

# GAPW Summer 2013 Newsletter



For those who have wondered about the whereabouts of this edition of our Newsletter, we are pleased to share this abbreviated version which details some of the important contributions in our major program areas over the past few months of this year.

Of course, there is much more that we could share - publications, diplomatic briefings, conference organizing, monitoring of key UN events and much more. We'll have a longer communication for you later in the year. For now, we will hopefully satisfy you with a few highlights and a bit of commentary.

Readers will note that the disarmament-related work highlighted below features Katherine Prizeman. Katherine has left GAPW to take a position with the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs. She definitely left her mark on our disarmament efforts and clearly made a positive impression on the leadership of UN Disarmament Affairs as well. We all wish her well.

Katherine's departure has coincided with a long overdue tweaking of our program priorities. Under the able direction of Melina Lito, our Women, Peace and Security work remains the core of our program. But much of our work this summer has focused on media and outreach. With ample guidance from Lia Petridis Maiello, our media consultant, we have done a significant revision of our social media tools, placing more and more emphasis on our policy Blog (available from our homepage) which has a remarkably robust following, covers a range of inter-related policy concerns, and welcomes young voices such as Kritika Seth (pictured above). Lia has also completed a report on the health of the UN media system and will soon organize a side event with the government of Argentina focused on the resistance of many Latin American media outlets to cover events at UN Headquarters. Moreover, GAPW has been asked to join the boards of both UNEarth and Media Global which will give Lia more access to the UN climate change community as well as to stories and (story tellers) from the Least Developed Countries.

We have also made some important infrastructure improvements especially welcoming a new board of directors, led by Michael Frydland and Tanya Domi. The board has already made many contributions to our fiscal management and reporting, and they have promised, individually and collectively, a role in our fall fundraising push (as a reminder, we encourage donations of any size via the homepage on our website through 'Just Give').

We have already begun to welcome new program staff for the remainder of 2013 including Kritika Seth from Mumbai, India. Later this fall we are excited to receive temporary staff from the Czech Republic, the Netherlands and Japan. In addition, we will welcome Dr. David Curran from the University of Bradford as our first Fellow. David will enhance our work on the Responsibility to Protect and the Prevention of Genocide, including helping us finish work on a new book. We will introduce each of them further in subsequent communications.

One of the loveliest things about this office is the degree to which former staff and interns choose to stay connected to the 'culture' and activities of our office. Recently, we welcomed Waverly de Bruijn Klaw back to our office after several years away. Waverly was one of our very finest international coordinators and had as much to do as anyone in building the credibility of our multi-faceted program. Literally that same day another of our extraordinary former international coordinators, Kavitha Suthanthiraraj had her second baby in Australia. Kavitha's close colleague, Annie Herro of the University of Sydney, will be with us here in New York for much of the later part of August (as will Catherine Jones from the UK). Christina Madden has also re-joined our 'family' as consultant, mostly focused on socially responsible contributions of the investment community to social change in small and least developed states.

At the end of a long and challenging summer, we seem to have recovered our bearings. Our future seems secure, our program priorities are clearer, and we maintain our valued role as one of the few independent policy voices covering virtually all facets of the UN security system. This is a legacy and a responsibility that we take very seriously, in part because the straightforward and un-compromised policy contributions we seek to make each and every day are increasingly rare at the UN.

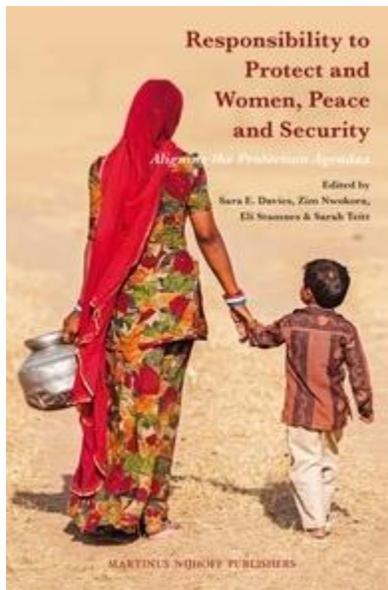
***We are currently raising funds to support publications, conferences and diplomatic workshops by our Women, Peace and Security and UN Media programs. Please help us through Just Give (from the 'Donate' button on our homepage) or by check made out to "Global Action to Prevent War and Armed Conflict" and mailed to: GAPW, 866 UN Plaza, Suite 4050, New York, NY 10017. All donations are fully tax deductible.***

Thank you for sharing our journey and please stay tuned for what promises to be our busiest and most impact-filled season ever.



