



Shared learning: Implementing UNSCR 1325 in Ireland and in the USA

27 June 2014
10:00-12:00

Boardroom
National University of Ireland
49 Merrion Square
Dublin 2

In conjunction with:



GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY
School of Foreign Service
Institute for Women, Peace and Security



NUI Galway
OÉ Gaillimh



AN ROINN GNÓTHAÍ EACHTRACHA AGUS TRÁDÁLA NA hÉIREANN
DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE OF IRELAND



“Women have got to make the world safer for men since men have made it so darned unsafe for women.”

-Nancy Aston (1879 – 1964), First woman to take her seat in Westminster, as quoted by Liz McManus

This Event is Funded by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade Conflict Resolution Unit

Implementing UNSCR 1325 in Ireland and in the USA.

Report on Round Table Discussion

27th June 2014 – National University of Ireland

Introduction:

The discussion included input from all participants and produced some important points that can be drawn in the development of the new National Action Plan on UNSCR 1325. The key themes that emerged from the discussion were, 1) Data Gathering, 2) Clarity of Objectives, 3) Coherence, 4) Language and the Dissemination of Knowledge on UNSCR 1325, 5) Specific points of consideration for the new NAP.

Section 1 of the report addresses these themes individually and then Section 2 provides a more detailed account of each person's input.

Please note that the discussion was not transcribed verbatim, hence we apologize in advance if there are any points put forward by individuals that are missing.

Section 1

1) *Data Gathering:*

It was identified that data gathering is extremely important for the development of the Women, Peace and Security agenda, particularly in terms of monitoring and evaluation. However it was also highlighted that hitherto data gathering has been limited and the concept itself, nebulous. It was also argued that there is a disproportionate focus on quantitative data gathering, while qualitative data collection and analysis is also extremely important. This is so as to provide context and a deeper and more holistic understanding of what needs to be addressed. It was particularly noted that there needs to be more data collection that is focussed on the impact of measures undertaken by the Women, Peace and Security agenda in order to evaluate its progress and reassess future initiatives.

However as representatives from the Irish Defence Forces identified, in the military context there are some difficulties in data gathering from within the community whilst on missions. Particularly within the mission to Syria, military personnel rarely have contact with the local population due to being located outside of communities and due the extreme dangers that personnel are faced with. In this context they are therefore unable gather data at the community level as part of their mission, indeed this may go beyond their mandate in some cases.

Where interaction is possible with the community, the issue then arises as to how military personnel should interact with community in order to gather information. Questions thus arose relating to the need for gender advisors, and what are the best practices with regard to data collection and analysis in the military, and how this is used.

In response Comdt Jayne Lawlor explained that Irish missions break down reports relating to the situation on the ground on the basis of gender, which allows for specific needs to be met. This allows for more effective gender sensitive patrolling and service delivery. The setting up of 'Gender focal points' was also mentioned as an inclusionary mechanism.

In a non-military context it was argued that it is hugely important to work alongside local NGOs and CSOs when carrying out data collection. Those that are on the ground are more able to provide a more comprehensive understanding of the realities on the ground, both quantitatively and qualitatively. However it was warned that questions that are asked to community members should be well thought out and appropriate to the context in which they are asked. It was also warned that it should not be assumed that INGOs and NGOs are synonymous with civil society, despite predominantly working in conjunction with them. Therefore in order to generate accurate data the voices of civil society members cannot be replaced by the voices of NGOs. Instead it was noted that NGOs can be used as a link between government level data collection initiatives and civil society, both within Ireland and in third countries.

2) *Clarity of Objectives:*

Clarity of objectives in reference to data gathering was highlighted as particularly problematic. It was noted that it is important to provide clarity as to what data is to be sought and what are the objectives behind its collection. It was noted that the asking of 'what the point' of this data is can be seen as a type of symbolic resistance, however this can be eliminated when clear objectives are in place and therefore can be explained. It was therefore noted that there is a need to be more definitive in the purpose of gathering data, which should be incorporated into issues of 'learning' (understanding the impact of training initiatives and determining how this can be measured) and also in the development of best practices. The idea also that a distinction needs to be made between military and CSO relations to community needs to be highlighted. Furthermore there appears to be a lack of agreement about

how sex disaggregated data should be used and was purpose it serves. This is something that was seen as requiring further exploration.

