



Summary Report DESIGNING OUR SECURE FUTURE

Inaugural Convening

Ottawa, Canada
June 20-22, 2017



OUR SECURE FUTURE

Women Make the Difference

a program of One Earth Future

Summary Report

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We would also like to thank our facilitators, Jennifer Simpson, founder of A Bolder Vision, and Janine Underhill, founder of Idea360, for their creativity, insights, and guidance on this journey. The event would not have been possible without the team at Our Secure Future. Thanks to Sahana Dharmapuri, Director; Christina Ibanez, Project Coordinator; Lexie Van Buskirk, Project Coordinator; and Monika Berenyi, Summer Intern. Finally, we would like to express the deepest gratitude to our founder, Cynda Collins Arsenault, for her vision and commitment to creating a more peaceful world for everyone.

Design and layout by Andrea Kuenker and Liz Allen, One Earth Future. Photos by Andrew Repp, Andrew Repp Photography.



OVERVIEW

Our Secure Future (OSF) believes that women's full participation in society makes the crucial difference in achieving more effective governance and lasting peace. OSF aims to strengthen the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) movement by amplifying women's voices, strengthening the global network of women peacebuilders, and promoting committed action by multiple stakeholders to turn policy into practice.

Founded in 2016 with a mission to strengthen the Women, Peace and Security movement to enable effective policy-related decision-making for a more just and peaceful world, we set out to understand how best to achieve our vision of achieving a more peaceful future transformed by women's full participation.

After a series of consultations with multiple stakeholders in the WPS field during the summer and fall of 2016, we found that the issues of developing a shared vision for the Women, Peace and Security agenda and collaborating on common narratives were recurrently named as being critical to making progress in this field. The overwhelming feedback pointed to the need for new models and mindsets in order to create conditions for a lasting peace.

We found that those who have made this their life's work...do not have the time or opportunity to connect deeply with their colleagues, forge trusted relationships, and collectively challenge current thinking.

Yet, we also found that those who have made this their life's work are so constrained by time, resources, and the demands of funding partners that they rarely have the time to step back from their day-to-day work and examine the bigger picture of the WPS agenda. They do not have the time or opportunity to connect deeply with their colleagues, forge trusted relationships, and collectively challenge current thinking in a way that will yield new insights and solutions.

Our Secure Future: Women Make the Difference is committed to changing this dynamic. We use our convening power to strengthen the global network of women peacebuilders and women-led organizations working on international peace and security by bringing together multiple actors from across sectors to foster new avenues of collaboration, big-picture thinking, and opportunities to strengthen the Women, Peace and Security community of practice. As a first step, Our Secure Future partnered with the Nobel Women's Initiative to convene 20 peacemakers from all over the world at the inaugural Designing Our Secure Future gathering, held June 20–22, 2017, at the Strathmere Retreat Center near Ottawa, Canada. During this convening we worked together using methods drawn from futurists, scenario planners, and storytellers. We anchored ourselves in the forces that shaped the current environment. We also imagined what the future might hold. Having done this hands-on work, we began to shape a more desirable future.

THE PROCESS



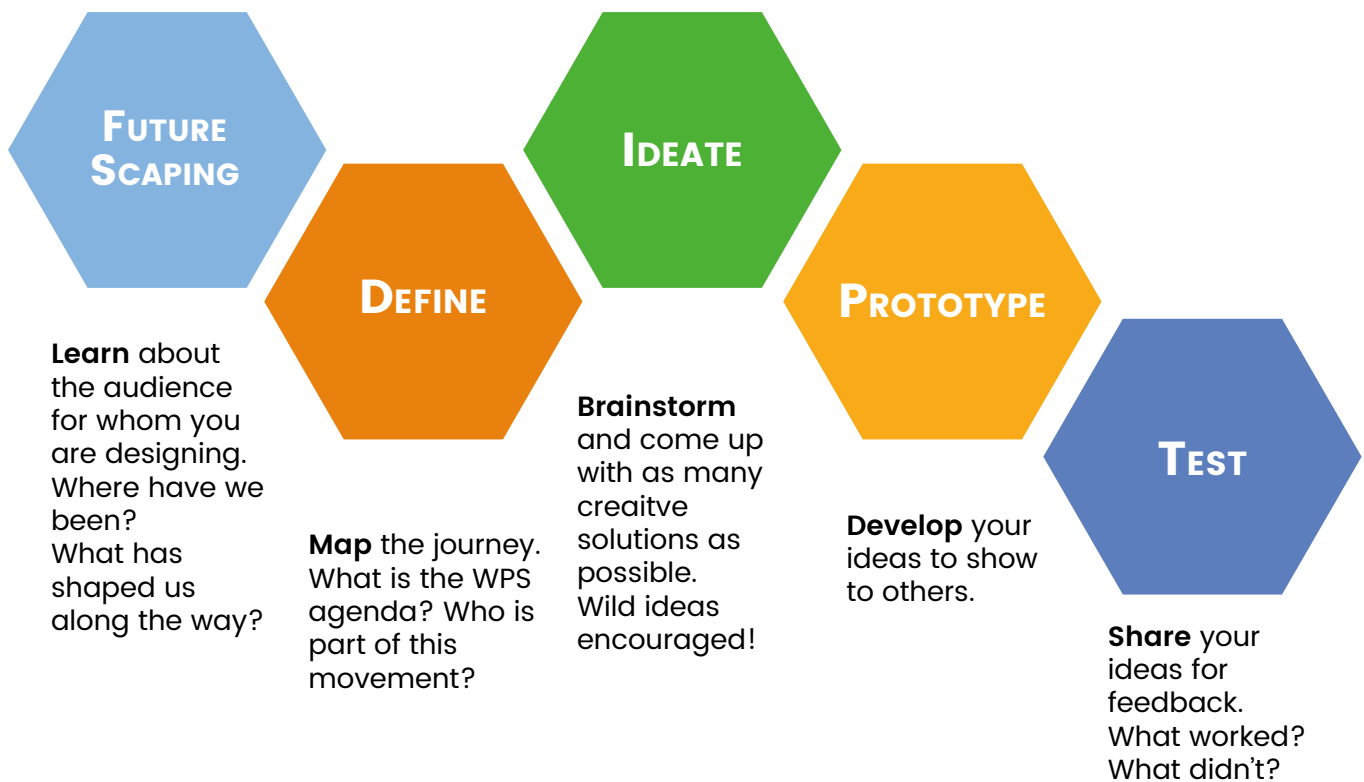
“ Any intelligent fool can make things bigger, more complex, and more violent. It takes a touch of genius—and a lot of courage—to move in the opposite direction. ” -E.F. SCHUMACHER

It is one thing to set an intention for doing something new, but something else entirely to create it. Old habits run deep. Even things that frustrate us when we encounter them, such as over-full agendas and prescriptive processes, are familiar, and the pull toward old behaviors can be strong.

To counter the pull of habitual ways of thinking, we did three specific things that created a new tone from the outset: we used a human-centered design approach, we emphasized the visual, and we embraced ambiguity. This encouraged the group to challenge their thinking about Women, Peace and Security, and allowed for new pathways for idea generation and collaboration.

Applying a Human-Centered Design Approach

In order to break free of the familiar, we leveraged a human-centered design approach that values participatory engagement, empathetic listening, and pushing the boundaries of creative problem solving. Human-centered design is a method used by the Stanford d.school and organizations like IDEO.org that apply “design thinking” to social sector problems; IDEO.org describes it as sitting at “the intersection between creativity and empathy” in order to solve seemingly intractable problems like poverty.