## GAPW Contributes to New Publication on R2P

August 2013| Brisbane, Australia



GAPW's Melina Lito has contributed an article, "The Obstacles of Aligning Women Peace and Security and the Responsibility to Protect in UN Practice" to an important new book published by our colleagues in Brisbane, Australia.

In "Responsibility to Protect and Women, Peace and Security: Aligning the Protection Agendas," editors Davies, Nwokora, Stammers and Teitt address the intersections of the Responsibility to Protect (R2P) principle and the Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) agenda.

Widespread or systematic sexual or gender-based violence is a war crime, a crime against humanity and an act of genocide, all of which are clearly addressed by the R2P principle. The protection of those at risk of widespread sexual violence is therefore not only relevant to the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda, but represents a fundamental sovereign obligation for all states as part of their commitment to R2P.

This publication is the latest in a series of articles produced by our office that seeks to explore gaps in the norm and link the R2P community with Women, Peace and Security and other security dimensions of the UN system.

For access to the full table of contents, click here: <http://www.brill.com/responsibility-protect-and-women-peace-and-security#.UgrXQOatmck.twitter>

## GAPW Sponsors Workshop on Peacekeeping

July 2013| Bradford, England, UK



On Monday 8 July, GAPW co-sponsored a seminar in Bradford, UK on Peacekeeping and Rapid Reaction: Towards the Establishment of Cosmopolitan Capacities for Rapid Deployment, with the World Federalist Movement (Canada) and the Department of Peace Studies at Bradford University. The event featured presentations from Catherine Jones, East Asian Post-Doctoral Research Fellow, University of Warwick; Jonathan Gilmore, Senior lecturer in Politics, Human Rights and International Studies, Kingston University; David Curran, Lecturer in Peacekeeping & Conflict Resolution, University of Bradford; and Melina Lito, Program Director, Women Peace & Security, GAPW.

The purpose of the event was to initiate discussions about cosmopolitan peacekeeping, challenges framing the development of rapid response peacekeeping at the United Nations, and the impact of each on the implementation of the Responsibility to Protect (RtoP) norm. GAPW raised challenges with integrating gender within peacekeeping operations as well as the gender dimensions to consider in the development of any rapid reaction capacity. While in the UK, Melina also led a briefing with the British Foreign Office on issues regarding women, peace and security which focused primarily on the UK's role in the Security Council.

For the workshop schedule, please click here: <http://www.bradford.ac.uk/ssis/peace-studies/news-and-events/peace-events/peacekeeping-and-rapid-reaction.php>

For the workshop poster, please click here: <http://www.bradford.ac.uk/ssis/media/ssis/peacestudies/poster-8-july-internal.pdf>

## GAPW Participates in NATO event on Women, Peace and Security

June 2013|Brussels, Belgium



In June, GAPW participated in a programme of briefings and discussions on Women, Peace and Security (WPS) hosted in Brussels by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). NATO has taken significant steps to integrate the WPS agenda, mainly UN Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000), in various relevant aspects of its work.

Last fall, Mari Skare was appointed as NATO's Special Representative on Women, Peace and Security. Since last year, NATO has engaged in numerous engagements promoting the WPS agenda, including participating in the UN Security Council Open Debate on Women, Peace and Security in November 2012.

This one-day programme was hosted by the Public Diplomacy Division at NATO Headquarters. The programme featured briefings and discussions of NATO's policy on implementing WPS, including its work in creating partnerships, as well as its work in Afghanistan. Along with briefings by NATO officials, the programme also featured a discussion with Madame Skare.

