

Launch of the updated Ukraine National Action Plan for Women Peace and Security

The 1325 agenda in action: Women as actors in the war and in the reconstruction efforts

15:00-16:30 March 6th

Trusteeship Council Chamber

Since the Russian invasion of Ukraine in 2014 civilians have suffered unfathomably and the impact of the war continues to grow in scale and severity. Since the full-scale invasion in February 2022, civilians have been killed, nearly 14 million people have fled or become internally displaced and for those left in the country, basic services have been disrupted and the threats of attacks ever present.

As in all conflicts, women and girls suffer disproportionately in Ukraine, falling victims of conflict related sexual violence and human trafficking. However, women are also taking active part in the military protection, in emergency response as well as in peacebuilding, mediation, and in monitoring the human rights situation in the country.

In 2016 Ukraine adopted its first National Action Plan for Women Peace and Security. An actionable second-generation NAP was adopted in 2020, focusing on advancing the role of women in decision making. Following the full-scale Russian invasion in 2022, the Ukrainian government decided to update the plan to better reflect the reality in the country. The updated NAP recognises that women must be actors and agents in the active conflict, as well as in the reconstruction of the country. To build a sustainable, inclusive post-war Ukrainian society, women need to be involved in all relevant decision-making processes. Their needs, interests and perspectives must be taken into consideration in every step of the reconstruction process.

The revision of Ukraine's National action plan for WPS during an ongoing war is one clear example of the 1325-agenda in action. While commitments have been numerous in the Security Council on the WPS-agenda, the implementation remains a challenge in many countries – especially when it comes to the full equal and meaningful participation of women in every aspect of society.

The launch of the Ukrainian updated WPS National Action plan provides an opportunity to reflect on the WPS agenda in practice, learning from the experience of the Ukrainian government and civil society in updating and implementing the plan. It is also an opportunity for Member States to take stock of how to include the WPS agenda in the international response in the reconstruction of Ukraine.

AGENDA

1. Opening Remarks

- H.E Kateryna Levchenko, Government Commissioner for Gender Equality (Ukraine)
- H.E Paulina Brandberg Minister for Gender Equality (Sweden)
- H.E Åsa Regnér, Deputy Executive director UNWomen

2. The updated 1325 Action Plan and its implementation

- Presentation of the provision in the action plan (H.E Tokareva Deputy Minister for Social Policy of Ukraine)
- How to implement the National Action Plan (Natalia Karbovska, Director of Ukrainian Women's Fund)
- How can female veterans take part in the implementation of the National Action Plan (Kateryna Pryimak, Deputy Director of "Women Veteran Movement")

3. Implementing the WPS agenda in the international response to the reconstruction of Ukraine

- Ensuring women's participation in the reconstruction process (H.E Tetiana Berezhna, Deputy Minister of Economy Ukraine)
- Importance of ensuring women's participation in the reconstruction process: lessons from the Liberian experience (H.E. Williametta E. Saydee Tarr, Minister of Gender, Children and Social Protection of Liberia)
- What has successfully been done to support WPS work in Ukraine and how can it be used in the reconstruction efforts (H.E Bjørg Sandkjær, State Secretary of International Development, Norway)
- The international community's role in promoting the WPS action plan in the reconstruction efforts (H.E Angeles Moreno Bau Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Spain)