Taking a cue from the human-centered design approach, the structure of our convening was not a panel and discussion symposium. We purposely shifted away from the “business meeting” frame. Instead, over 48 hours, we aimed to build an atmosphere of shared community and trusted relationships. The group began and ended with lunch, opening on the first day with a blessing from the Native Algonquin people on whose unceded land we were meeting.

We closed with a celebratory meal of appreciation for our friends and colleagues, recognizing ourselves as part of a larger community of practice working on the Women, Peace and Security agenda.



In addition, we stayed away from the usual conference model of having expert panelists present information to a passive audience. Instead, we recognized the expertise of the participants from the outset and allowed for free-flowing discussion and information sharing. We also gave space to the personal: each participant opened the meeting by placing a meaningful artifact on a symbolic altar and sharing its relevance to their personal story and to their work. This both created a spirit of ritual and allowed everyone to step into the work equally, both personally and professionally.

Emphasizing the Visual and Symbolic

We incorporated the art and science of graphic recording to both document the conversation and preserve the insights and recommendations in a visual template. Our brains are wired to remember in pictures. In neurology, this is called the pictorial superiority effect. Adding imagery to information sharing has been shown to significantly increase recall. By using graphic recording we were able to capture the essence of the discussion and the specific points and agreements in a graphic format to support learning in the moment, and enhance recall and “stickiness” afterwards.

Using this method ensured that we were able to capture a more layered and nuanced narrative through recording both the insights of the group and the stories of individuals as the work unfolded.



Top: Charlotte Isaksson gifts a Swedish horse figurine to Selma Djukic with the message that it takes a strong woman to continue this work. Bottom: Sanam Naraghi-Anderlini shares the importance of art and literature for personal restoration and inspiration.

FROM THE CLOSING SURVEY: 100% of the participants said they would participate in this convening again.



Visaka Dharmadasa, Miki Jacevic, Rosa Emilia Salamanca, and Fahima Hashim.



Embracing Ambiguity

While the event was carefully designed and a meeting flow was developed in advance, we began by affirming our primary goal was to have a strategic conversation about Women, Peace and Security. Our facilitator's role was to hold the space for the conversations to unfold in their own time while shepherding us toward an actionable outcome. As a result, some things that we had planned shifted or evolved, and we were able to embrace the creative chaos. At the end of our time together, we had arrived at three issue areas for next-steps—strengthening the WPS community of practice, elevating women's perspectives on security through multiple WPS narratives, and addressing WPS funding structures and sources—that might not have emerged under a more rigid or prescribed agenda.

69% of participants said the convening helped clarify a shared vision for Women, Peace and Security.

This process also cemented agreements among the participants that there is a need for a shared vision for WPS, and a need to have the time to discuss the challenges and uncertainties that the WPS community of practice faces.

One participant noted, "The reflections and discussions were very clear to affirm that women peace activists need to develop another form of solidarity that will provide a 'people-centered' approach to peace and security." Another remarked, "I am not sure that there is a shared vision...there are too many questions to unpack before a shared vision is possible or necessary."



*Top: Rachel Vincent, of Nobel Women's Initiative, discussing her vision for Women, Peace, and Security.
Bottom: Thought-leaders push the envelope in brainstorming sessions.*

WHY “DESIGN” THE FUTURE AND NOT “IMAGINE” IT?

We believe that words matter and that they powerfully shape the futures that are and are not possible. As such, we chose to call this project Designing Our Secure Future. We chose to use the word “design” with a great deal of intention, recognizing that its frame would shape both what we would accomplish together and future conversations.

Before landing on the word “design,” we also explored a variety of metaphors ranging from “imagining” to “mapping” to “charting” the future. “Imagining” the future felt too ethereal for our purposes. While we

aim to explore a vision for the future of the Women, Peace and Security movement, we also want to be able to implement our vision and have tangible outcomes. The words “mapping” and “charting” did not meet our intention of sharing a vision, or common narratives, about the Women, Peace and Security agenda. Mapping and charting suggest that there is a pre-existing pathway to peace that we need to walk. However, the Women, Peace and Security field is relatively new and many paths are still emerging.

Left: Jamie Dobie discusses the future of Women, Peace and Security with Rachel Vincent.

Right: Nimalka Fernando, Ruth Ojiambo Ochieng, and Cynda Collins Arsenault create a shared timeline by mapping their personal histories.

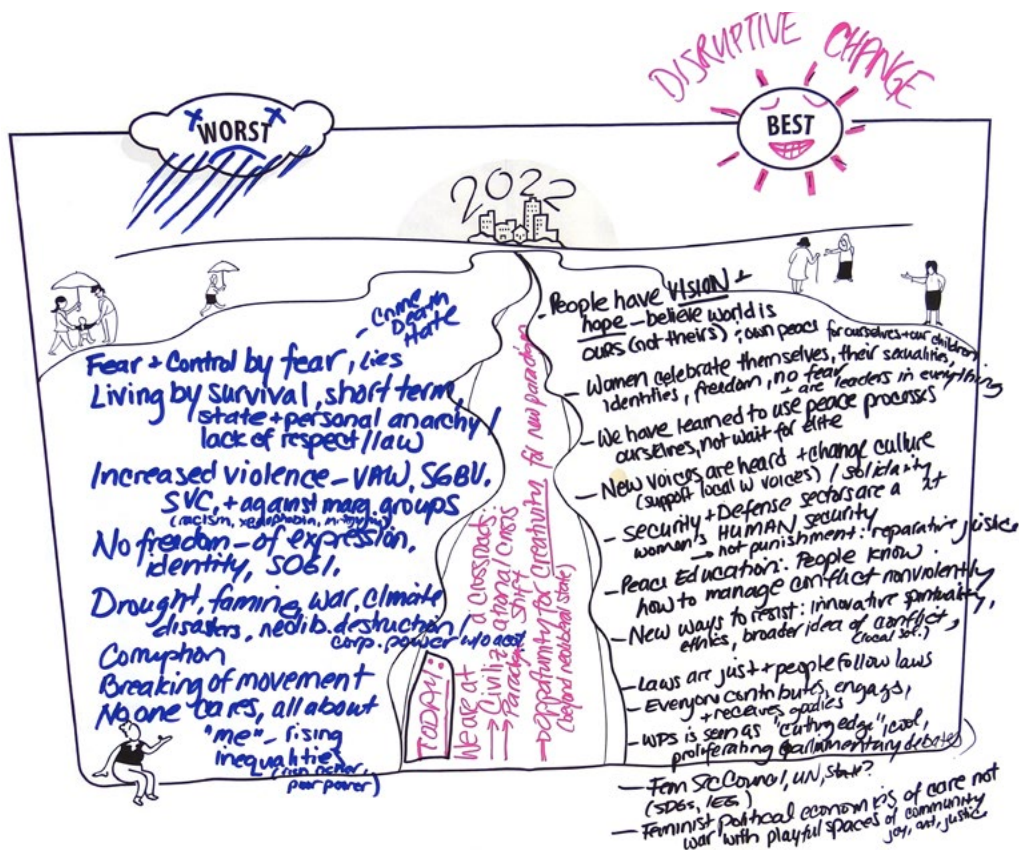
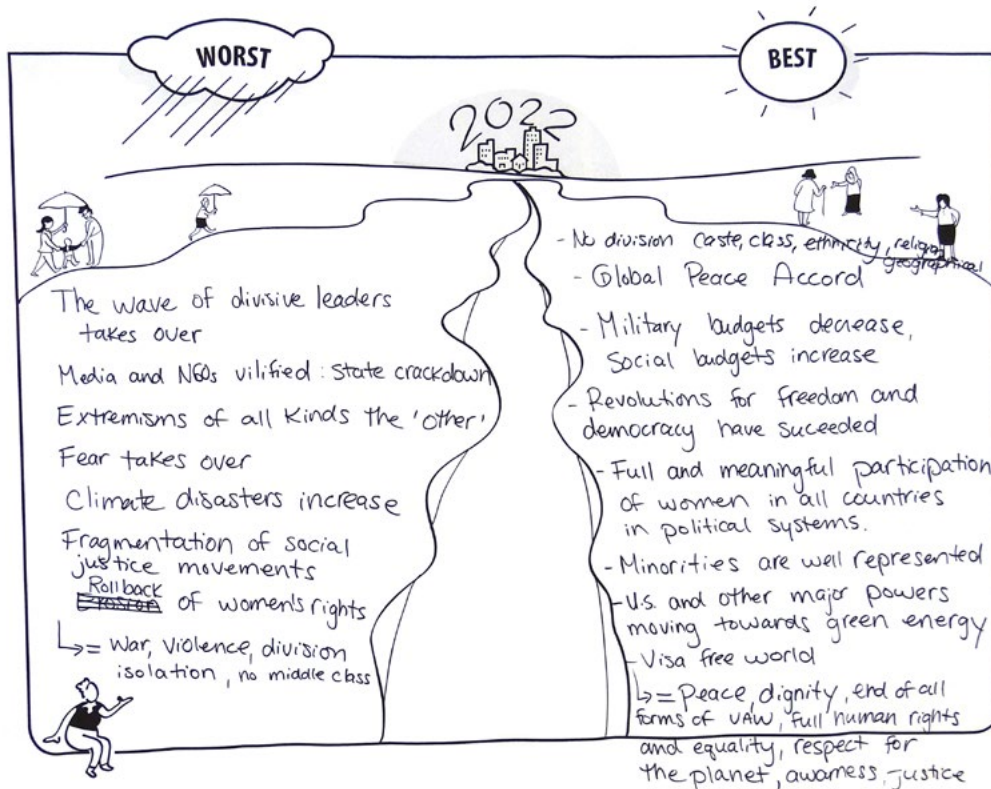


