



**CIVIL SOCIETY  
PLATFORM**  
FOR PEACEBUILDING  
AND STATEBUILDING

Event report and recordings



Dear colleagues and friends,

From October 19 to October 23, Cordaid and CSPPS organized a series of side-events in the lead-up to the 20th anniversary of UN resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security and in light of the United Nations Security Council Open Debate on October 29.

Hereby, we are proud to present our event report to you! The report presents outcomes of each side-event, as well as general outcomes and recommendations of the series altogether.

[Read the event report](#)

The series provided a space for dialogue and for sharing. It fulfilled its aim to encourage activists, policy makers and donors to continue or renew their commitment to the WPS agenda, and to accelerate action towards full implementation of the WPS agenda.

The series was made up of the following five side-events:

DATE	EVENT	PARTNERS
<i>Monday 19 October</i> 9 EST / 15 CET	Youth-led activism for Women, Peace and Security: Looking for a paradigm shift—voices from Libya, Iraq, Afghanistan and Yemen	Cordaid / CSPPS / UNOY Peace Builders / APT / TWBI / KRA / NJR / YWBOD
<i>Tuesday 20 October</i> 9 EST / 15 CET	Call to action: Reflections, hopes and challenges from women's activists from Somalia, Burundi, and DRC on the implementation of the WPS agenda	WIPC / IIDA Women's Development Organization / African Union
<i>Wednesday 21 October</i> 9 EST / 15 CET	The WPS Agenda and political participation: Challenges and best practices from Burundi, CAR and Guinea Bissau	Cercle / AFRABU / Voz di Paz
<i>Thursday 22 October</i> 9 EST / 15 CET	Religion and the WPS Agenda: Harnessing religion's potential to improve opportunities for women in fragile contexts with views from Cameroon and South Sudan	STAD / Association Rayons de Soleil
<i>Friday 23 October</i> 9 EST / 15 CET	Women's rights on the line: Fighting for women's rights when it matters most - peace processes. Insights from Afghanistan and Yemen	YWBOD and WCLRF

In the events, the varied panels shared their experiences and recommendations and a prominent take-away is that in the 20 years since the landmark resolution has been passed by the UNSCR, we have been witnessing progress on the implementation of women's involvement in peace and security issues, with increased attention for women's specific roles and needs in diverse conflict-affected settings.

However, the panel discussions also highlighted that one major issue around the WPS agenda is that it is often implemented in isolated programmes, and that the lack of the mainstreaming of the agenda means that it is still lagging behind. In moving forward, there needs to be international commitment to ensure we all embark upon a more inclusive and participatory process.

In case you want to rewatch any of the webinars, the [recordings](#) are now available on our website.

[Access recordings](#)

## Word of thanks

Cordaid and CSPPS would like to express our thanks to all the speakers, organizations, moderators, translators, and all others who helped to arrange, facilitate, and run the webinars over the course of the week – especially addressing the challenges of going digital.

We would like to thank UNOY Peace Builders, Afghans for Progressive Thinking (APT), Together We Build It (TWBI), Kurdistan Relief Association (KRA), Nederlandse Jeugd Raad (NJR), Youth Without Borders Organisation for Development (YWBOD), Women's International Peace Centre (WIPC), School of Women and Gender Studies – Makerere University, IIDA Women's Organization for Development, the African Union (AU), Cercle, Association des Femmes Rapatriées du Burundi (AFRABU), Voz di Paz, Support Trust for African Development (STAD), Association Rayons de Soleil, WO=MEN - Dutch Gender Platform, Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace and Security, and the Women and Children Legal Research Foundation (WCLRF) for contributing their invaluable expertise and sharing their unique perspectives to feed into the discussions.

Finally, we would like to thank all those who participated and asked incisive and insightful questions over the course of the series.

***Feel free to share the event report with colleagues who might be interested.***