Concern was raised over measuring the impact of training carried out by the military in third countries. One suggestion was to carry out pre and post-deployment surveys, which could be used in part to achieve this. Also the setting up a forum on the ground to liaise with CSOs was suggested.

It was also noted that the government needs to be very clear about what their priorities and objectives and these should be built into the policy making process. Furthermore it was noted that objectives need to be realistic in terms of what can be achieved, as it was noted it could be damaging when expectations are build around objectives that cannot be met.

3) Coherence:

It was highlighted that policy needs to be clear and co-ordinated. In order to implement effectively the 'Women, Peace and Security' agenda policies and strategies should be built into processes from the get-go and not on a 'post-hoc' or 'add-on' basis. Hence it is important to mainstream UNSCR 1325 into all policies rather than viewing it as a something that stands alone. Similarly it was noted that coherence in monitoring, evaluation and reporting should be drawn upon so as not to be continually readdressing the same issues.

The Irish Defence forces identified that attempting to link the objectives of the UN, OSCE, EU and national governments can result in troops are losing connectivity with civilians on the ground. The specific context of each deployment also creates issues, for example Irish troops much more engaged with civilians on the ground in Lebanon, while Syria poses a more difficult deployment where local engagement on 1325 is sidelined for security issues. The point was made that it can be beneficial if smaller states like Ireland focus on niche specialities. It was also noted that different organisations can complement each other when there is a level of coherence. For example Lt

Col. Ollie Barbour identified that Irish troops used a UN flag on schools in south Lebanon, Mali and Sudan during the day to make them safer.

4) Dissemination of Knowledge on UNSCR 1325:

Some members of the group argued that not enough was being done to disseminate knowledge on UNSCR 1325. It was noted that the fact that some senior politicians do not actually know what UNSCR 1325 is problematic and should be addressed.

There was slight disagreement on how far it is important to disseminate knowledge. It was argued by some that it is important to 'embed' the idea of UNSCR1325 in the minds of women on the ground. However it was noted that the technical language is a barrier to this. From this perspective it was argued that people have a right also to be informed about UNSCR 1325, especially the people it impacts.

Others did not see this as so important claiming that we are not trying to create 'mass movement' around the idea of 1325, instead from this perspective it was argued that it is sufficient if certain politicians and experts are well informed in order to exploit Ireland's 'Unique position' and find a 'critical mass'. A counter point that 'people need to know' about 1325 was raised and that people have a right also to be informed. Especially the people it impacts on the ground, the difficulty could lay in preaching to the already converted. This is as much to do with the language deployed as anything.

5) Focussing the new NAP:

It was suggested that the previous NAP went too far on the 'quantifiable' objective scale, hence it was argued by a few participants that the next NAP could be more effective with if it is focused on fewer and broader objectives with perhaps a tighter focus on geographical areas or themes.

It was also noted that the language of the NAP lack in some areas can lack clarity, this was also compared to the NATO NAP. It was argued that clarity in the language and objectives should be prioritized in the next plan. It was therefore question as to how the next action plan could be translated into something understandable and deliverable.

I was argued that the new NAP would benefit from being more localized, maybe in the same way that the military have localized it, creating a greater sense of 'ownership' and 'buy-in' from disparate groups.

It was also noted that despite everything, 'gender work' still isn't being done effectively in the context of development. This is particularly the case when Civil Society Organizations are competing for funding. This is something that should be taken into consideration in the new NAP.

Section 2

Dr. Melanie Hoewer opened the discussion, followed by an introduction by participants and a particular introduction by Mayesha Alam

Mayesha Alam

- Spoke of the work underway at the Institute for Women Peace and Security regarding resolution 1325.
- Noted one particular study of relevance that is being undertaken with the goal of seeking a knowledge base on the impact of women's participation. The research has been carried out in conjunction with NUI Galway looking at the situation of women in the DRC and focussing on what is happening now rather than reflecting on the situation retrospectively.