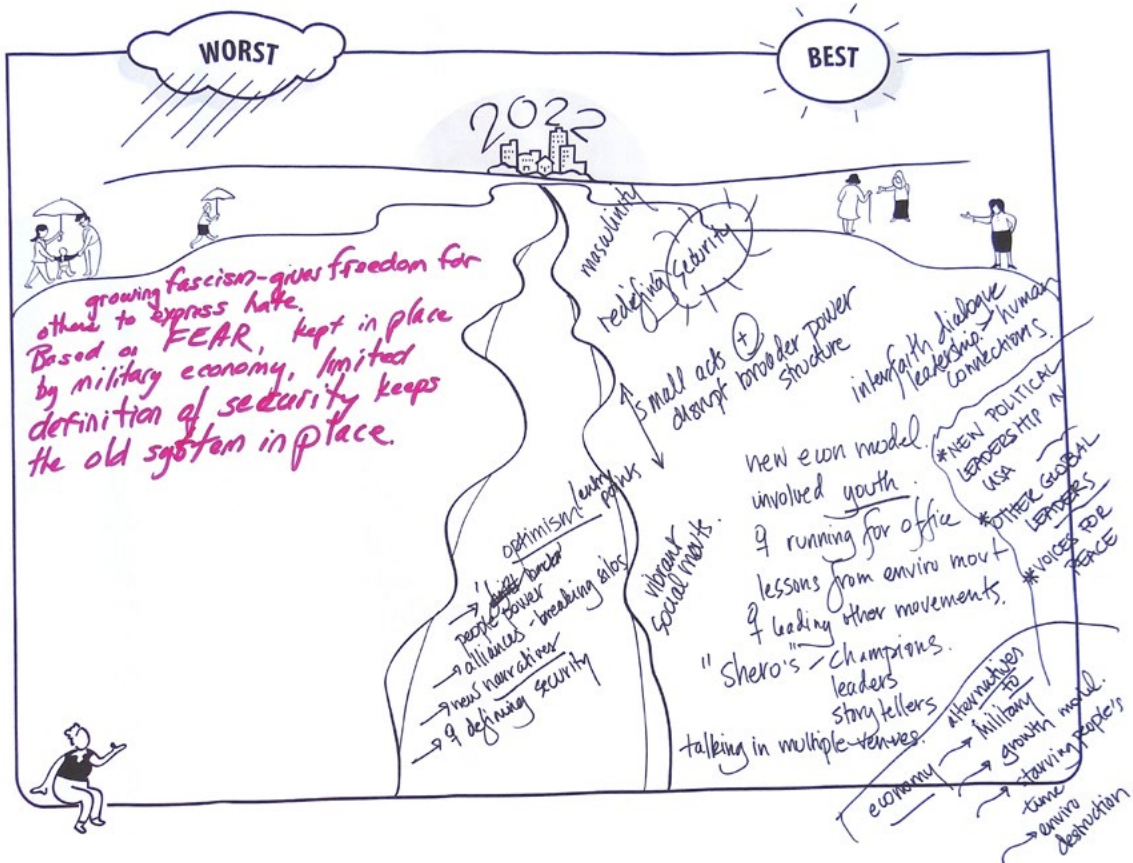
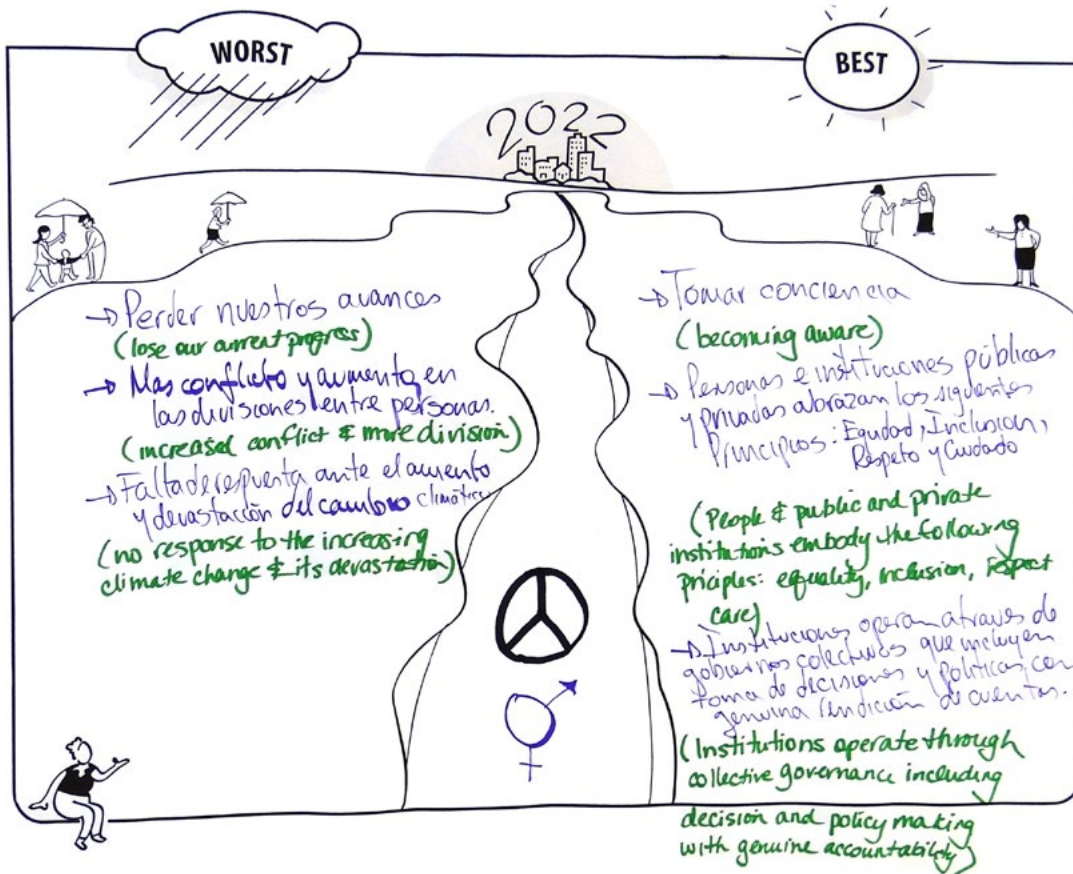


