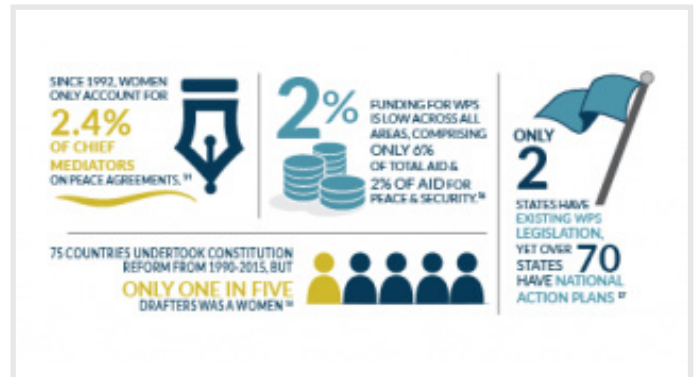
Hogrefe brings more than 23 years of experience working in senior positions in the US Congress, the US Executive Branch, and the NGO community in Washington, DC. For 13 years, Hogrefe served Tom Lantos (D-CA), the only Holocaust survivor elected to the US Congress, as a Senior Professional Staff Member on the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, and as Executive Director of the Congressional Human Rights Caucus. The Congressional Human Rights Caucus was formally institutionalized by an act of Congress as the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission in 2008, and Hogrefe was appointed by Jim McGovern (D-MA) as the first Democratic Staff Director of the Commission.



RESOURCES



[WPS Explainer Video](#)



[Women, Peace and Security by the Numbers Fact Sheet](#)



[US Leadership on Women and Foreign Policy: Women, Peace and Security Act of 2017](#)

ABOUT OUR SECURE FUTURE

Our Secure Future (OSF) works to strengthen the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda to build a more peaceful world through ensuring women's full participation in governance. Three key areas of opportunity to strengthen the global Women, Peace and Security agenda are amplifying women's voices, strengthening the global network of women peacebuilders, and promoting committed action by multiple stakeholders to turn policy into practice.