



# Women & Peace Security

U.S. Naval War College • Newport • Rhode Island

11th Annual Symposium  
December 16 -17, 2024

Rethinking Global Security in a Complex World



U.S. NAVAL WAR COLLEGE  
— Est. 1884 —  
NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND

# PROGRAM OF EVENTS

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*Attire: Smart Casual for all attendees at all events*

## **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2024**

**1530 No-Host Social for Speakers and Panelists Only – Wyndham Newport Hotel**

## **DAY 1: MONDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2024**

**0730 Buses depart Wyndham Newport Hotel for U.S. Naval War College**

**0800 Arrivals – Spruance Lobby, U.S. Naval War College**

**0825 Administrative Remarks – Spruance Auditorium**

[Dr. Olenda E. Johnson](#), U.S. Naval War College

**0830 Welcome Remarks**

[Rear Admiral Darryl L. Walker, U.S. Navy](#), President, U.S. Naval War College\*

**0840 Symposium Overview and Polling**

[Dr. Saira Yamin](#), Ambassador Swanee Hunt Chair of Women, Peace, and Security, U.S. Naval War College

**0910 Remarks**

[The Honorable Carlos Del Toro](#), Secretary of the Navy\*

**0925 Guest of Honor Remarks and Fireside Chat**

[Her Excellency Dr. Vjosa Osmani-Sadriu](#), President of the Republic of Kosovo

Moderator: [Dr. Stephen J. Mariano](#), Provost, U.S. Naval War College

**1015 Coffee Break**

**1045 Keynote Address: *WPS – The Strategic View***

[Dr. Valerie Hudson](#), Texas A&M University

**1130 Administrative Remarks**

**1135 Break for Lunch**

Attendees that have pre-paid for lunch depart for Officers' Club via bus or by foot

**1135 Group Photo of Senior Leaders, Speakers and Panelists – Spruance Lobby**

**1145 Speakers & Panelists depart U.S. Naval War College for Quarters AA**

via bus or by foot

**1150 Lunch for Speakers & Panelists – Quarters AA**

**1250 Bus departs Officers' Club for U.S. Naval War College**

**1250 Bus departs Quarters AA for U.S. Naval War College**

**1300 *Celebrating Service, Culture, Peace, and Harmony* – Spruance Auditorium**

a concert by Navy Band Northeast – Spruance Auditorium

**1330 Break**

- 1340 Keynote Speech and Fireside Conversation – Spruance Auditorium**  
*Sexual Exploitation and Abuse in Conflict Zones: Prevention and Response*  
[Under Secretary General Christian F. Saunders](#), United Nations  
Moderator: [Dr. Marybeth P. Ulrich](#), U.S. Naval War College
- 1430 Administrative Announcements and Transition to Elective Panel of Choice**

## ELECTIVE PANELS 1A – 1E

### Spruance Auditorium

- 1445 Elective 1A – Strengthening Maritime Security**  
[Ms. Maryruth Belsey Priebe](#), aXXelerate  
[Ms. Carrie P. Compton](#), U.S. Naval Forces Europe and Africa  
[Vice Admiral \(Ret.\) Alvaro J. Martinez, Argentinian Navy\\*](#)  
[Captain Junko Kawashima, Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force](#)  
Moderator: [Captain Andrea H. Cameron, U.S. Navy](#), U.S. Naval War College

### Pringle Auditorium

- 1445 Elective 1B – Civil Society in Defense and Security Affairs**  
[Ms. Anne K. Nurminen](#), Lotta Svärd Foundation  
[Ms. Miia S. Iivari](#), National Defence Training Association MPK  
[Ms. Suvi A. Aksela](#), Women's National Emergency Preparedness Association  
[Dr. Miemie W. Byrd](#), Daniel K. Inouye Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies  
Moderator: [Ms. Sahana Dharmapuri](#), Our Secure Future, PAX sapiens Foundation

### McCarty Little Hall Auditorium + breakout rooms

- 1445 Elective 1C – Gender Analysis Exercise: Bahamas Scenario**  
[Dr. Holly Peirce](#), William J. Perry Center for Hemispheric Defense Studies\*  
[Ms. Tiffani Phillips](#), North American Aerospace Defense Command and U.S. Northern Command  
[Major Kathleen I. Leaton, Royal Canadian Air Force](#), North American Aerospace Defense  
[Dr. Tahina L. Montoya](#), U.S. Southern Command  
[Ms. Paola K. Rodriguez Ramos](#), U.S. Southern Command  
[Ms. Jena R. Daggett](#), North American Aerospace Defense Command and U.S. Northern Command  
[Ms. Kirsten N. Pecua](#), North American Aerospace Defense Command and U.S. Northern Command  
[Lieutenant Colonel Michelle Branch, Rhode Island National Guard](#)  
[Dr. LisaRe B. Babin](#), Department of the Army  
[Ms. Frieda Garcia Castellanos](#), Inter-American Defense College  
[Ms. Sydney E. Knapp](#), William J. Perry Center for Hemispheric Defense Studies  
Moderator: [Dr. Mary Thompson-Jones](#), U.S. Naval War College

### **Conolly Hall, Room 138**

- 1445 Elective 1D – Women, Peace, and Cyber Security**  
[Ms. Anne M. Schumann](#), Department of the Navy  
[Dr. Alexis L. Henshaw](#), Troy University  
[Ms. Lauren B. Buitta](#), Girl Security  
[Colonel Hafedh Hamdi, Tunisian Army Special Forces Brigade](#)  
Moderator: [Dr. Chris C. Demchak](#), U.S. Naval War College

### **Hewitt Hall, Room 114** + breakout rooms

- 1445 Elective 1E – Gender Analysis Exercise: Non-Combatant Evacuee Operations, Korean Peninsula**  
[Ms. Sharon E.G. Feist](#), U.S. Indo-Pacific Command  
[Dr. Delaina L. Sawyers](#), U.S. Indo-Pacific Command  
[Ms. Erin S. Cooper](#), U.S. Indo-Pacific Command  
[Ms. Elizabeth M. Ludan](#), U.S. Indo-Pacific Command  
[Ms. Kandace L. Moore](#), U.S. Forces Korea  
[Ms. JoAnne M. Sukus](#), U.S. Transportation Command  
Moderator: [Commander Karen A. Cahill, Royal Navy](#), U.S. Naval War College

**1630 Buses depart U.S. Naval War College for Wyndham Newport Hotel**

**1800 Dinner for Speakers & Panelists – Wyndham Newport Hotel**

## **DAY 2: TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2024**

- 0730 Buses depart Wyndham Newport Hotel for U.S. Naval War College**
- 0800 Arrivals – Spruance Lobby, U.S. Naval War College**
- 0825 Administrative Remarks – Spruance Auditorium**
- 0830 Keynote Panel: *WPS in an Era of Strategic Competition***  
[Ambassador Bonnie D. Jenkins](#), U.S. State Department  
[Ms. Michelle Strucke](#), Center for Strategic and International Studies  
[Commander Bramwell B. Arnold, U.S. Navy](#), Special Operations Command Africa  
Moderator: [Dr. Jonathan Caverley](#), U.S. Naval War College
- 0930 Administrative Announcements / Coffee Break / Transition to Elective Panel of Choice**

## ELECTIVE PANELS 2A – 2E

### **Spruance Auditorium**

#### **0945 Elective 2A – Cultivating Allyship in Defense and Security Sectors**

[Captain Christa Almonte, U.S. Navy](#), U.S. Central Command\*

[Dr. Curtis M. Bell](#), U.S. Naval War College

[Dr. Joan Johnson-Freese](#), U.S. Naval War College

[Brigadier General Matthew W. Tracy, U.S. Marine Corps](#), Marine Corps University\*

Moderator: [Captain Danielle M. Higson, U.S. Navy](#), U.S. Naval War College\*

### **Pringle Auditorium**

#### **0945 Elective 2B – Gender-Based Violence**

[Major Daniel Eerhart, U.S. Army](#), West Point (Virtual Attendance)

[Mr. Peter Tozzi](#) & [Dr. Susan Yoshihara](#), American Council on Women, Peace, and Security (Virtual Attendance)

[Ms. Elina Korhonen](#), Women, Peace, and Security Network in Finland

[Dr. Kerry F. Crawford](#), James Madison University (Virtual Attendance)

Moderator: [Mr. Jody Prescott](#), University of Vermont

### **McCarty Little Hall Auditorium**

#### **0945 Elective 2C – Gender Perspectives in Strategic Plans and Operations**

[Commander Leah M. Cole, U.S. Coast Guard](#), Harvard University\*

[Ms. Monica S. Herrera](#), Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy

[Ms. Iris B. Lienhart](#), NATO

[Major Chahra Ayachi, Tunisian Army](#), Ministry of Defense

Moderator: [Dr. Hank J. Brightman](#), U.S. Naval War College

### **Conolly Hall, Room 138**

#### **0945 Elective 2D – Art of Filmmaking and Women’s Agency**

[Dr. Evelyn Pauls](#), Berghof Foundation (Virtual Attendance)

[Ms. Vanessa W. Hope](#), Double Hope Films

Moderator: [Dr. Mary B. Raum](#), U.S. Naval War College

## **Hewitt Hall, Room 114**

### **0945 Elective 2E – Writer’s Workshop: Framing WPS through a National Security Perspective**

*Navigating Gender Dynamics Amidst State Fragility and the Withdrawal of MONUSCO in the Democratic Republic of Congo*

[Ms. Natacha Ciezki](#), U.S. Department of State

*Everyone Should Care: A Reintroduction of Women, Peace, and Security Framework to Conservatives, and the Like*

[Dr. Magdalena Bogacz](#), U.S. Space Force / Johns Hopkins University

[Mr. Jacob F. Lanier](#), California State University, Bakersfield

*Fight like Women to Win against Hybrid Warfare in Great Power Competition*

[Lieutenant Colonel Caitlin B. Diffley, U.S. Space Force](#), NATO Combined Forces Space Component Command

Workshop Lead: [Dr. Vanya E. Bellinger](#), U.S. Naval War College

Workshop Mentors:

[Dr. Michael A. Goldfien](#), U.S. Naval War College

[Dr. Theo C. Milonopoulos](#), U.S. Naval War College

[Dr. Fabiana S. Perera](#), Defense Security Cooperation University

[Dr. Shira E. Pindyck](#), U.S. Naval War College

[Dr. Nicholas E. Sarantakes](#), U.S. Naval War College

[Dr. Jesse C. Tumblin](#), U.S. Naval War College

[Dr. Evan M. Wilson](#), U.S. Naval War College

### **1100 Transitions / Break**

### **1115 Keynote Panel / Fireside Chat: *Women in Leadership* – Spruance Auditorium**

[Ms. Avery M. Alpha](#), Department of Homeland Security

[Ms. Katrina Fotovat](#), Secretary of State’s Office of Global Women’s Issues

[Vice Admiral Sara Joyner, U.S. Navy](#), Director, Force Structure, Resources and Assessment, J8, Joint Staff

[Surg Vice Admiral Arti Sarin, AVSM, VSM](#), Indian Armed Forces Medical Services

Moderator: [Dr. Richard J. Norton](#), U.S. Naval War College

### **1215 Keynote Fireside Chat: *Human Rights in North Korea and Ukraine***

[Ambassador Julie E. Turner](#), U.S. Department of State

Moderator: [Dr. Terence Roehrig](#), U.S. Naval War College

### **1300 Closing Remarks**

[Dr. Saira Yamin](#), Ambassador Swanee Hunt Chair of Women, Peace, and Security, U.S. Naval War College

### **1310 Break for Lunch**

### **1310 Buses depart U.S. Naval War College for Officers’ Club and Wyndham Newport Hotel**

### **1315 Lunch for Speakers, Panelists, and PMW Moderators – Officers’ Club Ballroom**

### **1415 Buses depart Officers’ Club for U.S. Naval War College and Wyndham Newport Hotel**

### **1420 Students Transition to Seminar Spaces**

### **1430 NWC Student Seminars**

### **1645 Buses depart U.S. Naval War College for the Wyndham Newport Hotel**



## SECRETARY OF THE NAVY



The Honorable Carlos Del Toro was sworn in as the 78th Secretary of the Navy August 9, 2021. As Secretary, he is responsible for over 1 million Sailors, Marines, reservists, and civilian personnel and an annual budget exceeding \$255 billion. His priorities include securing the training and equipment successful naval operations demand and addressing the most pressing challenges confronting the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps by strengthening maritime dominance, building a culture of warfighting excellence, and enhancing strategic partnerships.

Born in Havana, Cuba, Del Toro immigrated to the U.S. with his family as refugees in 1962. Raised in the Hell's Kitchen neighborhood of New York City, he attended public schools and received an appointment to the United States Naval Academy, where he earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Electrical Engineering. Secretary Del Toro was commissioned as a Surface Warfare Officer upon his graduation in 1983.

