

Best Practice Reflections on PVE in the Context of the National Action Plans on UNSCR 1325

Comparative Study



West Asia-North Africa Institute, February 2021



As part of the Barcelona City Council-funded ‘QUA’ Project and the Catalan Agency for Cooperation and Development funded INDICASERE II Programme, the West Asia-North Africa Institute (WANA) was commissioned by the International Institute for Nonviolent Action (NOVACT) to carry out a comprehensive study exploring best practices and public policies in the area of Preventing Violent Extremism (PVE) as they pertain to the Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) agenda with a focus on Jordan and Spain.

The WANA Institute envisions that the research could lead to governance and policymaking recommendations on the national level for Jordan as well as on the regional and international levels.

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Executive Summary

The United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325 on Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) was unanimously adopted by the United Nations Security Council on October 31, 2000.¹ The landmark resolution represented a milestone in the fight for women's involvement in peacekeeping efforts and affirmed that *"peace and security efforts are more sustainable when women are equal partners in the prevention of violent conflict, the delivery of relief and recovery efforts, and in the forging of lasting peace."*² Despite the significance of UNSCR 1325, numerous structural, economic, perception and attitude barriers have hindered its implementation in several countries that have both adopted the resolution and announced commitments to the provisions of the resolution.

Since the adoption of UNSCR 1325 there has been a growing recognition that women should participate in all areas of peace and security including the development of security policies and approaches and further, moreover these policies and approaches should account for the gendered dynamics of violent conflict. In 2015, UNSCR 2242 was adopted calling for the integration of the WPS and the counterterrorism (CT) and P/CVE initiatives.

As part of the Barcelona City Council-funded 'QUA' Project and the Catalan Agency for Cooperation and Development funded INDICASERE II Programme, **the West Asia-North Africa Institute (WANA) was commissioned by the International Institute for Nonviolent Action (NOVACT) to carry out a comprehensive study exploring best practices and public policies in the area of Preventing Violent Extremism (PVE) as they pertain to the Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) agenda with a focus on Jordan and Spain.**³

Non-Violent Action (**NOVACT**), a civil society organisation committed to the prevention of violent extremism as indicated by its Plan of action of the Euro Mediterranean Civil Society to prevent all forms of Violent Extremism (2017) as well as its regional Observatory to Prevent all Forms of Violent Extremism (OPEV).

"Qua" project aims to promote a culture of non-violence in Jordan by strengthening the capacities of civil society organisations (CSOs) and key stakeholders actively involved in promoting the role of women in non-violent conflict resolution and PVE programmes. The project focuses primarily on achieving the second strategic objective outlined in the Jordan National Action Plan (JONAP) on UNSCR 1325, which aims to strengthen the participation of women in the prevention of violent extremism as well as in peace-building and peace-keeping processes.

The *INDICASERE II* programme contributes to the prevention of violent conflicts, the transformation of their causes and their peaceful, dialogued and fair solutions through civil society, especially women and youth. Moreover, aspires for the transformation of causes of the violent conflict arising from the Syrian crisis through comprehensive strategies for PVE with a gender focus (including the prevention of gender violence - PGV) as an integral response to the Syrian conflict and its effects on Jordan, Iraqi Kurdistan, Iraq and Catalonia.

¹ Miller, B., Pournik, M., & Swaine, A. (2014). Women in Peace and Security through United Nations Security Resolution 1325: Literature Review, Content Analysis of National Action Plans, and Implementation. www.gwu.edu/~igis

² United Nations. (2000). United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325. <http://unscr.com/en/resolutions/doc/1325>

³ The activities of this 24-month project will mainly be implemented in the Jordanian cities of Amman, Maan, Zarqa, and Salt as per the project's Logical Framework provided by NOVACT. For the purposes of this study, the research team interviewed individuals from across Jordan, and Spain.

By fulfilling the first goal of both above mentioned interventions, this study serves to reinforce knowledge about good practices and international public policies in the area of Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) and PVE. This study provides professionals and advocates in the domain with a comparative read on the implementation of UNSCR 1325 in a context linking WPS with PVE. This report brings together best practices to promote them across the WANA region. Ultimately, this report aims to be a point of reference for organisations that aim to conceptualise, design and implement UNSCR 1325 and UNSCR 2242 (2015) - which calls for the integration of the WPS and the counterterrorism (CT) and P/CVE - initiatives.

To produce the study, a team of WANA researchers examined the available academic literature on the topic, WPS national action plans (NAPs) developed in support of UNSCR 1325 investigating the linking of the WPS and PVE agendas.

The team incorporated insights from key informant interviews conducted with stakeholders in Jordan and Spain. Consequently, and to ensure that recommendations presented are framed within the national context of NAP implementation, the research team categorised the recommendations using three out of the four pillars of the Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) Agenda: Prevention, Protection, and Participation. Relief & Recovery was excluded in order to ground recommendations in the **pre-emptive efforts**.

Two validation workshops (learning events) were held; the research team modified the draft report to include reactions, observations and comments of the attendees (experts, programmers, implementers of the WPS and PVE). Ultimately, this report contributes to evidence-based policy in the area of WPS and PVE.

Section 1 Project Background

Section 2 Research Methodology and Limitations

Section 3 provides the historical context for the development and implementation of the NAPs on UNSCR 1325 in both Jordan and Spain.

AS violent extremism is a significant issue affecting WPS work **Section 4.1** will discuss challenges to PVE programmes and recommendations for effective implementation, while **section 4.2** will present best practices that the paper puts forward to ensure effective implementation of PVE and **section 4.3** presents findings and recommendations to overcome issues that decelerated the implementation of the PVE within the WPS national plan. The recommendations draw on the research findings of this study, the discussion of trends, challenges, implementation gaps and opportunities.

Section 5. is the **Conclusion: Resistance, Transformation and Way Forward** provides reflections of the importance of engaging grassroots CSOs – women’s groups in particular – as equal partners in all matters related to peace and security.

In conclusion, best practices need to be stemming from those engaged in daily violence prevention to create policies that reflect their reality; women and men. Thus, to ensure that the WPS and PVE are integrated in a manner that does not harm and does protect women, the paper puts forward the following gender-sensitive practices:

Prevention:

- Ensure terminological precision and defining goals;
- Provide education, skills development, and facilitation of employment;
- Advocate for political will and well-allocated funding;
- Provide evidence on how VE affects according to gender and effectiveness of women role on prevention;

Participation:

- A multi-level and multi-actor collaborative approaches;
- De-centralised gender-sensitive PVE policies;
- Mobilising and engaging grassroots;
- Women at the frontlines;

Protection:

- PVE and WPS adhere to peacebuilding and human rights;
- PVE and WPS contribute to gender equality and women's empowerment;
- WPS agenda could be in its own right, not only state security;
- Legal representation for women and girls; and
- Evaluation and mapping of the impact of interventions.

1 Introduction

1.1 Project Background and Rationale

The year 2020 marks the 20th Anniversary of UN Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325 on Women, Peace, and Security (WPS), which established a normative framework to ensure women's needs, voices and perspectives are incorporated into peace-building and peace-keeping efforts.⁴ Experts and advocates of the WPS Agenda have been persistent to achieve sustained and meaningful contributions by women and girls in peace-building, peace-making and peace-keeping.

In order to implement the WPS agenda at the national level, UN Member States were to create National Action Plans (NAPs) to communicate their commitment to the promotion of women's participation and the integration of a gender perspective in peace and security.

⁴ "Celebrating the 20th Anniversary of UN Security Council Resolution 1325: Identifying Good Practices on Women, Peace and Security across ASEAN." Celebrating the 20th anniversary of UN Security Council Resolution 1325: Identifying good practices on Women, Peace and Security across ASEAN | United Nations ESCAP. <https://www.unescap.org/events/celebrating-20th-anniversary-un-security-council-resolution-1325-identifying-good-practices>.

Due to insufficient efforts to include a gender perspective in strategies to prevent violent extremism and counter terrorism, it was recommended that countries are to strengthen their efforts to include a gender perspective in strategies to prevent violent extremism and build the capacity of women and girls, including women civil society groups, to engage in efforts to counter terrorism. Thus, in 2015, UNSCR 2242 called for the WPS and PVE and counterterrorism (CT) agendas to be linked⁵.

The move to integrate the WPS and PVE agendas although applauded by some, it is still argued by others that this linkage puts forth a number of concerns.

This report serves to reinforce knowledge about good practices and international public policies in the area of WPS and PVE in Jordan and Spain. The West Asia-North Africa Institute (WANA) was commissioned by the International Institute for Nonviolent Action (NOVACT) to carry out a study to explore best international practices and public policies in the WPS and PVE areas.⁶ Thus the aim is to provide reflections on best practices of how the WPS agenda (women empowerment and gender focus) has promoted the concept of violence prevention (peacebuilding and human rights).

WANA researchers examined the available Arabic and English academic literature on the topic, including global CVE policy frameworks and national PVE plans. The team performed an analysis of the scope of NAPs developed in support of UNSCR 1325 while incorporating insights gained from interviews conducted with key stakeholders in Jordan and Spain. Consequently, and to ensure recommendations presented are framed within national contexts for the implementation of NAPs on UNSCR 1325, the research team categorised the recommendations in this report using three out of the four pillars of the WPS Agenda: **Prevention, Protection and Participation**.⁷

2 Research Methodology

The primary objective of the study was to reinforce knowledge about good practices and international public policies in the areas of Women, Peace and Security (WPS) and Preventing Violent Extremism (PVE) in Jordan and Spain. The team undertook:

Literature Review, the research team conducted in-depth analysis of the available Arabic and English academic literature on topics such as the development of different WPS agendas, effective strategy implementation, national action plans, political structures and political reform trends.

