

Links between gender, disarmament, and the arms trade

Promoting a Robust Human Security Agenda

Highlighting a multi-faceted human security approach

Disarmament	Women, Peace & Security	Civilian Protection
Conventional weapons control	Women's participation	Full implementation of the R2P norm
Arms trade (ATT process)	Security Sector Reform (SSR)	Promotion of more transparency for findings of threat of atrocity crimes
Disarmament machinery	Ending impunity for gender-based violence and sexual violence in armed conflict	Development and promotion of a United Nations Peacekeeping Service (UNEPS)

Incorporating a Gender Lens

Women as 'Agents of Change'

- Cross-cutting issues of gender equality and disarmament priorities
- Victimization v participation
- New constituencies for Demobilization, Disarmament and Reintegration programs (DDR)
- Women in disarmament policy
- Moving away from singular-focused, militarized notions of security to a multi-faceted approach



Curbing the Illicit Arms Trade and the Current ATT Process

- **The role of illicit arms in fueling human rights abuses (including the most egregious of atrocity crimes), criminality, and terrorism**
- Arms proliferation, armed conflict, atrocity crimes and other abuses of human rights
- Appropriate levels of confidence in the security sector
- Particular emphasis on:
 - Significance of diversion issues
 - Implementation capacity



UNPoA and the Arms Trade

- UN Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat, and Eradicate of the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALWs)

Commitments under the PoA	Weaknesses of the PoA
Adequate laws, regulations, and administrative procedures for import, export, transfer, and retransfer	No benchmarks
Licensing system for export and import	No formal monitoring system
Measures for international transfer	Limited scope (only SALWs)
Criminalization of illegal trade	Limited implementation capacity
International measures for transfers	Greater public awareness needed

Recommendations for a gender-balanced approach to conventional arms disarmament and curbing the illicit arms trade

- Increase links between disarmament and gender in all UN fora
 - UNGA First Committee- *clear, discrete discussions*
 - Conference on Disarmament- *break stalemate and pursue working groups*
 - Disarmament Commission- *set agenda for First Committee*
 - Commission on the Status of Women
 - Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)
- ATT and PoA as instruments of conventional disarmament that should integrate the gender lens

Linking Gender and Human Security through Social Media Technologies

- Follow me on Twitter @DisarmDialogues
- Check out our Facebook page, “Disarmament Dialogues”
- Engaging a new generation of policymakers-future and current
 - Continual and immediate interaction and interface
 - Evolution of discussion and control of the narrative by a wider pool of participants
 - Content engaging and varied

For more information...

- **Katherine Prizeman**, katherine@globalactionpw.org
- Reaching Critical Will, www.reachingcriticalwill.org
- UN Office for Disarmament Affairs, www.un.org/disarmament/
- UN-Women, www.unwomen.org/
- NGO Working Group on Women, Peace & Security, www.womenpeacesecurity.org
- PeaceWomen, www.peacewomen.org
- UN Programme of Action on SALWs <http://www.poa-iss.org>