Overall, the programme featured participation from a well-rounded group of experts, including practitioners, academics and members of the media monitoring and promoting the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325. GAPW participated in the programme by focusing on the political dynamics surrounding the implementation of the WPS agenda.

For more information about this event, please contact Melina Lito: [melina@globalactionpw.org](mailto:melina@globalactionpw.org)

For more information about NATO's work on Women, Peace and Security, please visit: [http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/topics\\_91091.htm](http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/topics_91091.htm).

## Assessing ATT Implementation Challenges for the European Union

June 2013|Brussels, Belgium



GAPW was pleased to participate in a June workshop hosted by Ms. Sabine Lösing, a German member of the European Parliament (MEP), in Brussels. Co-organized by MEP Lösing, GAPW, the Global Governance Institute, and the Institute for European Studies (two of our Brussels-based partners), the two-panel seminar focused on the recent adoption of the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT), including the textual successes and weaknesses of the Treaty, and its future implementation challenges, particularly for the European Union member states. This was a timely discussion in light of the official opening of the ATT for signature at UN headquarters in New York on Monday, 3 June when 67 states signed the ATT, including almost all of the EU member states (a full list of signatories can be accessed here: [http://treaties.un.org/pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg\\_no=XXVI-8&chapter=26&lang=en](http://treaties.un.org/pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=XXVI-8&chapter=26&lang=en))

The panelists addressed various aspects of the ATT in the context of focusing new attention on robust implementation of the Treaty's obligations. The event covered a variety of challenges from political to logistical ones. GAPW's Katherine Prizeman outlined the key challenges of the ATT text as well as the political dynamics surrounding future implementation. Ms. Sara Depauw of the Flemish Peace Institute focused on the EU's role in the ATT negotiations. During the second session, Dr. Joachim Koops offered remarks on future implementation challenges posed specifically to the EU and Ms. Monica Adame of Parliamentarians for Global Action spoke to the potential role of Parliamentarians in supporting strong implementation, including their role in the ratification process.

For the event programme, please click here: [http://www.globalactionpw.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/the-european-union-and-the-un-arms-trade-treaty-conference\\_programme.pdf](http://www.globalactionpw.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/the-european-union-and-the-un-arms-trade-treaty-conference_programme.pdf)

For the flyer of the event, please click here: <http://www.globalactionpw.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/poster-brussels.pdf>

## Second NPT Preparatory Committee Convenes in Geneva

April 2013| Geneva, Switzerland



The second session of the Preparatory Committee (PrepCom) for the 2015 nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) Review Conference (RevCon) convened in Geneva this past April under the leadership of Chairman Ambassador Cornel Feruta of Romania. This PrepCom represented the approximate mid-way point between the conclusion of the 2010 Review Conference, at which the 64-point NPT Action Plan was adopted, and the next RevCon by which time the 2010 Action Plan is to be fully implemented. There is increasing anxiety with each passing year as states parties hope to build on the consensus 2010 outcome document and take concrete steps towards the full realization of the 'grand bargain' of the NPT, commitment from non-nuclear weapon states to not pursue nuclear weapons and the pledge by of the 5 nuclear weapon states to pursue nuclear disarmament.

The most salient issues regarding the NPT regime came to light during the general debate including the lack of progress in implementing the disarmament-related obligations in the Action Plan as well as the failure to convene a conference for the establishment of a weapons of mass destruction free zone (WMDfz) in the Middle East during the 2012 calendar year as was mandated in the 1995 resolution on the Middle East.

Global Action was pleased to participate in the NGO presentations to the NPT delegates. Katherine Prizeman presented remarks on an interactive panel intended to clarify some of the most important disarmament and non-proliferation issues facing governments in the NPT context.

For a full report from Katherine Prizeman from the opening of the PrepCom, please click here: <http://www.globalactionpw.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2013-npt-prepcom-opens-in-geneva.pdf>