Key Informant Interviews (KIIs), A total of 26 Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) were conducted with key stakeholders from Jordan and Spain. Stakeholders interviewed in Jordan and Spain included local government representatives, multilateral agency representatives, security sector representatives, civil society organisation representatives, activists and foreign government

⁵ Women Peace and Security: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow. <https://www.swisspeace.ch/apropos/frauen-frieden-sicherheit-gestern-heute-und-morgen/>

⁶ The activities of this 24-month project will be mainly implemented in the Jordanian cities of Amman, Maan, Zarqa, and Salt as per the project's Logical Framework provided by NOVACT. For the purposes of this study, the research team interviewed individuals from across Jordan, and Spain.

⁷ The fourth pillar of the Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) Agenda, which is Relief & Recovery, was included in the first draft of the report, then was excluded in the second draft. The elimination of the Fourth pillar was due to it being largely perceived as a CVE-oriented approach, rather than a PVE one, as this paper is intended to highlight PVE efforts, not CVE.

representatives. The study trip to Spain that was originally planned, was cancelled due to the global travel restrictions that were put into place following the outbreak of the COVID-19, and thus was replaced by virtual KIIs engaging key stakeholders in Spain. The trip's objective was to investigate the implementation of the NAP on UNSCR 1325 as well as best PVE practices in Spain.

To identify respondents in Spain and Jordan, a number of factors were considered; geographical location, engagement and achievements in the field of WPS, national-level engagement and programming⁸ and overall propensity to present insights on the topic under study. General questionnaires were primarily focused on exploring the context for implementation and investigated the roles of the different stakeholders involved in the study. Tailored questionnaires were designed to investigate the operational framework for each of the stakeholders interviewed and the level of stakeholder engagement and involvement in the implementation of different PVE strategies and programming as they relate to the UNSCR 1325 NAP frameworks in both countries.

Data Analysis and Drafting of the Report, the research team categorised all data obtained during the literature review and the interview process and then prepared it for analysis. All interviews were recorded and transcribed. All additional notes were uploaded to an online drive that was shared with NOVACT for purposes of transparency. After all the data was collected, the research team worked on identifying findings, trends and challenges across the different datasets, which allowed the team to extrapolate patterns for possible transferability and adaptation in the contexts under study.

Learning Sessions (Validation Sessions), prior to the publication of the research, two learning events were held to present the conclusions of the study to experts in the field also to raise awareness about resolution 1325, resolution 2242, women, peace and security and the prevention of violent extremism between stakeholders from INGOs, local NGOs, Women Police, UN institutions.

2.1 Research Limitations

In addition to delays caused by fluctuating work schedules as well as the restrictions on mobility put into place due to the COVID-19,⁹ research limitations included sample size, geographic scope of representation and the reluctance of participants to speak freely due to the faint subject matter. Challenges pertaining to stakeholder understanding of the scope of national PVE programmes and practices in relation to UNSCR 1325 NAPs as well as other national priorities and trends were especially predominant. A significant number of respondents also upheld an official narrative either connected to their agency and/or emanating from the dominant narrative promoted by the governments.

⁸ The research team considered the composition of the National Coalition in Jordan, and accordingly, identified participants who could provide insights on the design, development, and the implementation of the NAP on UNSCR. In Spain, the research team relied on recommendations provided by NOVACT as well as those interviewed in Spain.

⁹ Human Rights Watch. "Jordan: State of Emergency Declared." Human Rights Watch, March 20, 2020. <https://www.hrw.org/news/2020/03/20/jordan-state-emergency-declared>.

3 Historical Context and Country-Specific Reflections

Context for the Development of National Action Plans in Support of UNSCR 1325

As of August 2020, a total of 86 UN Member States¹⁰ had adopted National Action Plans (NAPs) in support of UNSCR 1325.¹¹ However, only 28 NAPs include an allocated budget for implementation and only 26 include references to disarmament-related activities.¹² In terms of civil society engagement, 63 NAPs have defined specific implementation roles for civil society organisations, which were mostly limited to an advisory capacity.¹³ In addition to NAPs, Regional Action Plans (RAPs) were developed to facilitate coordination across different national contexts and to share lessons learnt and best practices in the implementation of UNSCR 1325.¹⁴

Spain adopted two National Action Plans (NAP) to date. The first was adopted in 2007 and the second in 2017.¹⁵ While the first NAP did not indicate a specific time frame for implementation, the second NAP (2017-2023) showed clear progress in terms of responding to and integrating analysis of the first NAP. The second NAP was thus focused on promoting an integrated agenda, which demonstrated an awareness of the links that exist between the WPS Agenda and other national priorities like the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).¹⁶

In Jordan, the Jordanian National Commission for Women (JNCW) began the process of drafting a NAP to support the implementation of UNSCR 1325 in 2010.¹⁷ However, it was not until 2015 that a renewed government commitment and a refreshed leadership resulted in the pledge made for the UN Women's Set It Up Campaign to "accelerate the adoption of a national action plan to implement Security Council's resolution 1325".¹⁸ The drafting of a NAP for the implementation of UNSCR 1325 on Women, Peace and Security and its subsequent resolutions thus began in 2015.¹⁹ And finally JONAP (2018-2021) was approved by the Cabinet in 2017 and published and launched in February 2018.

3.1 Jordan

3.1.1 Introduction

Jordan remains stable despite the regional tensions, yet economically fragile and highly impacted by the influx of refugees into the country. In Jordan, the development of socio-economic

¹⁰ Nations, United. "Member States." United Nations. United Nations. <https://www.un.org/en/member-states/>.

¹¹ Peace, Women. "National-Level Implementation." PeaceWomen, September 2, 2020. <https://www.peacewomen.org/member-states>.

¹² "Women for Disarmament: Summary Report." PeaceWomen, February 11, 2018. <http://peacewomen.org/resource/women-disarmament-summary-report>.

¹³ Women, Peace. "National-Level Implementation." PeaceWomen, September 2, 2020. <https://www.peacewomen.org/member-states>.

¹⁴ Ibid.

¹⁵ WILPF. "National Action Plan: Spain." PeaceWomen, January 14, 2020. <https://www.peacewomen.org/nap-spain>.

¹⁶ In the second NAP developed in support of UNSCR 1325 in Spain, there is an emphasis on linking the priorities of WPS agenda to those of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), especially SDGs #5 and #16, on gender equality and peace and justice, respectively.

¹⁷ The Jordanian National Commission for Women and UN Women. (2017). Jordanian National Action Plan (JONAP) for the Implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security 2018 – 2021.

¹⁸ UN Women (2015). "Jordan pledges to align national laws with international commitments and expand support to women and girls in many areas". Retrieved on 23 January 2019 from: <http://www.unwomen.org/-/media/headquarters/attachments/initiatives/stepitup/commitments-speeches/jordan-stepitup-commitment-ar-en.pdf?la=en&vs=4733>

¹⁹ The Jordanian National Commission for Women and UN Women. (2017). Jordanian National Action Plan (JONAP) for the Implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security 2018 - 2021, Page 13.

opportunities is identified by the existing literature²⁰ as a key vehicle to address violent extremism. Socio-economic opportunities therefore need to be integrated within holistic approaches to violent extremism, which consider the different processes of radicalisation and the role that those processes play in triggering feelings of alienation and marginalisation when coupled with socio-economic factors.²¹

Jordan has not been involved in any armed conflicts since 1967 despite increasing regional tensions and growing security challenges. Jordan was able to advance female participation in peacekeeping activities,²² in fact, as a global contributor to peace-keeping and peace-making efforts,²³ Jordan has the opportunity to lead efforts pertaining to advancing the implementation of UNSCR 1325.

The key stakeholders interviewed, including donors, implementing agencies and civil society organisations are aware of the importance of UNSCR 1325, and realise that the resolution fits within the larger framework for gender mainstreaming. Also there is an agreement that the Jordanian NAP (JONAP) for implementing UNSCR 1325 aims to integrate a gender-based approach towards women's participation in prevention and protection processes during conflicts, as well as in peace building, and maintaining stability and sustainable security.

The JONAP responded to the 2015 UN Security Council resolution 2242, which acknowledges the importance of cooperation with civil society and the role of women as key partners in preventing violent extremism as well as engaging men and boys as partners in promoting women's participation in the prevention and resolution of conflicts.

This increased awareness has led to increased efforts to support the active participation of women in peace and security processes, the integration of civil society organisations in PVE work, and the women programmes in preventing and combating violent extremism.²⁴

3.1.2 Advocacy for UNSCR 1325 in Jordan

A government strategy on UNSCR 1325 was initially developed, but the strategy was too ambitious, difficult to achieve and lacked a clear framework and performance indicators.²⁵ While the Jordanian government did not approve the strategy at that point, the government was interested in advancing one particular pillar of UNSCR 1325, which focused on female involvement in peacekeeping missions.²⁶

²⁰ Sayegh, N., & Dr Bondokji, N. (2017). Towards a Unified Human Security and P/CVE Method in Jordan: Challenges and Changes. http://wanainstitute.org/sites/default/files/publications/Publication_TowardsAUnifiedHumanSecurityAndPCVEMethodInJordan_English_0.pdf.

²¹ United Nations Development Programme. (2017). Support to Prevention of Violent Extremism and Social Stabilization in Jordan. <https://www.io.undp.org/content/jordan/en/home/projects/support-to-prevention-of-violent-extremism-and-social-stabilizat.html>

²² Al-Makahleh Shehab Al-Makahleh is a senior media and policy consultant in Jordan and the United Arab Emirates. Al-Makahleh has been working for several Middle Eastern countries as a political, Shehab. "Jordan Between Regional Threats and Internal Pressures: The Economic Key." Jordan Between Regional Threats and Internal Pressures: The Economic Key - The Washington Institute for Near East Policy, 2018. <https://www.washingtoninstitute.org/fikraforum/view/jordan-between-regional-threats-and-internal-pressures-the-economic-key>.

