



The Women, Peace, and Security Initiative

**FINAL REPORT
FROM THE COMPTON
FOUNDATION**

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INTRODUCTION

In the spring of 2016, the Compton Foundation launched the Women, Peace, and Security Initiative (WPSI), a three-year, \$5 million effort to embed a gendered perspective and the experience and expertise of women into United States foreign policy and national security decision-making.

With the impending presidential transition in mind, the plan was to support a variety of grant partners who could influence relevant job appointments, put forward policy recommendations, and bring a gender lens to media and legislative debates. The portfolio included established policy experts and communicators, networks of grassroots activists, journalists, academics, documentary filmmakers, and major think tanks, reflecting the belief that a broad and diverse “ecosystem” would help drive change. The WPS Initiative’s approach proved resilient as grantees adjusted to the unexpected outcome of the 2016 U.S. presidential election.

Three years later, even as ultraconservative forces roll back the rights of women at home and abroad, a growing network of dedicated individuals and organizations is furthering a gendered foreign policy and national security process in the United States. That network has helped create and implement significant new policies, new attitudes, and other more modest but real changes in the foreign policy landscape.

The success of the U.S. Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) agenda¹ now depends on continuing support for and engagement by these dedicated groups, enlarging the circle of allies wherever they can be found during this difficult period, and preparing for a more receptive political climate.

This report focuses on sharing the stories, successes, and lessons learned from the Women, Peace, and Security Initiative, in hopes they will prove useful for current and future advocates for this work. For more information about the Compton Foundation and the Initiative, visit comptonfoundation.org/WPSI.

WHERE WE STARTED

Louise Allen of the NGO Working Group on Women, Peace, and Security remembers once asking an official of the United Nations Security Council whether he had met with women's civil society groups during a diplomatic mission to the Central African Republic. "He pulled out a phone and flipped through his photos awhile, and finally said, 'Look, there's a woman.'"

Jamie Dobie of Peace is Loud had just screened a film at a Defense Department military college on the need for women's involvement in peace and security decision-making when a senior officer approached her. "She said, 'I fought my whole career to be recognized as a competent soldier. I can do whatever the men do. Gender has nothing to do with it. I do get comments and so on, but I laugh it off.' I realized she was describing the lengths she went to not to be seen as a woman. I asked if that ever made her angry, and she said, 'You know, I think I'm so angry I can't even see it.'"

The levers of war and peace have long been controlled by a self-described "priesthood" of overwhelmingly white and male military officials, politicians, bureaucrats, and diplomats. Confident that they understand global social and political dynamics, they see no need to admit new actors or to change approaches that honor the ready use of force over efforts to avoid conflict, which they perceive as feminine and therefore weak.

In this context, women are either to be seen as victims or ignored entirely, and their vital roles in determining a society's level of stability—as combatants, peacebuilders, community leaders, or intelligence sources—have typically been excluded from policy discussions.

"Men never ask why there are no women in the room." —Yasmine Ergas, Columbia University

Women's groups have long been making slow progress against this status quo. In 2000, the UN Security Council approved Resolution 1325, calling for member nations to mainstream gender into all stages of a peace process. It asked for national action plans to implement the resolution, generating an international vocabulary for a gendered discussion.

But a 2016 New America and *Politico* survey found that fewer than a third of national security professionals thought gender was relevant to conflict resolution. And between 1992 and 2011, only 2 percent of chief mediators and 9 percent of peace negotiators worldwide were women.²

“They think making peace is getting the men with the guns to sit down together. But that won’t get it done. They need to see that women’s involvement is essential to a lasting peace and preventing conflict.” —*Kiersten Stewart, Futures Without Violence*

Further, although President Obama created the first U.S. National Action Plan on Women, Peace, and Security by executive order in 2011, the United States is still far from gender equity. One study by the Truman Center for National Policy found that although men and women were entering the U.S. Foreign Service in equal numbers, only 30 percent of senior executive service members were women. “They’re just not getting promoted,” said Truman Center Executive Director Jenna Ben-Yehuda.

