



Ministry for Foreign
Affairs of Finland

Canada

Advancing meaningful participation of uniformed women in UN peace operations

17 December, 2020

17:00-18:30 EET/10:00-11:30 EST

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland and the Embassy of Canada to Finland are organizing a webinar on “Advancing meaningful participation of uniformed women in UN peace operations” on 17 December 2020 at 17:00-18:30 EET (10:00-11:30 EST).

This year we celebrate the 75th anniversary of the United Nations along with the 20th anniversary of one of the most well-known UN Security Council resolutions of all time: Women, peace and security (WPS). Resolution 1325 calls for a meaningful participation of women at all levels of decision-making but also in peace operations. Increasing the number of women peacekeepers in operations is an essential part of the resolution 1325. The overall success of peacekeeping missions relies on the professional women police and military officers serving in multiple operations.

Both Canada and Finland have supported initiatives that pave the way for wider participation of women in peace operations. The Elsie Fund, launched by Canada in 2017, provides an important channel to strengthen support towards women, peace and security. The Elsie Fund along with other important instruments aim at bridging the gender gap in UN peacekeeping. Our joint partner, UN Women, plays a crucial role in managing projects that train and prepare female military officers for their assignments on the field.

Join us in an active discussion, which aims at highlighting the importance of meaningful participation of uniformed women. The webinar also aims to look at how supporters of UNSCR1325 can work to advance the WPS agenda.

Please register at <https://www.lyyti.in/womenpeacesecurity> by 15 December 2020 (EET). Registered participants will receive a link to join prior to the event. For further information please contact asa-20@forin.fi



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Programme

- 17:00 Opening of the seminar by moderator Beth Woroniuk, coordinator of Canada's Women, Peace and Security Network and words by H.E. Ambassador Jason Tolland, Embassy of Canada to Finland
- 17:10 Presentations by speakers
- Kai Sauer, Under-Secretary of State for Political Affairs, MFA Finland
 - Gwyn Kutz, Director General of Peace & Stabilization Operations Program, Global Affairs Canada
 - Päivi Kannisto, Chief, Peace and Security, UN Women
 - Brig Gen Lise Bourgon, CAF Champion for Women, Peace and Security
 - Eevi Pöntinen, former female peacekeeper 2016-2019
- 17:50 Moderated discussion - Participants can present comments and questions throughout the event via chat. Questions can also be sent beforehand via the registration link.
- 18:30 End of programme