²³ The Jordanian National Commission for Women and UN Women. (2017). Jordanian National Action Plan (JONAP) for the Implementation of UN Security Council resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security 2018 - 2021.

²⁴ Ibid., 13.

²⁵ Interview with Al-Nims, Salma. Jordan, July 22, 2020.

²⁶ Ibid

In 2014, the Jordanian National Commission for Women (JNCW) reached out to the Institute for Inclusive Security (IIS) for the provision of expertise and technical support in drafting a national strategy for Jordan.²⁷ At the time, efforts to integrate refugees into NAPs designed to prevent violent extremism were minor. Thus, the development of a new draft that would consider the role that refugee communities play in the fight against violent extremism. Shortly thereafter, the JNCW was commissioned by the Jordanian government to take the lead in drafting a NAP to advance the implementation of UNSCR 1325. The request was made immediately after Jordan endorsed the Sustainable Development Goals in 2014.²⁸

A national consultative effort to draft a NAP for the implementation of UNSCR 1325 began in 2015 and was led by the JNCW.²⁹ To ensure an all-inclusive and participatory approach to drafting the JONAP, JNCW, through funding from UN Women, led the formation of the National Coalition³⁰ and the High-Level Steering Committee. Stakeholder cooperation included government institutions, security agencies, civil society organisations, youth, media, legal professionals and activists.³¹ The participatory nature of the drafting of the NAP provided different stakeholders with the opportunity to discuss linkages between their fields and how each stakeholder's engagement contributed to the NAP under development.³² To support the development of the NAP, the al-Hayat Centre for Civil Society Development- RASED, was commissioned by the JNCW and UN Women in Jordan to develop a technical report on the gendered dimensions of radicalisation in Jordan.³³ A JONAP on UNSCR 1325 was finally endorsed by the Jordanian Cabinet on December 3, 2017 and promulgated in 2018.³⁴

3.1.3 Engaging with the JONAP Process

The participatory approach adopted by the JNCW allowed relevant stakeholders from different sectors to contribute to the development of an all-inclusive and context-specific strategy that catered to the short-term and long-term needs of women and girls in Jordan, including refugees. In an effort to maintain commitment to the implementation of UNSCR 1325 in Jordan, the Prime Ministry approved in March of 2016 the formation of a High-Level Steering Committee whose primary responsibility was to ensure the proper implementation of the JONAP. The committee was led by the Ministry of Interior and included representatives from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Awqaf & Islamic Affairs, the General Ifta' Department, the Supreme Judge Department, the General Command of the Jordan

²⁷ Interview with Al-Nims, Salma. Jordan, July 22, 2020.

²⁸ The Jordanian National Commission for Women and UN Women. (2017). Jordanian National Action Plan (JONAP) for the Implementation of UN Security Council resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security 2018 - 2021. <https://www2.unwomen.org/-/media/field%20office%20jordan/images/publications/2018/jonap%202018-2021%20unscr%201325.pdf?la=en&vs=5624>, 13.

²⁹ "Women, Peace and Security in the Arab States." Jordan, 2000. <https://jordan.unwomen.org/en/what-we-do/past-initiatives/response-recovery-and-resilience/initiative3>.

³⁰ The National Coalition included representatives from governmental institutions, military sectors, civil society organisations (especially women's organisations), youth, media, international organisations operating in Jordan, activists, legal professionals, as well as a large number of experts with experience in developing and drafting logical frameworks (log frames).

³¹ The Jordanian National Commission for Women and UN Women. (2017). Jordanian National Action Plan (JONAP) for the Implementation of UN Security Council resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security 2018 - 2021.

³² Ibid

³³ Al-Hayat Centre for Civil Society Development - RASED & Search for Common Ground; commissioned by UN Women Jordan in cooperation with the Jordanian National Commission for Women. Edited by Margo Alderton. (2016). Women and Violent Radicalisation in Jordan (Technical Report). <https://www2.unwomen.org/-/media/field%20office%20jordan/attachments/publications/2016/7/un%20women%20and%20jncw%20-%20women%20and%20violent%20radicalization%20in%20jordan%20-%20202016.pdf?la=en&vs=140>, 4.

³⁴ The Jordanian National Commission for Women and UN Women. (2017). Jordanian National Action Plan (JONAP) for the Implementation of UN Security Council resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security 2018 - 2021. <https://www2.unwomen.org/-/media/field%20office%20jordan/images/publications/2018/jonap%202018-2021%20unscr%201325.pdf?la=en&vs=5624>, 9.

Armed Forces-Arab Army, the Public Security Directorate (PSD), the General Directorate of the Gendarmerie, the General Directorate of Civil Defence, the Government Coordinator for Human Rights at the Prime Ministry, the Syrian Refugees Affairs Directorate, the Countering Violent Extremism Unit at the Prime Ministry and the Jordanian National Commission for Women (JNCW).³⁵

Another engagement with the JONAP was the Observatory for the Prevention of Violent Extremism (OPEV) which was formally established in Catalonia to devise an action strategy to prevent threats of violent extremism at the local level. Globally, OPEV continues to carry out presentations in different countries; Jordan is one of them.

The Observatory to Prevent Extremist Violence (OPEV) aims to harness the commitment, idealism, hope, creativity, and energy of civil society groups all around the Euro- Mediterranean Region to generate an effective alternative in front of violent radicalisation. OPEV is an active platform of civil society organisations from across the Euro-Mediterranean Region aiming to *bring a constructive contribution to prevent violent extremism* as opposed to security-only counter-terrorism measures³⁶.

The Jordan OPEV National Secretariat is comprised of actors of civil society:

- Arab Renaissance for Democracy and Development (ARDD)
- International Institute for Nonviolent Action (NOVACT)
- Leaders for Tomorrow (LOT)
- The Jordanian National Commission for Women (JNCW)
- East and West Centre for Sustainable Development (WE Centre)

During the KIIs, the CSO representatives took issue with the lack of civil society representation on the National Coalition and the High-Level Steering Committee. JNCW, however, highlighted several attempts to include CSOs to ensure equal representation, but also indicated that it had to move forward with the process of finalising and endorsing the NAP in collaboration with the stakeholders engaged in the process at the time.³⁷ After endorsing the JONAP,³⁸ CSOs began to engage through research activities and strategy proposals, and less effort was directed towards implementation.³⁹

3.2 Spain

3.2.1 Introduction

Spain's first NAP⁴⁰ on Women, Peace, and Security was approved in 2007, thus fulfilling what were then already two clear priorities in Spanish foreign policy: working for international peace

³⁵ The Jordanian National Commission for Women and UN Women. (2017). Jordanian National Action Plan (JONAP) for the Implementation of UN Security Council resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security 2018 - 2021. <https://www2.unwomen.org/-/media/field%20office%20jordan/images/publications/2018/jonap%202018-2021%20unscr%201325.pdf?la=en&vs=5624>, 41-42.

³⁶ The Observatory to Prevent Extremist Violence (OPEV) <https://OPEV.ORG>

³⁷ Comments from members of the virtual validation workshop held on September 3, 2020.

³⁸ The Jordanian Cabinet Endorsed the Jordanian National Action Plan for the Implementation of UN Security Council resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security on 3 December 2017.

³⁹ Interview with Muhareb, Samar. Jordan, June 30, 2020.

⁴⁰ Peace Women. (2007). Action Plan of the Government of Spain for the Implementation of Resolution 1325 of the Security Council of the United Nations (2000), on Women, Peace and Security. https://www.peacewomen.org/sites/default/files/spain_nap_2007_english.pdf

and security, and fighting gender discrimination. Seven years had already passed since United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325, of 31 October of 2000, with the backing of civil society, highlighted the link between the participation of women and international peace and security. In April, the first meeting of the Women, Peace and Security National Focal Points Network was held in Alicante--a Spanish initiative bringing together more than 60 States and regional organisations to promote this Agenda.

Spain has adopted two National Action Plans (NAP) to date, in 2007 and 2017. While the first NAP did not indicate a specific time frame or period of implementation, the second NAP is to be implemented for the period of 2017-2023. The following is a brief summary and analysis of the 2017-2023 NAP.

Spain's second NAP was developed by an Inter-ministerial Working Group with the overarching goal to "contribute to ensuring the protection of the human rights of women and girls, and their substantive participation in conflict prevention, as well as achieving and consolidating peace". The NAP highlights that the UNSCR 2242 (2015) was approved during Spain's presidency of the Security Council, underscoring the importance of the WPS Agenda for Spain. The NAP stresses the importance of the agentive status of women, emphasising the importance of gender equality for the full implementation of WPS commitments⁴¹.

Additionally, the NAP promotes an integrated agenda by demonstrating the links of the WPS Agenda to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), with particular emphasis on SDGs 5 and 16 on gender equality and peace and justice, respectively⁴². The NAP takes both a national and international approach to the implementation of the WPS Agenda, with particular focus on tackling the commitments holistically and promoting the interlinkages between gender equality reforms during implementation⁴³.