This imbalance is not only an issue of equity and inclusion: it creates a blind spot about the ways a society’s gender dynamics make it more or less secure. For example, high bride and dowry prices and skewed sex ratios are indicators of obstacles to family formation that, in researcher and Texas A&M University professor Valerie Hudson’s words, “create a standing pool of deprived young men with a vested interest in further destabilization of the status quo.”³

In this way, a gendered perspective breaks from the traditional international relations framework that only recognizes state-to-state discussions. It provides a more nuanced understanding of what makes a society secure. This is especially important in an era of new and powerful global actors, including non-state armed groups and militias; mercenaries and proxy warriors; bilateral aid organizations; civil society-led social movements; and quasi-criminal bodies trading in weapons, drugs, and people.

THE WPSI BEGINS

It was in response to this reality that Compton Foundation launched the three-year Women, Peace, and Security Initiative (WPSI) in early 2016. The Initiative aimed to use the impending presidential transition as an opportunity to weave a gendered perspective and women's experience and expertise into the fabric of U.S. foreign policy and national security decision-making.

The Initiative funded organizations across the foreign policy advocacy "ecosystem," including groups working with activists on the front lines of war and peacebuilding; researchers; academics crafting curricula to educate the next generation; established think tanks whose policy papers and op-eds convey ideas to decisionmakers; filmmakers bringing these concepts to life; and journalists to reach broad mainstream audiences. (See appendix for a list of grantees and their work.)

Of the Initiative's 26 grant partners, many knew each other only vaguely and had not worked much together. Some were new, unaware of and not very interested in previous work by other long-established groups, while some longtime WPS advocates tended toward disdain for the newcomers. Competition for continually scarce resources had long bred distrust in the field. The Foundation's goal was to forge them all into a cooperative network, putting in place the people, politics, and political momentum that would help a progressive woman president to further advance the work. Its operating philosophy, said Executive Director Ellen Friedman, was "Find good people and get out of the way."

For the first six months of the Initiative, grantee groups prepared policy papers, conducted research into current attitudes of the field, trained women to be ready for potential appointments, and began to forge relationships between mainstream organizations and longtime advocates.

ADAPTING TO A NEW REALITY

In November 2016, the unexpected election of a deeply conservative ticket overturned all plans and expectations. This was a real crisis, offering both danger and opportunity. Tensions arose immediately between two primary impulses: to make the WPS community's goals palatable to the conservatives in power or to pursue an unabashedly feminist agenda.

"This is a moment of flux and transformation in how the United States acts in the world, how we think about gender." —*Heather Hurlburt, New America*

President Trump’s advent “has finally made masculinity a topic of discussion beyond the feminist community,” and offers an “opportunity to talk about the pervasive gendered and racialized structures of power,” observed Carol Cohn of the Consortium on Gender, Security, and Human Rights.⁴ At the same time, no one wanted the new administration to associate the idea of gendered perspectives with political opposition; that would shut down dialogue. Advocates in DC walked a fine line, trying to keep the WPS protections already in place and not jeopardize potential relationships.

There were some successes, like the preservation of the State Department’s Office of Global Women’s Issues after outcry from civil society groups. But it was often frustrating. “Some of our feminists want to take things further than general advocacy” to call for inclusion for LGBTQ, disabled, and indigenous people, “but we haven’t managed the first wave yet,” said Marie Berry of the Inclusive Global Leadership Initiative.

LESSON LEARNED: A robust NGO community ecosystem is critical to hold government accountable, counter opposition to cultural change, and continue the educational work required to create a more progressive, feminist, and inclusive foreign policy landscape.

Messages changed. Advocates went over their websites, policy proposals, and printed materials to increase citations from conservative sources and modify language. For example, one organization now calls for the “recognition of vulnerable groups” in general, instead of naming any particular marginalized groups or identities that might alienate the conservative administration. Where another had called for a “gendered perspective,” it now notes the perspectives of “men, women, boys, and girls.”

