



International Conference
“FEMALE LEADERS IN SECURITY AND DEFENCE FORUM”

- Bucharest, 22nd – 25th of November, 2022 –
National Military Club

CONCEPT NOTE

General information

There have been 22 years since the UN adopted *Resolution (UNSCR) 1325 on Women, Peace and Security* which establish an institutional framework that promotes an active role of women in the security and defense areas, and key notions such as women empowerment, gender equality became a part of the international agenda.

These offers an opportunity for us to mark the efforts made by our country implementing the ”1325”. The security and defense sector made tremendous progress in the past years in promoting women in a field traditionally associated with men. Despite the fact that women’s inclusion in peace efforts has been a key topic of WPS Agenda women are still under the desired potential in their effort for peace and still are rarely represented in the national delegations for peace talks.

As we observed, to have legislations and dedicated national bodies is the first step. Romania established a specialized governmental agency in order to better promote the concept of gender equality, the National Agency for Equal Opportunities between Women and Men, which establishes public policies, develops programs and supervises their implementation. So, what should we do more?

Despite the adverse context created by the COVID-19 pandemics, Romania approved the National Strategy and National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security for 2020-2023, as a practical testimony of our country pledge to implement the provision of the UNSCR 1325 and also as a commitment to go beyond words and declarations.

The purpose of the conference, hosted by the Ministry of National Defense, is to ensure a complementarity of the steps taken at national level to promote gender equality, to celebrate the cultural, political and socioeconomic women’s achievements, with the efforts undertaken at the security and defense level in particular, to highlight the importance of implementing UNSCR 1325.

Conference’s goals

- Encouraging the international community to design better tools for a smoother implementation of the resolution;
- Encouraging countries to share lessons and experiences, thus offering an opportunity to develop a dialogue and cooperation in the field, focusing both on strategic and operational aspects;
- Understanding the importance of women’s representations, at all levels, focused on the field of security and defense, both military and civilian servants.
- Understanding the progress made in this domain but also the importance of continuing the actions taken while there is much to be accomplish, yet.

- Reaffirmation of the importance of continuing the efforts of institutions with responsibilities in the field of security and defense for the full implementation of UNSCR 1325 and its subsequent resolutions.
- Promoting women in high-level position within the security and defense institutions;
- Understanding the importance of gender equality in a work place and the actions taken by our ministry of defense to implement at ministerial level
- Identifying challenges in implementation of the National Action Plans and sharing best practices.
- Offering models for the younger generation on inclusion in all aspects of developing and implementing the gender equality policies.

Conference's structure

The Conference will be organized in two working days.

First day will be dedicated to high level representatives from UN WOMEN, UNDP SEESAC, NATO, OSCE, and RACVIAC.

Second Day will be dedicated to commanders and experts in order to analyze the Conclusions from the Italian *Female Leader in Security and Defence Survey on gender perspectives in National Armed Forces* and to identify the steps forward necessary to achieve the objectives.

Point of Contact

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Administrative details

- Conference Language: English;
- Conditions for participation: reply via e-mail to the addresses / invitations received **NLT November 14th, 2022**;
- Dress code for military personnel: Battle Dress Uniform;
- The event location: National Military Club, Str. Constantin Mille nr. 1-3, cod poștal 010141, București.

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