The word “design,” in contrast, lent itself very well to the task at hand. Women, Peace and Security is about transforming the way international peace and security decision-makers “do” peace. The intention of designing a more peaceful and secure future for women, girls, men, and boys allows us a spirit of artistry, invention, and co-creation. It is an invitation to design a world that we want to live in, collectively. Designing a secure future also requires rethinking what a secure future would look and feel like, and considering what getting there might require. Designing something also implies agency: we have the skills, vision, agency, and responsibility to design the world we want to live in.

Choosing the word design also connected us philosophically and tangibly to human-centered design. In the words of David Kelly, the creator and instigator of human-centered design, some fundamental principles of engaging in this process are: “believing all problems, even the seemingly intractable ones like poverty, gender equality, and clean water, are solvable. Moreover, it means believing that the people who face those problems every day are the ones who hold the key to their answer.” This perspective is central to our approach to thinking about how to strengthen the network and vision of the Women, Peace and Security movement.

As part of the design process, participants were asked to challenge their thinking about what is possible for the future of the Women, Peace and Security agenda. They were asked to consider the progress we might make and the setbacks we might have in the next five years on the goals of Women, Peace and Security, through the lens of creating a utopian future compared to a more dystopian future by 2022.







Left: Mavic Cabrera-Balleza discusses the challenges of cultural change with Abigail Ruane.
Top Right: Ellen Friedman works with a group on WPS narratives
Above: Selma Djukic and Rodolfo Dominguez share their group's vision of utopian and dystopian futures.

DISRUPTION BY DESIGN



As part of designing a new future, participants were asked to consider the act of disruption as integral to designing something new. The idea behind disruption by design is that big paradigm shifts often seem to happen instantly, yet these large-scale transformations are driven by intentional incremental change.

Nobel Laureate Jody Williams met with the group via Skype during lunch on the second day to discuss the concept of disruption by design and how it relates to her past and current work for peace. Williams spoke about some of the incremental changes that propelled the International Campaign to Ban Landmines in the 1990s. She underscored the importance of having



trusted relationships among the multiplicity of global actors working to ban landmines, and the constant communication and tight network of their community of practice. She noted that what made their disruption of the status quo work was the network's ability to act in concert toward the shared goal to ban landmines globally. She remarked, "We were a family."

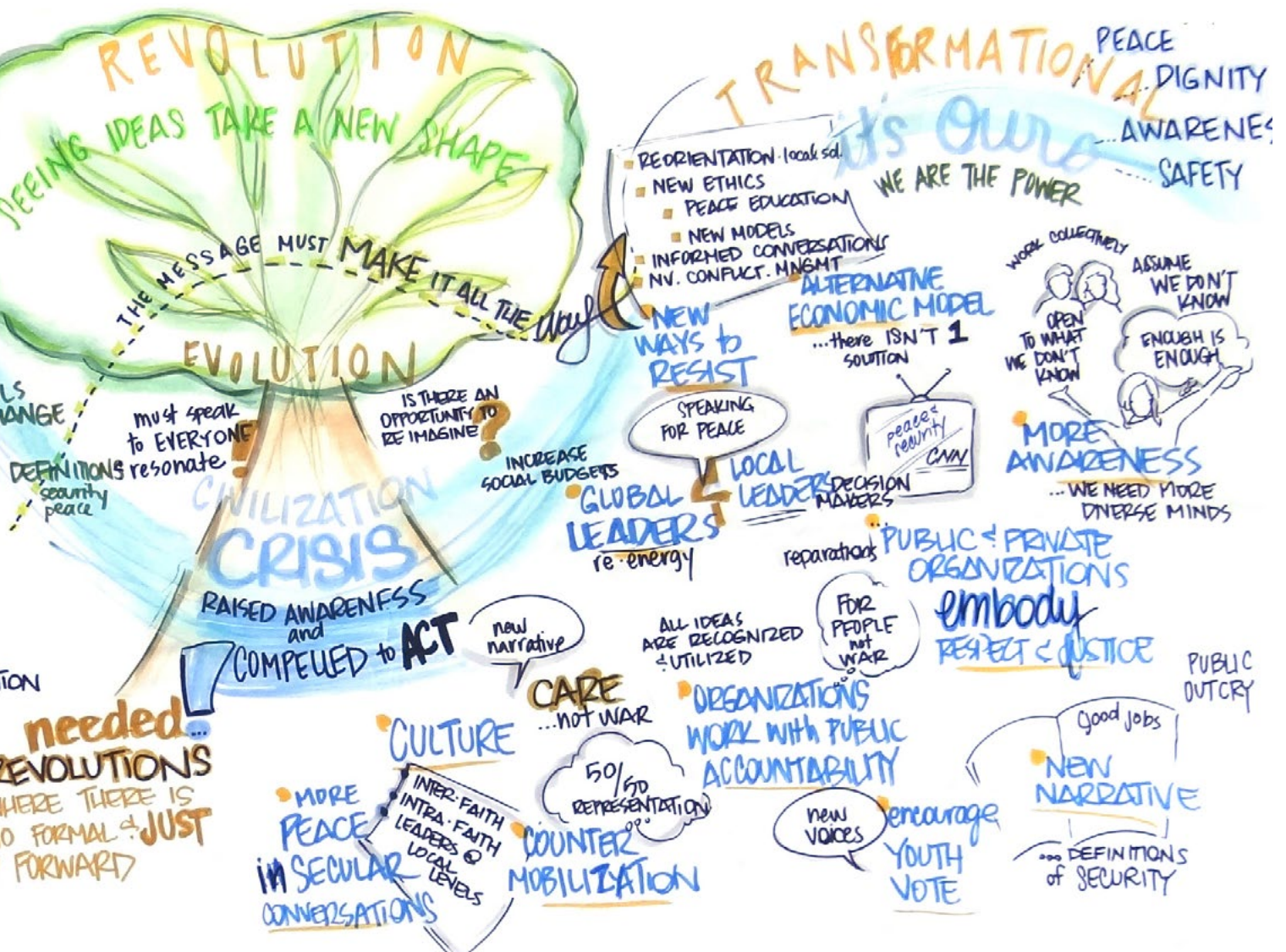
One of the most powerful aspects of this conversation was recognizing that while the gains for peace are often slow to come, and require hard work that frequently goes unnoticed, staying the course is crucial. The tighter the community of support, the easier it is to walk that hard road. Strengthening the bonds among this community of practice is a key investment in our long-term success.