His 22-year naval career included a series of critical appointments and numerous tours of duty at sea – including First Commanding Officer of the guided missile destroyer USS Bulkeley (DDG 84); Senior Executive Assistant to the Director for Program Analysis and Evaluation in the Office of the Secretary of Defense; and Special Assistant to the Director and Deputy Director of the Office of Management and Budget – where he helped manage the budgets of DOD, the U.S. Department of State, the Central Intelligence Agency, the Defense Intelligence Agency, the National Reconnaissance Office, and the Peace Corps.

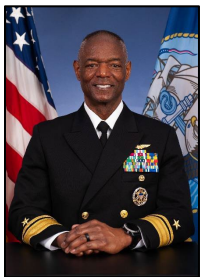
After retiring at the rank of Commander, Secretary Del Toro founded SBG Technology Solutions, Inc. in 2004. As its CEO and President, he supported defense programs across a host of immediate and long-term Department of Navy issue areas, including shipbuilding, AI, cybersecurity, acquisition programs, space systems, health, and training.

He holds a Masters in National Security Studies from the Naval War College, a Masters in Space Systems Engineering from the Naval Postgraduate School, and a Masters in Legislative Affairs from George Washington University.

Secretary Del Toro and his wife have four children and multiple grandchildren.

## U.S. NAVAL WAR COLLEGE LEADERSHIP

### President, U.S. Naval War College



Rear Adm. Darryl “D-Day” Walker is the President of the U.S. Naval War College and a career naval aviator. He enlisted in the U.S. Air Force in 1985 as an Air Traffic Controller and graduated from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in 1990 with a Bachelor of Science in Professional Aeronautics. Walker received his commission in the U.S. Navy through the Naval Aviation Officer Candidate School and was designated a naval flight officer in 1992. He graduated from the Naval War College in 2002 with a Master of Arts in National Security and Strategic Studies. Prior to the Naval War College, Walker served as Deputy Commander of Joint Force Headquarters-Cyber (Navy), U.S. 10th Fleet.

#### Education:

M.A., U.S. Naval War College, 2002, National Security and Strategic Studies

B.S., Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, 1990, Professional Aeronautics

### Provost, U.S. Naval War College



Dr. Stephen J. Mariano most recently served as the deputy commandant and dean of the NATO Defense College in Rome, Italy. He also served on the faculties of the School of International Service at American University, National Defense University, the Royal Military College of Canada, and the U.S. Military Academy. He holds a B.A. in mathematics and economics from the University of California, Santa Barbara, an M.A. in national security affairs from the Naval Postgraduate School, and a Ph.D. in war studies from the Royal Military College of Canada.

## WPS SYMPOSIUM CHAIR

### The Ambassador Swanee Hunt Chair of Women, Peace, and Security, and Professor, U.S. Naval War College



Dr. Saira Yamin is The Ambassador Swanee Hunt Chair of Women, Peace, and Security at the U.S. Naval War College. She has held teaching appointments at the Daniel K. Inouye Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies, Honolulu, the Carter School for Peace and Conflict Resolution, George Mason University, and the Department of Defense and Strategic Studies, Quaid-e-Azam University, Islamabad. She has worked to advance the U.S. WPS policy framework including its institutionalization in the U.S. Department of Defense and building partner-nation capacities for over a decade. She is widely published, her research spanning a range of topics on international peace and conflict, global governance, democratic transitions, and gendered security. She is the editor of a forthcoming volume titled *Women, Peace, and Security: Rethinking Global Security in a Changing World* (Naval War College Press, 2024) and the author of a book titled *Stability Through Economic Cooperation in a Nuclear Environment* (2005, Manohar, New Delhi). She is the recipient of the Faculty Scholarship and Eleanor Roosevelt Student Scholarship awards conferred by the Carter Center for Peace and Conflict Resolution and has received U.S. Federal Government awards for excellence as Mentor of the Year (2019) and the U.S. Defense Security Cooperation Agency's World of Excellence Award (2012-2022).

## SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES & PAPER SUMMARIES

(In order of appearance)

### GUEST OF HONOR REMARKS AND FIRESIDE CHAT

#### Her Excellency Dr. Vjosa Osmani-Sadriu, President of the Republic of Kosovo

This address will explore Kosovo's journey as a country committed to advancing the Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) agenda. It will highlight key milestones in Kosovo's history, focusing on the country's dedication to women's rights, the protection and support of survivors of sexual violence during the war, and the economic empowerment of women in post-conflict society. It will also focus on offering a better understanding of measures focused on ensuring greater representation and participation of women in decision and policy making, also within the military and security sectors. In addition, the address will include a personal story, by also offering concrete models and examples of how these policies are being translated into meaningful change for women in Kosovo.



Dr. Vjosa Osmani Sadriu is the sixth President of the Republic of Kosovo. President Osmani was elected on 4 April 2021, having previously served as the Speaker of Parliament and after being elected as a Member of Parliament of the Republic of Kosovo in five consecutive mandates. She graduated from the Faculty of Law of the University of Prishtina, and received her Masters and Doctorate degrees in international law from the University of Pittsburgh in Pennsylvania, U.S.A.

President Osmani is also the Commander-in-Chief of the Kosovo Security Force and leads the country's foreign policy, as per Kosovo's constitution. As a staunch advocate for an impartial and professional justice system, President Osmani has strongly supported extensive rule of law reforms in Kosovo.

President Osmani has relentlessly championed women's rights, in particular with regards to their participation in processes of peace and security as well as their economic and political empowerment.



## WPS – THE STRATEGIC VIEW

### Dr. Valerie M. Hudson, Texas A&M University

Hudson's co-authored book, *The First Political Order: How Sex Shapes Governance and National Security Worldwide*, argues that instability and insecurity at the nation-state level may have roots that run as deeply as the first political order, that is, the sexual political order established between men and women within a society. The book demonstrates how the most ancient mechanism to ensure group security was the male-bonded kin group. However, in order to create and sustain these groups, women must be strongly subordinated. The strong subordination of women at the household level through a variety of means has unexpected and untoward consequences for group security and stability. The research shows direct and indirect linkages between these subordinative practices and the destabilization of society, using large-N statistical analysis and in-depth case studies. This research project was funded by the U.S. Department of Defense's Minerva Initiative.



Valerie M. Hudson is a University Distinguished Professor and holds the George H.W. Bush Chair in the Department of International Affairs at The Bush School of Government and Public Service at Texas A&M University, where she directs the Program on Women, Peace, and Security. Hudson was named to the list of *Foreign Policy* magazine's Top 100 Global Thinkers for 2009, and in 2015 was recognized as Distinguished Scholar of Foreign Policy Analysis (FPA/ISA), in 2022 as a Distinguished Scholar of Political Demography and Geography (PDG/ISA), and awarded an inaugural Andrew Carnegie Fellowship as well as an inaugural Fulbright Distinguished Chair in the Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences at Australian National University (2017). She is the recipient of a National Science Foundation research grant

and a Minerva Initiative grant from the U.S. Department of Defense. Hudson is a co-founder and Principal Investigator of The WomanStats Project (<http://womanstats.org>).

## KEYNOTE SPEECH AND FIRESIDE CONVERSATION

### SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE IN CONFLICT ZONES: PREVENTION AND RESPONSE

#### Under Secretary General Christian F. Saunders, United Nations

Sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) in conflict and humanitarian settings represents a profound breach of trust, violating human rights and undermining the credibility of international peace and aid operations. With nearly 70% of SEA allegations in missions involving uniformed personnel, bold and decisive action is essential. Addressing SEA requires more than policies—it demands ethical leadership, strong accountability, and a proactive commitment to prevention.

Speaking to future military leaders, USG Saunders will stress the importance of military professionalism in upholding the highest standards of conduct. He will advocate for rigorous pre-deployment vetting, a shift from compliance-based training to comprehensive education grounded in respect, and leaders who model ethical behavior. By embedding victim-centered approaches and ethical safeguards at every level, the next generation of leaders can rebuild trust, ensuring peacekeeping and security sector actions exemplify justice, integrity, and humanity.



Christian Saunders, Under Secretary General and Special Coordinator on improving the UN's response to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse since September 2022, brings over 35 years of international experience. He has led significant reforms improving organizational efficiency and effectiveness and previously served as Acting Commissioner-General for UNRWA. His roles have spanned the UN Department of Operational Support, UNHCR, and UNFPA, with extensive field and humanitarian work in Sudan and Mozambique. Starting his UN career with UNRWA in Gaza, he has contributed broadly to UN peacekeeping and population programs. He holds degrees from Royal Holloway College, University of London, and the University of Wales.

**MODERATOR****Dr. Marybeth P. Ulrich, U.S. Naval War College**

Marybeth P. Ulrich is Professor and Chair of the Strategy and Policy Department at the U.S. Naval War College. Her publications include a book, *Democratizing Communist Militaries: The Cases of the Czech and Russian Armed Forces* (University of Michigan Press). She has published over 50 articles, book chapters and policy pieces on strategic studies, Eurasian security, NATO, and civil-military relations. She served 34 years in the U.S. Air Force, as a KC-135Q navigator, political science professor, and reserve air attaché in the Czech Republic and Russia. Her appointments as a Senior Fellow at the U.S. Air Force Academy and at West Point's Modern War Institute focus on education for military service in a democracy. Dr. Ulrich received her Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of Illinois and is a Distinguished Graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy. She is a life member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

**ELECTIVE 1A – STRENGTHENING MARITIME SECURITY****Ms. Maryruth Belsey Priebe, aXXelerate**

As climate-induced disasters such as wildfires, floods, and cyclones become more frequent and severe, national security efforts will increasingly center on addressing human security needs. Yet both climate adaptation plans and WPS national action plans lack adequate cross-sector strategies. This presentation explores the increasing intersection of defense and humanitarian assistance/disaster response (HA/DR) and highlights the critical importance of integrating gender perspectives into disaster response planning. It argues for greater inclusion of women in defense and security sectors, especially in climate-related crisis management. Drawing on insights from a 2024 Gender in Health and Climate Security Workshop series organized by Pacific Forum International, with support from U.S. Indo-Pacific Command, this study introduces a Gendered Risk Assessment and Action Planning (GRAAPT) tool, and will underscore the urgency of bridging policy and practice within the defense sector to strengthen gender equality and global security in the face of mounting climate breakdown.



Maryruth Belsey Priebe (mbp@aXXelerate.org) is the Co-Founder and COO of aXXelerate, a firm that works to bring gender perspectives into every security conversation. Previously, she was the Director for Women, Peace & Security (WPS) Programs and a Senior Fellow at Pacific Forum International, where she worked closely with USINDOPACOM's WPS Office. Today through aXXelerate, she implements USINDOPACOM and Canadian Armed Forces WPS initiatives in the Indo-Pacific. She also researches solutions to the profound and uniquely gendered security threats faced by communities grappling with the impact of climate change. Ms. Belsey Priebe holds a Harvard International Relations graduate degree and is the Co-Chair of the Gender Interest Group of the Environmental Peacebuilding Association.

**Ms. Carrie P. Compton, U.S. Naval Forces Europe and Africa**

Illegal, unregulated, and unreported fishing (IUUF) and Forced Labor pose a significant and growing problem not only in the fisheries sector, but for maritime security. Throughout the world, the fisheries sector contributes significantly to national, regional, and local economies, but even more profoundly, it directly affects food security and local livelihoods. The secondary and tertiary effects of IUUF and Forced Labor include the disruption of long-standing socio-cultural systems, “shaping individual and community behavior” which detrimentally affects all genders. IUUF has significant impacts on various aspects of society, including gender dynamics. IUUF exacerbate gender inequalities and leave all genders, especially women, in vulnerable positions. The depletion of fish stocks and the disruption of fishing communities due to IUUF result in increased burdens on women, changes in gender roles, and heightened risks of exploitation. Addressing these gender impacts requires comprehensive strategies that empower women, enhance law enforcement, and promote sustainable fishing practices.



Ms. Compton has been the Gender Advisor for USNAVEUR/NAF since May 2022. Prior to this position, Major Compton served in multiple tactical and operational level billets working for USMC, SOCOM, and AFRICOM.

Commissioned as a pilot for the USMC in 2005, she has held a multitude of collateral positions, focusing on ground and aviation training, exercise planning, crisis and HADR response, and recruitment. Most experience has been overseas, working with partner nations and establishing and/or building relationships for better access and understanding. She has deployed in support of multiple military operations and HADR efforts.

Ms. Compton has also volunteered as a mentor to hundreds of K-university students, providing lessons in civics, ethics, and leadership and has served as an elected board member for (2) Texas non-profits.

Ms. Compton holds a master's degree in Operational Leadership and Management and a bachelor's degree in chemistry. She enjoys champagne, banter, and travel.

### **Vice Admiral (Ret.) Alvaro J. Martinez, Argentinian Navy**

I discuss the strategic importance of integrating women in maritime security as a means to strengthen national security. It presents the Inclusive Maritime Security (IMS) Formula, a framework that combines traditional security elements (Technology, Education, and Governance) with inclusive components (Female Leadership, Equitable Participation, and Inclusive Innovation). Using Argentina's Navy as a case study, I outline significant milestones in women's integration, from their initial roles in 1980 to recent achievements like the first female Naval Aviation Academy graduate in 2023. Currently, women represent 26% of Argentina's Navy personnel. Drawing parallels between a warship's structure and the IMS Formula components, I demonstrate how inclusive practices enhance operational effectiveness. I conclude with a call to action emphasizing policy changes, mentorship programs, and inclusive training as key steps toward building a more resilient maritime security sector.