Data Collection

- ***Comdt Jayne Lawlor*** - One problem is that it is not clear what data they should be looking for.
- ***Dr. Anastasia Crickley*** – need to be more definitive about what the data is getting used for.
- ***Dr. Anastasia Crickley***– there is a need to specific whilst ensuring a gendered approach to data collection.
- ***Karen McMinn***– documentation and recording is vital for accountability.
- ***Karen McMinn*** - there is a need to measure the impact of programmes through data collection and at present there is a deficit.
- ***Karen McMinn***– There needs to be more of commitment to sharing learning about smart and effective mechanisms for data collection, in relation to results and impact.
- ***Dr. Susan Murphy*** – there is a need to look at the priorities of data collection, this might be vary in relation to different areas.
- ***Dr. Susan Murphy*** – there is a need to look at who is most appropriate to carry out data collection.

- **Salome Mbugua** – The objectives of data collection need to be appropriate as do the questions asked.
- **Salome Mbugua**- communication between NGOs and different organizations aid engagement with those on the ground.
- **Lt. Col. Ollie Barbour**- it is important for military personnel to talk to women in the community in order to gather data on what they actually want. Noted that this was more possible in the mission in Lebanon for example but for military personnel in there current mission in Syria it is very difficult to interact with the community given the dangers that they are faced with. In these cases it is only possible to gather data in terms of the military but not the wider community.
- **Comdt Jayne Lawler** - Questioned as to whether there is a best practices guide to data collection within the military Jayne responded by explaining that they are in early stages in this area. However, there has been a pilot scheme that focuses on appropriate gender ratio of those going into the field and doing data collection.
- **Orlaith Fitzmaurice**-We can't ignore the fact that different organisations have differing capacities, this will inevitably have an impact when it comes to data gathering and also funding proposals. Need to be realistic and understand the context that each organisation is working in.

Data Evaluation

- **Dr. Debbie Donnelly** - questioned what priorities governments have in evaluating data.
- **Dr. Debbie Donnelly** - there needs to be a mechanism for evaluation, which does not presently exist.
- **Dr. Debbie Donnelly** - need to look at the role of civil society in data evaluation, which is presently unused.]
- **Helena Keleher** – evaluation in the DFA has become increasingly mainstreamed, however evaluation should become more focussed in terms of UNSCR 1325 and the consultative group will need to look at which areas need to be focused on.

Importance of Knowledge Building

- **Sarah Denedy** – data collection needs to be focussed on knowledge and building knowledge.
- **Liz McManus** – noted the importance of outreach in gathering knowledge.
- **Mayesha Alam** – need to look at the issue of knowledge in terms of the women, peace and security agenda more broadly.

The impact of Military Training.

- **Mayesha Alam** - the priorities of the government bodies regarding UNSCR 1325 appear to be all about training. In the Irish context it appears to be all about the training of military personnel but what about training in third countries, how is this evaluated?
- **Comdt Jayne Lawler** - noted that in Lebanon a pilot scheme was established in which personnel trained by the Irish military were asked to complete a questionnaire. There is also the possibility of a forum for evaluation to be established but this is in the early stages.

The Importance of Qualitative Data

- **Carol Ballantine**– it can be difficult to gathering qualitative data and engaging with NGOs is important for this. However, while it has been argued that it is important to work alongside NGOs and INGOs in order to gather such data it should not be assumed that INGOs are the same as civil society.
- **Carol Ballantine** – so often qualitative data is not seen as so important and there is too much of a focus on quantitative data. This is the case in the Irish NAP as many of the indicators are about budgets, which is more associated with quantitative data. However qualitative data is also important for monitoring and evaluation and such monitoring and evaluation is needed in order to develop the new NAP.

Disconnect Between Local and Global.

- **Carol Ballantine** – there is a ‘disconnect’ between the local and the global and there appears to be an omission of gender in humanitarian work more generally.
- **Salome Mbugua** – need to be careful in the approach to third countries and ensure it is not all about promises and expectations, which are unrealistic. Actual action on the ground needs to be focused very specifically.