How are Future Scenarios Used for Peacebuilding?

South Africa's transition from apartheid to democracy provides one of the clearest examples of how future scenarios have been successfully used to shape policy outcomes and shift perspectives on what is possible to achieve. In 1991, a diverse and influential set of South African leaders used future-scenario thinking to envision different pathways to democracy. The results are known as the Mont Fleur scenarios, and each described a different outcome of the political negotiations that were then underway. The work on designing and envisioning multiple possible scenarios helped the diverse group of community activists, politicians, government officials, academics, and business leaders strategically think through best- and worst-case outcomes for the political negotiations. As such, the Mont Fleur scenarios became a foundation for a common language and shared vision to move South Africans toward peace. These future scenarios helped facilitate public debate through common themes and narratives during the transition from apartheid to democracy.

The Women, Peace and Security movement is not experiencing the same political dilemma. However, it is faced with new and pressing problems that lead us to ask what the world would look like five years from now if Women, Peace and Security could not only inform but transform the security establishment and move us toward a more peaceful world? This is the question that participants grappled with as they collaborated on a diverse set of stories about how the future could unfold in the form of either utopia or dystopia.





Utopia vs. Dystopia

The individual and group work on imaging a utopian and a dystopian future revealed hope. While several groups identified the increasing influences of climate change and the rise in violent extremism as well as political fascism in a dystopian future, almost everyone saw hope in the fact that individuals would continue

to work at the community level toward creating more peaceful and just societies. And many of them saw the looming threat of dystopia as a powerful catalyst for greater civic engagement, political awareness, and activism. The participants agreed that a culture change that embraces the values of human rights at an individual level is elemental to achieving a broader paradigm shift toward sustainable peace.

KEY TAKEAWAY

The key takeaway from the group was, in the words of another participant, that “the WPS community needs to solidify a strategic community of practice.” This involves having a shared vision and a set of shared values that can lead to more effective implementation. Other participants noted that a recognized WPS community of practice would help “to be explicit about the challenges this community faces in clarifying a shared vision and what would actually have to happen to get there.”

As the group reflected deeply on their alternative scenarios of utopian and dystopian futures for Women, Peace and Security, they considered the implications and the possible action steps to move toward a preferred future. Their examinations were

grounded in their professional expertise and their personal experiences working on the Women, Peace and Security agenda over the past two decades. Their discussions and the identification of viable, desirable, and feasible actions were predicated on recognizing the highly interdependent nature of the field in both policy and practice.

They agreed that there are diverse points of view about what the ultimate objectives of the WPS agenda are. Participants agreed that the larger goals had not been adequately discussed with other actors in WPS. The group felt that it would require further reflection and time (beyond the scope of this initial convening) to collaborate on defining the long-term strategic interests of the Women, Peace and Security



The group discusses what a WPS community of practice might look like.

agenda before they could arrive at a shared vision. One participant noted the need for a “central hub to support this global community to share information, and to help people to develop the work.”

There was consensus that, at a minimum, gender equality and a redefinition of security were good starting points for developing a shared vision and common narratives. This was regardless of the fact that external policy trends tend to emphasize one issue over another (sexual violence in conflict vs. countering violent extremism, for example).

To initiate some thinking about what a Women, Peace and Security community of practice could look like, the group began to explore some elemental values, including:

- We are a community of practice. This includes everyone who is engaged in the implementation of WPS.
- We respect and appreciate the complementary roles within this community of practice.
- We are utilitarian in our approach, which means we recognize the value in working with people we disagree with, both within our community of practice and externally, toward a shared vision or agreement on a common goal.
- In our community of practice, at a minimum, we are working toward an end state of gender equality and human security.

Throughout the discussion it was clear that everyone understood that developing a community of practice and evolving the field is an organic process. There is a need to embrace ambiguity and live with the uncertainty on how this community of practice might develop and evolve. Voicing initial thoughts about values and criteria were considered to be the starting point for defining the WPS community of practice.



Abigail Ruane maps out a future for WPS.

OPPORTUNITIES

Participants felt that taking the time to meet and discuss big-picture thinking about the current state of the Women, Peace and Security agenda was an important first step toward a common understanding of the desired end state of Women, Peace and Security.

However, the group was very explicit about the challenges facing WPS actors in clarifying a shared vision. Interestingly, these challenges were also identified as opportunities to mark out a pathway to a shared vision.

While the conversation about developing a shared vision and a WPS community of practice seemed abstract, a long-term strategic view of the field centered on funding, culture change, and WPS narratives started to emerge.

- FUNDING:** The group identified the need for new funding structures and new sources of funding, and the need to strengthen relationships with current and potential funders.
- CULTURE CHANGE:** Time for deep reflection and collaboration as a part of a WPS community of practice was deemed critical to the development of a full-fledged and self-identified WPS community of practice.
- NARRATIVES:** Even though the group agreed that there is a need for a shared vision, they also identified the need for multiple narratives to communicate Women, Peace and Security goals to diverse audiences effectively.



RECOMMENDATIONS FOR COLLECTIVE IMPACT

Given that funding, culture change, and narratives were identified as central to moving the Women, Peace and Security agenda forward over the next several years, the group discussed how to take pragmatic steps toward these goals in the current environment.

In order to achieve collective impact, some specific action items for this group of actors were identified:

- **Convene women peacebuilders with current and new funding partners in order to foster relationships and collaboration.**
- **Coordinate more effectively on WPS messaging; establish a “working group” or some kind of hub that focuses specifically on sharing communications projects on a regular basis.**
- **Conduct WPS polling that raises a new definition of security by capturing the opinions and perspectives of women peacebuilders globally.**

The Funding brainstorming group shares ideas on how to change the culture of funding to support women-led peacebuilding.



NEXT STEPS

Based on the recommendations above and as a first step toward narrowing the gap between idea and action, Our Secure Future is exploring the possibility of working with several women-led peacebuilding organizations to conduct a global WPS poll that will elevate women's experiences and perspectives on security. The primary purpose of a WPS polling project is to redefine security through a gender perspective, thereby influencing the way security is thought about and done.

OSF has committed to hosting virtual facilitated gatherings to advance the thinking and deepen the sense of community around the three core action items identified. The intent is to develop clear platforms for action across each action step in order to lay the foundation for our next in-person gathering.

OSF is also taking steps to connect women peacebuilders with foundations, women entrepreneurs, and women in the corporate sector to build stronger relationships between women peacebuilders and existing sources of funding, as well as identify new allies and resources for WPS-related work.

Opposite page: Designing Our Secure Future closed with a celebratory lunch.



PARTICIPANTS

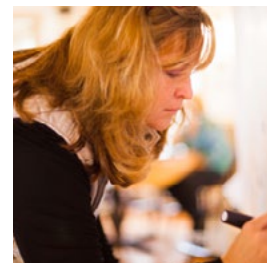
In selecting attendees for this inaugural convening, we set out to include a diverse array of experiences and perspectives with multiple geographies and personal histories. We aimed for representation from a variety of organizations and institutions, recognizing that multi-stakeholder engagement from across the spectrum of peace activists, funders, media, policymakers, and others is vital to designing a path forward.