The NAP highlighted the need to promote women as key actors in all and any peacebuilding processes and focused on the following priorities:

- Enhancing the **capacity of women** participating in peacekeeping missions;⁴⁴
- Promoting the adoption of a **gendered approach** to peacebuilding;⁴⁵
- Ensuring the specific **training** of personnel involved in peace missions;⁴⁶
- **Protecting** the human rights of women and girls in conflict and post-conflict;⁴⁷
- Incorporating the principle of **equal treatment** and access to opportunity among women and men in the planning and implementation of activities of Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration (DDR), and the training for all staff participating in these processes;⁴⁸

⁴¹ Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, <https://www.peacewomen.org/nap-spain>

⁴² Barbara Miller and Milad Pournik and Aisling Swaine, *Women in Peace and Security through United Nations Security Resolution 1325: Literature Review, Content Analysis of National Action Plans, and Implementation*, Institute for Global and International Studies, 2014. http://www.itamaraty.gov.br/images/ed_pazeseg/Mulheres_paz/igis.pdf

⁴³ Gobierno de España, *2017-2023 Second National Action Plan on women, peace and security*, Ministerio de asuntos exteriores y de cooperación. www.exteriores.gob.es.

⁴⁴ WILPF España. (2017). 2017 - 2023 Second National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security.

[https://www.peacewomen.org/sites/default/files/Spain%20NAP%20\(2017-2023\)%20-%20English.pdf](https://www.peacewomen.org/sites/default/files/Spain%20NAP%20(2017-2023)%20-%20English.pdf).

⁴⁵ Ibid.

⁴⁶ Ibid.

⁴⁷ Ibid.

⁴⁸ Ibid.

- Encouraging the participation of **Spanish civil society** in the implementation of UNSCR 1325.⁴⁹

3.2.2 NAP Implementation

The NAP indicates that civil society organisations in Spain and their local counterparts in countries where the NAP will be implemented are key partners in implementing the NAP. However, the document does not specify which civil society organisations will be represented or how they will contribute to the implementation of the NAP.

3.2.3 NAP Development

The NAP indicates that civil society has been included in the development of the NAP through meetings with representatives from key associations (research and study centres, development organisations, and feminist organisations and women's associations) that work in the WPS field.

3.2.4 Advocacy for UNSCR 1325

A number of civil society organisations were actively involved in lobbying for the development of a NAP to advance the implementation of UNSCR 1325 once it had been adopted by Spain. Involved organisations were mostly peace research institutions whose work was outward facing and often required active involvement in the promotion and dissemination of actions linked to the implementation of UNSCR 1325.⁵⁰ The development of a national strategy to advance the implementation of UNSCR 1325 was thus limited to the government, and had little input from civil society representatives.⁵¹ When a new government came into power in November of 2011, the political will to continue the implementation of the resolution was no longer present.⁵² UN Women in Madrid had also closed down, which made it difficult to identify who was in charge of implementing and monitoring UNSCR 1325.⁵³

While the first NAP provided both momentum and a reference for civil society organisations working on issues related to the WPS Agenda and contributed to the strengthening of an international network of organisations sharing complementary approaches on peace and security, the absence of a strong national UNSCR 1325 champion resulted in a challenge in continuity of the work and less reliable monitoring and evaluation of activities implemented under the NAP.⁵⁴

3.2.5 Engaging with the NAP Process

In Spain, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation (MFA) is the leading entity responsible for overseeing NAP development and UNSCR 1325 implementation. Given the nature of the relationship between the different territorial provinces in the country, several line ministries were also involved in NAP development. Line ministries included the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Education and Science and the Ministry of Health and Consumer Affairs. In addition to government bodies involved in the development of the NAP, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs also

⁴⁹ Ibid.

⁵⁰ Interview with Rosabel Agirregomezkorta from the Centro de Estudios e Investigación sobre Mujeres, July 29, 2020.

⁵¹ Ibid.

⁵² Ibid.

⁵³ Ibid.

⁵⁴ Ibid.

selected Instituto de Estudios Sobre Conflictos y Acción Humanitaria (IECAH),⁵⁵ a Spanish academic research institution, to conduct research on women, peace and security needs to support the development of the NAP.

The process of developing both the first and second NAPs involved consultations with civil society organisations, trade unions, NGOs, local activists and development agencies, yet no consultations were conducted with civil society organisations of countries affected by conflict, including countries where migrants and refugees in Spain come from.⁵⁶ Moreover, interviewees indicated that the major obstacle to advancing NAP implementation was not related to funding, but related to structural challenges, an overly-ambitious strategy and the lack of political will for implementation.⁵⁷

4 Challenges, Opportunities and Best Practices

To explore best practices and policies in the field of PVE as they relate to the framework of the WPS Agenda and investigate the applicability, the research team identified predominant themes, trends and challenges across the PVE domain as well as challenges critical for the advancement and implementation of UNSCR 1325.

This section provides a discussion of the findings pertaining to the PVE issues that have challenged the effectiveness of prevention programmes and its linkage to UNSCR 1325.⁵⁸ Thus, **section 4.1** will discuss challenges to PVE programmes and recommendations for effective implementation, while **section 4.2** will present best practices that the paper puts forward to ensure effective implementation of PVE and **section 4.3** presents findings and recommendations to overcome issues that decelerated the implementation of the PVE within the WPS national plan. as well.⁵⁹

4.1 Challenges in the PVE Domain

4.1.1 Narrative and Definitional Clarity: PVE vs. CVE

Key Challenges

- *The lack of definitional clarity on what constitutes “violent extremism” or “preventing violent extremism”;*⁶⁰
- *Exclusionary language can negatively impact violence prevention and conflict transformation.*⁶¹

The global policy response to violent extremism has grown significantly in both substance and emphasis over the past few decades and has been mirrored by the rapid growth in research focused

⁵⁵ More about IECAH can be found [here](#).

⁵⁶ Cardin, M. (2016, December 22). Eight Recommendations for the II National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security of Spain – Analysis. <https://www.peacewomen.org/resource/eight-recommendations-ii-national-action-plan-women-peace-and-security-spain-analysis>.

⁵⁷ Interview with Anabel Basanta, Barcelona City Council.

⁵⁸ Challenges highlighted in this section are Jordan-specific and are based on data collected through desk research and KIIs. To ensure synthesizing data obtained from Spain, a comparison is provided to shed light on similar implementation challenges in Spain wherever necessary.

⁵⁹ In discussions with key stakeholders, it was evident how there remains a great deal of concern pertaining to the impact of integrating women and girls into PVE programming, and how that could lead to the superficial promotion of women’s empowerment through all-inclusive policies as tools for state security rather than as ends in themselves.

⁶⁰ In addition to the discussion, this challenge has also resulted in expanded state military and legal power which were reported to have negative impacts on human rights and civil society pertaining to space for implementation.

⁶¹ Mesok, Elizabeth. *Women, Peace and Security and the Prevention of Violence: Reflections from Civil Society in the Context of the Fourth Swiss National Action Plan 1325*. KOFF, Swisspeace, 2019.

on Preventing Violent Extremism (PVE). However, this growth has also resulted in a body of literature spanning various disciplines that has failed to demonstrate the intersectionality or complementarity between the different frameworks and perspectives through which Prevention is addressed and contextualised.⁶² One of the most notable developments in the field has been the subsuming of Prevention into the general body of Countering Violent Extremism (CVE). Scholars have argued that the development can be viewed as a logical step, but this development has also meant that the conceptual distinction between PVE and CVE as it pertains to application has been disregarded, which has made it challenging for a coherent discourse on Prevention to emerge across disciplines.⁶³ PVE was first introduced to a global audience by UN Secretary General Ban Ki Moon in the 2015 UN Action Plan.⁶⁴ Since then, the debate on the conceptual distinction between PVE and CVE has grown extensive and heated, which has made it even further challenging to achieve universally agreed-upon definitions for the two approaches.⁶⁵

Clear and agreed-upon definitions are important when designing national-level strategies and programming related to violent extremism. For the purposes of this discussion, we will be defining PVE as “*depriving violent extremism of its breeding ground by enhancing the capacity of individuals and communities to resist it*,” a definition adopted by the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs in Switzerland’s Foreign Policy Action Plan on Preventing Violent Extremism.⁶⁶ ⁶⁷ Prevention in this context is thus understood outside of the hard-security framework as a number of efforts that use societal-level and/or educative approaches designed to combat marginalisation and discrimination to address individual and/or contextual factors that produce conditions that are conducive to displays and acts of violent extremism.⁶⁸

CSOs noted that language used by national stakeholders did not always resonate with grassroots-level implementers of nationally-designed PVE programming.⁶⁹ For example, when inquiring about a particular challenge on implementation at the local level, the director of a local CSO highlighted how his organisation’s approach was to rework the PVE programming narrative and reintroduce more contextually relevant language to local communities.⁷⁰

Academic research has shown that the PVE discourse is expansive in scope, which includes all crimes as instances of violent extremism, which creates an additional layer of complexity pertaining

⁶² William Stephens, Stijn Sieckelincx. (2020) Being resilient to radicalisation in PVE policy: a critical examination. *Critical Studies on Terrorism* 13:1, pages 142-165.

⁶³ European Commission, “Operational Guidelines on the Preparation and Implementation of EU Financed Actions Specific to Countering Terrorism and Violent Extremism in Third Countries” (Luxembourg, 2017).

⁶⁴ Beatrix Austin and Hans J. Giessmann (eds). *Transformative Approaches to Violent Extremism*. Berghof Handbook Dialogue Series No. 13. Berlin: Berghof Foundation.

⁶⁵ It is important to highlight that Preventing Violent Extremism is often considered to be broader than CVE, focusing on preventative approaches allowing for programming to take a broader approach to the underlying drivers that create vulnerabilities to VE.

