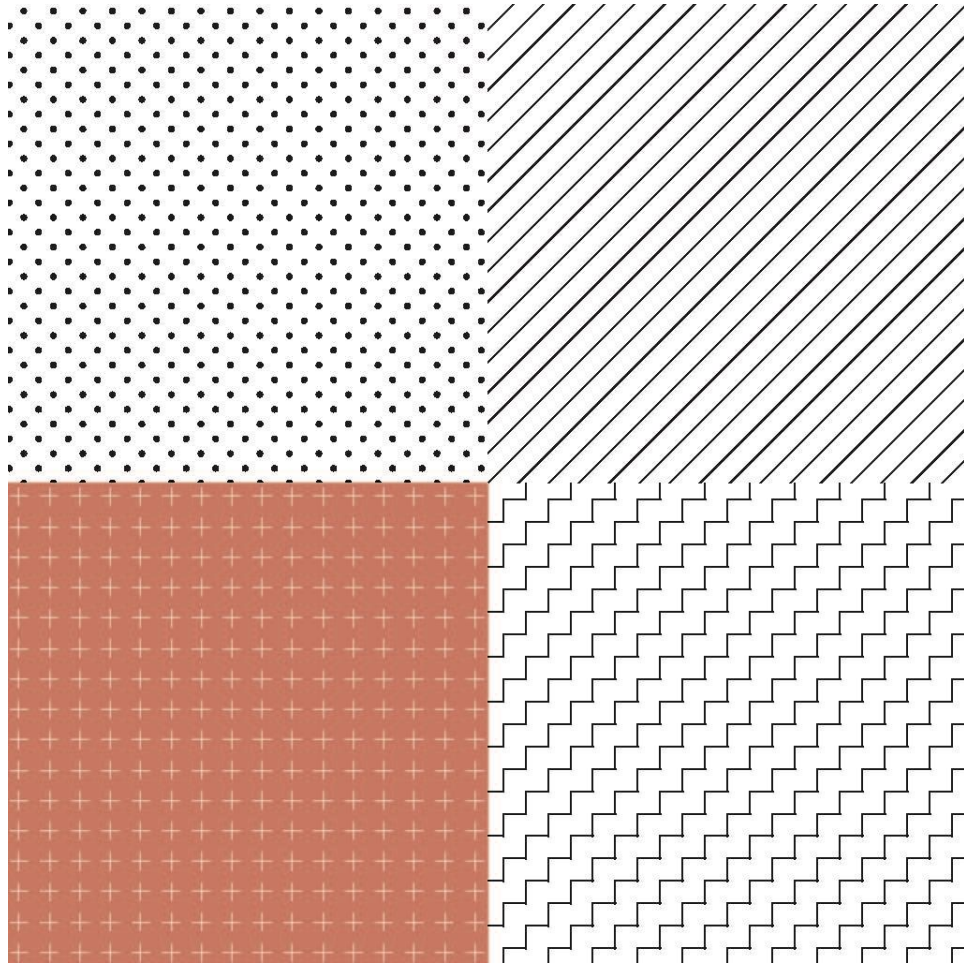


W O S C A P

ENHANCING EU PEACEBUILDING CAPABILITIES



**Policy Dialogue: The gender, peace and security agenda in mediation and dialogue processes: Challenges and recommendations for the EU**

Ana Villellas and María Villellas

Escola de Cultura de Pau de la Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona (UAB)

## Colophon

### POLICY DIALOGUE: THE GENDER, PEACE AND SECURITY AGENDA IN MEDIATION AND DIALOGUE PROCESSES: CHALLENGES AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE EU

October 2017

Deliverable 5.8: Policy Dialogue in Madrid

Escola de Cultura de Pau de la Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona (UAB)



### Whole of Society Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding

This summary report was produced as part of the project “Whole-of-Society Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding” (WOSCAP). It summarizes the discussion and results of the Policy Dialogue roundtable that was organised by Escola de Cultura de Pau, on 28 September in Madrid, Spain. This meeting is one of the nine policy dialogues the project holds in 2017 in several EU Member States as well as case study countries to discuss findings and recommendations. The aim of this policy dialogue was to discuss implications of the findings and recommendations for the EU and Spain on the gender, peace and security agenda in mediation and dialogue processes.



This project is funded by the EU's Horizon 2020  
Research and Innovation Programme  
Grant agreement no. 653866

This document only reflects the views of author(s), and the EU is not responsible for how the information may be used.

## Discussion Summary

The Policy Dialogue brought together diplomatic and political actors, experts and civil society to learn from WOSCAP conclusions and recommendations, especially related to the area of gender and multitrack diplomacy, one of the core elements of WOSCAP project. Discussions with attendants provided useful insights and inputs that validate and enrich WOSCAP recommendations on gender. In addition, the event successfully contributed to dissemination of the project results, as it reached a broad and strategic group of national and international actors, before, during and after the Policy Dialogue, including EU Member State (EUMS) embassies and relevant national ministries. See Annex 1 for the agenda of the event.

