

CSP5 SIDE EVENT

Monday, 26 August

Title:	Women, weapons, and war: national and local perspectives preventing gender-based violence through arms control
Organizer:	Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)
Room:	Room 5
Speakers:	Allison Pytlak, Programme Manager, Disarmament, WILPF (moderator) Diana Salcedo Lopez, Director, WILPF Colombia Regina Ouattara, President, WILPF Burkina Faso Annie Matundu-Mbambi, President, WILPF DRC Nadee T. A. Gunaratne, Research Officer, WILPF Sri Lanka
Start time:	13.15; Lunch provided
Language:	English, French, and Spanish
Focal point:	Katrin Geyer, Disarmament Programme Associate katrin.geyer@wilpf.org

Purpose

To strengthen implementation of the ATT’s provision on gender-based violence (GBV) by hearing local and national perspectives on the relationship between GBV and the international arms trade, as well as the contributions of women to disarmament, arms control, and peacebuilding.

Description

The thematic focus on gender and GBV as part of CSP5 is a welcome opportunity for the ATT community to better understand the connections between the international arms trade and GBV. Yet, many of the discussions have been held among policymakers or experts, with few direct inputs from those who have experienced GBV in settings of armed violence or conflict and are working in national and local contexts to address it. This side event seeks to provide space for such inputs. A diverse expert panel from different regions, consisting of WILPF section members and partners, will provide concrete case studies and information informed by their local and national expertise and perspectives from countries as diverse as Colombia, Sri Lanka, Burkina Faso, the Democratic People’s Republic of Congo, and Iraq (TBC). By using a moderated discussion format, speakers will be prompted to respond to questions that will illustrate, for example, how different types of weapons contribute to different forms of GBV; what it means to have a true gender perspective in disarmament and arms control policy and programming; recommendations for ATT states parties to improve implementation of this aspect of the Treaty; and why “women’s participation” in disarmament is more than just a numbers game; among other questions.

Format

The event will be in the form of a moderated discussion. Rather than deliver distinct presentations, each speaker will be asked a series of previously agreed questions by the moderator that will hit on the major

points and information that we want the event to convey and will correspond with some of the key areas of discussion that have been had on this topic over the last year. This will occur after opening remarks. Following the moderated discussion, the floor will open for Q&A.

Room preferences

None. We would prefer to not overlap with other side events relating to gender or GBV, particularly as certain of our speakers may also be involved in those events.