VAdm (Ret.) Alvaro J. Martinez is an Argentine naval officer whose career spans over four decades. He served in combat during the Malvinas War as Communications Officer aboard the DDG ARA "Hércules" and concluded his active duty as Chief of Naval Personnel & Welfare in 2012.

His sea commands included the FPB ARA Indómita, Corvette ARA Espora, and the Corvettes Squadron. In education, he held key roles, including Commander of Naval Education, President of the Naval University Institute, and President of the Argentine NWC.

He holds an MBA from ESEADE University and a master's in health systems management. After completing the NCC at the U.S. Naval War College in 2002, he served as a Visiting Scholar at the Center for Hemispheric Defense Studies (CHDS), NDU, Washington, D.C. In 2015, he was recognized by Argentina's MOD for his role in integrating gender perspectives within the Armed Forces, reflecting his commitment to inclusive leadership.

### **Captain Junko Kawashima, Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force**

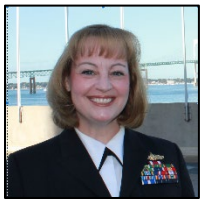
The presentation will cover the current circumstances and initiatives of the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF) regarding female uniformed personnel. It highlights recruitment efforts in response to declining birth rates, measures to retain female talent, work-life balance, leadership, as well as the progress in lifting occupational restrictions. Furthermore, it will introduce the Ministry of Defense's comprehensive Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) efforts, specifically the promotion plan issued in 2023, outlining goals and strategies through 2028, and the activities of the Headquarter for WPS Promotion in JMOD, established in 2023. The discussion will provide insights into how these efforts aim to enhance participation, leadership and empowerment of women, as well as furthering defense cooperation with other countries in areas such as disaster relief operations.



CAPT KAWASHIMA Junko is a native of Tochigi prefecture, Japan. She graduated Dokkyo University in 1997 and joined Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force.

Her sea tours include a XO of JS ASAGIRI, Commanding Officer of JS SETOYUKI. Her staff assignments include: N2, N3 and N5 staff in the Maritime Staff Office, Liaison Officer to the headquarter of the Fifth Fleet of the U.S. Navy and the U.S. NAVCENT, Liaison Officer to CNFJ. She worked for the NATO Secretary General's Special Representative for Women, Peace, and Security from 2017 to 2019.

She serves as Director of International Program Office, JMSDF Command and Staff College.

**MODERATOR****Captain Andrea H. Cameron, U.S. Navy, U.S. Naval War College**

Captain Andrea H. Cameron, U.S. Navy, is a Permanent Military Professor teaching foreign policy analysis in the National Security Affairs Department at the U.S. Naval War College and the founding Director of the Climate and Human Security Group. She also teaches courses on climate change and national security and conducts research on climate security, human security topics, and civil-military coordination during humanitarian assistance. Andrea Cameron holds an Ed.D. in Educational Technology from Pepperdine University and a Ph.D. in Security Studies from the Naval Postgraduate School.

Andrea H. Cameron was a Fulbright Scholar in NATO Security Studies in Belgium in 2023. Andrea taught transatlantic climate security at the College of Europe and researched NATO climate security policy development.

## **ELECTIVE 1B – CIVIL SOCIETY IN DEFENSE AND SECURITY AFFAIRS**

**Ms. Anne K. Nurminen, Lotta Svärd Foundation**

Since gaining independence in 1917, Finnish women have played an active role in national defense. The Lotta Svärd organization, established in 1921, was crucial in transforming societal roles, allowing women to move beyond traditional duties to engage in defense and leadership. This involvement contributed significantly to Finland's advancement in gender equality. Today, Finland is among the world's most gender-equal nations, with all positions in the Finnish Defense Forces open to both men and women, emphasizing qualification over gender. The Soviet Union felt threatened by these empowered women, deeming them so formidable that it abolished the Lotta Svärd organization in 1944. The Lotta Svärd Foundation continues the legacy of the Lotta organization, providing voluntary national defense training for about 2,000 women annually. In this inspirational keynote, Anne Nurminen will discuss Finnish women's cultural heritage in civil society and defense, highlighting its influence on citizen's relation to national defense and gender equality.



Anne Nurminen, the Executive Director of the Lotta Svärd Foundation and retired Senior Lieutenant, graduated as an officer from the Finnish National Defense Academy in 2001. With professional officer positions opening to women in Finland in 2000, Nurminen brings diverse experience concerning the role of women in voluntary national defense, covering both military service and civilian responsibilities.

In addition to her role as a professional soldier, she has worked as an entrepreneur, teacher, and management expert. Nurminen seeks to highlight in her work the crucial role women play in the success of crisis management and national defense. The founding principle of the Lotta Svärd organization aligns with a form of feminism that prioritizes serving society, emphasizing that people have a responsibility to place the well-being of society above personal interests.

**Ms. Miia S. Iivari, National Defence Training Association MPK**

Finland has a long history in ensuring that state and society work together. This includes government, private organizations, and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs). The Security Strategy for Society ensures Finland's Comprehensive Security Model and is seen through seven vital functions. Miia Iivari will discuss Finnish NGOs and their role in society, as well as Finnish citizens' strong will to defend the country. In Finland compulsory military service is compulsory for all men over the age of 18. Approximately 1,000 women annually participate in voluntary military service. The role of women is smaller, and therefore one of the statutory duties of the Voluntary Defense Training Association (MPK) is to provide women with opportunities to engage in voluntary national defense training.



Miia Iivari is the Head of Communications at the National Defense Training Association Finland (MPK) and also serves as the coordinator for NGOs within the Security Committee under the Finnish Ministry of Defense. She compiles the views of Finnish organizations on various security issues and the overall societal situation. During her nearly 10-year career at MPK, she has extensively dealt with the motivations and willingness of Finns to participate in voluntary national defense training and the promotion of comprehensive security. Miia Iivari firmly believes that involving citizens is key to building the safest possible world. In particular, the inclusion of women and consideration of the female

perspective are crucial in this work.



### Ms. Suvi A. Aksela, Women's National Emergency Preparedness Association

In this session, Aksela will explore the impactful work of the Women's National Emergency Preparedness Association in training Finnish women to take an active role in national defence and comprehensive security. Through specialized volunteer training, the Association empowers women with the skills and knowledge necessary to respond effectively to a range of security challenges. By fostering willingness and readiness, this initiative ensures that women are prepared to protect themselves and their families and support their communities and the nation making them essential contributors to Finland's resilience. Finland's unique geographic position with over 1 000 km border with Russia means that our preparedness directly impacts the broader stability of Europe.



Suvi Aksela is the Communications and Organization Manager at the Women's National Emergency Preparedness Association. With nearly thirty years of experience in volunteer organizations and development projects, Suvi has a strong background in nonprofit work and project management. Recently, she expanded her expertise by completing a degree in Security, Safety, and Risk Management from Laurea University of Applied Sciences, deepening her understanding of security-related issues. Suvi is passionate about empowering civilians and NGOs to play an active role in national resilience, focusing on comprehensive security training and volunteer national defence initiatives. In her current role, Suvi serves on several national networks and committees focused on security and preparedness.

### Dr. Miemie W. Byrd, Daniel K. Inouye Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies

Despite the risks, women have been at the forefront of Myanmar's pro-democracy movement, courageously challenging the military generals who ousted a female civilian leader and are attempting to reimpose a patriarchal order that has oppressed women for over fifty years. Recognizing that they have much at stake, women now make up about 60 percent of the pro-democracy movement. Their prominent role on the front lines defies traditional stereotypes and has become a critical strength of the resistance coalition, helping to counter the military junta's overwhelming firepower and funding advantage. Women have also served as the glue holding communities together, sustaining support for the resistance coalition and the pro-democracy movement even after nearly four years of terror and brutality inflicted by the junta on the people. The women of Myanmar deserve recognition and support from the international community as they stand at the front line in the fight to restore democracy on the doorstep of one of the world's largest authoritarian regimes, the People's Republic of China (PRC)."



Dr. Miemie Winn Byrd, a retired U.S. Army veteran with 28 years of service, is a scholar and practitioner specializing in U.S.-Myanmar relations, Southeast Asian security dynamics, and the intersection of economics and security. With an extensive background encompassing military, private-sector, and nonprofit sectors, Dr. Byrd's expertise extends to civil-military operations, women's roles in peace and security, and transformational learning. She holds a Doctorate in Education Leadership from the University of Southern California and has authored numerous publications, including articles in professional security related journals like *Indo-Pacific Defense Forum*, *The Military Review Journal*, and the *Joint Forces Quarterly*. Currently, she serves on multiple advisory boards and committees, contributing her insights to various international initiatives.

### MODERATOR

### Ms. Sahana Dharmapuri, Our Secure Future, PAX sapiens Foundation



Sahana Dharmapuri leads Our Secure Future (OSF) as Vice President and serves as Vice President of the PAX sapiens Foundation, a private family philanthropy. She is one of a small number of people in the world with deep expertise on Women, Peace, and Security (WPS). Under her leadership, OSF spearheaded the establishment of the first bipartisan WPS Congressional Caucus to advance the goals of the U.S. WPS Act of 2017.

She is widely published and has received numerous awards for her work, including her appointment to Sasakawa-USA Foundation's Emerging Expert Delegation to Japan (2023), her nomination and recognition as one of the top 100 feminists in the world by FemList100 (2021), and her appointment as a Fellow at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government Carr Center for Human Rights (2011-2013), among other awards. She holds a BA and master's degree from the University of Chicago.

## ELECTIVE 1C – GENDER ANALYSIS EXERCISE: BAHAMAS SCENARIO

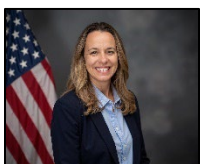
Rapid Gender Analysis Exercise in the Bahamas - Join a group of experienced DoD Gender Advisors for an inter-active gender analysis exercise based on a hurricane scenario in the Bahamas. Learn what a systems thinking approach to gender analysis looks like and how applying a gender lens to the human terrain improves outcomes.

### Dr. Holly Peirce, William J. Perry Center for Hemispheric Defense Studies



Dr. Holly Peirce is currently the Associate Director of Outreach and Communications at the William J. Perry Center for Hemispheric Defense Studies and covers the WPS portfolio. Holly is a State Department Senior Foreign Service Officer (FSO) with the rank of Counselor (07). She recently graduated with distinction from the U.S. Naval War College. Before that she served as the NORAD and USNORTHCOM J5 Deputy Foreign Policy Advisor (POLAD). In addition to covering security assistance for Mexico and The Bahamas, she was the lead POLAD for Arctic Security and is a Joint Staff trained Gender Advisor (GENAD). She assisted with developing and socializing the first USNORTHCOM Concept of Operations to provide gender advisory support to Operation Allies Welcome (OAW) in support of the historic evacuation of Afghan allies and deployed to Task Force Liberty.

### Ms. Tiffani E. Phillips, North American Aerospace Defense Command and U.S. Northern Command



Ms. Tiffani Phillips is the Chief of the Human Security and Resilience Branch for NORAD and USNORTHCOM and the Command Gender Advisor for USNORTHCOM. She leads the implementation of Women, Peace, and Security across the Command's missions as well as the integration of Human Rights, Civilian Harm Mitigation and Response, and Climate Resilience with USNORTHCOM's allies and partners. This included orchestrating the provision of gender advisory support during Operation Allies Welcome – the first time that the Department deployed this capability during an operation and in Defense Support of Civil Authorities.

Ms. Phillips grew up in Niagara Falls, NY. She is an Air Force veteran where she served in a variety of intelligence roles. Ms. Phillips joined USNORTHCOM in 2009 contributing to the success of the security cooperation mission in several portfolios before her current assignment.

She is a mother of six, avid volunteer, and enjoys hiking, yoga, and skiing.

### Major Kathleen I. Leaton, Royal Canadian Air Force, North American Aerospace Defense



Maj Leaton joined the Royal Canadian Air Force in Kingston, Ontario Canada, in August 2008. She has spent roughly 12 years of a 16-year career in the North American Aerospace Defense (NORAD) enterprise, with a brief stint in NATO operations from 2014-2017 in Poggio Renatico, Italy.

Maj Leaton in 2022 was posted to NORAD Headquarters in Colorado Springs, USA to work in the J5 Strategy, Policy and Plans Division. She was appointed as the Canadian Element NORAD Gender advisor in 2023 following training in Sweden.

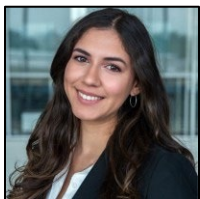
An avid travel enthusiast, Maj Leaton enjoys exploring, hiking, and participating in various organized sports. She is happily married to Michael, and they are the proud parents of two boys – Alexander and Avery.

