



EVENT SERIES :

Women and Girls in Conflict, Crisis and Disaster

Assessing UN Security Council action to address gender-based violence in conflicts

Panel discussion among

Sylvie Lucas

Permanent Representative of Luxembourg to the UN

Paul Seger

Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the UN

Madeleine Rees

Secretary General of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom

Bruno Stagno Ugarte

Deputy Executive Director for Advocacy, Human Rights Watch

Christa Markwalder

Member of the National Parliament

moderated by

Mirjana Spoljaric, Deputy Head United Nations and International Organisations Division FDFA

In conflict, crisis and disaster gender-based violence increases significantly due to the collapse of care and security structures. The consequences are severe: long-term physical and psychological injuries, social exclusion and ostracism become a structural problem and prevent women from participating equally in the political, social and economic transformation of their societies. The enhancement of women's participation in the process of peacebuilding, disarmament and reconstruction is a focal point of Swiss foreign policy which stresses that women have to be regarded as decision makers and agents of change.

The Panelists will debate the impact of gender-sensitive approaches of the UN Security Council since the adoption of Resolution 1325. They will share their experiences by discussing the challenges and potential of the instruments of the Security Council. They will, also in a broader sense, examine the participation of women and civil society organisations in peacemaking.

Date: Friday, 27 March 2015
Time: 12h00 to 14h00
Place: Kunstmuseum Bern, Hodlerstrasse 8-12, 3000 Bern
Language: English
Catering: Catering will be provided.

Only limited seats available. Please confirm your participation by e-mail to susanne.foerster@eda.admin.ch by 13 March 2015. Admission is free on presentation of this invitation.

Concept of the event

Agenda of the event

The event starts with an introduction by Mirjana Spoljaric Egger, Deputy Head of the United Nations and International Organisations Division, and proceeds with a panel discussion. Chatham House rule applies for the entire event.

Information on the topic

The event belongs to a series of events for a wider dialogue on gender issues in conflict, crises and disaster. Crises are not gender neutral: Women, girls, men and boys experience conflict and disaster differently. Due to different gender roles and responsibilities, women and men have different needs and face diverse risks and vulnerabilities. These different needs need to be addressed by international interventions.

Panelists

- **Sylvie Lucas**
- **Paul Seger**
- **Madeleine Rees**
- **Bruno Stagno Ugarte**
- **Christa Markwalder**

Organizers

Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, General Secretariat in collaboration with the United Nations and International Organisations Division.