Facilitators:



Jennifer Simpson has dedicated her life and career to improving lives, strengthening communities, and adding value to organizations. She has also been responsible for developing innovative customer solutions both on a global and individual scale, and keeping work on the cutting edge of business and science. Her background includes more than twenty-five years of experience working in and with organizations across the private, public, corporate, and not-for-profit sectors to create more meaningful and effective ways of living and working together; more than a decade of teaching university courses in communication and leadership disciplines; and a lifetime of bridging worlds in a way that capitalizes on the best in organizations to enhance creativity and stimulate whole system learning.

Janine Underhill has helped make the invisible visible for over twenty years. She has helped Fortune-100 clients and non-profit firms alike create repeatable blueprints to reach important meeting outcomes, get diverse minds on-board to accomplish complex team efforts, and arrive at solidified leadership decisions based on quality discoveries. Underhill practices experiential big-picture learning modalities so meeting participants can fully engage in conversation, and tether their ideas and beliefs to the big picture of the organization.



First Nation Elder – Monique Manatch is a member of the Algonquins of Barriere Lake, also referred to as Rapid Lake, located 130km north of Maniwaki. Manatch is active in the arts, particularly with regards to youth programming, and is also working on a project to preserve indigenous languages using digital technology as part of her Master's research. Manatch resides in Aylmer, Quebec with her 15-year-old son.

Keynote Speaker:

Nobel Laureate Jody Williams won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1997 for her work on the International Campaign to Ban Landmines. At that time, she became the tenth woman—and third American woman—in its almost 100-year history to receive the prize. Since her protests of the Vietnam War, she has been a lifelong advocate of freedom, self-determination, and human and civil rights. Now the Chair of the Nobel Women's Initiative, Williams travels the world advocating for human rights, particularly self-determination and women's rights. She is globally recognized for her contributions to peace and security, including through a current campaign to ban killer robots. In 2013, she published *My Name is Jody Williams: A Vermont Girl's Winding Path to the Nobel Peace Prize*.



PARTICIPANTS, CONTINUED



Rana Allam is an advisor and editor with the Women’s Alliance for Security Leadership organization and the International Civil Society Action Network (ICAN). She has extensive knowledge of the political scene in the Middle East region with a focus on Egypt. Allam is the former chief editor of the *Daily News Egypt* in Cairo, the only independent daily newspaper printed in English. She began her journalism career in 1995. She is currently a commentator on Middle East political affairs and on women and human rights issues. Her work has appeared in many publications including *Inter Press Service*, *InDepthNews*, *Sisterhood Mag*, and *Daily News Egypt*. She was profiled by the Nobel Women’s Initiative, and she was a panel speaker in several international conferences, including the UN Commission on the Status of Women, the Carter Center’s Human Rights Defenders Forum, the End Sexual Violence in Conflict Summit held in London, and the Arab Media Forum in Jordan.

Sanam Naraghi-Anderlini is the co-founder and executive director of the International Civil Society Action Network (ICAN). For more than two decades she has been a leading international peace strategist. In 2000, she was among the civil society drafters of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on women, peace and security. In 2011, Naraghi-Anderlini was the first Senior Expert on Gender and Inclusion on the UN’s Mediation Standby Team. She provides guidance and training to senior personnel in UN agencies, governments and NGOs worldwide, and has worked in conflict-affected countries globally, including leading assessments in Maoist cantonments in Nepal.



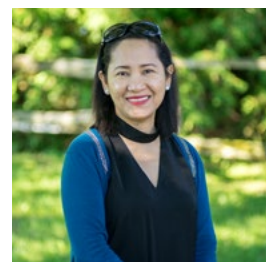
Currently, Naraghi-Anderlini is an adjunct professor at Georgetown University. Between 2004 and 2015 she was a research associate and senior fellow at the MIT Center for International Studies. She has published extensively on peace and security issues, including *Women Building Peace: What They Do, Why it Matters*. She was the 2014 recipient of the UN Association of the National Capital Area Perdita Huston Award for Human Rights. In 2016, she was appointed the Greeley Peace Scholar at the University of Massachusetts. Naraghi-Anderlini holds an M.Phil in Social Anthropology from Cambridge University. Iranian by birth, she is a UK citizen, and has twin daughters.



Cynda Collins Arsenault is a co-founder and board member of One Earth Future (OEF) and the Arsenault Family Foundation. She is also co-founder and president of the Secure World Foundation, an operating foundation promoting cooperative solutions for the secure and sustainable use of outer space for the benefit of humanity. More recently, she established and works with one of OEF’s newest initiatives, Our Secure Future: Women Make the Difference.

In her personal philanthropy, she focuses on bringing women’s critical skills to the table to aid in solving the difficult problems we face, with a particular focus on Women, Peace and Security. She is a member of the Women’s Donor Network, Women Moving Millions, and the International Women’s Forum. She is also the founder of Women Powering Change, an annual gathering of women working to create a better world. Collins Arsenault received her BA in Sociology and Psychology at University of California, Berkeley, and her MA in Education from Colorado State University. She has 45+ years of experience in non-profit work, including in the arenas of peace and justice, criminal justice, mental health, disability rights, and environmental issues.

Mavic Cabrera-Balleza is the international coordinator for the Global Network of Women Peacebuilders. She leads the group’s programs to carry out Security Council Resolutions 1325 and 1820, which ensure women’s role in peace and security in conflict situations. Most recently, Cabrera-Balleza, a Filipino, was in Sierra Leone, working on a related project. Her previous job was coordinator of the International Women’s Tribune Center’s human rights, peace-building, and human security program. She has a Master’s degree in Communication Research with a focus on Women’s Studies.



PARTICIPANTS, CONTINUED



Visaka Dharmadasa is the founder and chair of the Association of War Affected Women and of Parents of Servicemen Missing in Action. Dharmadasa educates soldiers and community leaders about international standards of conduct during war, specifically to raise awareness about the importance of soldier identification tags and treatment of prisoners of war. She received the prestigious Humanitarian Award in 2006 from InterAction in Washington, D.C., and was nominated for a collective Nobel Peace Prize in 2005, in coordination with the 1000 Peace Women Across the Globe movement. She is currently a member of the Civil Society Advisory Group of UN Women for the region, and a member of the consultation task force on reconciliation mechanisms appointed by the Government of Sri Lanka. Dharmadasa studied Negotiations and Mediation Skills at the United States Institute for Peace, as well as Women and Security at Harvard University.

Sahana Dharmapuri is the director of Our Secure Future: Women Make the Difference, a program of the One Earth Future Foundation. From 2006–2016 she was an independent gender advisor on gender, peace, and security issues to USAID, NATO, the Swedish Armed Forces, the United States Institute for Peace, the International Peace Institute, and other international organizations. In 2016, Dharmapuri was writer-in-residence at the Carey Institute for Global Good for her work on Women, Peace and Security. She was appointed a fellow at the Carr Center for Human Rights Policy at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government (2011–2013), and she was an Investing in Women in Development Fellow at the United States Agency for International Development (2003–2005). She has published widely on Women, Peace and Security issues including in *Ms.* magazine, *CNN*, the *Christian Science Monitor*, *Women's E-News*, *Human Rights Quarterly*, the *Global Responsibility to Protect* journal, the *Alliance for Peacebuilding* online journal, the US Naval War College's *Women, Peace and Security* monograph series, and *Parameters: The Senior Professional Journal of the US Army*. Recent public appearances include those at the Kroc Institute in San Diego, the OSCE-Vienna, the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security at Ft. Benning, and the US Naval War College. Dharmapuri holds a B.A. and two Master's Degrees from the University of Chicago.