Most grants were for general operating support, which provided grantees with flexibility as the world changed. “We’re grateful that the Compton Foundation gave us license to be creative about meeting our original proposal,” said Sarah Rutherford of Georgetown University’s Institute for Women, Peace, and Security, “and they were personally engaged with good ideas for us.” Among the Institute’s new projects was an online Women, Peace, and Security Index ranking 153 countries on women’s inclusion in conflict monitoring, state fragility analyses, political instability estimates, and other indicators of women’s social and economic involvement.

LESSON LEARNED: General operating support grants of sufficient size allow grant partners flexibility, which is especially crucial in a chaotic political climate.

At New America, Heather Hurlburt and her team helped organize the Leadership Council of Women in National Security, a coalition of women in senior national security positions advocating for gender parity in the field; hosted two workshops at the U.S. Institute of Peace harvesting lessons learned from years of gendered peace and security efforts in Iraq and Afghanistan; and worked with the Ploughshares Fund to collect signatures on a #MeToo petition denouncing sexual harassment in the field. “None of these activities were foreseen in our grant proposal,” Hurlburt said.

Most grants were also large enough to create dedicated staff positions in the larger organizations and provide smaller ones with new financial security. “We wouldn’t have been able to do any of the advocacy on women, peace, and security we did over the last three years if Compton hadn’t invested in us,” said Lyric Thompson at the International Center for Research on Women (ICRW).

Even as grant partners adapted their strategies and programs to the new political reality, they continued to meet with high levels of cultural and political resistance to this agenda. The administration routinely has cut references to gender and sexual and reproductive health and rights from policy proposals, and women’s rights activists abroad are having trouble getting U.S. visas.

Though the WPS Initiative focused on U.S. policy, this challenge is global: at the United Nations, “conservative governments are well-organized in their opposition to women’s rights and the use of ‘gender,’” said Carol Cohn of the Consortium on Gender, Security, and Human Rights. They often call “gender” an exclusively western feminist term and veto women peace advocates proposed to brief the U.N. Security Council.

Shrinking civil society space around the globe forced some grantees to alter their priorities. Professor Yasmine Ergas of Columbia University had received her grant to establish a network of university scholars studying gender and global affairs. She estimates 800 such people could be linked worldwide, but instead of sharing research and curricula, many are now simply fighting to keep their jobs under reactionary regimes.

“We’ll go back to doing course materials, but when there are existential threats over whether you can teach at all, the conversation changes,” Ergas said. With webinars, workshops and invitations to visiting scholars, “We’ve been able to connect people under threat with others so resources are being shared and they understand they’re not alone.”

“Some funders got fearful of endangering their political relationships and pulled back, but Compton didn’t,” said Kaavya Asoka of the NGO Working Group. “When the environment is hostile to women’s rights, that’s when people should be rushing to fund it.”

LESSON LEARNED: Change requires a long-term, sustained effort. Grantees initially underestimated the depth of political and cultural resistance to this agenda. Although new champions are emerging, including many men, opposition is entrenched in the culture and is resistant to change.

BUILDING A NETWORK

A primary goal of the Initiative was to strengthen the field by encouraging grantees to form new relationships to each other and to non-traditional allies. The Compton Foundation convened periodic meetings and informal lunches, set up a private listserv for discussions, did countless informal check-in calls, and tracked the development of new collaborations through annual network surveys.

“That was brilliant. It’s making us smarter as advocates,” said ICRW’s Lyric Thompson. “We had gotten comfortable with doing the same things year after year.”

In addition to simply sharing information and aligning efforts, grant partners began to collaborate on projects. The Council on Foreign Relations (CFR) Women and Foreign Policy program consulted with the Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace, and Security and the Institute for Inclusive Security when creating its interactive online map, *Women’s Participation in Peace Processes*, which provides statistics, analyses, and case studies of women in peace processes since 1999.

Ms. magazine featured other grant partners’ op-eds and political analyses and profiled several “Peace Heroes” from the International Civil Society Action Network’s (ICAN) membership of 60 peacebuilding groups in 38 countries. “[The Initiative] brought us so many new and different voices,” said Ms. editor Kathy Spillar.