### Insights and inputs from Policy Dialogue discussions that can enrich WOSCAP recommendations on gender

- Recommendations for a more effective implementation of Women Peace and Security (WPS) commitments, including in the area of support to peace processes and mediation, have been repeatedly circulating for years. Past recommendations are still applicable, which points to the non-compliance of States on this field.
- There is a need for further and effective **alliances and partnerships between EU actors, State and non-state actors on the area of gender, multitrack diplomacy and peacebuilding**. EU Member States should approach non-state actors (civil society organisations, universities, religious actors, etc.) as essential and indispensable allies for implementation the Women, Peace and Security agenda.
- **Good practices by EUMS on WPS and gender and multitrack have a positive influence on other EUMS**. It is strategic to highlight role models.
- **Consultations are not the same as effective participation**. The EU and EUMS need to engage with effective participation of women's organisations along the whole cycle of WPS policy, including in relation to support to peace processes. This includes early engagement, shared work, effective exchange of knowledge, within a framework of acknowledgement of the different responsibilities and roles. Isolated, symbolic and sporadic consultations cannot be presented as participation of women and they do not comply with the acquired WPS commitments.
- **For effective participation of women to take place, institutional actors, including EU Member States, should provide with support for the establishment of platforms and networks**, as often civil society does not have the sufficient capacity or structure (material resources, economic resources for travelling, capacity to articulate common demands, etcetera) to engage in an effective and sustainable way. This applies both internally (EU and EUMS support for internal platforms to engage with WPS at internal level, including participation and monitoring of 1325 National Action Plans (NAPS)) and externally (EU and EUMS support to women's platforms and coalitions in third countries). There are positive examples that can be promoted as role models, such as the III NAP of the Netherlands, which has a focus on the strengthening of peace processes in certain specific countries. It has been

the result of joint work by the Government, civil society and the academia. It has an associated annual budget and defined human resources for its implementation. The Government facilitated a space for the associated discussions that led to the NAP.

- **Budgets are an essential component for implementation of the WPS agenda**, including in relation to gender and multitrack diplomacy. The WPS agenda needs financial resources. NAPs need an associated budget. The III NAP of the Netherlands has been pointed out as a role model, with an annual budget of 4 million. In contrast, other NAPs do not have any specific budget, such as the recent II NAP of Spain. Budget dedicated to WPS needs transparency and clear terms, in order to facilitate accountability. For example, it is not yet clear for Spanish civil society and experts whether the 1 million Euros committed by Spain to the Global Acceleration Instrument intended to promote women's participation in conflict resolution efforts is a figure that includes previous commitments and disbursements.
- **There is a need to continue advancing in the implementation of NAPS, as they have an impact at the external level.** Past recommendations are still applicable, including on the need for clear timeframes and calendars, clear objectives and goals and responsibilities, budget and monitoring. The lack of budget of conditions and hinders implementation of NAPs.
- **There is increasing interest on innovative mechanisms by broad spectrum of actors on innovative mechanisms such as the women's mediation networks.** The Italian NAP initiative of establishing a Mediterranean women's mediation network aims to be a permanent mechanism able to cooperate with other networks. It has two levels, one at institutional level, and another at civil society level. Therefore, this reinforces the idea on partnerships between institutional and civil society levels.
- **Indicators are crucial for the implementation** of WPS commitments, because they specify the commitments, promote transparency and accountability. It is important to specify the baselines, so as to monitor progress.
- **A main challenge is to achieve gender mainstreaming.** There is the risk of sectorial and uncoordinated agendas (e.g. WPS agenda and conflict prevention and peacebuilding agenda). More emphasis is needed on effective gender mainstreaming, while avoiding a scenario of mere "technification". Gender-responsive mediation and dialogue support and gender mainstreaming in multi-track diplomacy should be oriented towards the transformation of unequal gender structures.
- Beyond strengthening the efficiency of the WPS agenda, **there is a need to reflect on what is not explicitly included in the agenda**, especially the role of the EU and EUMS in conflict dynamics, as it has an impact on women in conflict situations. This includes **issues such as arm trade, arms control, geopolitical interests and trade policies, among others.** Certain roles and policies by EU and EUMS can be counterproductive to its WPS and Human Rights commitments.
- There is a need for strategic compulsory gender training of all personnel in missions and operations. But there is a need to pay attention to issues such as "who" carries out the training, as there is much that can be done better.

## Annex I: Organisation of the event and additional remarks

The Policy Dialogue gathered over twenty international and local actors from different fields, including governmental representatives, embassies from EUMS and non-EU States, think tanks and universities and civil society working on the field of security, mediation and WPS. Preparations of the Policy Dialogue included intensive approach and contact for various months with representatives of the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Foreign Defence, as well as MPs from all the main political parties with representation at the Parliament, embassies, experts and civil society networks, platforms and organisations. Therefore, while not all targeted actors who had confirmed participation (see Annex I) could finally attend the Policy Dialogue, the strategic engagement with them from early phases of Work Package 5 and up to the follow up of the Policy Dialogue has resulted in their inputs and validation through complementary ways.

