



GEORGE C. MARSHALL

COLLEGE OF INTERNATIONAL AND SECURITY STUDIES

Gender inclusion works and we request your continued support. Together, through partnership, we are making a difference!

# Women, Peace and Security

**Women, Peace, and Security (WPS)** is an imperative component of security studies and the Marshall Center seeks your active commitment for the inclusion of women in security-related matters.

The George C. Marshall European Center is an internationally recognized security studies center of excellence that promotes dialogue and understanding among the global community of nations. This reputation rests on an enduring bilateral commitment between the United States and Germany, coupled with the Center's international staff and faculty.



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The George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies (GCMC) prioritizes the United States government's Women, Peace, and Security Act of 2017, which was signed into law on October 6, 2017.



Ms. Sophia Babimashvili





“We cannot succeed when half of us are held back.”

- Malala Yousafzai

### Basic Rationale for the Women, Peace and Security Act of 2017

Around the world, women remain under-represented in conflict prevention, conflict resolution and post-conflict peace building efforts.

### Women in conflict-affected regions have achieved significant success in:

- Moderating violent extremism
- Countering terrorism
- Resolving disputes through nonviolent mediation and negotiation
- Stabilizing societies by enhancing the effectiveness of security services, peace-keeping efforts, institutions and decision making processes.

Research suggests that peace negotiations are more likely to succeed and to result in durable peace agreements when women participate in the peace process.

The law strengthens efforts to prevent, mitigate, and resolve conflict by increasing women's participation in negotiation and mediation processes.



### Positive Effects

Increasing female enrollment contributes significantly to the quality of interaction and dialogue, while making it difficult to dismiss or marginalize the perspectives of women.

Steady efforts to recruit women in our programs has resulted in course participants gaining a greater awareness of the contribution of women in the security sector.

All participants leave our events with an increased appreciation of the relevance of women in security, which enhances national and international security.



### Basic Rationale for WPS at the Marshall Center

- Women and children are 75% of the world's population in need of humanitarian assistance.
- As a tactic of warfare, gender-based sexual violence often directly targets females.
- Human capital is the greatest asset in any organization; therefore, promoting gender inclusion is requisite to fully harness the most capable people of both genders to significantly improve security sector competence.
- In 2016 the Office of the Secretary of the Defense mandated Regional Centers "to ensure that at least 25% of the foreign participants for in-residence courses are women."



The Marshall Center believes women's rights are a global priority.