⁶⁶ Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, Switzerland’s Foreign Policy Action Plan on Preventing Violent Extremism, Berne: Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, 2016, p.6, <https://www.news.admin.ch/news/message/attachments/43587.pdf>

⁶⁷ It should be noted that the elements that the Swiss definition for PVE encompasses come to support statements received from KIIIs as to how local stakeholders operating within the domain define PVE. Moreover, the rationale behind using this working definition of PVE is to guide as well as manage the premise within which recommendations in this study on best PVE practices and policies are presented and contextualized.

⁶⁸ William Stephens, Stijn Sieckelincx. (2020) Being resilient to radicalisation in PVE policy: a critical examination. *Critical Studies on Terrorism* 13:1, pages 142-165.

⁶⁹ For instance, the expansive category of “violent extremism” makes it difficult for peacebuilders and CBOs to actually address the violence constructively, and in a way that responds to immediate needs.

⁷⁰ Interview with Dr. Iyad Jaber, Founder and Director of I-DARE for Sustainable Development. July 2, 2020.

to discrepancies in the understanding and enactment of programming between policymakers, donors and grassroots-level actors.⁷¹

The terminological confusion directly affects the effectiveness of prevention programmes. Thus, an apparent **best practice entails terminological precision and defining goals: defining precisely the target audience and consequently the goals and tools to be used in PVE programmes**⁷².

4.1.2 Communication and Coordination at the National-Level

Key Challenges

- *The absence of an active and central body to ensure synergies and complementarity across different programming efforts in the country;*
- *The absence of well-defined channels of communication between the central body and relevant agencies and stakeholders.*

Despite the Jordanian Cabinet's decision to endorse the creation of a PVE unit to supervise and coordinate national PVE programming, key stakeholders in the PVE domain, including donor agencies noted that the role of the Unit was still to a large extent blurred.⁷³

Stakeholders also highlighted poor communication and deficient cross-sectoral coordination with governmental entities as arduous challenges to cross-programming synergy and complementarity. The absence of well-defined channels of communication has also compounded the challenges stemming from the discrepancies between policymakers, donors and grassroots actors in the understanding and enactment of PVE programming in addition to widening the gap between policy and implementation.⁷⁴

As such, and while contributions made by grassroots actors to inform the design and development of PVE strategies continue to be of utmost importance, as they ensure efforts are not replicated and contextually relevant, the need to activate the role of the PVE Unit remains vital to ensuring that stakeholder-delivery is grounded in contextually-relevant, all-inclusive and gender-sensitive national strategies and that implementation is of quality and is result-oriented and delivered in collaboration and coordination with all relevant agencies.^{75 76}

Thus, an apparent best practice is the development of a multi-level and multi-actor collaborative approach by establishing an **effective coordination mechanism/ body with a multi-actor and**

⁷¹ Ibidem.

⁷² Dr Diego Muro, and Moussa Bourekba, *Best Practices on PVE across the Euro-Mediterranean Region* BRIEFING PAPER. https://novact.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/BEST-PRACTICES-ON-PVE-ACROSS-THE-EUROMEDITERRANEAN-REGION-Briefing-Paper_06-1.pdf

⁷³ The PVE Unit used to function under the Ministry of Culture, but was moved to the Prime Ministry in 2018, to expand its mandate and activate its contribution to the fight against violent extremism.

⁷⁴ Comments made by stakeholders during validation workshops conducted in August and September 2020.

⁷⁵ All relevant agencies in this context include policymakers, grassroots-level actors, as well as donor agencies involved in the design and development of PVE programming and strategies.

⁷⁶ The issue of cross-sectoral, top-down and bottom-up coordination ignited a heated debate amongst stakeholders. It was evident that despite the creation of an inter-ministerial committee under the umbrella of the PVE Unit currently housed at the Prime Ministry, stakeholders still lacked clarity about the scope of work of the inter-ministerial committee.

collaborative strategy and enhancing collaboration between government and civil society organisations in the fields of PVE ensuring a gender-sensitive approach. The approach will avoid the ambiguity surrounding official channels of communication and engagement.

4.1.3 PVE as a Donor-Driven Theme

Key Challenges

- *PVE is perceived by CBOs as a domain that prioritises the needs of donors;*
- *PVE programming that is contextually-relevant and aligns with national strategies requires donor - local community cooperation.*

CBOs and key stakeholders operating within the WPS domain have proven to be indispensable assets to the design and development of gender-sensitive national PVE strategies. While their contributions and impact on shaping some funding priorities cannot be dismissed, implementation efforts remain, to a large extent, reflective of donor priorities. This was mentioned by the CSO community in Jordan when observing the initiatives and projects currently under implementation. Thus, an apparent **best practice would be de-centralised gender-sensitive PVE policies by articulating a local narrative** that is inclusive and credible, but mostly agreed on and voiced by multiple actors.

4.2 Best PVE Practices

Based on the challenges that are faced in the PVE domain, it has become apparent that the best practices mentioned in the BRIEFING PAPER: *Best Practices on PVE across the Euro-Mediterranean Region* by OPEV are pertinent when addressing the **PVE as it pertains to the Women, Peace, and Security** UNSCR 1325's structural, economic, perception and attitude barriers that hindered its full implementation in the Jordanian and Spanish contexts:

- 1. Terminological precision and defining goals.** Finding a local consensus on key terms and define the goals of the any intervention accurately to ensure all stakeholders are working in the same direction.
- 2. A multi-level and multi-actor collaborative approaches.** Multi-actor and multi-disciplinary and gender-sensitive strategies (government, civil society and private sector, and academia) are needed to engage with all the targets of PVE [and WPS] audience: society as a whole, some specific communities and vulnerable individuals prone to radicalisation.
- 3. De-centralised [gender-sensitive] PVE policies.** Prevention of Violent Extremism relies on a shared understanding and depends to a large extent on good relationships between all implementing actors and, more specifically, between governmental and non-governmental actors. This requires effective coordination mechanisms between all the implementing actors to analyse security from a gender perspective and gender specificities.
- 4. Evaluation and mapping of the impact.** A good practice is to constantly evaluate the impact of PVE interventions to avoid unintentional consequences.

In Jordan it was stated by the interviewees⁷⁷ that many programmes are addressing the integration of youth, women, vulnerable groups into joining the efforts towards peace and security. However, it's hard for them to draw the link between how does their work relate to UNSCR 1325 and PVE. Organisations are working and achieving goals or recommendations of 1325 without realising that their work falls under the resolution. Therefore, mapping and evaluation of all these efforts is essential.

Another example of relevance, was put forward during interviewing the Catalonia Police who described an uprising of young street gangs from Latin America, trying to copy street gangs in the United States by acting in a violent manner in Catalonia. After analysing the phenomenon and looking at it from a broader perspective the police decided to not consider it as a security threat, but a social issue. And it needed to be addressed from different sides such as education, health, social care, economic; human security perspective.

Addressing the rise of violent extremism remains an arduous challenge.⁷⁸ Thus, it is essential to continuously evaluate the impact of the programmes.

Acknowledging the vital role women and girls play in designing and managing prevention programmes, including equipping them with the tools and resources that allow them to be able to detect, address and respond to early signs of radicalisation, is critical to the success of PVE strategies.⁷⁹ The adoption of UNSC Resolution 1325 and subsequent, related resolutions along with the development of national action plans to support implementation contribute to highlighting the importance of adopting a gendered approach to designing national PVE strategies.⁸⁰

While UNSCR 1325 and its subsequent resolutions provided a guiding framework that highlighted the importance of women's role in peace-making, and peace-keeping efforts - the mere acknowledgement of their vital role is not enough. **Strong political will and financial support** are crucial to the development and implementation of all-inclusive policy frameworks and national strategies that support the effective implementation of national PVE action plans and coordinated strategies that are gender-sensitive.

In terms of best practices, the Barcelona Declaration⁸¹ was developed by 70 civil society organisations was a worthy announcement on 30 January 2017. This plan of Action of the Euro-Mediterranean civil society is to prevent all forms of violent extremism; goal number 5 calls for mainstreaming gender perspectives in accordance with the UN Resolution 1325

Goal 5: Promote gender justice and expose gender specificities:

- Mainstream gender perspectives across efforts to prevent all forms of violent extremisms, in accordance to the UN Resolution 1325. **Gender analysis of security**-related decisions and interventions are needed to recognise new dimensions of violent extremism and how to prevent it.

⁷⁷ Key Informant Interview with Barik Mhadeen, a security and human security expert.

⁷⁸ Developing National and Regional Action Plans to Prevent Violent Extremism. United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism, 2016. https://www.un.org/counterterrorism/ctitf/sites/www.un.org.counterterrorism.ctitf/files/UNOCT_PVEReferenceGuide_FINAL.pdf.

⁷⁹ PVE and CVE strategies.

⁸⁰ Smith, Dan; Inger Skjelsbæk; Dan Smith; & Inger Skjelsbæk, eds, (2001) *Gender, Peace and Conflict*. London: Sage Publications.

⁸¹ BARCELONA DECLARATION. Plan of Action of the Euro-Mediterranean civil society to prevent all forms of violent extremism. Barcelona, 30 of January 2017.

- Build the **capacity of women** and their civil society groups to engage in prevention and response efforts related to violent extremism.
- Conduct more rigorous research and policy on **women participating in armed groups**, not only in terrorist organisations.
- Advocate for the **inclusion of women** representation in the planning and decision-making at governmental and institutional processes.
- Support and strengthen existing **women's organisations** and networks to play their peacebuilding and reconciliation roles in formal mechanisms and institutions at all decision-making levels.
- Expose how violent extremism affects citizens according to their **gender identity** and sexual orientation and promote critical thinking on their role on prevention.
- Strengthen interaction with women's civil society organisations regarding their impact after **security interventions** and improving community-level security presence.