The Ploughshares Fund’s 2019 report *A New Vision: Gender, Justice, and National Security* featured essays by 12 prominent women leaders, including Carol Cohn of the Consortium on Gender, Security, and Human Rights. Its Gender Champions in Nuclear Policy Initiative, set up to make gender equality a working reality in the field, included Jenna Ben-Yehuda of the Truman Center and Chantal de Jonge Oudraat of the U.S. Civil Society Working Group on WPS. All 43 champions pledged to bring gendered approaches to their organizations, including never again to join all-male “manel” panels.

The Compton Foundation’s work to strengthen the national security ecosystem was “transformational,” said Georgetown Institute for WPS Executive Director Melanne Vermeer. “They are an incredible force for uniting the community that worked in silos before. It’s a true working group now.”

These relationships made the field more resilient to institutional changes as well: when the prominent advocacy group Institute for Inclusive Security had to downsize unexpectedly in 2017, the newly strengthened and connected organizations were able to help fill the void.

SUCCESS: The WPS Initiative created a growing network of partner organizations and individuals cooperating across sectors previously isolated from one another. Groups working with women peace activists at a grassroots level now have routine exchanges with policymakers, researchers, and communicators. The new network of networks is reaching out to civil rights, domestic violence, environmental, reproductive health, humanitarian, and feminist groups.

CREATING A “SURROUND SOUND”

A longtime funder of art and storytelling work, the Foundation prioritized funding film and media from the beginning of the Initiative, with the goal of lifting up stories of women in peace and security that could illustrate what data had already proven. This proved a valuable way to move this work forward when more traditional avenues were closed.

Perhaps the biggest storytelling project was *Women, War, and Peace: Part II*, which reached 1.2 million people when it aired nationwide on PBS in early 2019. The four-film series told the stories of women’s involvement in peace efforts in Northern Ireland, Palestine, Egypt, and Haiti. WPSI grantee Peace is Loud was the driving force behind the series and ran its impact campaign, while another grantee, Just Vision, produced one of the films, about Palestinian women’s nonviolent organizing in the First Intifada. Leigh O’Neill of the Truman Center reported being so moved by one of the films that she used it at the group’s annual conference, where a State Department official saw it and screened it again for colleagues.

LESSON LEARNED: Creative storytelling efforts must accompany data in order to be persuasive. Dozens of existing studies document the positive impact of gender equality on the reach and sustainability of peace agreements and conflict prevention. Documentary films, journalism, podcasts, and other media that showcase compelling human stories bring this material to life, an essential process in persuading policymakers and the public to value women’s inclusion.

Just Vision screened segments of its film, “Naila and the Uprising,” at the Council on Foreign Relations and the Inclusive Global Leadership Initiative, as well as in Israel and Palestine. Its Israeli premiere generated media headlines when Israel’s Minister of Culture falsely claimed on the floor of the Knesset that the story promoted terrorism. “The attack backfired,” said Just Vision Executive Director Suhad Babaa. “They ended up generating positive attention and curiosity.”

The team of journalists at the Fuller Project for International Reporting authored articles and op-eds in prominent media outlets ranging from the *New York Times* to *ELLE* focused on women, peace, and security. Its award-winning coverage of efforts to recruit women to the Afghan armed forces without plans to train or protect them from assault led directly to hearings on Capitol Hill. The Fuller Project and Peace is Loud also convened roundtable discussions with editors from preeminent publications, many of whom went on to prioritize coverage of foreign policy issues affecting women.

SUCCESS: Media coverage has improved in both quality and quantity, as in recent coverage by *The Washington Post* and Associated Press of women’s role in Afghanistan peace talks. The Initiative supported consistent, targeted advocacy that resulted in this shift, and this remains a critical area for investment over time.

Many grant partners who had previously focused on traditional policy advocacy pivoted to integrate storytelling approaches into their work. The Georgetown Institute for WPS launched an oral history podcast featuring women leaders telling their personal stories: an Algerian freedom fighter, a UN peacekeeping commander, a Libyan parliamentarian. The International Civil Society Action Network (ICAN) produced practical “how-to” animated videos in eight languages on women’s inclusion in peacemaking, which have since been adopted in United Nations agencies and military college training sessions.