Focusing the NAP

- **Carol Ballantine**– it should not be forgotten that UNSCR 1325 has a transformative agenda and therefore needs to focus on how actual structural changes are implemented.
- **Dr. Anastasia Crickley**– Suggested that the new NAP should look at fewer and broader actions in order to be more effective.
- **Mayesha Alam** – It appears that in terms of the Irish NAP there is much more being done in terms of the ‘external dimension’ of the NAP than the ‘internal’.
- **Dr. Debbie Donnelly** – The framework of UNSCR 1325 is vital in order to inform government strategies. In this sense bottom up programmes can be informative for framing such strategies.
- **Dr. Susan Murphy** - Need to look at who the audience is and avoid reinventing the wheel.

Problems of Previous NAP

- **Lt Col. Ollie Barbour**– The non-participation of other governmental departments, such as dept of health and education was disappointing and detrimental to its establishment.
- **Lt Col. Ollie Barbour**- Need to look at lessons learned as so often they fail to be acted on. For example in Sudan camps have been built with latrines outside the camp despite the understanding the possible consequences of this for women.

Localization

- **Lt Col. Ollie Barbour**– identified the importance of localization in the same way that the military NAP is localized.
- **Lt Col. Ollie Barbour** – need to look at who’s collecting the data and whether they are appropriate to carry out the task.
- **Karen McMinn** – In terms of looking at the next NAP women’s organizations hold a wealth of information that should be utilised.
- **Salome Mbugua** – Localization needs to occur at different levels and also needs to include men.
- **Dr. Anastasia Crickley** – Supports engagement with men in terms of the UNSCR 1325 agenda but the context should not be lost in that it is supposed to be focussed on ‘Women’, Peace and Security.

Promoting UNSCR 1325

- **Dr. Anastasia Crickley** – Need to promote UNSCR 1325 more within Ireland and need to look at the way UNSCR 1325 is promoted. There also needs to be a push from the ground in order to promote it.
- **Dr. Anastasia Crickley** – Questioned if we need to look at different types of engagement and need to look at how Ireland should position itself in such a way that it could have an impact.
- **Liz McManus** – Disagreed and noted that we are not trying to create a mass movement but argues that it is important that politicians and experts are adequately informed of UNSCR 1325.

Language

- The language of Resolution 1325 can cause misunderstandings. When referred to as a resolution on ‘Women Peace and Security’ this becomes clearer.
- **Lt Col. Ollie Barbour**- The technical language within the National Action Plan renders it as less accessible to individuals not in some way linked in to the resolution or used to this type of language. Often these are the individuals that 1325 is supposed to be impacting upon.

- **Dr. Debbie Donnelly** – Need to use language that is understandable and clear. There is a danger that the use of gender is automatically linked to just women when it also involves men.
- **Mayesha Alam** - Some language can turn people off, for example of using 'women' when looking at the 'women, peace and security' agenda with regard to the US withdrawal from Afghanistan. The agenda was only engaged with when the terminology was changed to 'inclusive security'.
- **Lt Col. Ollie Barbour** – The NATO NAP is totally non-understandable and non-specific, which is detrimental to it being used as guiding document

Participation of Women

- **Mayesha Alam** – important to maintain a focus on women in positions of power and leadership and there is a need to hold onto women's participation more generally.
- **Dr. Melanie Hoewer** – Although women suffer terribly during conflict, they also make important gains in other areas, which is so often lost in post-conflict. In this context there is a need to hold on to this wartime empowerment and participation.

Bios of Participants

Mayesha Alam is the Assistant Director of the Institute and, in this role, manages the Institute's various projects, including the Profiles in Peace oral histories project, major convenings, in-house research, the Hillary R. Clinton Fellowship program, the Summer Graduate Research Fellows program, and the online repository. She is also in charge of operations at the Institute and supports the Executive Director in fundraising and building external relations. Mayesha co-teaches a graduate seminar on Women, Peace and Security with Ambassador Verveer in the School of Foreign Service. She is the author of *Women and Transitional Justice: Progress and Persistent Challenges* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2014). Originally from Bangladesh, Mayesha received her M.A. in Conflict Resolution at Georgetown University, during which she specialized on gender mainstreaming in peacebuilding, security and post-conflict reconstruction as well as human rights more broadly. She has previously worked in the U.S. and internationally for The World Bank, the United Nations and a number of NGOs. Mayesha received her B.A. in international relations and biology from Mount Holyoke College.