Moreover, the WANA research team developed a list of recommendations on best practices in the field of PVE, which have been framed using three of the four pillars of the WPS Agenda: **Prevention, Protection and Participation**, while the **Relief & Recovery** pillar was excluded to stress the importance of grounding the recommendations in pre-emptive efforts in the fight against violent extremism.

4.3 Best PVE Practices framed in WPS Agenda

4.3.1 Prevention

“Empowering women to end and prevent conflicts is essential and urgent”. Ban Ki-moon, United Nations Secretary-General

Key Informant Interviewees noted that this particular pillar receives the least attention with a focus on women participating in preventing sexual and gender-based violence but not utilising UNSCR 1325 to address gender norms that drive conflict and insecurity. Some respondents talked about the important role women can contribute in analysing causes of conflict, such as poverty, unemployment, poor governance, vulnerability and marginalisation.

The respondents drew a link between the increase in women participation in decision-making and conflict prevention and girl's education, inclusion in the social and economic lives, the protection of women's rights such as inheritance and land rights -in Jordan.

Moreover, realising that prevention is crucial to eliminating all forms of violence against women and girls in conflict and post-conflict situations, governments began focusing (but not sufficiently) on effective and all-inclusive prevention efforts. Integrating gender considerations into early warning systems and prevention mechanisms also proved to be more effective in strengthening good governance and the promotion of a human rights-based approach to PVE.⁸²

Throughout the course of study, key informants stressed the importance of short-term prevention measures such as early warning systems and efforts at pre-emptive dialogue at the local, national and international levels. Moreover, a number of themes emerged under each one of the three

⁸²Sida. (2015). Women, Peace and Security. <https://www.sida.se/contentassets/3a820dbd152f4fca98bacde8a8101e15/women-peace-and-security.pdf>.

pillars being investigated, and under prevention, key informants on both Spain and Jordan recommended that a special emphasis be put on the following:

1. National Narrative on Violent Extremism

To mitigate issues arising from the hard security national discourse on violent extremism, national governments, represented by national PVE Units need to focus gender specificities when designing targeted campaigns that consider social and cultural differences that lead to different perceptions of violence. Engaging directly with citizens at the local level allows for understanding of people's immediate concerns, which contributes to the creation of an enabling environment for communities that understand PVE language and are better able to contextualise the dangers and threats of violent extremism.

2. Education, Skills Development, and Facilitation of Employment

Education should be at the core of national PVE plans. To effectively tackle the cycle of violence against women requires the acknowledgment of the role that institutionalised and militarised constructions of masculinity play in obstructing the advancement of gender-mainstreaming policies, both inside and outside the classroom. As such, while raising awareness about the existence of such structures is key to unpacking the rhetoric around those structures, raising awareness is not sufficient, as institutionalised WPS-integrated learning approaches and context-specific curricula need to be embedded.

Challenging discriminatory gender norms entails incorporating context-specific curricula into **education** systems that also encourage the integration of men and boys into the WPS equation not only as perpetrators, but also as victims of violence and agents of change.⁸³ The use of national curricula as policy tool in order to shift how women and girls are represented creates an entry point for policy and decision makers alike to accomplish the following objectives:⁸⁴

- **Recruit national experts** and trusted advisors to contribute to the development of best practices to design pedagogies that focus on primary school learners' resilience to violent extremism ideology;
- **Introduce a range of crucial cognitive and socio-emotional and behavioural skills** such as critical thinking and the embrace of diversity, tolerance, respect and plurality;
- **Develop the capacity of parents, teachers, school counsellors and administrators** to foster a supportive learning environment where skills such as cognitive socio-emotional and behavioural skills are nurtured through specialised and contextualised PVE and CVE training materials;
- **Establish trusted circles** within local school districts to act as support circles for individuals seeking immediate attention and care.

4.3.2 Participation

The participation pillar *“aims to ensure women's equal participation and influence with men, and the promotion of gender equality in peace and security decision-making processes* at national, local and international levels. It includes the appointment of more women,

⁸³ “From Perpetrators of Violence to Agents of Change: Men and Boys in Times of Conflict.” United Nations Population Fund, November 28, 2012. <https://www.unfpa.org/news/perpetrators-violence-agents-change-men-and-boys-times-conflict>.

⁸⁴United Nations Educational, S. and C. O. (2019). Prevention of Violent Extremism through Education (PVE-E). <https://en.unesco.org/fieldoffice/baghdad/PVE-E>.

including negotiators, mediators, peacekeepers, police and humanitarian personnel, as well as support for local women's peace initiatives.”⁸⁵

The majority of the KII respondents recognise that there has been an increase in women's participation in decision-making, and general acknowledgement of the importance of women's participation to sustainable peace. However, the participation level has not been enough. Women still face hurdles preventing their social and economic inclusion, peace negotiation, holding high government positions ...etc.

In Jordan the Women's Police Department was established in 1972 as the first school to train women's police, and the beginning was to train 6 girls who were the nucleus of the female police. The tasks of the policewoman developed from mere inspection to the management of the Women's section at the Juwaida Correction and Rehabilitation Centre. Today, their tasks have continued to increase outside the rehabilitation centre. While recent demonstrations took place in Jordan, in cooperation with the Operations Department, the policewomen were present in those events with the assurance that this is part of their duty.⁸⁶

The Military Women's Affairs Directorate was established at the beginning of 1995 to highlight the role of women in the Jordanian Armed Forces. This directorate was entrusted with all responsibilities related to the role of women in the armed forces. The directorate had to study laws related to women and work to amend what is needed from them, develop methods of training and education, and provide job opportunities for new recruits in new work sites⁸⁷.

Still, a Global Study conducted in 2015 by UN Women on the implementation of United Nations Security Council resolution 1325 found that the participation of women in formal peace processes was slightly increasing, yet a study of 31 major peace processes between 1992 and 2011 depicted that a negligible figure of only nine per cent of **negotiators** were women⁸⁸. During the Jordan-Israel peace treaty of October 1994, women were almost completely absent from the negotiating delegation, from both sides of the negotiating table. This certainly decreased the gender-sensitive language in the agreement; according to a male member of the Jordanian delegation to the Jordan-Israel peace talks, the women's participation was mainly temporary and not substantive⁸⁹.

The study also states that only three per cent of the military in UN **missions** are women, and the majority of these are employed as support staff⁹⁰. In 2007, the Women's police Department in Jordan reserved a seat at the peacekeepers, since then 131 women have participated in UN **peace-keeping missions**, 25 of them are currently on mission⁹¹. Although it is a small number, it was perceived as an increasing one, since cultural norms restricted this increase in the past. Peace-

⁸⁵Sida. (2015). Women, Peace and Security. <https://www.sida.se/contentassets/3a820dbd152f4fca98bacde8a8101e15/women-peace-and-security.pdf>

⁸⁶ "Security forces are celebrating the 47th anniversary of the establishment of the Women's Police Department." Al-Rai newspaper. December 2, 2019. Available via: <https://cutt.ly/hf6BlAf>

⁸⁷ Ibid

⁸⁸ Promoting Women's Participation in Peace Negotiations and Peace Processes, the programme Promoting Gender Equality and Women's Rights, GIZ

⁸⁹ Interview with Omar Rifai, member of the Jordanian delegation to the Jordan-Israel peace talks and Ambassador of Jordan to Israel (1996-2000).

⁹⁰ Operational_effects_and_women_peacekeepers_august_2020.pdf, <http://peacekeeping.un.org>

⁹¹ Muna Abu Odeh, Acting Head of the Women Police Department, August 11, 2020.

making and peace-keeping remains challenging, although it is important to ensure women's equal and meaningful participation through:

1. *Engaging Youth, Community Leaders, Grassroot-Level Actor*⁹²

Mobilising grassroots-level networks, especially women networks⁹³, that draw on existing partnership structures between the government and local communities has been proven to act as an important tool that should be adopted more widely and rapidly. A multi-actor approach was cited by interviewees such as community police.⁹⁴ It is perceived as a potentially effective tool to design, develop and implement effective PVE programming if and when managed correctly and in collaboration with community partners and key stakeholders in the PVE domain.

An example of a shift towards local PVE policies and a partnership structure that utilises the presence of a network of local municipalities and local partners to tackle polarisation, hate and violence in local communities is the *Strong Cities Network*, which currently operates in over 145 cities around the world (cities in Jordan and Spain).⁹⁵ The network undertakes community-centric approaches and action to prevent violent extremism through peer learning and expert training. It operates within a set of fundamental principles agreed upon by all members to protect human rights and civil liberties to prevent violent extremism.⁹⁶

In Spain, examples of effective employment of local networks are numerous, here are a few:

- *#BCNvsOdi (BCN vs Hate)*: a meeting and learning online space which focuses on hate speech, made available to the public by the Directorate of Citizenship Rights and Diversity (Barcelona City Council), through a website. The initiative is based on the concept that hate speech is a threat to peaceful coexistence in the city and that, consequently, it must be combated by both the public administration and by citizens.
- *Barcelona.Antirumors*: people, associations, entities, facilities, programmes and municipal services that, together with Barcelona City Council, work collaboratively and in a network to dismantle rumours and stereotypes about cultural diversity and to foster relationships based on equality, respect and mutual recognition for the various discriminations that hinder coexistence in the city.
- *Formació Rizoma*: a second edition of a programme of support, learning and exchange aimed at strengthening the capacity for action and leadership of young people linked to processes and organisations of collective action with an impact on the external action of the country, especially in the prevention of all forms of violent extremism. Rizoma, takes the form of a series of intensive meetings with a strong experiential element in which 15 to 20 young people take part with the aim of prevention of violent extremism in Catalonia.