### Dr. Tahina L. Montoya, U.S. Southern Command



Dr. Tahina Montoya is a multi-lingual Air Force Officer with over 16 years of military experience working at the tactical, operational, and strategic levels in the United States and abroad. In her military capacity, Dr. Montoya is a DoD Gender Advisor and Political/Military Analyst in the Air Force Reserves currently assigned to the Americas Transnational Threat Center (ATTC) at the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA). In her civilian capacity, Dr. Montoya serves the Biden-Harris Administration as Senior Advisor at the White House Office of Public Engagement. She is also an adjunct professor at George Washington University's Elliott School of International Affairs where she teaches Gender, War and Peace.



**Ms. Paola K. Rodriguez Ramos, U.S. Southern Command**

Paola Rodriguez Ramos holds a bachelor's degree in criminology from the University of South Florida. Currently, she is pursuing a Master of Global Affairs degree with a specialization in Globalization and Security at Florida International University. Over the past six years, she has actively contributed to the field of education, both domestically and internationally, and have been involved in nonprofit organizations promotion of human rights. Currently, she is a gender analyst at U.S. Southern Command in the office of Women's Peace and Security.

**Ms. Jena R. Daggett, North American Aerospace Defense Command and U.S. Northern Command**

Jena Daggett serves as the Deputy Division Chief in the NORAD & U.S. Northern Command (N&NC) International Engagement and Acquisition Division. She is also the lead program manager for civilian capacity building with the Bahamian government and partners with the Royal Bahamas Defence Force on logistics, engineering, and crisis response initiatives. She became a certified Gender Advisor in 2018 and deployed as such to support Task Force McCoy during Operation Allies Welcome. She began her career as a government contractor as the Assessment, Monitoring, and Evaluation Analyst for all civil-military programs conducted between N&NC and partners in Mexico and The Bahamas. Jena began working at N&NC as a Voluntary Student Intern responsible for Minimal Cost Projects in Mexico and

The Bahamas. Jena previously was a Teach For America corps member in the Rio Grande Valley of Texas, where she taught elementary students.

**Ms. Kirsten N. Pecua, North American Aerospace Defense Command and U.S. Northern Command**

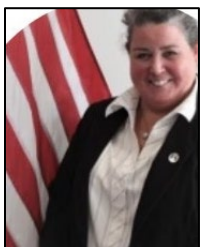
Kirsten Pecua is the Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) Learning Specialist supporting operations and planning for North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD) and United States Northern Command (USNORTHCOM). She develops and delivers education across Canada, Mexico, the Bahamas, and the United States, while leading innovation integration to enhance WPS processes and ensure relevant education.

Previously, Ms. Pecua served for 12 years in the United States Air Force and United States Space Force as a space operations officer, holding various leadership roles. Her final assignment was at Peterson Space Force Base, Colorado, where she served as the Provost and Dean of the College of Space Warfare at the National Security Space Institute. There, she delivered space education to over 7,000 students from 59 nations. Additionally, she was a Gender Focal Point for United States Space Training and Readiness Command, advocating for and integrating WPS strategy into Space Force training.

**Lieutenant Colonel Michelle Branch, Rhode Island National Guard**

Michelle Branch, LTC, MS, RING Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC). LTC Branch earned an MS in Counseling/Psychology from the University of Rhode Island in 1993. She has worked in the community as a licensed mental health practitioner in inpatient and outpatient settings, also serving as Supervising Clinical Psychologist for the ACI. In 2015, she was hired as the RING SARC. She earned a second MS in Applied Psychology in 2017, later earning a doctorate in Clinical & Forensic Psychology. LTC Branch enlisted in the military in 1994. She was enlisted for ten years before commissioning as a Medical Service Corps Officer. In 2013, she deployed to Afghanistan in support of OEF serving with the 101st Airborne Division as an Electronic Warfare Officer with Task Force CEASAR (Communication,

Electronic, Attack, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance). In 2018, she completed the USINDOPACOM Gender Advisor course and is a member of the RING WPS team.

**Dr. LisaRe B. Babin, Department of the Army**

Dr. Babin earned her Ph.D. in Experimental Psychology at the University of Montana. She taught psychology and biology classes stateside and in Iraq, Afghanistan, Bahrain, Kuwait, Germany, Italy, Portugal, Greece, and England. Dr. Babin deployed to Afghanistan as a government civilian where she engaged with Afghan women and trained Female Engagement Teams. Most recently, Dr. Babin was the Gender Advisor for Task Force Eagle Operation Allies Welcome and became the Army's Gender Advisor in May 2024. As a Gender Advisor, Lisa develops the Army's WPS Program, selects and trains Gender Focal Points and Gender Advisors, and evaluates those skills to ensure readiness. Dr. Babin's awards include the Commander's Award for Civilian Service, the Civilian Award for Humanitarian Service, the

Global War on Terrorism, the Civilian Service Commendation Medal, and the Superior Civilian Service Award. Lastly, Lisa and her husband, David, are proud grandparents of six grandchildren and one fur baby.

#### **Ms. Frieda M. Garcia Castellanos, Inter-American Defense College**



Ms. Frieda Garcia Castellanos – IADC Gender Advisor With over a decade of experience at the Inter-American Defense College (IADC), Frieda is a skilled strategic advisor known for her advocacy in gender equality. Institutionalized the Gender Integration and Perspective course, ensuring its permanence at IADC. At NORTHCOM, she contributes to the foundational elements of the WPS North American Defense Framework. She’s the first Gender Advisor at the IADC, a senior service PME, advising leadership, staff, and students on the Gender Perspective and WPS mainstreaming. Her collaboration extends to developing gender-responsive disaster preparedness plans with CEPREDENAC to executing the first WPS workshop in the Arctic with NORTHCOM and introducing WPS principles for the DOJ’s

International Criminal Investigative Training Assistance Program in their counter-terrorism trainings. Frieda’s commitment to knowledge dissemination includes lectures, podcasts, and academic publications with global outreach, emphasizing the critical role of women in international peace and security.

#### **Ms. Sydney E. Knapp, William J. Perry Center for Hemispheric Defense Studies**



Sydney Knapp is a Research Associate at the William J. Perry Center for Hemispheric Defense Studies. In this role, her areas of focus are Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) and the Regional Threat Environment. She was previously in the Admissions Office at the Perry Center where she coordinated with 25 embassies in Latin America and the Caribbean to facilitate civilian and military participation in executive education courses and seminars. Prior to her time at the Perry Center, she interned at the United States Southern Command in the Civil Affairs Division. She has two master’s degrees from the University of Miami in International Administration and Liberal Studies, respectively.

#### **MODERATOR**

#### **Dr. Mary Thompson-Jones, U.S. Naval War College**



Dr. Mary Thompson-Jones is a career diplomat, professor, and published author on U.S. foreign policy and the practice of diplomacy. Her book, *To the Secretary: Leaked Embassy Cables and America’s Foreign Policy Disconnect* (Norton 2016), was praised by Joseph Nye as “a fascinating account of how diplomacy really works from the bottom up.” Her diplomatic experience spans a 23-year career as a foreign service officer in leadership roles in the Czech Republic, Canada, Guatemala, Spain, and Washington, D.C. She retired with the rank of Minister-Counselor and is the recipient of several Superior and Meritorious Honor awards. Before coming to the USNWC, she directed a master’s program at Northeastern University.

## **ELECTIVE 1D – WOMEN, PEACE, AND CYBER SECURITY**

#### **Ms. Anne M. Schumann, Department of the Navy**

The key aspects of the US’s 2019 Women, Peace, and Security strategy align with the aims of U.S. national and DoD cyber strategies. The DON can do more to integrate WPS and cybersecurity into the fabric of our cyber workforce and cyber mission force.



Ms. Anne Marie Schumann serves as the Department of the Navy Principal Cyber Advisor (DON PCA). In this role, she is responsible for advising the Secretary of the Navy, Chief of Naval Operations, and Commandant of the Marine Corps on all cyber matters and implementing the Department of Defense Cyber Strategy within the DON.

### Dr. Alexis L. Henshaw, Troy University

As the WPS Agenda nears its 25th anniversary, scholars have begun to question an apparent disconnect between WPS and cybersecurity. While these two issue areas emerged as global security concerns around the same time, more countries now have national cybersecurity laws or strategies than WPS National Action Plans (NAPs). This presentation seeks to explore this gap by examining how cybersecurity policy can be gendered. Key to the discussion is that the vision of a free and open cyberspace requires attention to gender-based violence and harassment online. Through an examination of national cybersecurity strategies in NATO countries, I show that a concern for human rights in cyberspace has not been met by a corresponding recognition of the differential threats facing women and girls online. Drawing on case studies of the United Kingdom and Luxembourg, I discuss how gender can be mainstreamed into cybersecurity policy.



Alexis Henshaw is Associate Professor of Political Science at Troy University. She is the author of *Why Women Rebel* (Routledge 2017), *Digital Frontiers in Gender and Security* (Bristol University Press 2023), and a co-author of *Insurgent Women* (Georgetown University Press 2019). Her work on gender and international relations has appeared in peer-reviewed journals including *Politics & Gender*, *Studies in Conflict and Terrorism*, and *Journal of Global Security Studies*. She holds a Ph.D. from the University of Arizona and an M.A. from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She previously taught at Duke University and Miami University and was an Associate Fellow with the Global Network on Extremism and Technology.

### Ms. Lauren Buitta, Girl Security



Lauren Buitta is the founder and CEO of Girl Security. Girl Security's mission is to empower girls and young women from underrepresented communities with the skills, experiences, networks, and support to pursue national security careers, which lead to job sustainability and greater societal impact. As part of our pathways approach, we work to advance girls' and women's voices on national security issues with gendered impacts. Our vision is to build a diverse national security workforce of women who can lead responsible and equitable security outcomes for the United States and a global community. In 2024, Girl Security launched the first national security high school-based clinics in the country, starting on

Chicago's South Side.

Lauren has received numerous honors, including being named one of "The Most Influential People in Security" by *Security Magazine* in 2022. She is a former fellow with the Carnegie Endowment and the Truman National Security Project. Lauren holds a B.A. in Political Science from Boston College and a J.D. from Chicago-Kent College of Law.

### Colonel Hafedh Hamdi, Tunisian Army Special Forces Brigade



Colonel HAFEDH HAMDI serves as the Counter-Terrorism Intervention Unit Commander in the Tunisian Army Special Forces Brigade at Camp Ramadia, Bizerte.

He joined the Military Academy in 1996 and graduated as a 2nd Lieutenant in 2000. He conducted the Basic Infantry Course in the Army Arms School, and then he joined the Special Forces Brigade. His SF career includes the following qualifications: Airborne Commandos Course, Special Operations Course, Counter-Terrorism & Hostage Rescue Course, Free Fall Course, Advanced Intelligence Course (NATO).

During his career, he served as: Airborne Platoon Leader, Special Operations Team Leader, Counter-Terrorism Team Leader, Airborne Company Commander, Logistics Officer in a UN Mission (MONUSCO-DRC), Intelligence Battalion Commander, J3/Special Forces Brigade.

Colonel HAFEDH HAMDI is an infantry officer who has the following PME: Basic Infantry Course, Advanced Infantry Course, Manoeuver Captain's Career Course (US), Staff Course, Staff Course (Morocco), War College (Tunisia), Army War College (US).



**MODERATOR****Dr. Chris C. Demchak, U.S. Naval War College**

With engineering, economics, and comparative complex organization systems /political science degrees, Dr. Chris C. Demchak is Grace Hopper Chair of Cyber Security and Senior Cyber Scholar, CIPI, U.S. Naval War College. Her publications/research on cyberspace as a global, insecure, conflict-prone “substrate” take a systemic approach to cybered Great Systems’ Conflict conflict across national socio-technical-economic systems, AI and emerging technologies, and national resilience against complex systems surprise.

## **ELECTIVE 1E – GENDER ANALYSIS EXERCISE**

### **NON-COMBATANT EVACUEE OPERATIONS, KOREAN PENINSULA**

The Department of Defense plans for and works with interagency partners to ensure the safety and security of U.S. government affiliated non-combatant evacuees living in the Republic of Korea. Have we planned for the short-term needs and long-term interests of the entire population? What would a plan that integrates gender perspectives look like? What are the risks and threats to a non-combatant evacuation operation (NEO) if we do not consider gender in our planning? USINDOPACOM, partnering with U.S. Forces Korea and USTRANSCOM, will lead an activity to apply a gender analysis to a NEO plan and improve the DoD’s preparation for a potential NEO on the Korean peninsula.

**Ms. Sharon E.G. Feist, U.S. Indo-Pacific Command**

Sharon Feist is the first Gender Advisor (GENAD) to the Commander, United States Indo-Pacific Command (USINDOPACOM), serving as the Director for Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) and principal U.S. military WPS advisor within the Indo-Pacific.

In line with the U.S. WPS Act, Strategy & National Action Plan, and Defense Strategic Framework and Implementation Plan, Sharon directs USINDOPACOM WPS policy and strategy; designs and delivers tailored regional WPS programming; and oversees Command-wide WPS institutionalization and operationalization, to include USINDOPACOM Component, Sub-Unified Commands, and Direct

Reporting Units. She leads an innovative team at the cutting-edge of defense WPS implementation, actively working with over 25 partner nations within the Indo-Pacific to develop human-centered security strategies that advance stability and peace.