Carol Ballantine, is policy officer for HIV and Gender Equality in Trocaire. She sits on the Monitoring Group for Ireland's National Action Plan on UNSCR1325. She is also a member of the policy working group of the Irish Consortium on Gender Based Violence, where she promotes the active engagement of Irish development agencies with issues related to Women Peace and Security, and international advocacy. Carol has worked for Trocaire for 9 years, in Ireland and Central America. In this time, she has focused on issues related to gender equality, governance, human rights and advocacy.

Lt Col. Ollie Barbour is Director Personnel Support Services, Irish Defence Forces and has been part of the Irish implementation process of UNSCR 1325 from its beginning, being involved in the cross-learning initiative as well as in both consultative and monitoring groups.

Colin Cleary, is a Foreign Service officer with the U.S. Department of State. His most recent posting was as Political Counselor in Kiev, Ukraine. He is currently on leave in Dublin, Ireland, where he is exploring his interest in renewable energy policy. Before his posting in Kiev, Mr. Cleary served as science counselor at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow. His other postings have been in Madrid, Warsaw, Kampala, and Mexico City. From August 2014, he will be a fellow of the US Institute for Peace in Washington DC, working on a project concerning Russia's relations with its neighbours, with a focus on Ukraine.

Susan Cleary is the Director of Public Affairs at the US Embassy in Dublin. A career Foreign Service Officer, Susan has served at US Embassies in Ukraine, Russia, Poland, Spain, Mexico and Uganda as well as in Washington.

Anastasia Crickley is Head of the Department of Applied Social Studies in NUI Maynooth. She is a founder member of the European Network against Racism and co-founded Pavee Point (National Travellers' Centre). Anastasia was Personal Representative of the Chair in Office of the OSCE on Combating Racism, Xenophobia and Discrimination, also focusing on Intolerance and Discrimination against Christians and Members of Other Religions from 2004-2008. She is an academic advisor to the monitoring group for the implementation of UNSCR 1325 in Ireland and is elected a member of the UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD).

Sara Denny is the Deputy Director of the Reconciliation Fund and Commemorations in the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, working on the provision of grants through the Reconciliation Fund and on issues relating to the Decade of Commemorations on the island of Ireland.

Debbie Donnelly has, over her career, experience in a range of high profile and often contentious areas of public sector policy and latterly she has been involved in major programmes of public sector reform on policing, criminal justice and the wider public sector, during which she was involved in large

scale transformation projects. Debbie was the Deputy Chief Executive (and Acting Chief Executive) of the Northern Ireland Policing Board (NIPB); an organisation tasked with a wide range of statutory responsibilities including holding the Chief Constable of the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) to account for his actions and those of the service. During this time she gained a wide range of experience in, amongst other things, accountability and corporate governance.

She has a long history in working on equality and human rights issues, including UNSCR 1325. She was a member of a cross learning project between Ireland, Timor Leste and Liberia on the implications and applications of UNSCR 1325. Recently, along with Bronagh Hinds, Debbie has completed two recent projects considering the domestic application of UNSCR 1325, one of which is a strategic guide and toolkit.

Orlaith Fitzmaurice is the Director of the Reconciliation Fund in the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. The Fund provides grants to NGOs, community groups, and voluntary organisations to support reconciliation and create better understanding between people and traditions on the island of Ireland and between Ireland and Britain. In the Reconciliation Fund Strategy 2014-2017, launched on 9 June 2014, one of the priority themes identified is to support projects which develop the role of women in peace-building and civic and political life, in line with UNSCR 1325.

Tom Griffith is a political officer working in the political-economic section in Embassy Dublin. His portfolio includes a broad range of topics, including human rights issues and political-military affairs. Prior to joining the State Department in 2012, he taught security studies at the Elliott School of International Affairs at George Washington University. Before that he had a career in the United States Air Force, serving in a variety of operational, command, and staff positions. During his flying assignments, he amassed over 2,000 hours in the F-4 and the F-15E.