Selma Djukic is a graduate of the University of Toronto and a pioneer among early community youth workers in the Canadian Muslim community. Djukic has dedicated the better part of 30+ years to empowering youth and women through the initiation and development of numerous grassroots, national, and international organizations. She is a past member of the Community Editorial Board for the *Toronto Star* and has held a seat on executive national boards for non-profit organizations including the International Development Relief Foundation. As past board chair of the National Council of Canadian Muslims, she endeavored to protect the human rights and civil liberties of all Canadians. A past presenter at conferences including the Women's Worlds congress, Djukic was also a participant in the inaugural hackathon held by Affinis Labs, designing social media tools to counter violent extremism. Djukic is currently a member of the Steering Committee for the Women, Peace and Security Network, Canada.

PARTICIPANTS, CONTINUED



Jamie Dobie is the executive director of Peace is Loud, a non-profit organization founded by Abigail Disney that uses documentary film and speaking events to highlight the stories of women peacebuilders. Peace is Loud has led international impact campaigns for *The Trials of Spring*, *The Armor of Light*, and the five-part PBS series *Women, War & Peace*, and its speakers' bureau represents renowned women human rights leaders including Nobel Peace laureate Leymah Gbowee and UN Special Rapporteur Karima Bennouna. Peace is Loud's newest program, Mina's List, leverages the power of storytelling to realize women's equal and substantive representation in national governments around the world. Dobie frequently speaks on the role of media in popularizing the Women, Peace and Security agenda. Recent public appearances include those at the Naval War College, the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, The Hague, and the American Film Institute. Prior to joining Peace is Loud, Dobie was the community engagement and education manager for the PBS documentary series *POV*. Her short documentary *SHIVANI* was an official selection of the 2017 Full Frame Documentary Film Festival and 2017 AFIDOCs.

Rodolfo Manuel Domínguez Márquez is a Mexican lawyer specializing in addressing gender violence against women and increasing protection mechanisms for women in situations of violence and femicide. Currently, he is Coordinator General of the Justice, Human Rights and Gender Civil Association, an organization that conducts strategic litigation and monitoring of cases of femicide, shares incidence in implementing research protocols on femicide and mechanisms to protect women in situations of violence, and partners with the National Citizens' Femicide Observatory and the Women's Alliance for Security Leadership. He was part of the strategic litigation team that obtained, from the National Supreme Court of Justice, the first precedent regarding femicide and due diligence in its investigation and prosecution, in the case of *Mariana Lima*.



Dominguez influenced the implementation of the Declaration of Alert for Gender Violence in the states of the Mexican Republic such as Estado de México, Chiapas, Nuevo León, Veracruz, and Jalisco. The Declaration is a collective mechanism for the protection of women, highlighting contexts of serious violence and discrimination against women and establishing urgent measures to correct the course of public policy on security, justice, and prevention. He has participated as a speaker at various national and international forums on gender violence, femicide, and implementation of protection orders, and has been a facilitator in training civil servants on the enforcement and administration of justice.



Nimalka Fernando is a prominent human rights defender, lawyer, and activist with over 30 years of peacemaking experience. She is a co-chair of South Asians for Human Rights and the president of the International Movement against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism—an organization dedicated to eliminating discrimination and racism, forging international solidarity among discriminated-against minorities, and advancing the international human rights system. Fernando has been a founding member of several organizations, including a network of women's organizations and activists committed to peacebuilding known as Mothers and Daughters of Lanka. In 2011, she received the Citizen's Peace Award from the National Peace Council of Sri Lanka. She continues to face repression and threats for her fervent calls for accountability for alleged war crimes committed during the war.

PARTICIPANTS, CONTINUED

Ellen Friedman is the executive director at the Compton Foundation, which seeks to ignite change toward a sustainable, just, and peaceful future. The foundation's program strategy supports transformative leadership and courageous storytelling in the areas of peace, environment, and women's reproductive health, rights, and justice. Previously, Friedman served as the executive vice president of Tides, where she worked for 23 years with individual donors and other social change activists. During her tenure at Tides, Ellen led the Community Clinics Initiative, a partnership between the California Endowment and Tides which supported the technology capacity development of California's Community Health Centers. Friedman brings to her work a deep interest in organizational design and leadership, innovative grant program development and implementation, and a passion for transformative social change around the world. She is a trustee of Futures Without Violence, formerly the Family Violence Prevention Fund, and a member of the California Endowment's Building Healthy Communities advisory board.



Fahima Abdel Hafiz Hashim is a women's rights defender and feminist activist experienced in action research and a facilitator and trainer. Hashim, born in Sudan in 1963, to this day is devoting her life to promoting radical change for women/young women and their place in society. She serves as the director for Salmmah Women's Resource Centre. She is a graduate of Bayero University, Kano, Nigeria, where she obtained her Master's in Documentation and Library Sciences. She also holds a degree in Psychology from Ahfad University for Women, Omdurman, Sudan. Hashim has over 28 years of experience in the area of women/gender and rights, with a special emphasis on women's rights, sexuality, violence against women/in conflict, and peace. She is a sought-after public speaker and an experienced feminist campaigner who is well connected within the African women's movement. She has demonstrated her commitment to being a strong leader and facilitator for positive social change. Currently, she resides in Hamilton City, Canada.

Tanya Henderson is an international human rights and gender lawyer focused on advancing the rights of women and women's role in peace-building through U.S. policy, the United Nations, international multilateral agencies and civil society, and coalition building among global women political leaders. In 2014, Henderson founded Mina's List, an international NGO with the mission to realize women's equal and substantive political representation globally. Prior to starting Mina's List, Tanya was the policy director for Women's Action for New Directions, where she helped draft the Women, Peace and Security Act of 2013 and lobbied for women's equal role in all U.S. diplomatic, development, and defense-related work in conflict-affected environments.



Henderson also serves on the executive committee for the U.S. Civil Society Working Group on Women, Peace and Security convened by the U.S. Institute of Peace. Her work has been published in the *Journal of Politics and Law* and the *International Journal of Women's Health*, as well as other print and social media outlets. Henderson received her Bachelor of Science from the University of Massachusetts, Boston, her Juris Doctorate from Suffolk University Law School, and pursued her Master's of Law in international law from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University. She has also earned several certificates in mediation and conflict negotiation.

PARTICIPANTS, CONTINUED



Charlotte Isaksson is Gender Advisor for EEAS European Union, working as an advisor to the EU Principal Advisor on Gender and WPS. Prior to her current role, she was Gender Advisor to SACEUR and within Allied Command Operations, NATO at SHAPE. Earlier she served as the Senior Gender Advisor to the Swedish Armed Forces Headquarters, Directorate of Operations. She was previously on active duty with the Artillery Corps before leaving military duty as an officer (still in the Reserve) to pursue academic studies within social sciences and women's studies. Her studies have focused on gender dimensions and social interactions as well as military training and education.

Isaksson is also a certified leadership and team development trainer with extensive experience from both private and government organizations. Her main work with the Swedish Defence forces has been on gender issues and strategies for implementation of UNSCR 1325 and 1820. During 2006, Isaksson was appointed to the EU Forces Mission in Congo as Gender Advisor in the Operational and Force Headquarters, and has been on standby for the Nordic Battle Group OHQ in Northwood, England. She is the founder and partner of a European Gender/UNSCR 1325 program called Genderforce, which brings several organizations together under a comprehensive framework in order to highlight gender perspectives and develop the implementation of UNSCR 1325 and its subsequent resolutions in operations.