Sharon has served within U.S. Indo-Pacific Command since 2007 and has supported human rights, gender equality, and WPS initiatives over the last 17 years.

**Dr. Delaina L. Sawyers, U.S. Indo-Pacific Command**

Completing a successful career spanning over 20 years in the Army as a Medical Service Corp officer, COL (ret.) Sawyers served in functional areas of medical logistics, multi-functional field medical training, medical plans & operations, and force structure design and integration. While stationed in the U.S. Pacific AOR COL Sawyers conducted numerous medical engagements utilizing multi-service components and partner nation (PN) medical capability. Upon completing her Ph.D. in Public Policy, Dr. Sawyers joined the Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) team at U.S. Indo-Pacific Command as the Senior Gender Analyst. Dr. Sawyers conducts research and gender-based analysis to include the dimensions of political, social, economic, and security contexts in support of USINDOPACOM policies and plans. Dr. Sawyers has conducted research on women and political participation, policy, and gender

representation in organizational structures and most recently deployed as a Gender Advisor in support of Operation Allies Welcome (OAW).

**Ms. Erin S. Cooper, U.S. Indo-Pacific Command**

Erin Cooper is the Women, Peace, and Security Policy and Partnerships Advisor at U.S. Indo-Pacific Command. She was previously the Acting Director for International Humanitarian Policy in the Office for the Secretary of Defense (OSD) for Policy, Global Partnerships, where she oversaw defense policy related to international humanitarian law policy, DoD Leahy law vetting and remediation, atrocity prevention and response, and Women, Peace, and Security. While in OSD, she was the DoD lead for the interagency development of the 2023 U.S. Strategy and National Action Plan for Women, Peace, and Security. In October 2021, she deployed as a Gender Advisor in support of Operation Allies Welcome to map personnel, advise on gender-related issues, develop task force specific standard operating procedures related to protection of vulnerable individuals, and provide gender analysis to inform decision making.

**Ms. Elizabeth M. Ludan, U.S. Indo-Pacific Command**

Elizabeth (Liz) Ludan is the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command Office of Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) Security Cooperation Integrator. The USINDOPACOM Office of WPS mission is to design and implement inclusive security strategies that advance stability and human rights across the Indo-Pacific. Prior to joining USINDOPACOM in 2021, Liz worked in cyber policy, democracy and governance programming, and as a public affairs specialist. Liz holds an M.A in Foreign Affairs from The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University and a B.A in Political Science, Anthropology, and East Asian Studies from McGill University. Liz trained as a mediator through the Massachusetts court system and speaks Japanese.

**Ms. Kandace L. Moore, U.S. Forces Korea**

Kandace L. Moore is a dedicated public servant with 19 years of federal experience, currently serving as the Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) Program Manager and Command Gender Advisor (GENAD) for United States Forces Korea (USFK) at Camp Humphreys, South Korea. Since assuming this role in August 2024, Mrs. Moore has been a driving force behind advancing USFK's WPS initiatives, focusing on empowering women in peace and security, promoting gender equality, advocating for human rights, and ensuring meaningful participation of women in defense and security sectors across the Korean Peninsula. Her strategic approach emphasizes collaboration, relationship-building, and forward-looking solutions to foster impactful progress.

Mrs. Moore previously served as the Executive Assistant to the Commander of United Nations Command, Combined Forces Command, and United States Forces Korea, where she demonstrated exceptional dedication and professionalism at the Four-Star level.

She is a proud veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps.

**Ms. JoAnne M. Sukus, U.S. Transportation Command**

Ms. JoAnne M. Sukus is the Command Gender Advisor at U.S. Transportation Command, Scott Air Force Base, Illinois. USTRANSCOM conducts globally integrated mobility operations, leads the broader Joint Deployment and Distribution Enterprise, and provides enabling capabilities to project and sustain the Joint Force in support of national objectives.

Prior to her current position and selection to civilian service, Ms. Sukus was a government contractor serving as the Women, Peace, and Security Lead and Gender Advisor for the Command from April 2021 to August 2023. In October 2021, Ms. Sukus was deployed as a Gender Advisor to Camp Atterbury, Indiana in support of Operation Allies Welcome where she supported over 7,000 Afghan evacuees. She also supported North Atlantic Treaty Organization Loyal Leda 22 as a Gender Advisor Mentor, contributing to the integration of a gender perspective across a multi-national command post exercise.

**MODERATOR****Commander Karen A. Cahill, Royal Navy, U.S. Naval War College**

CDR Karen Cahill began her career in 1994, joining the Royal Navy after earning a Bachelor of Arts with honors in teaching. Throughout her naval career, she served aboard multiple vessels as a surface warfare officer, including frigates, destroyers and aircraft carriers.

Her shore assignments demonstrated increasing responsibility and international scope. She played a key role in policy development at the Ministry of Defense headquarters, where she focused on discipline policy. She later commanded the UK military contingent in Diego Garcia and, in Bahrain, served on the Combined Maritime Forces staff. As a member of the British Peace Support Team (Africa), she worked to enhance regional maritime capabilities. Most recently, before joining the Naval War College faculty, she served in the U.S. Central Command operations directorate.

**KEYNOTE PANEL: WPS IN AN ERA OF STRATEGIC COMPETITION****Ambassador Bonnie D. Jenkins, U.S. State Department**

Ambassador Bonnie Denise Jenkins, PhD, was appointed as the Under Secretary for Arms Control and International Security on July 22, 2021. She previously served in the Obama Administration as Special Envoy and Coordinator for Threat Reduction Programs. Before serving as Coordinator, she was a Legal Adviser to the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency providing advice on arms control and nonproliferation treaties negotiations. Ambassador Jenkins worked at the Ford Foundation as the Program Officer for U.S. Foreign and Security Policy, and Conflicts. She also served as Counsel on the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States. Ambassador Jenkins was the Founder, Executive Director, and Board Chair of Women of Color Advancing Peace and Security and

in June 2020, she founded Organizations in Solidarity, which supports a common vision of a world where all people are treated equally, fairly, and with respect.

Ambassador Jenkins has been an adjunct professor at Georgetown University Law School, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service and George Washington Elliott School of International Affairs.

Ambassador Jenkins has a Ph.D. in International Relations from the University of Virginia; an LL.M. in International and Comparative Law from the Georgetown University Law Center; an M.P.A. from the State University of New York at Albany; a J.D. from Albany Law School; and a B.A. from Amherst College. She also attended The Hague Academy for International Law. She is a retired U.S. Naval Reserve Officer and is a member of the New York State Bar.

**Ms. Michelle Strucke, Center for Strategic and International Studies**

As the United States finds itself in a decisive decade, preparing for a contest with near peer competitors that will shape the future of our world, it is critical to use all the tools at its disposal - including those traditionally viewed to be outside the realm of hard security - in order to understand and harness its strategic advantages and opportunities. The Women, Peace, and Security agenda represents an area in which the U.S. and its allies and partners can meaningfully distinguish themselves and take greater advantage of the information and capabilities that a gender lens and capability set can provide. Ms. Strucke will draw upon her experience leading Women, Peace, and Security policy for the Department of Defense to join distinguished colleagues in discussing opportunities and challenges represented by Women, Peace, and Security in an era of strategic competition.



Michelle Strucke is director for the Humanitarian Agenda and the Human Rights Initiative at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS). From 2021-2023, Michelle served as principal director for stability and humanitarian affairs and as the first deputy assistant secretary of defense for global partnerships from 2022 to 2023. In these roles, she led the development of Department of Defense (DOD) policy and strategy for a holistic range of policy tools for advancing U.S. national security partnerships, including humanitarian affairs and disaster response; global health engagement; human rights issues; women, peace, and security; civilian protection, and the multibillion-dollar security cooperation enterprise. Prior, she served for a decade in civil society at Oxfam America, Islamic Relief USA, and the

Syrian American Medical Society, and on the Virginia Council on Women from 2016 to 2021. She holds a master's degree in international human rights law and a bachelor's degree in sociology.



## Commander Bramwell B. Arnold, U.S. Navy, Special Operations Command Africa

The United States Special Operation Forces (SOF) Truth #1 is that humans are more important than hardware. From a SOF perspective, we must focus on the evolving nature of global security, emphasizing the critical role of women in supporting SOF operations and shaping a more stable world. As SOF operators navigate complex, dynamic environments, it is essential to reassess traditional security frameworks and integrate a more inclusive, human-centered approach. This symposium brings together SOF professionals, experts, and policymakers to explore innovative strategies for: Integrating women into SOF operations and partner force development. Addressing the intersection of climate, security, and human rights in SOF contexts, leveraging emerging technologies to enhance SOF capabilities and support peacebuilding, fostering inclusive and sustainable partnerships to promote global security through collaborative discussions and problem-solving, participants will develop actionable recommendations for enhancing SOF operations and promoting a more secure, stable world.



CDR Bram Arnold is the Current Operations Division Chief at Special Operations Command Africa. He graduated from the USNA in 2008 and qualified as a Naval Special Warfare Officer in 2010.

Assigned to SEAL Team ONE, he deployed to Iraq in support of Operation New Dawn.

While assigned to SEAL Team FIVE as a Platoon Commander, CDR Arnold deployed as the Assault Force Commander for SOCPAC's Maritime Crisis Response Force.

In 2017, CDR Arnold was assigned to Special Reconnaissance Team ONE where he commanded a unique deploy for purpose Cross Functional Troop.

In 2021, CDR Arnold was assigned to Detachment Germany as the Officer in Charge where he led a detachment that provided support to all NSW units that deployed to the EUCOM theater.

He holds a degree in Mechanical Engineering from the USNA and a Master of Business Administration degree from the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania.

## MODERATOR

### Dr. Jonathan Caverley, U.S. Naval War College



Jonathan Caverley is professor of Strategic and Operational Research and the interim Editor in Chief of the Naval War College Press. He is a research affiliate in the security studies program at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the inaugural director of the Bernard Brodie Strategy Group. He was formerly assistant professor of political science at Northwestern University, where he founded and co-chaired the working group on security studies at the Roberta Buffett Center. He previously served eight years as a submarine officer in the U.S. Navy and as an assistant professor of naval science at Northwestern University.

## ELECTIVE 2A – CULTIVATING ALLYSHIP IN DEFENSE AND SECURITY SECTORS

### Captain Christa D. Almonte, U.S. Navy, U.S. Central Command

Cultivating allyship within the Defense and Security Sectors begins with development of one's self, as a professional - military officer, civilian, it doesn't matter. Cultivating allyship begins with being a professional you would seek out to work for, work with, and lead. In short, be an individual others would trust and respect and enthusiastically support when called.

A singularly important step in that self-development is to recognize you are unique and only you can contribute your talent, perspectives, and expertise to an organization... only the same is true of everyone else. A resilient alliance is built when singular individuals are proactive in reaching out to offer assistance, recognize the contributions of others are as important as their own, encourage frank dialogue, and, above all to offer others respect and trust.



Captain Christa Almonte is a 1999 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy. She served as a Surface Warfare Officer before transferring to the Foreign Area Officer community with a CENTCOM regional focus.

At sea, her tours include USS Fletcher; Destroyer Squadron Five Zero; USS Fitzgerald; and USS Lake Erie.

Ashore, her tours include Navy Security Cooperation Officer in Bahrain; East Asia Contingency Plans Officer in U.S. INDOPACOM J5; Chief of Attaché Operations in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia; and the CNO's Navy Fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations in New York, NY. She currently serves as the Plans and Policies Director (N5) at COMUSNAVCENT.

CAPT Almonte holds master's degrees from George Washington University, the Naval War College, and the National Defense University and an Associate of Arts degree in Arabic.

### **Dr. Curtis M. Bell, U.S. Naval War College**

Promoting inclusivity and equity in professional settings is more than a critical moral imperative; it is also necessary for innovation, creativity, and peak team performance. When one identity group is overrepresented on a team, achieving a culture of inclusivity can be especially challenging. This talk draws on theories of cognitive psychology, organizational leadership, and sociology to highlight some proven approaches that can be used to foster inclusivity and improve team performance, even in teams that skew heavily toward one overrepresented group.



Curtis Bell is the Director of the Maritime Security and Governance Staff Course and a Professor in the International Programs Department of the U.S. Naval War College. He has worked on five continents and presented to audiences including the African Union and United Nations. His work has been featured in *The New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Economist*, several academic journals, and a UN Security Council resolution. He has made scholarly contributions on topics as diverse as military coups, quantitative forecasting and early warning systems, environmental security, maritime security, civil-military relations in democracies, and political stability in oil-rich states.

### **Dr. Joan Johnson-Freese, U.S. Naval War College**

Allyship is part of a larger set of support systems that individuals employ in the workplace. Those support systems are especially important for women in non-traditional careers in terms hiring, retention and promotion. Yet, they are often less available to women, and based on research from my 2022 book *Women vs Women: The Case for Cooperation*, cooperation and allyship are not always the first inclination for women. Indeed, women are taught that competition is their natural relationship from adolescence, and even through adult years that allyship can come with risks. The importance of allyship, overcoming competitive inclinations, and ways to mitigate risk and cooperate will be the focus of my remarks.



