



European
University
Institute

SCHOOL OF
TRANSNATIONAL
GOVERNANCE

United Nations
Team of Experts
Rule of Law/Sexual Violence in Conflict



UNODC
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

EXECUTIVE TRAINING SEMINAR

SCHOOL OF TRANSNATIONAL GOVERNANCE

GENDER DIMENSIONS AND WOMEN'S RIGHTS IN TERRORISM AND COUNTER-TERRORISM

Room: Sala del Capitolo

Venue: Badia Fiesolana, Via della Badia dei Roccettini 9 - San Domenico di Fiesole (Fiesole, Florence)

OVERVIEW

Terrorism and counter-terrorism policies both have gender-specific impacts on women and men. The role of women and men in terrorist groups and the impact terrorism has on its victims have a highly significant gender dimension. Measures to prevent violent extremism and counter terrorism policies, however, tend to be traditionally based on the (unspoken) assumption that terrorist groups are made up (nearly exclusively) of men, and that those affected by terrorism and fighting terrorism in the security and justice institutions are primarily men, and that women play only subordinate and collateral roles in these conflicts.

In the aftermath of terrorism, there are significant gender implications to state responses surrounding criminal justice, rehabilitation and reintegration of people associated with terrorist groups and support to victims.

Ranging from the gender specific roles within terrorist groups to the gender implications of state response to the threat of terrorism, this training seminar will explore the gender dimensions of terrorism and counter-terrorism. Recently, great attention has been paid to this topic, in international organisations, especially the UN (including linking the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) Agenda and counter terrorism), national governments and, particularly, in academia.

What you will learn:

This seminar will draw on the latest research and experience from the field to train participants, focusing on the following areas:

- Understanding the gender specific motivations and roles of women and men in terrorist groups;
- Examining the gender dimensions of programmes to prevent violent extremism and understanding their women's rights implications;
- Engaging with the gender implications of post-conflict attempts to prosecute, rehabilitate and/or reintegrate women and men exiting terrorist groups".



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2-4 JUNE 2021

DRAFT PROGRAMME

2 JUNE

- 09.00 - 09.45 Institutional Greetings and Tour de Table
Ruth Rubio Marín | School of Transnational Governance, EUI and University of Seville
- 09.45 - 10.45 Opening speech
Speaker TBC
- 10.45 - 11.00 *Coffee break*
- 11.00 - 13.00 Governing Counter Terrorism and Counter Extremism
Fiona de Londras | University of Birmingham
This session considers the governance gaps and concerns in counter-terrorism and counter-extremism with particular reference to their gendered implications. In particular, it will consider concerns about (i) processes of making law and policy, including lack of participatory and transparent processes, (ii) practices and processes of implementing inter/national law and policy on local levels, including reliance on gender stereotypes in delivery and design, and (iii) shortfalls in evaluative review including review of gendered implications of counter-terrorism and counter-extremism. It will illustrate these themes using the UK's 'Prevent' agenda as an exemplar.
- 13.00 - 14.00 *Lunch*
- 14.00 - 16.00 Women's and men's roles in terrorist groups
Gina Vale | International Center for the Study of Radicalisation, KCL
This session will explore the different roles women and men play in terrorist groups. It will also examine how gender dynamics differ between groups (e.g. between ethno-nationalist, right and left extremist and jihadist), and how gender roles evolve over time within groups. It will examine the role of masculinities in terrorist recruitment and violence and the role patriarchal structures in society may have in attracting women to join terrorist groups.
- 16.00 - 16.15 *Coffee break*
- 16.15 - 18.15 Sexual and gender-based violence by terrorist groups
Sofia Coelho Candeias | United Nations Team of Experts: Rule of Law / Sexual Violence in Conflict
This session will examine the conditions conducive to and reasons for sexual and gender-based violence by terrorist groups; the strategic, tactical or merely

incidental nature of such violence; as well as its impact on victims. The session will also inquire into the causes of near-total impunity for this dimension of terrorist violence, and discuss avenues to increase accountability for these crimes.

3 JUNE

- 09.00 - 11.00 Gender dimensions of prosecution, rehabilitation and reintegration of persons associated with terrorist groups
Ulrich Garms | Terrorism Prevention Branch, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
This session will examine how gender affects authorities' decisions to investigate and prosecute men and women exiting terrorist groups (whether voluntarily, or as a result of capture or military defeat), or to rehabilitate and reintegrate them without resorting to criminal justice proceedings. The session will further examine gender dimensions of the rehabilitation and reintegration of persons formerly associated with a terrorist group.
- 11.00 - 11.15 *Coffee break*
- 11.15 - 12.15 Plenary debate
Women in Terrorism: Tackling the Root Causes
- 12.15 - 13.00 *Lunch*
- 13.00 - 14.30 Mediation and Negotiation Skills
Benedetta Magri | Independent Adviser
Mediation and Negotiation with an emphasis on dealing with resistance to gender equality.
- 14.30 - 15.00 *Coffee break*
- 15.00 - 17.00 Women's Rights and Gender Equality in the Resolution of Conflicts Involving Terrorist Groups
Elizabeth Mesok | University of Basel (tbc)
This session will consider the role of gender equality and women's empowerment in counterterrorism and preventing and countering violent extremism, examining both the perspective of civil society and grassroots actors and programs designed and implemented by state security forces and development agencies. It will explore tensions and complexities around the promotion of women's rights within the sphere of counterterrorism and discuss the importance of protecting civil society space and particularly women's rights and women-led organizations for the prevention of violence.

4 JUNE

- 09.00 - 11.00 Gender dimensions of preventing violent extremism and recruitment for terrorism
Katherine Brown | University of Birmingham
This session will review research regarding the commonalities and differences

between women's and men's push and pull factors towards violent extremism and the commission of terrorism-related offences. It will ask how messages and measures to prevent violent extremism and recruitment for terrorism can be tailored to take these differences into account. The session will also examine the impact PVE and terrorism prevention measures can have specifically on women and groups advocating for gender equality and women's rights.

11.00 - 11.30

Coffee break

11.30 - 13.00

Strengthening Women's Presence in Counter-Terrorism Institutions

Ruth Rubio Marín | School of Transnational Governance, EUI and University of Seville

This session will draw on participants' and lecturers' experiences to discuss problems and lessons learned regarding recruitment, retention and advancement of women working in the security area.

13.00 - 14.00

Lunch

14.00 - 15.30

Course takeaways and assessment

Ruth Rubio Marín | School of Transnational Governance, EUI and University of Seville

This final session will provide a toolbox of ideas for future action and an assessment of the course. The session goals will be: identify concrete actions that each participant can spearhead in his/her area of work and sphere of influence to foster gender equality and women's empowerment; reflect on the learning experience and network opportunity provided by the course.

15.30 - 16.00

Awarding of Certificates, Group Picture and Farewell

SCIENTIFIC COORDINATORS

Sofia Coelho Candeias | United Nations Team of Experts Rule of Law / Sexual Violence in Conflict

Ulrich Garms | Terrorism Prevention Branch, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

Ruth Rubio Marín | School of Transnational Governance, EUI and University of Seville

TRAINERS

Katherine Brown

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Sofia Coelho Candeias

Judicial Affairs Officer, United Nations Team of Experts: Rule of Law / Sexual Violence in Conflict, United States

Fiona de Londras

Chair of Global Legal Studies, University of Birmingham, United Kingdom

Ulrich Garms

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Elizabeth Mesok
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Independent Adviser, Italy
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Part-time professor and Coordinator of the Cluster on Gender,
School of Transnational Governance, EUI and Professor at the
University of Seville, Italy and Spain

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