Miki Jacevic has been integral to the conceptualization and the work of Inclusive Security since its founding in 1999. A native of Sarajevo, he attributes his inspiration to his experience supporting women peacebuilders working to stop the bloodshed and promote reconciliation in war-torn Bosnia and Herzegovina. Now, after two decades of finding practical solutions to seemingly intractable conflicts in more than 40 regions, he leads Inclusive Security's effort to promote lasting, systemic change around the world by developing national action plans that ensure women's leadership in peace and security affairs. Before joining Inclusive Security, Jacevic directed the Emerging Leaders Project at the State of the World Forum and managed reintegration efforts for child soldiers at Search for Common Ground. He is a Ph.D. candidate at George Mason University's School for Conflict Analysis and Resolution, and he teaches at American University, Georgetown University, and the School for International Training, with a special focus on transitional justice. He and his wife, Guatemalan human rights activist Eva Morales, live near Washington, D.C. with their two children.



Ruth Ojiambo Ochieng is an independent consultant in the area of Women, Peace and Security. Her strengths lie in peacebuilding and in spearheading alliances to form collaborative agendas between the marginalized, the elite, and policymakers in order to challenge injustices, prejudice, taboos, and stigma related to women survivors of violence, and in particular, those in situations of armed conflict. She holds a Master's in Communications Policy Studies from City, University of London, and a B.Sc. in Applied Social Sciences (Information and Communications), from the Polytechnic of North London. In 2015, she trained in Women in Mediation and Electoral Processes at the PanAfrican Centre for Gender, Peace and Development, in Dakar, Senegal. During her 15-year tenure of leadership at Isis-Women's International Cross Cultural Exchange, a feminist organization, she created strategic networks and innovatively built a people-centered human security approach to peacebuilding that particularly responded to the strategic needs of survivors of sexual violence and torture.

In 2013, Ojiambo Ochieng was appointed by UNWOMEN to the High-Level Advisory Group for the Global Study on the Implementation of UNSCR 1325. In 2016, she was appointed as a Civil Society Advisory Governor to the Commonwealth Foundation. She has received awards at national, regional and international levels for her innovative approaches and commitment to women's peacebuilding. Ojiambo Ochieng has authored many papers and articles published in books as well as online. She is currently writing a book on her leadership experience.

PARTICIPANTS, CONTINUED

Abigail Ruane is director of the PeaceWomen Programme of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom and leads work on Women, Peace and Security from the WILPF UN office in New York. She is a recognized women's human rights expert and leads PeaceWomen's advocacy in addressing silos between security and development processes at the UN. Ruane's advocacy builds on her internationally recognized, award-winning doctoral research on global negotiations over women's rights. Before joining PeaceWomen, Ruane acted as WILPF-US Representative to the United Nations, consulted on gender and sustainable development at the Women's Environment and Development Organization, and taught human rights classes at Hunter College.



She is committed to envisioning and creating a world of gender justice, and has written a book on using J.R.R. Tolkien's *The Lord of the Rings* to teach about International Relations. Ruane holds an M.A. and Ph.D. in International Relations from the University of Southern California and a B.A. in Psychology from Cornell University.



Rosa Emilia Salamanca is a feminist advocate of women's rights with great knowledge of indigenous people and training and practice in public human and political rights, gender perspectives, and anthropology. She is currently the strategic director of CIASE Corporation, an organization working for peace, human rights, and democracy in the country from a feminist perspective. Furthermore, she works at El Colectivo de Pensamiento y Acción Mujeres, Paz y Seguridad, a space that brings together more than 53 organizations in the country and 100 women, and is working in lobbying and advocacy around UN Resolution 1325 and related to the Security Council of the United Nations.

Rachel Vincent has been with the Nobel Women's Initiative since 2008. Rachel has led the organization in its work with grassroots women's organizations and movements in Latin America, and has led fact-finding delegations to the region. Vincent started her career as a radio journalist, working for six years in Canada, the US, and Mexico, including hosting an afternoon radio program in Mexico City. She left journalism to be the head of communications for the Commission for Environmental Cooperation, a tri-governmental organization created by the North American Free Trade Agreement and based in Montreal. For the last 18 years, Vincent has turned her in-depth understanding of advocacy and media toward advising non-governmental organizations and social justice activists on how to communicate their messages most effectively to governments and media. Vincent speaks and writes regularly about women's rights, and is the editor of *When We Are Bold: Women Who Turn Our Upsidedown World Right*, published in 2016.



Beth Woroniuk has worked on women's rights and gender equality issues in international development for over 25 years. She has been involved in Canadian civil society initiatives relating to Women, Peace and Security for almost two decades and is a founding member and the coordinator of the Women, Peace and Security Network-Canada. Woroniuk has worked as a consultant and advisor for numerous international agencies and NGOs on gender equality and women's empowerment. She has a particular specialty in gender dimensions of peacebuilding, armed conflict, and humanitarian assistance that was kick-started during her time working in Nicaragua in the mid-1980s. Woroniuk has developed analytical tools, supported policy development, designed training, conducted evaluations, and provided technical support on a wide range of issues related to gender equality and women's empowerment. She has helped the staffs of numerous agencies better understand the relevance of gender dimensions of conflict-affected and fragile states. Woroniuk is also a member of the Core Group of the NATO Civil Society Advisory Panel on Women, Peace and Security. Her most difficult feminist challenge has been being a mother to two sons. Now based in Ottawa, Woroniuk is originally from western Canada and still has prairie dust running in her veins.

Support Staff:



Thora Broughton joined the Canadian International Development Agency in 1981; she lived and worked in Thailand and Singapore as well as Ottawa, managing Southeast Asia regional development projects, and UN and World Bank programs. Following her retirement in 2012, Thora has served as a volunteer board member of Tabitha Foundation Canada, and volunteered at an Ottawa women’s shelter. She joined the Women, Peace and Security Network-Canada in 2017.

Christina Ibanez graduated from the Josef Korbel School of International Studies at the University of Denver in 2016, where she earned her Master’s degree in International Studies with a concentration in Gender and Religion. Her research interests included the relationship between religion, political identity and governance; post-conflict peacebuilding; and gender, peace and security studies. During her time at the Korbel School, she worked as a graduate student researcher for the Inclusive Global Leadership Initiative where she conducted empirical research on the effect of women’s participation in mass political movements. Most recently, Christina was Communications and Research intern with Women’s Regional Network and was the President of the Middle East Discussion Group at DU. Christina earned her B.A from Florida International University in International Relations, where she focused on political theory and Islam.



Stephanie Li is originally from Beijing, but has since moved around to various cities in North America including Edmonton, Miami, and Halifax. She is a Loran Scholar going into her second year at McGill University in Montreal, Canada, majoring in Life Science and minoring in Women’s Studies. In the future, she hopes to work either in medicine or health policy. Li is a Nobel Women’s Initiative Intern.

Emma Morris is the Online Media and Communications Associate at Nobel Women’s Initiative. Morris is passionate about digital storytelling and social media’s potential to create bold change. Prior to Nobel Women’s Initiative, she was co-coordinator of the first Students Advocating for Representative Curricula Conference at the University of King’s College, a conference of student work centered on bringing marginalized voices into academic discourse. Morris graduated from the University of King’s College with an honours degree in Political Science, where her undergraduate thesis focused on the role of gender in Canadian foreign policy.



Victoria Spiteri is a student at McGill University, studying Political Science and Communications. She is currently interning at the Nobel Women’s Initiative, and working part-time for the Canadian Border Security Agency. Spiteri is a social media, photography, and communications enthusiast and is excited to continue to use these mediums for social justice purposes.



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