Melanie Hoewer is deputy director of IBIS and lecturer in the politics of conflict and conflict resolution in the School of Politics and International Relations at University College Dublin. She has been involved as academic advisor to the Irish Government's Consultative and Monitoring Groups on Ireland's National Action Plan on UN Security Council 1325 on Women, Peace and Security. Her primary areas of research are comparative ethno-national identity, conflict and settlement processes, women's rights and gender equality, Latin American politics and Northern Ireland. She has written on intersecting boundary processes in the ethno-national conflict and settlement processes, women, peace and conflict (UNSCR 1325) in Northern Ireland, gender identity and women's rights in Iran and Ireland, approaches to Gender Based Violence in Ireland and the status of women in Ireland, published for instance in the *International Journal of Conflict and Violence*. Her monograph titled *Crossing Boundaries during Peace and Conflict: Transforming Identity in Chiapas and in Northern Ireland*, published by Palgrave Macmillan (New York) will be out in November 2014. Melanie Hoewer is leading a research project titled 'Addressing Cultural Legacies of Conflict. Towards an intercultural and inter-dimensional Dialogue on Women, Peace and Security.'

Helena Keleher is Deputy Director in the Conflict Resolution Unit of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, which is responsible for Ireland's National Action Plan on UNSCR 1325. Helena is also Deputy Director in the UN Co-ordination, OSCE, Council of Europe Unit. She has previously been posted to Ireland's Embassy to the Holy See (2007-2012) and Permanent Mission to the United Nations in New York (Third Committee - Human Rights, Social Affairs, Gender Issues 2010). She has also served in the Secretary General's Office, Trade and Promotion Division, European Union Division, and in the Secretariat to the Global Irish Economic Forum 2013. Helena holds a postgraduate diploma in Conflict and Dispute Resolution Studies from Trinity College, Dublin.

Ronan Kennedy is a PhD student and an IBIS research associate. His research deals with issues of power-sharing and institutional design in post-conflict societies, with a specific focus on the theme of gender based exclusion in Northern Ireland and Macedonia. He has conducted research on an Irish Department of Foreign Affairs funded project titled 'Addressing Cultural Legacies of Conflict. Towards an intercultural and inter-dimensional Dialogue on Women, Peace and Security.' He holds a BA and an MSc in Ethno-National Conflict resolution from University College Dublin.

Phil Killeen -a skilled businesswomen with a rich and varied experience, a skilled student of life with a commitment to lifelong learning, and a teacher with a keen interest in others' learning. Over the years, my work with the Glencree Women's Programme has been a huge learning experience. Though the programme is small in the face of current world problems, it points to many valuable lessons for challenging violence and building peace and plays an important role in the capacity building of women from Northern Ireland. It is a step to empower women through women-focused policies and programmes. In a conflict situation, it is important to support moderate forces, and we know that such forces can be found in the role played by local women NGOs as peace builders, and this role needs to be given more visibility and the recognition they deserve. We know that without peace, development is impossible - and without women, neither peace nor development is possible.

Comdt Jayne Lawlor joined the Irish Defence Forces in 1997 and was commissioned into the Cavalry Corps in 1999. She was appointed by the Chief Of Staff as Gender Advisor, J1, Defence Forces Headquarters, in 2012. Comdt Lawlor has a Diploma in Military Studies from the Defence Forces' Military College and a Bachelor of Education in Physical Education and Science from the University of Exeter. She is also a graduate of the Junior Command and Staff Course, Military College, Ireland. She attended the Gender Advisor Train the Trainers Course, Centre for Gender in Military Operations, Sweden. She also has a National Certificate in Mediation and Conflict Prevention. Comdt Lawlor has served on Peacekeeping Missions in

various appointments in UNIFIL, Lebanon, 2000 to 2001, in UNMIL, Liberia, 2004, in KFOR, Kosovo in 2006 and in ISAF, Afghanistan in 2013.

Salome Mbugua is the founder and National Director of AkiDWA, the African and Migrant Women's Network Ireland. Her background is in Social Work and Community Development. She serves on a wide range of Boards and Committees, including the executive board of the National Women's Council of Ireland and the consultative and monitoring groups for the implementation of the National Action Plan on Resolution 1325, women, peace and security by the Department of Foreign Affairs.