Dr. Joan Johnson-Freese is a University Professor Emeritus of the Naval War College and a Senior Fellow at Women in International Security. She currently teaches courses on Women, Peace, and Security through Harvard Extension & Summer Schools and lectures on related topics globally. She is the author of *Women vs Women: The Case for Cooperation* (2022) *Women, Peace & Security: An Introduction*, 2nd edition (2023) and *Leadership in War & Peace: Masculine & Feminine* (forthcoming June 2025).

### **Brigadier General Matthew W. Tracy, U.S. Marine Corps, Marine Corps University**

BGen Tracy's remarks will emphasize the value of male allyship and offer specific instances in which he has seen it applied in a range of contexts. A critical component for male allyship is creating and clearly articulating the objective or road map of what the group is trying to accomplish. This allows one to better see the power eddies and currents that may be pulling the team off course. He will begin by distinguishing between mentoring and allyship and continue with examples and missed opportunities based on his experiences leading Marines in both garrison and deployed environments.



Brigadier General Matthew Tracy is the President, Marine Corps University and Commanding General, Education Command. Born in West Hartford, Connecticut, he earned his commission through the NROTC program at Vanderbilt University. He has held command of 2d Battalion; 3d Marines, Recruiting Station Chicago; 3d Battalion, 3d Marines; and 4th Marine Regiment. His staff assignments include Future Operations and Plans Officer at Marine Forces Pacific and U.S. Special Operations Command. He served twice as an Assistant Chief of Staff, War Plans Officer (G5) and Operations Officer (G3) for III Marine Expeditionary in Okinawa, Japan. He served in combat zones in Kosovo, Afghanistan, and Iraq. Brigadier General Tracy's decorations include two Legions of Merit, one Bronze Star, and the Defense Meritorious Service Medal. He is a graduate of College of Naval Command and Staff, College of Naval Warfare and Maritime Advanced Warfare School.

**MODERATOR****Captain Danielle M. Higson, U.S. Navy, U.S. Naval War College**

CAPT Higson is a Navy judge advocate and an NWC alumni. She is currently a military professor for the U.S. Naval War College (NWC) Joint Military Operations Department and the lead for outreach for the NWC Women, Peace & Security Committee. During her career, she has served as the legal advisor at various levels of command at sea and ashore at joint, multinational, and interagency commands. Her deployments include a carrier deployment to SW Asia, Individual Augmentation to Iraq, and an assignment to Bahrain. She specializes in national security law. She gained significant expertise in cyber and intelligence law while providing operational legal advice at the National Security Agency, U.S. Cyber Command, and U.S. Fleet Cyber Command/U.S. Tenth Fleet, where she earned her Information Warfare Officer qualification.

**ELECTIVE 2B – GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE****Major Daniel Eerhart, U.S. Army, West Point**

The discussion examines the political violence targeting women in Yemen, particularly following the Arab Spring, during which Yemeni women actively resisted President Ali Abdullah Saleh's Regime. Despite the removal of Saleh from office in 2012, violence against women, particularly under the Houthi regime, has escalated. Data from the Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project (ACLED) is used to consider trends in gender-based violence. The discussion will focus on statistical violence trends and models to emulate for the amelioration of gender-based violence.



Major Dan Eerhart is a Research Scientist in the Cyber Policy, Law, and Strategy Section within the Army Cyber Institute. MAJ Eerhart was Commissioned as a Distinguished Military Graduate into the Armor branch, then served as a Mobile Gun System (MGS) Platoon Leader, Reconnaissance Troop Executive Officer, and Squadron Logistics Officer. CPT Eerhart then applied for, assessed, completed the Psychological Operations Qualification Course, and served within the Army Special Operations community. He served as the Commander for a Sensitive Activities Detachment and a Psychological Operations Detachment. Major Eerhart earned his master's degree from the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), has completed the USSOCOM Cybersecurity Professionals Program, and holds professional/graduate Cybersecurity and Data Analytics certifications. He speaks Korean, Dutch, and Spanish.

**Mr. Peter Tozzi & Dr. Susan Yoshihara, American Council on Women, Peace, and Security***God, Sex, and Geopolitics: Strategic Effects of Beijing's Double Persecution of Women in Xinjiang*

We argue that the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) executes a "double persecution" against Uyghur women—for their sex and faith—through its genocide against the Uyghurs. The "double persecution" of women also poses a national security threat to the United States because the CCP attacks and subverts American values and laws through transnational repression as it targets diaspora Uyghur communities, as well as other diaspora communities. We examine the methods by which the CCP targets Uyghur women within its borders, including sterilization, forced abortions, family separation, forced Uyghur-Han interethnic marriages, and the embedding of agents within Uyghur homes. We then examine the CCP's use of United Front Work and political warfare to target Uyghur women abroad, through forcibly repatriating Uyghurs, pressuring diaspora.



Peter Tozzi is a research fellow at the American Council on Women, Peace, and Security (ACWPS). He is currently a graduate student at National Chengchi University in Taipei, Taiwan. He received his B.A. in International Studies from Virginia Tech. At ACWPS, Mr. Tozzi researches the Chinese Communist Party's human rights violations against Uyghur women and girls.





Susan Yoshihara is founder and president of the American Council on Women Peace and Security, a Washington, DC-based think tank which has advised the Defense Department since 2020, including U.S. Northern Command and the Defense Security Cooperation University. She is adjunct professor at the Institute of World Politics and consultant to the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops Committee on International Justice and Peace. She took part in UN human rights negotiations for fourteen years as part of civil society and served on the Holy See delegation. She served 20 years as a U.S. Navy helicopter pilot, led combat logistics missions in the Gulf War, and taught on the Naval War College faculty. She holds a BS from the Naval Academy, MFA from Antioch University, Los Angeles, MA from the Naval

Postgraduate School, and PhD from the Fletcher School. Her third book, *Women Peace and Security in Security Cooperation*, is forthcoming.

### **Ms. Elina Korhonen, Women, Peace, and Security Network in Finland**

Sexual violence has become a tool of warfare by Russian troops in Ukraine. Violence targets not only civilians but also prisoners of war. Reports from organizations like the UN and local NGOs indicate that instances of sexual violence appear systematic, suggesting an organized nature. Victims of sexual violence in Ukraine are stigmatized, leading to severe underreporting, especially in rural or conservative areas. The fear of retaliation or social judgment makes reporting difficult, which complicates efforts to document and address the extent of the abuse. Legal accountability is complex, with limited resources and barriers to justice. The impact on healthcare and mental health services is severe. During my presentation I will address the complexity of the situation and what more should be done to combat sexual violence in Ukraine and to support survivors and their communities. I will also shed light on the Ukrainian WPS National Action Plan and the progress on implementation.



Elina Korhonen is a President of the Women, Peace, and Security Network in Finland that enhances the implementation of the WPS agenda, Director of International Affairs in Väestöliitto - the leading sexual rights organization in Finland - an advisor for the All-Party-Parliamentary-Group on Sexual and reproductive health and rights and combating sexual violence in the Parliament of Finland, and an expert member of the Development Policy Committee in the parliament of Finland.

Elina Korhonen is M.Pol and B.Soc.Sc from the University of Helsinki, Clinical Sexual Therapist experienced working with trauma and survivors of sexual violence. She is also trained in civil crises management by the government of Finland.

### **Dr. Kerry F. Crawford, James Madison University**

This discussion will examine the United Nations Security Council's recognition of conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV) in the context of the Women, Peace, and Security agenda, the extent to which that recognition has translated into states' adoption of policies and commitment of resources, and the opportunities created and limitations imposed by the pervasive understanding of CRSV as a weapon of war. The discussion will highlight the political constraints that shape recognition of CRSV and the variation in efforts to prioritize prevention of CRSV and accountability for perpetrators.



Dr. Kerry F. Crawford is Professor and Academic Unit Head of Political Science at James Madison University. She earned a Ph.D. in Political Science from George Washington University in 2014 and a B.A. in Political Science from St. Mary's College of Maryland in 2007. She has published four books and numerous journal articles on sexual violence in war, human security, gender and peacekeeping, and best practices for fostering diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging in higher education.

### **MODERATOR**

#### **Mr. Jody Prescott, University of Vermont**

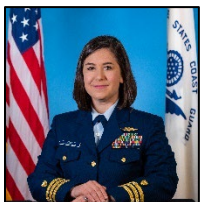


Mr. Jody Prescott is a retired U.S. Army judge advocate and lecturer at the University of Vermont. He teaches courses on cybersecurity law & policy, energy & climate law, and biodiversity law. On active duty, he had operational tours in Bosnia and Afghanistan, and taught at the U.S. Army Command & General Staff College and the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. His writings include *Empirical Assessment in IHL Education & Training* (Anthem, 2021); *Armed Conflict, Women & Climate Change* (Routledge, 2018); and *Ordinary Soldiers: A Study in Ethics, Law & Leadership* (U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, 2014).

## ELECTIVE 2C – GENDER PERSPECTIVES IN STRATEGIC PLANS AND OPERATIONS

### Commander Leah M. Cole, U.S. Coast Guard, Harvard University

Strategic Empathy: The ultimate, cross cutting, superior Joint Planning tool, central to the principles of Women, Peace, and Security; and one that our adversaries cannot complete with, because they don't have it. This session is aimed at the practitioners, and tells real stories to impart clear pathways to success and openly discuss failures. A "How To": How to see, leverage and apply opportunities WPS provides you as an operational planner to provide superior doctrine, campaign, and deployment planning, and provide your leadership/chain of command the "why" in briefings to get the go-ahead on the direction and product you are pitching, for maximum and lasting positive impact down range.



Leah Cole is a Harvard National Security Fellow. She is a national & maritime security policy expert, practitioner and a Naval War College alumnus. She has nearly a decade of sea time and is an Active-Duty Coast Guard Commander, selected for Captain. Commander Cole has both extensive Joint Staff experience and operational background in Women, Peace, and Security & Maritime Operations, in addition to WPS planning and building partner capacity initiatives.

### Ms. Monica S. Herrera, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy

Women, Peace & Security (WPS) is often framed as a theoretical or academic concept or discussed in the context of policy at the international or national level. This presentation will provide concepts and concrete examples to help defense and security sector practitioners put WPS policy into practice. Leveraging her experience implementing WPS within U.S. defense policy, at a U.S. combatant command, within a U.S. Military Department, and on real-world operations, Ms. Herrera's remarks will focus on how to effectively translate high-level WPS policy and priorities into actionable strategies and efforts within the defense sector.



Monica Herrera is the Acting Director for International Humanitarian Policy and Senior Gender Advisor in the Office of the Undersecretary of Defense for Policy, where she leads Women, Peace & Security (WPS) policy for DoD. Monica previously worked on WPS at USINDOPACOM and served as the first Gender Advisor deployed to support Operation Allies Welcome in 2021. She is a subject matter expert on gender in military operations with extensive experience mainstreaming gender at the strategic, operational, and tactical levels. Monica served 12 years on active duty and is currently a Lieutenant Colonel in the U.S. Air Force Reserves, serving as a Political Affairs Strategist at USINDOPACOM.

Monica's career included assignments at the Air Force Research Laboratory, on faculty at the U.S. Air Force Academy, and as a Mansfield Fellow. She holds an M.A. in Sociology from Rutgers and a B.S. in Behavioral Science from the U.S. Air Force Academy.

### Ms. Iris B. Lienhart, NATO

When UNSCR 1325 was adopted in 2000, the topic of gender was not featured prominently in the conversation on defence and security. Almost 25 years later, this has changed - but how and how much? NATO as a political and military Alliance - bringing together 32 nations taking decisions based on consent - has integrated gender perspectives in everything it does: across political, civilian, and military structures, from policies and planning, training and education, to missions and operations. Ideally, this means that theory and practice on gender integration align. But could there also be truth to Einstein's famous quote: "In theory, theory and practice are the same, in practice they are not"? Let's take a look from the point of view of a German female civil servant, who has worked on the civilian and military side as well as in national and international positions, also at NATO.



Ms. Iris Lienhart was assigned to her current position as action officer at the Defence Policy and Planning Division at NATO's International Staff in Brussels by the German Ministry of Defence in September 2023. The fully qualified lawyer and originally member of the Bundeswehr's military legal system (with positions as legal advisor, disciplinary attorney for the armed forces, legal instructor and deployed senior legal officer) has gained international political and military experience, including as Counsellor Security and Defence Policy at the Permanent Representation of the Federal Republic of Germany to NATO in Brussels and as exchange officer at the Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies in Honolulu, Hawaii, USA.

At the German Federal Ministry of Defence, she served as Special Advisor to the Director-General for Security and Defence Policy and, most recently, as Deputy Military Assistant to the German Minister of Defence.

### **Major Chahra Ayachi, Tunisian Army, Ministry of Defense**

As a focal point of the WPS within Army HQ, one of my duties is to ensure implementing this initiative within The Special Forces, I had the opportunity to be the Tunisian lead for the planning and execution of all activities carried out in this framework. This was challenging at the beginning at all levels, how to convince the leadership, how to bring all stakeholders and get them involved in the process, how to make the women interested in joining the special forces and make that a success in the future.