In Jordan, similar initiatives take place. A member of the OPEV Jordan Secretariat, WE Centre⁹⁷, are implementing a number of successful projects that integrate youth (women and men) into peace and security:

⁹² It should be noted that while this recommendation was placed under "Prevention", due to the interconnected nature of our approach and findings, we also will be listing this recommendation under "Participation".

⁹³ In Jordan, this could be done through mobilizing women networks made up of trusted and licensed female preachers. In Spain, this could be done by mobilizing trusted leaders from different religious groups i.e. the Moroccan Association in Malaga. More can be found [here](#).

⁹⁴ Community Policing is a collaboration between the police and the community aiming at preventing, pinpointing and solving challenges and problems in the community. See more at <https://eupolcops.eu/en/node/5453>

⁹⁵ "About the Strong Cities Network." Strong Cities Network, March 31, 2020. <https://strongcitiesnetwork.org/en/about-the-scn/>.

⁹⁶ Strong Cities Network. Retrieved August 24, 2020, from <https://strongcitiesnetwork.org/en/>

⁹⁷ Key Informant Interview, Mahmoud Hishmeh, WE Centre.

- *Ambassadors for dialogue* aims at fostering the dialogue culture among Middle East and Denmark as well as to bridging the gap among these countries through eliminating the wide spread stereotypes and the pre-assumption.
- *Decent Work Academy* which aims to define the category of young women and men with disabilities with their rights to decent work as stipulated in Jordanian legislation, international agreements and the Jordanian labour law, to enable them to create spaces for dialogue between them and professionals and decision-makers to express and define their rights, and the use of advocacy skills with decision makers to ensure better rights for workers.
- *HADAF* project where the groups of athletes and artists conduct activities against violence through presenting meaningful artistic and sports performances and messages against extremism, violence and hatred.

2. Women at the Frontlines

Women's participation in peace-keeping and peace-making missions abroad has become more popular among female security officers in Jordan.⁹⁸ Although the increase in women's participation in the peace and security domain (7 % of total security⁹⁹) has come about partly as the result of increased awareness and the adoption of UNSCR 1325, but according to the Women Police Department in Jordan the increase has been largely due to the relaxation of societal restrictions on women involvement in the security sector, plus the current economic crises was a main driver.¹⁰⁰ Women began to seek this accessible opportunity as it has become and perceived as a good source of income that is becoming more and more acceptable by society.¹⁰¹

In Spain, the fear of using women's bodies as a tool to advance the agendas of different governments abroad coupled with calls to reduce military expenditures by the general public have contributed to the limited acceptance of UNSCR 1325 amongst the population and resulted in public rallies against the increased participation of women in security and peace-building processes.¹⁰²

Interestingly, in 2020 the Barcelona City Council launched a recruitment process attracting a total of 7,138 applicants. Of these, 2,252 were women, accounting for 32% of the total. This is the highest percentage of women candidates in the history of Barcelona's local police corps. The goal was to amend the strong imbalance, as women account for just 14.21% of the force while men make up 85.79%. The change followed the amendment to the Act on Local Police, to introduce gender quota and at the same time safeguard the principles of equality, merit and capacity in access to public employment. The number of places filled by women candidates has risen considerably in the last recruitment processes¹⁰³.

⁹⁸ Muna Abu Odeh, Acting Head of the Women Police Department, August 11, 2020.

⁹⁹ Jordanian women find a career opportunity on the streets, 2020

¹⁰⁰ One of which is the oversaturated job market, and high levels of unemployment, which have pushed female graduates to seek jobs that are not necessarily related to the degrees they have obtained.

¹⁰¹ The current job market structure and the nature of the social contract was built on a rather clientele-state approach, where the state was the primary job provider for the majority of the population. However, it should be noted that there was a shift after Arab Spring that has caused a change in the relationship between the government as the main provider for jobs and the Jordanian peoples.

¹⁰² Interview with Anabel Basanta, Barcelona City Council, August 11, 2020.

¹⁰³ Over 6,500 people are set to take entrance exam for city council, 2 October 2020

https://www.barcelona.cat/infobarcelona/en/tema/security-and-prevention/over-6500-people-set-to-take-entrance-exams-for-the-city-police_990924.html

On the other hand, Jordan has a total of 12 UNMEM (United Nations Military Expert on Mission); 9 of which are males and 3 are females. And a total of 30 Staff Officers; 28 of which are males and 2 females, combined 42; 37 males and 5 females. As for the troops, the total number is 52; 52 males and 0 females. On the other hand, Spain has a total of 2 UNMEM (United Nations Military Expert on Mission); 2 of which are males and 0 females. And a total of 15 Staff Officers; 14 of which are males and 1 female, combined 17; 16 males and 1 female. As for the troops, the total number is 616; 586 males and 30 females. (July 2020 – August 2020)¹⁰⁴

Furthermore, women in the security sector are at the frontline of the COVID-19 response in Jordan. According to the Women Police, UN Women in Jordan is working closely with them to integrate gender aspects into the Government's management approach to the COVID-19 response and the "women serving in security sector agencies continue to undertake vital work across Jordan alongside their male colleagues"¹⁰⁵. Thus, collective reframing of the narrative for how peace and security are defined has been altered to include unprecedented threats such as widespread disease.

Moreover, in a culture where women are more welcome into homes than men, particular attention was devoted to assisting survivors of gender-based violence (GBV) by the Women's Police Department. The period of movement restrictions due the lockdown as a result of COVID-19 outbreak exacerbated tension, stress and anxiety. Towards this end, the PSD Women's Police Department deployed additional female officers in all governorates to support the police in responding to such cases. Female police officers found themselves facing a new task that required mobilising to maintain peace at the local level.¹⁰⁶ Moreover, the advancement of women's participation in peace and security processes at the front lines took place when hundreds of Jordanians - mostly women - protested in front of the Jordanian parliament against the honour killing of women and demanded changes to the law. Women police are less likely to forcibly disperse public protests.¹⁰⁷

3. Integration of Community Members in PVE

The interviewees agreed that successful projects demonstrated the importance of engaging grassroots -women's groups in particular - as equal partners in all matters related to peace and security and of analysing security from a gender perspective.

The research team found that community policing was a recurring theme across different interviews with key stakeholders. Interviewees noted that when and if implemented correctly, community police practices can go beyond the traditional role of acting at the community level and extend to efforts aimed at integrating refugees and migrants from different backgrounds.¹⁰⁸

¹⁰⁴ Operational_effects_and_women_peacekeepers_august_2020.pdf, <http://peacekeeping.un.org>

¹⁰⁵ Women in the security sector at the frontline of the COVID-19 response, April 20, 2020.

¹⁰⁶ Muna Abu Odeh, Acting Head of the Women Police Department, August 11, 2020.

¹⁰⁷ "Security forces are celebrating the 47th anniversary of the establishment of the Women's Police Department." Al-Rai newspaper. December 2, 2019. Available via: <https://cutt.ly/hf6BlAf>

¹⁰⁸ Watkins, Jessica. "Policing and Protection for Syrian Refugees in Jordan." Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Accessed September 6, 2020. <https://carnegieendowment.org/sada/77511>.

Moreover, engaging men and boys as partners in promoting and advancing women's participation in prevention and protection processes during conflicts is key to ensuring that women and girls are able to participate in the WPS domain.¹⁰⁹

4.3.3 Protection

There has been an increase in women's participation, but questions arise as to how it has been met with equal protection. The protection pillar "***ensures that women and girls' rights are protected and promoted in conflict-affected situations*** or other humanitarian crisis including protection from gender-based violence (GBV) in general and sexual violence in particular."¹¹⁰

Despite the increase in activism for women's rights, respondents reported challenges in providing sufficient support and protection to women due to cultural norms and patriarchal traditions. They stressed the importance of the work that women activist can accomplish and for resources to be devoted to ensure their protection.

In Jordan, on the protection theme, the key informants noted that despite the recent increase in women's participation in the different protective branches of the security forces, state-centric security policies remain negligent of women's needs regardless of whether the needs are those of the women doing the protecting or the women being protected.

There is a need to support protection services and access to justice, as well as technical expertise on gender responsive justice services and awareness raising among women of their legal rights and how to access the justice system and seek redress for violence. Various civil society organisations, as well as UN Women, and JNCW have provided a number of programmes in that direction. The Women Police Department in Jordan established a training department and posted a gender expert on their premises, for that purpose. Women police are receiving a number of courses on gender-based violence, human rights, child protection and more.

Jordan is one of the contributors of troops to the United Nations. Jordan contributes police to peacekeeping missions, including Jordanian women. Yet, the key informant interviews and the desk research conducted shows that there is no sufficient information on protection of women participating in the peace-keeping processes or guidelines to protect the women whom they get in contact with.

To ensure protection of women in the security sector, the Barcelona Declaration stipulates good practices as follows: mainstreaming gender analysis of security; building the capacity of women in security to know their human rights; including women in the planning and decision-making at governmental and institutional processes; supporting and strengthening existing women's organisations to play their peacebuilding and reconciliation roles at the formal decision-making

¹⁰⁹ The Jordanian National Commission for Women and UN Women. (2017). Jordanian National Action Plan (JONAP) for the Implementation of UN Security Council resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security 2018 - 2021. <https://www2.unwomen.org/-/media/field%20office%20jordan/images/publications/2018/jonap%202018-2021%20unscr%201325.pdf?la=en&vs=5624> , 13.

¹¹⁰Sida. (2015). Women, Peace and Security. <https://www.sida.se/contentassets/3a820dbd152f4fca98bacde8a8101e15/women-peace-and-security.pdf>

levels, expose how violent extremism affects citizens according to their gender and promote critical thinking on their role on prevention, and improve community-level security presence¹¹¹.