In total, throughout the WP5 advocacy and the Policy Dialogue on Gender, the Escola de Cultura de Pau engaged with:

- **The Spanish Government and two Ministries: Ministry of Foreign Affairs And Ministry of Defence**
- **4 opposition political parties with representation in the Parliament**
- **Representation of the European Commission in Spain**
- **6 Embassies, including 5 EUMS Embassies: Netherlands, Germany, Sweden, Italy, Ireland and Norway**
- **Key Spanish think tanks on security and mediation**
- **Relevant institutions and universities working on peacebuilding**
- **Key Spanish civil society networks and platforms working on WPS**

## Annex II. Agenda of the Policy Dialogue on Gender



### LA AGENDA DE GÉNERO, PAZ Y SEGURIDAD EN PROCESOS DE MEDIACIÓN Y DIÁLOGO: RETOS Y RECOMENDACIONES PARA LA UE

Madrid, jueves 28 de septiembre de 2017

Diálogo político organizado en el marco del proyecto internacional “Whole of Society Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding” (WOSCAP), orientado al fortalecimiento de las capacidades de la UE en prevención de conflictos y construcción de paz.

La política de la UE en materia de género y diplomacia multinivel (multi-track diplomacy) forma parte del desarrollo de la agenda internacional en materia de género, paz y seguridad surgida de la aprobación de la resolución 1325 por parte del Consejo de Seguridad de la ONU. La diplomacia multinivel es uno de los aspectos cruciales de esta agenda, que en varias resoluciones del Consejo de Seguridad establece como prioridades la participación significativa y equitativa de las mujeres en los procesos de paz, el incremento en el número de mujeres mediadoras y la inclusión de la perspectiva de género en todos los esfuerzos de diplomacia multinivel. La UE ha alineado su marco normativo con la agenda género, paz y seguridad y desde su experiencia práctica como actor involucrado en procesos de paz de muy diferentes maneras dispone de numerosas oportunidades para implementar los compromisos adquiridos. Se han producido avances en la integración de la perspectiva de género en la diplomacia multinivel de la UE y los Estados miembro y en sus esfuerzos más amplios de construcción de paz. Sin embargo, existen muchos retos para que la UE y los Estados alcancen un enfoque sistemático que sitúe al género en el centro de las intervenciones, lo que representa grandes desafíos en tanto que actor de construcción de paz.

Este diálogo político presentará las principales conclusiones y recomendaciones de la investigación llevada a cabo por la Escola de Cultura de Pau en el marco del proyecto WOSCAP sobre el papel de la UE y los Estados miembro en la introducción de la agenda género, paz y seguridad en su papel como tercera parte facilitadora/mediadora en procesos de paz. A partir de las principales conclusiones y recomendaciones del proyecto WOSCAP, el objetivo del encuentro es llevar a cabo una discusión con un grupo seleccionado de participantes, representantes institucionales y diplomáticos de los Estados miembro de la UE, de diferentes grupos políticos, así como personas expertas y de la sociedad civil.

El proyecto **Whole of Society Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding (WOSCAP)** tiene como objetivo fortalecer las capacidades de la UE en prevención de conflictos y construcción de paz. El proyecto analiza intervenciones de la UE y otros actores en los ámbitos de la diplomacia multinivel, la reforma del sector de la seguridad y la gobernanza y en temas transversales como la dimensión de género. El proyecto, financiado por la UE, está liderado por el Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (Países Bajos) y la Universidad de Utrecht (Países Bajos) y cuenta con la participación de socios como la London School of Economics (Reino Unido), Berghof Foundation (Alemania), Essec-Irene (Francia), Université des Sciences Juridiques et Politiques de Bamako (Malí), Political Development Forum (Yemen), Institute of World Policy (Ucrania) e Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University (Georgia). En el marco del proyecto, la Escola de Cultura de Pau lidera el tema transversal de la dimensión de género.

La **Escola de Cultura de Pau (ECP)** es un centro de investigación para la paz de la Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona creado en 1999. Sus áreas centrales de investigación son la conflictividad armada, los procesos de paz y la educación para la paz.

10.15h	Acreditaciones
10.30h-10.45h	Bienvenida, presentación del proyecto WOSCAP y objetivos de la sesión. María Vilellas, investigadora Escola de Cultura de Pau – Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona
10.45h – 11.45h	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ El papel de los Estados miembros en la promoción de la agenda mujeres, paz y seguridad en la diplomacia multinivel Ponente: Clara Cabrera, Oficina de Derechos Humanos, Ministerio de Asuntos Exteriores y de Cooperación de España</li> <li>▪ Experiencias de la sociedad civil en el seguimiento de la implementación de la agenda mujeres, paz y seguridad en la UE. Ponente: Manuela Mesa (Demospaz y WILFP España)</li> <li>▪ La agenda género, paz y seguridad de la UE. Retos para su avance. Ponente: Ana Vilellas, investigadora Escola de Cultura de Pau – Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona</li> </ul>
11.45h – 12.45h	Debate abierto
12.45h – 13.00h	Cierre Darynell Rodríguez Torres, Director Ejecutivo, GPPAC
13.00h	Aperitivo

This project is funded by the EU's Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation Programme Grant agreement no. 653866



Organiza: Escola de Cultura de Pau de la Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona (UAB)