Graduated from the special military school of saint Cyr in France, I'm assigned to the Army HQ since 2011 initially as a desk officer in charge of the cooperation with NATO.

Currently I work at the international military bureau as chief of bilateral cooperation section. My duties include the planning, supervising and assessing the joint training activities with partners.

I'm also the focal point of the WPS within Army HQ, that includes the implementing of this initiative within The Special Forces.

I served in Mali, in the U.N mission Minusma for one year (2019-2020), as a communication officer of the Force.

### **MODERATOR**

### **Dr. Hank J. Brightman, U.S. Naval War College**



Heath "Hank" Brightman is Director of the Civilian-Military Humanitarian Response Program and is a full professor & Director of the Executive Level Operational Level of War Course within the College of Maritime Operational Warfare at the Naval War College. He also serves as the EMC Informationist Chair (an eight-year, endowed appointment). As a Captain (O6) in the U.S. Navy Reserve, he has held command (including major command) five times. From April 2023-March 2024, he deployed as Repatriations Officer in Charge for CJTF-OIR. Based in Erbil, Iraq and operating forward in Northeast Syria, for 10 months, he served as both Planner and Air/Ground Mission Commander for third/other country national (TCN/OCN) repatriations of women and children to their countries of origin. He led his

team to successfully repatriate over 400 people, and was awarded the Bronze Star Medal, Combat Action Ribbon, and two U.S. Department of State Superior Honor Awards.

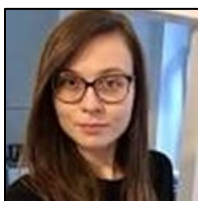
## **ELECTIVE 2D –ART OF FILMMAKING AND WOMEN'S AGENCY**

### **Dr. Evelyn Pauls, Berghof Foundation**

Building upon previous participatory documentary research with female ex-combatants in Aceh, Burundi, Mindanao, and Nepal, this project examined the experiences and aspirations of female ex-combatants in two new contexts: Colombia and Uganda. These stories of female ex-combatants from diverse political, religious, ethnic and national backgrounds show that women and their experiences of armed conflict must be taken seriously for building sustainable peace.

This project uses a participatory research design to train female ex-combatants how to conduct peer-to-peer interviews and how to film and produce videos that document their perspectives and experiences. While doing so, they reflect on their reasons for joining the movements, their time as women in war, and how their lives unfolded once peace was restored. Theirs are stories of friendship and camaraderie, of life and death, of perseverance and resistance, and of rebuilding lives after war and continuing the struggle in peaceful ways.





Dr Evelyn Pauls is an independent policy, research and gender consultant and Associate Researcher at the Berghof Foundation. She specialises in gender, peace & security, creative and arts-based approaches, participatory processes, and impact planning and evaluation. At the Berghof Foundation, she lead two participatory action research project on the long-term reintegration of female ex-combatants in Burundi, Colombia, Indonesia, Nepal, the Philippines and Uganda. She completed her PhD at the London School of Economics, focusing on international advocacy on child soldiers in Sierra Leone and Myanmar. She was the editor of the Millennium Journal of International Studies and a visiting researcher at the National University of Singapore. She holds an MPhil in International Relations from the University of Oxford.

### Ms. Vanessa W. Hope, Double Hope Films

Hope's film *Invisible Nation* followed Taiwan's first female president, Tsai Ing-wen, as she led the country in preserving its hard-won democracy, autonomy and freedom from fear of authoritarian aggression.

With unprecedented access to Taiwan's sitting head of state, director Vanessa Hope investigates the election and tenure of Tsai Ing-wen, the first female president of Taiwan. Thorough, incisive and bristling with tension, *Invisible Nation* is a living account of Tsai's tightrope walk as she balances the hopes and dreams of her nation between the colossal geopolitical forces of the U.S. and China. Hope's observational style captures Tsai at work in her country's vibrant democracy at home, while seeking full international recognition of Taiwan's right to exist. At a time when Russia's invasion of Ukraine has demonstrated the ever-present threat of authoritarian aggression, *Invisible Nation* brings punctual focus to the struggle of Taiwan as it fights for autonomy and freedom from fear.



Vanessa Hope is an award-winning director/producer who has produced multiple acclaimed films in China including selections for the Berlin International Film Festival and Cannes Film Festival. She has also directed and produced several doc shorts, including *China in Three Words*, an official selection at DOC NYC. Hope made her directorial feature debut with the documentary *All Eyes and Ears*, exploring complex links between the U.S. and China featuring former President Obama's U.S. Ambassador to China and premiering at the Tribeca Film Festival.

Vanessa and her husband, Ted Hope, share a company, Double Hope Films. Prior to her film career, Vanessa worked on foreign policy issues at the Council on Foreign Relations with Senior Fellow and Director of Asia Studies Elizabeth Economy. She received her B.A. from the University of Chicago in Anthropology and East Asian Studies and completed the coursework for a PhD at Columbia University before going into film.

### MODERATOR

#### Dr. Mary B. Raum, U.S. Naval War College

Dr. Raum is the moderator for the elective discussion on documentary filmmaking in alliance with components of the women peace and security agenda. Formed through the use of visual testimony, filmmaking is an imperative yet often overlooked medium through which viewers can gain a deeper understanding of global women's rights. Two internationally recognized filmmakers will be sharing their perspectives with film clips on the use of the pictorial narrative as it relates to the lives, situations and events of women and their ongoing contests for global equality.



Dr. Mary Raum is a tenured professor of national security affairs at the United States Naval War College, where she created and has been teaching the history of women in war and combat course for 15 years. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in art history from Cambridge University, holds several art history certifications, and has a dual Ph.D. in Engineering and Public Affairs. Dr. Raum was the legacy Swanee Hunt Academic Chair for Women Peace and Security and served in that role for a decade. Her most recent publication is the book *Women and War Stories from the Amazons to the Greatest Generation through Art and Artifacts*.

## ELECTIVE 2E – WRITER’S WORKSHOP

### FRAMING WPS THROUGH A NATIONAL SECURITY PERSPECTIVE

*Navigating Gender Dynamics Amidst State Fragility and the Withdrawal of MONUSCO in the Democratic Republic of Congo*

**Ms. Natacha Ciezki, U.S. Department of State**

This paper explores the critical gender-related impacts of the DRC’s instability, particularly given MONUSCO’s impending departure. Highlighting the profound effect of gender-based violence (GBV) on social cohesion, the study argues that a gender-focused approach to U.S. foreign policy and international engagement is essential to addressing heightened risks to women and ensuring broader regional stability. With MONUSCO’s exit, the vulnerability of women may worsen, given the limited capacity of the DRC’s Armed Forces (FARDC) to provide adequate security. The paper emphasizes the need for FARDC’s professionalization and accountability reforms, aligning with U.S. interests in regional security, counter-extremism, and Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) initiatives. Ultimately, it calls for sustained, strategic U.S. engagement in the DRC, to support stability, protect vulnerable populations, and promote lasting peace and governance in the post-MONUSCO landscape.

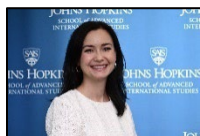


Natacha Ciezki, Esq., brings over 13 years of experience in diplomacy, international relations, and foreign affairs, alongside 14 years in the U.S. Army Reserves. She currently serves as a Foreign Affairs Officer in the Bureau of African Affairs at the U.S. Department of State, advising on U.S. foreign policy in Africa. As an Interagency Conflict Advisor with the Bureau of Conflict and Stabilization Operations, Natacha led civil-military coordination, supporting the Multidisciplinary Applied Knowledge (MAK) team, and facilitated access to the Instability Mapping and Analysis Platform (IMAP). Her work promotes U.S. objectives in Women, Peace, and Security, climate resilience building and diplomacy, and conflict prevention, liaising across U.S. Government and NGOs to strengthen global partnerships. Natacha holds an A.A. in Pre-Law and International Relations, a B.A. in Political Science and International Studies, a Juris Doctor in International Law, an Intellectual Property Law Certificate, and a Ph.D. in Foreign Policy.

*Everyone Should Care: A Reintroduction of Women, Peace, and Security Framework to Conservatives, and the Like*

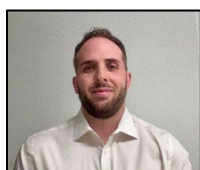
**Dr. Magdalena Bogacz, U.S. Space Force / Johns Hopkins University**  
**Mr. Jacob F. Lanier, California State University, Bakersfield**

Since its inception, WPS faces a recognizable degree of resistance on the implementation level. We believe that WPS faces defiance in part due to misunderstanding of what the framework is and in part due to conservative suspicion about WPS through this critical misinterpretation. Although empirical link between gender equality, peace, and security is well established, we offer another, deeply philosophical and conservative argument for WPS support. Our paper draws on the philosophies of the late British conservative, Sir Roger Scruton. Namely, if what Scruton explains about the nature of the subject-object relationship is true, then the treatment of women as mere objects of war not only violates women’s ontological status as person-subjects, but it betrays the duties afforded to members of a free society by the conservative ideal of “a love of home” or, as Scruton calls it, oikophilia.



Dr. Magdalena T. Bogacz is an Assistant Professor of Military and Security Studies, a Course Director of Theory and Philosophy of War, and an Ethics and WPS Focus Area Director at the United States Space Force Schriever Space Scholars Program within Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), in Washington, D.C. She teaches a variety of courses on War Theory, Modern Warfighting, Ethics, and Leadership. Before joining the USSF Joint Professional Military

Education Program, she worked as a Course Director and an Assistant Professor of Leadership at Ethics at Air University, Maxwell AFB. Dr Bogacz holds a doctorate degree in Global Executive Education from University of Southern California and a master’s degree in philosophy from KU Leuven.



Jacob F. Lanier is a Philosophy Lecturer at California State University, Bakersfield. Prior to this, he worked as an Adjunct Philosophy Faculty at Bakersfield College and the University of La Verne. Mr. Lanier holds a Master of Arts in Philosophy from KU Leuven in Belgium and a bachelor’s degree in philosophy from California State University, Bakersfield. His research focuses on social applied epistemology and belief justification.

*Fight like Women to Win against Hybrid Warfare in Great Power Competition***Lieutenant Colonel Caitlin B. Diffley, U.S. Space Force, NATO Combined Forces Space Component Command**

The WPS framework offers an integrated, agile foundation to catalyze resilient, integrated and proactive engagement in face of Hybrid Warfare and Great Power Competition. Continuing a traditional arms race through technology and weapons, daring the opponent to attack in mutual elimination threat may resist aggression in the moment, but is not a long-term solution. Rather, WPS engages integrated women's participation as to bolster societal resilience at all levels of decision making and across the spectrum of conflict.

The U.S. and allies can instrumentalize the WPS agenda to mobilize resources across traditionally inflexible boundaries and to exercise desired cooperation and build networks to achieve whole-of-government integration. WPS is proven and primed for execution; a framework to work together as the sum of our parts rather than relying on the strength of each individual instrument of power.



Lt Col Diffley is the Chief for Innovation & Prototyping, Combined Forces Space Component Command, Headquarters Allied Air Command, North Atlantic Treaty Organization, Ramstein AB, Germany. She integrates NATO Space operational, commercial, and international stakeholders towards the evolution of novel systems and inclusion in NATO priorities and policy frameworks, to pre-empt adversarial advances while developing proactive deterrence capabilities employed in, to and through space. Her portfolio includes technology & process improvement, requirements, prototyping, deployment, assessments and capabilities. Previously, she served as the Deputy Director, where she led 43 personnel from 16 nations through operations, strategy, policy, and acquisitions from start-up through

Phase III development. As Gender Advisor to COM AIRCOM, she supported NATO's WPS Action Plan to operationalize gender in military operations. Lt Col Diffley earned a Master's in National Security Affairs at the Naval Postgraduate School and an MBA and taught at USAFA. She speaks Russian, Chinese, and Spanish.

*Female Pirates and Gendered Insecurity in Historical Sources***WORKSHOP LEAD****Dr. Vanya E. Bellinger, U.S. Naval War College**

Writers' Workshop is a forum for new research. Selected scholars present their papers, and two mentors offer ideas about broadening the research and relating it closely to current national security issues.



Vanya Eftimova Bellinger earned a Ph.D. in history at King's College, London. Bellinger is the author of *Marie von Clausewitz: The Woman Behind the Making of On War* (Oxford University Press USA, 2015). She is the winner of the 2016 Society for Military History Moncado Prize for her article, "The Other Clausewitz: Findings from the Newly Discovered Correspondence between Marie and Carl von Clausewitz." Bellinger is the first scholar to work with the newly discovered correspondence between the Clausewitz couple. Before transitioning to academia, Bellinger worked as a journalist and international correspondent for various European outlets.