Liz McManus, Chair of the Monitoring Group of Ireland's NAP on UN Resolution 1325. Liz McManus is born in Canada in 1947 and is the founder director of the Bray Womens Refuge, a former member of Bray Town Council and Wicklow Co Council. She was elected to Dail Eireann in 1992 (-2010), was Chair of the Taskforce on the Needs of the Travelling Community (1995–1997), Minister of State for Housing and Urban Renewal 1994-1997 and former Deputy Leader of the Labour Party (2000 -2007). She has authored policy papers on Climate Change Law, Healthcare Reform and Renewable Energy and headed up the Labour Party campaign on the Abortion Referendum 1998. Liz McManus was awarded an M Phil with distinction in 2013, the Hennessy New Irish Writing award, Listowel Short Story award and Irish PEN award. Her first novel Acts of Subversion was shortlisted for an Irish Times/Aer Lingus First Novel award. Her second novel, working title is 'Stones in the Dust' will be published in early 2015.

Karen McMinn works as a gender consultant on women, peace and security issues. Based in Northern Ireland, Karen has been active in the field of gender equality and women's empowerment for over 30 years, and has played key roles in the development of women's agency during periods of social and political unrest and violent conflict in the region including appointment as director of Northern Ireland Women's Aid for 15 years. Karen played a critical role in placing gender based violence on the public policy agenda, engaging with policy makers, legislators, law enforcement and health care professionals and academics on regional, national, and international

levels. Karen is an experienced evaluator in the field of gender related policy. This work includes a specific interest on the implementation and monitoring of National Action Plans on UNSCR 1325 as well as gender auditing of policies and practice of international development organisations. Karen's work as an evaluator has been strengthened by research undertaken on the political marginalisation of women in post conflict societies within the context UNSCR 1325 as a key policy driver for women's protection and empowerment at national and international levels. Karen holds an MA (with distinction) in Peace and Conflict Studies and a Diploma in Cross-Cultural Facilitation and Mediation in Divided Societies. Recent work has included participation in expert workshops on UNSCR 1325 for the European Peacebuilding Liaison Office and the OSCE.

Susan Murphy is the programme coordinator for the joint TCD UCD Masters in Development Practice, and Assistant Professor in international development practice with the School of Natural Sciences, Trinity College Dublin. Susan received a Ph.D. in 2012 from the School of Politics and International Relations, University College Dublin, for her thesis "The problem of the duty of assistance: The promise of a deontological approach". Susan sits on the steering committee of the Trinity International Development Initiative (TIDI), and is visiting fellow with REPOA, Policy Research for Development, Tanzania. Susan is also a member of the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) Council hosted by Columbia University Earth Institute, New York, and a Co-Founder and Director of The Dublin Lab - UN SDSN Academic Centre hosted by UCD School of Politics and International Relations. Since joining Trinity College Dublin in 2012 Susan has lectured on Climate Change, Human Rights, and Development (in collaboration with the Mary Robinson Foundation for Climate Justice); and Gender and Development. She is also module coordinator for all national and international fieldwork and professional work-based placements, bringing to bear her twelve years of industry experience as a manager with a global management consulting firm. Her research interests are in applied international political theory, issues in global justice and development, human rights and climate change, gender and social inclusion. She has published in

national and international peer-review journals on matters related to international development including *Irish Studies in International Affairs*, *The Economic and Social Review*, and *The Journal of Global Justice: Theory, Practice, and Rhetoric* (forthcoming). She is currently leading baseline research projects on gender and education, and the gendered dimensions of climate change in East Africa.

Marianne O'Shea works in the Department of Applied Social Studies in NUI Maynooth. She is academic advisor to the consultative group for the implementation of UNSCR 1325 in Ireland.

Heidi Riley After spending 14 years working in theatre, Heidi returned to study at the University of Edinburgh, undertaking a degree in International Relations. Following this she completed an MPhil in International Peace Studies at Trinity College Dublin and is now a PHD candidate at University College Dublin. Her doctoral studies are concentrated on a gendered approach to conflict and post-conflict studies, looking specifically at the reintegration of ex-combatants. Heidi has also worked for NGOs such as Front Line Defenders and Ruhama and recently took on the role of official rapporteur for the People's Tribunal on Sri Lanka. She also spent some time teaching in Nepal and Ecuador.