1. Legal Representation for women and girls

Laws to protect women's and girls' rights are to be enforced. In terms of legal representation, financial challenges have often stood in the way between fragile groups and access to proper legal representation. KIIs highlighted the need for the formation of a national legal aid system that supports as well as mobilises the work of existing legal aid networks operating in both Jordan and Spain.¹¹² Key Informants in Jordan also emphasised the need to lobby for a change in policies that often prohibit legal aid organisations from operating freely.¹¹³

It is crucial to grant the legal aid networks the space to operate in order to ensure legal representation for vulnerable persons - most of whom are often young women and girls escaping or living in conflict zones - but also vital to establishing safe channels of communication between those subjected to violence and those able to provide legal representation.¹¹⁴

5 Conclusion: Resistance, Transformation, and the Way Forward

UNSCR 1325 represented a watershed moment that established the groundwork needed for the active participation in and contribution of women to peacebuilding processes and peacekeeping operations. Twenty years later, however, the resolution still lacks effective enforcement measures and clear performance indicators, which raises the question of whether there is a need to revisit the resolution and consider actionable and measurable progress indicators.¹¹⁵

While there have been significant strides in the development of gender-responsive PVE policies, implementation gaps still exist. Policy frameworks need to be responsive to the increasing victimisation of men and boys and address the needs of men and boys in all-inclusive programming while acknowledging that their needs and those of women and girls differ immensely.¹¹⁶

The Jordanian NAP provided the government with a roadmap that enjoyed broad buy-in and a defined focus. However, stakeholders raised issues with implementation across the different interviews. Despite the distinct milestones, clear timelines and precisely defined roles for stakeholders and implementation partners, this study found that the timeline of the JONAP was overly ambitious and needs to be extended.

¹¹¹ BARCELONA DECLARATION. Plan of Action of the Euro-Mediterranean civil society to prevent all forms of violent extremism. Barcelona, 30 of January 2017.

¹¹² Key Informant Interview.

¹¹³ "Formation of National Legal Aid System Urged." Jordan Times, August 19, 2017. <https://jordantimes.com/news/local/formation-national-legal-aid-system-urged>.

¹¹⁴ The Safety House Model, currently operating in the Netherlands is a prime example of an entity that mobilizes available tools and resources to ensure effective prevention. The Safety House is a collaboration of over 20 partner organizations working on a joint approach to ensure the wellbeing and security of all individuals living within the House's jurisdiction. More about the Safety House Model can be found [here](#).

¹¹⁵ Coomaraswamy, Radhika et al. Preventing Conflict, Securing Justice, and Transforming the Peace: A Global Study on the Implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325. UN Women, 2015.

¹¹⁶ See selected publications by researchers at Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO), Gender, peace and conflict, http://file.prio.no/publication_files/Prio/PRIO%20Publications%20-%20Gender%2C%20Peace%20and%20Conflict.pdf

To ensure the effective implementation of PVE programming designed to support the implementation of the NAP on UNSCR 1325, the paper puts forward the following best practice recommendations:

Prevention:

- **Ensure terminological precision** and defining goals; finding a local consensus on key terms and define the goals of interventions accurately to ensure all stakeholders are working in the same direction. Moreover, there is a significant importance of reframing the narrative around how conflict is defined within different NAPs, and making it more encompassing of imminent and unprecedented dangers.¹¹⁷
- **Provide education, skills development, and facilitation of employment;** as the shift to prevention of terrorism, and toward efforts to address the environment conducive for extremists to spread their ideologies and recruit supporters, education, livelihood and skills development have been proved to increasingly impact and protect positively the young people and vulnerable groups to become more involved in prevention.
- **Advocate for political will and well-allocated funding;** the stakeholders working on implementation need to devote time to advocacy to ensure they alter the decision makers' will to change and to allocate funds for this needed change.
- **Invest in empirical evidence** to demonstrate the efficacy of PVE programmes that work, with special focus on root causes of violent extremism; also provide evidence on how VE affects according to gender and evidence on effectiveness of women role on prevention.

Participation:

- **A multi-level and multi-actor collaborative approaches;** multi-actor and multi-disciplinary and gender-sensitive strategies (government, civil society and private sector, and academia) are needed to engage with all the targets of PVE audience: society as a whole, some specific communities and vulnerable individuals prone to radicalisation
- **De-centralised gender-sensitive PVE policies;** prevention of violent extremism relies on a shared understanding and depends to a large extent on good relationships between all implementing actors and, more specifically, between governmental and non-governmental actors. This requires effective coordination mechanisms between all the implementing actors to analyse security from a gender perspective and gender specificities.
- **Mobilising and engaging grassroots;** a consistent theme expressed throughout the study was the importance of engaging grassroots -women's groups in particular - as equal partners in all matters related to peace and security and to engage civil society to analyse security taking into consideration gender specificities.
- **Women at the frontlines**¹¹⁸; according to the interviews active women participation at the frontlines was seen as beneficial as women and girls should not only be recognised as whom accountability is due, but also as those who are able create the accountability processes through active participation.

¹¹⁷ Muna Abu Odeh, Head of Women Police, August 11, 2020.

¹¹⁸ <https://ndupress.ndu.edu/Publications/Books/Women-on-the-Frontlines-of-Peace-and-Security/>

Protection:

- To ensure protection from a gender perspective, PVE and WPS should adhere to **peacebuilding and human rights**;
- And to ensure that protection is taking gender specificities into account, the PVE and WPS should contribute to **gender equality and women's empowerment**;
- **WPS agenda could be in its own right**, not only state security; meaning that WPS is effective independently not necessarily connected to PVE.
- **Legal representation** for women and girls; to ensure women are protected there must be a political will and funding directed towards availability of equitable laws and policies.
- **Evaluation and mapping** of the impact of interventions; a good practice is to constantly evaluate the impact of PVE interventions to avoid unintentional consequences. Moreover, in Jordan it was stated by the interviewees¹¹⁹ that programmes addressing the integration of youth, women, vulnerable groups into joining the efforts towards peace and security, relate to UNSCR 1325 and PVE. Organisations are working and achieving goals or recommendations of 1325 without realising that their work falls under the resolution. Therefore, there should be mapping and evaluation of all these efforts.

¹¹⁹ Key Informant Interview with Barik Mhadeen, a security and human security expert.

Table (1) List of key Informants

Interviewee	Organisation	Country
Dr. Salma al-Nims	The Jordanian National Commission for Women	Jordan
Dr. Omar Rifai	Member of Jordanian delegation to Jordan-Israel peace talks	Jordan
Ghuzzayah Hijazi	Prime Ministry / Preventing Violent Extremism Unit	Jordan
Dr. Fares Braizat	Ministry of Youth	Jordan
Dr. Iyad Aljaber	I-Dare	Jordan
Taghreed Jaber	Penal Reform International	Jordan
Bakir Al-Hyari	United Nations Development Programme	Jordan
Ali Soub	Princess Basma Community Development Centre	Jordan
Foreign Service Officers	Diplomatic Mission	Jordan
Shorouq Shatanawi	Former Project Manager for the JONAP on Women, Peace and Security	Jordan
Rania Hayouk	National Association for Family Empowerment	Jordan
Dr. Mary Kawar	Former Minister of Planning and International Cooperation	Jordan
Mai Elimat	Al-Hayat Centre for Civil Society Development-RASED	Jordan
Samar Muhareb	Arab Renaissance for Democracy and Development	Jordan
Zein Soufan	The Specialists - Consulting Firm	Jordan
Dr. Mohammed Arabiat	Generations for Peace	Jordan
Barik Mhadeen	WANA Institute	
Mahmoud Hishmeh	WE Centre	
Amal el-Atifi Pamela Louise	Canadian Embassy in Jordan	Jordan
Eman Al Hourani	UN Women	Jordan
Rosabel Agirregomezkorta	Centro de Estudios e Investigación sobre Mujeres	Spain
Anabel Rodríguez Basanta	Barcelona City Council	Spain
Marta Sanchiz Maria Salvador	Alianza Por la Solidaridad	Spain
Lluís Paradell i Fernández Joan Carlos	Catalonia Police	Spain
Muna Abu Odeh	Women Police Department	Jordan

Table (2) Definitions:	
Violent Extremism:	Promoting views which foment and incite violence in furtherance of particular beliefs, and foster hatred which might lead to inter-community violence.
Terrorism:	Criminal acts intended or calculated to provoke a state of terror in the general public, a group of persons or particular persons for political purposes are in any circumstance unjustifiable, whatever the considerations of a political, philosophical, ideological, racial, ethnic, religious or any other nature that may be invoked to justify them. ¹²⁰
Protection:	All activities aimed at obtaining full respect for the rights of the individual in accordance with the letter and spirit of the relevant bodies of law, namely human rights law, international humanitarian law and refugee law.
UNSC:	United Nations Security Council, one of the six main organs of the United Nations. It has a primary responsibility for maintaining international peace and security, and may meet whenever peace is threatened.
UNSCR:	United Nations Security Council Resolutions, are formal expressions of the opinion or will of the United Nations organs.
UNSCR 1325:	The first time the Security Council addressed the disproportionate and unique impact of armed conflict on women; recognised the under-valued and under-utilised contributions women make to conflict prevention, peacekeeping, conflict resolution, and peace-building. It also stressed the importance of women's equal and full participation as active agents in peace and security.

¹²⁰ Perera, R. (2008). United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism, 1994, and the 1996 Supplementary Declaration Thereto. https://legal.un.org/avl/pdf/ha/dot/dot_e.pdf



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