**WORKSHOP MENTORS****Dr. Michael A. Goldfien, U.S. Naval War College**

Michael Goldfien is an assistant professor in the National Security Affairs department at the U.S. Naval War College. Dr. Goldfien's research focuses on leadership and the politics of diplomacy at the international and domestic levels. His work has been published in the *American Political Science Review*, *Security Studies*, the *Journal of Politics*, and the *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, among other outlets. He has been a fellow with the International Security Studies program at Yale, the Yale Nuclear Security Program, and the Hans J. Morgenthau Fellowship at the Notre Dame International Security Center. He holds a Ph.D. in political science with university distinction from Yale University, an M.A. in international policy from Stanford University, and a B.A. in international relations from Grinnell College.

**Dr. Theo C. Milonopoulos, U.S. Naval War College**

Theo Milonopoulos, PhD, is an assistant professor in the National Security Affairs Department at the U.S. Naval War College. His work has been published in *The Journal of Conflict Resolution*, *PS: Political Science and Politics*, *Foreign Affairs* online, *The Washington Post*'s "Monkey Cage," and *War on the Rocks*. From 2009 to 2011, Theo served as a lead research assistant to former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice as she wrote her memoirs at Stanford University's Hoover Institution. He has held research positions at the RAND Corporation, the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS) in London, and Stanford's Center for International Security and Cooperation (CISAC). Theo completed his PhD at Columbia University, a BA with honors in international security studies at Stanford University, and an MA in War Studies at King's College London, where he studied as a Fulbright Scholar.

**Dr. Fabiana S. Perera, Defense Security Cooperation University**

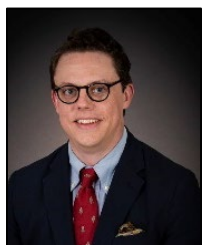
Fabiana Sofia Perera is a senior faculty associate at Defense Security Cooperation University. Her research and teaching are at the intersection of great power competition and women, peace, and security. Fabiana received her PhD in political science from The George Washington University and her MA in Latin American studies from Georgetown University. She is fluent in Spanish and Portuguese.

**Dr. Shira E. Pindyck, U.S. Naval War College**

Dr. Shira Eini Pindyck is an Assistant Professor of National Security Affairs at the U.S. Naval War College. Previously she was a Postdoctoral Fellow in Technology and International Security at the UC Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation and the Livermore and Los Alamos National Laboratories. She received her Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of Pennsylvania in 2021. Her research interests include international security, military technology, and the role of gender in innovation integration and military effectiveness. She is published in the *Journal of Strategic Studies*, and her book project, *Innovation and Inclusion in the Armed Forces* builds a broad theory of gender and military innovation, with cases extending from the experiences of Israeli drone operators to Australian and Turkish counterinsurgency doctrines.

**Dr. Nicholas E. Sarantakes, U.S. Naval War College**

Nicholas Evan Sarantakes is a professor of strategy & policy at the U.S. Naval War College. He holds a Ph.D. in history from the University of Southern California.

**Dr. Jesse C. Tumblin, U.S. Naval War College**

Jesse Tumblin is an assistant professor of strategy and policy specializing in political and military history, ideas of security, and the current and former British world. He earned a Ph.D. and M.A. from Boston College and a B.A. from the University of Tennessee. He is a past fellow in international security studies at Yale University. He is the author of *The Quest for Security: Sovereignty, Race, and the Defense of the British Empire, 1898-1931* (Cambridge University Press, 2020) and an article on Britain's attempts to secure its Indo-Pacific empire, which won the Saki Ruth Dockrill Memorial Prize for international history from the Institute for Historical Research, University of London.



**Dr. Evan M. Wilson, U.S. Naval War College**

Evan Wilson researches the naval history of Britain and other countries from the eighteenth to the twentieth centuries. A recipient of the Corbett Prize in Modern Naval History, he is the author or editor of six books, most recently *The Horrible Peace: British Veterans and the End of the Napoleonic Wars* (UMass, 2023). His next book, which he edited with Paul Kennedy, is *Planning for War at Sea: 400 Years of Great Power Competition* (Naval Institute, 2025). Before coming to Newport, he was the Caird Senior Research Fellow at the National Maritime Museum (UK) and the Associate Director of International Security Studies at Yale University. He holds degrees from Yale, Cambridge and Oxford.

**KEYNOTE PANEL / FIRESIDE CHAT: WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP****Ms. Avery M. Alpha, Department of Homeland Security**

Avery Alpha is the Principal Deputy Under Secretary for Intelligence and Analysis (I&A) at the Department of Homeland Security. I&A is a member of, and the Department's liaison to, the U.S. Intelligence Community. A career intelligence officer, she previously worked most of her twenty years at the CIA, serving in the Counterterrorism Mission Center. Avery has also been a Senior Policy Advisor and Chief of Staff at the National Security Council (NSC), focusing on counterterrorism, homeland security, and cybersecurity. Her previous experience includes being an NSC Director for Counterterrorism and a Foreign Service Officer at the U.S. Embassy in Cairo. She began her career at the Council on Foreign Relations. She holds a B.A. in Political Science from Columbia University and an M.S. in National Security and Resource Strategy from the National Defense University, where she graduated with distinction. Avery is proficient in Egyptian dialect and Modern Standard Arabic.

**Ms. Katrina Fotovat, Secretary of State's Office of Global Women's Issues**

Katrina "Kat" Fotovat is currently the Principal Deputy Director for the Secretary of State's Office of Global Women's Issues (S/GWI), where she leads a team of gender experts promoting gender equality efforts including support of women, peace, and security, countering violent extremism, promoting women's economic empowerment, and combatting gender-based violence. Ms. Fotovat has over 20 years of experience advocating gender and human rights globally, specifically in conflict and post-conflict settings.

**Vice Admiral Sara Joyner, U.S. Navy, Director, Force Structure, Resources and Assessment, J8, Joint Staff**

Vice Admiral Sara "Clutch" Joyner, a native of Hoopers Island, Maryland, graduated with merit from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1989 with a Bachelor of Science in Oceanography. After earning her wings in 1991, she flew the F/A-18 Hornet in multiple squadrons, including the Argonauts of VFA-147 and the Gunslingers of VFA-105. Joyner commanded Carrier Air Wing 3 and Carrier Strike Group 2. She has deployed aboard the USS Nimitz (CVN-68), USS John C. Stennis (CVN-74) and USS Harry S. Truman (CVN-75) in support of Operations Southern Watch, Enduring Freedom, and Iraqi Freedom. Ashore, she served as an adversary pilot, officer for U.S. Joint Forces Command, and director of the Navy Office of Legislative Affairs Senate Liaison Division. Her flag assignments include leading the Physiological Episode Action Team and serving as the Navy Chief of Legislative Affairs. Joyner now serves as Director, Force Structure, Resources, and Assessment, J8, Joint Staff. She has accumulated over 3,700 flight hours and numerous prestigious awards.

**Surg Vice Admiral Arti Sarin, AVSM, VSM, Indian Armed Forces Medical Services**

Surg VAdm Arti Sarin is currently serving as the Director General Indian Armed Forces Medical Services, the senior-most appointment in the Armed Forces Medical Services (DGAFMS). She is the first woman to serve as DGAFMS and the highest-ranking woman officer in the history of the Indian Armed Forces. She is an alumnus of the Armed Forces Medical College and was commissioned in the Army Medical Corps on 26th Dec 1985. She is an experienced and reputed Radiologist, Radiation Oncologist and Hospital Administrator & trained in Gamma knife surgery at the University of Pittsburgh, USA.

During her career spanning over 39 years, she has held several prestigious academic and administrative appointments and has been awarded multiple commendations. She has been awarded the prestigious Ati Vishisht Seva Medal in the year 2024 and the Vishisht Seva Medal in the year 2021 by the Hon'ble President of India.

Her special area of interest is Gamma Knife Surgery, Neuro Oncology and Hospital Administration. She has several publications in Indian and International journals. She has a special interest in participation in activities towards motivation of the youth both girls and boys towards a career in the Armed Forces.

#### **MODERATOR**

##### **Dr. Richard J. Norton, U.S. Naval War College**



Professor Rick Norton retired from the Navy in the rank of Commander after more than 29 years of service. He holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Tulane University, and an MA, MALD and PhD from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy. He has been a professor at the United States Naval War College for more than 20 years. His work of feral cities is considered ground-breaking. He is proud to have participated in the Women, Peace, and Security, since its inception more than a decade ago.

### **KEYNOTE FIRESIDE CHAT: HUMAN RIGHTS IN NORTH KOREA**

##### **Ambassador Julie E. Turner, U.S. Department of State**

Ambassador Turner will share her reflections on the linkage between DPRK human rights issues and global and regional security. The session will highlight the following: 1) DPRK state-sponsored forced labor outside the DPRK and business ethics, sustainability, and security (including cyber security) issues in the region. 2) Human Security: DPRK-PRC alliance against the principle of non-refoulement under international law. [3] Survivor- & victims-centered approach for the future: i) Work with the private sector to increase North Koreans' access to information in the DPRK. ii) Support of North Korean escapees and refugees, Japanese abductees, the Korean diaspora in Japan, Korean American divided families, and POWs. 3) Women's leadership in public and foreign service.



Ambassador Julie E. Turner was sworn in as the U.S. Special Envoy for North Korean Human Rights Issues on October 13, 2023. Ambassador Turner is globally recognized an expert in the area of human rights and democracy and has worked over the past 20 years to strengthen democratic institutions and promote human rights throughout the East Asia and Pacific Region. Most recently, she served as the Office Director in the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor (DRL) Office of East Asia and the Pacific at the U.S. Department of State and previously was the Director for Southeast Asia at the National Security Council. During her time at the State Department, she served as the special assistant to the first U.S. Special Envoy for North Korean Human Rights and worked as a program analyst in the

Bureau of Information Resource Management Office of eDiplomacy.

#### **MODERATOR**

##### **Dr. Terence Roehrig, U.S. Naval War College**



Terence Roehrig is Professor of National Security Affairs at the U.S. Naval War College and a non-resident expert with the Center for Korean Legal Studies at Columbia University. He was a Research Fellow at the Kennedy School at Harvard University and a past President of the Association of Korean Political Studies. Roehrig has written numerous books, articles and book chapters on Korean and Asian security issues, North Korea's nuclear weapons program, deterrence theory, the U.S.-South Korea alliance, and transitional justice. Dr. Roehrig received his Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in political science.



## MASTERS OF CEREMONIES

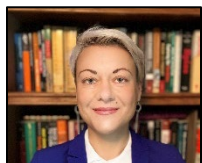
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### Dr. Olenda E. Johnson, U.S. Naval War College



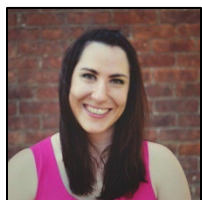
Dr. Olenda E. Johnson is Professor, Strategic Leadership & Leader Development, U.S. Naval War College. A passionate teacher and educator, Dr. Johnson is the architect of the Navy's first leadership course for 2-Star Navy admirals, Marine generals, and senior government executives. Leveraging her background in organizational and behavioral science, as well as her expertise in the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning, she has been instrumental in inculcating executive-level leader development in Navy culture. Prior to joining the Naval War College, Olenda was a tenured professor at North Carolina A&T State University. She received her PhD from the University of Pittsburgh, and her B.S. and MBA from Florida A&M University. Previously, she served as Visiting Professor at the U.S. Army War College and Distinguished Visiting Professor at the U.S. Air Force Academy. Dr. Johnson also held adjunct appointments at the Wellington School of Business & Government, New Zealand and Bentley University.

### Dr. Michelle D. Paranzino, U.S. Naval War College



Michelle Paranzino is an associate professor in the Strategy and Policy Department and director of the Latin America Studies Group at the U.S. Naval War College. She has written a book about the Cuban Missile Crisis and is currently working on a book about Ronald Reagan and the drug wars. Her work has been published in several peer-reviewed journals and edited volumes.

### Dr. Katrina M. Ponti, U.S. Naval War College



Katrina Ponti is a Postdoctoral Teaching and Research Fellow in the Strategy and Policy Department. She earned her Ph.D. in history from the University of Rochester in 2022. Before joining the Strategy and Policy Department, she was an Ernest May Postdoctoral Fellow at the Belfer Center, Harvard Kennedy School. Dr. Ponti has published on topics related to the diplomatic and maritime history of the early United States. Her forthcoming book *Virtuous Emulations of Liberty* charts the creation of U.S. diplomatic culture during and after the Revolution. In the summers she can be found working with the Smith's Island Archaeology Project on Bermuda helping to uncover the strategic and maritime history of the Atlantic world.

### Ms. Jacqueline Allee, U.S. Naval War College



Ms. Jacqueline Allee works as an International Programs Assistant at the U.S. Naval War College. In this role, she serves as a cultural ambassador to naval officers from 47 countries, helping to build strategic relationships. She is a 2018 David L. Boren Fellow and speaks Arabic and Spanish. Ms. Allee holds a B.A. in Sociology from UC Davis and an M.A. in International Relations from Salve Regina University. Jacqueline served in Iraq and Afghanistan as a logistics contractor from 2008-13 and traveled extensively as a flight purser for 14 years transporting the military. Jacqueline is the author of 3 published articles in *Religion and Contemporary Politics*. Her research interests include applied linguistics and world religions. Jacqueline is a high school gymnastics judge who enjoys singing, writing and playing piano.



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