A MAJOR WIN FOR WOMEN, PEACE, AND SECURITY

In November 2017, under the radar and without dissent, Congress passed and President Trump signed into law the Women, Peace, and Security Act (WPSA). This was the first time any country’s National Action Plan on WPS was codified into law. The Act requires the United States to prioritize the needs and perspectives of women in conflict prevention, resolution, and reconstruction; to protect them during conflict itself; and to support them as decisionmakers throughout.

This significant event resulted from advocacy, extensive consultations, and a determination by many WPS activists over several years to keep the issue bipartisan. The White House now routinely cites the law as one of President Trump’s signature achievements. Republican legislators such as Sen. Marco Rubio of Florida say it proves the administration’s commitment to women and call it a guide to Afghan peace talks.

“It’s a real step forward,” said CFR Women and Foreign Policy Program director Rachel Vogelstein. “It’s a building block for the future.”

SUCCESS: Congress passed significant legislation. The Women, Peace, and Security Act of 2017 codifies decades of work by civil society and many inside government to integrate women into security matters. Where possible, grantee partners responded by consulting with government departments and agencies on implementation strategies.

Despite the administration’s support of the WPSA, the same reactionary gender politics have remained in play. The administration’s release of a strategy for implementing the law was delayed for seven months, reportedly while it excised terms like “gender norms.” One department’s draft strategy got as far as an initial print run before it was withdrawn. “The rumor was that copies already printed were shredded,” one grantee said.

Several small, rapid-response grants during this period funded Initiative participants to consult with officials on WPSA strategy development, and advocates collaborated on calls and document drafts. When the strategy finally emerged in June 2019, it lacked protections for young people and any mention of LBGTQ populations, and did not acknowledge a need for sexual and reproductive health care for women in conflict areas, even in cases of rape.

Still, it requires agencies to use gender analysis in creating and implementing their programs worldwide, which will make inclusive security a new standard operating procedure—if it is funded and enforced. “It’s only important insofar as activists mobilize to get it implemented and government officials are actually willing to do it,” said Carol Cohn of the Consortium on Gender, Security, and Human Rights.

“It’ll be a rubber-meets-the-road situation if it’s really applied in the Afghan peace talks,” said Teresa Casale of ICRW. “It has given us the tools to keep the conversation moving forward and hold the administration accountable.” At the time of writing, advocates were still exhorting the U.S. administration to include Afghan women’s civil society groups and a guarantee of women’s rights in its ongoing peace talks with the Taliban.

NEXT STEPS

For all the progress made over the three years of the Initiative, deep-rooted structural norms, global cultural backlash against “gender ideology,” and a persistent lack of funding for the women, peace, and security agenda indicate considerable challenges ahead. “Never assume that anyone knows anything,” warned New America’s Heather Hurlburt. “Always be ready to make the basic case because the underlying concept of inclusion either isn’t understood or isn’t felt to be important.”

The fundamental barrier to a gendered peace and security agenda, grantees agreed, is not the lack of perfect messaging, but a patriarchal and misogynist mindset that is sometimes habitual, sometimes deliberate.

LESSON LEARNED: The traditional peace and security community still doesn't get it. In a rapidly moving world, with many new conflicts and stakeholders, much of the peace and security community has not embraced the centrality of a gender analysis in understanding global trends and developing strategies for conflict prevention and resolution. New leadership and a gender analysis will make room for new solutions to our most intractable problems.

Even after the passage of the WPSA, many decisionmakers on Capitol Hill and in relevant agencies do not understand the need for gendered peace and security policies. Several grantees recommended repeated and constant non-partisan briefings, seminars and other education for military leaders and members of Congress and their staffs, where progress is currently most likely. Attention to red-state areas is critical: "It's got to be a purple issue or WPS won't have the traction it needs to effect real change," said Texas A&M's Valerie Hudson.

Other grant partners, frustrated by an administration that routinely undermines the rights and health of women at home and abroad, want to renounce the WPS community's carefully bipartisan past for a broader and more explicitly feminist agenda. A "feminist foreign policy," pioneered in Sweden and underway in various forms in France, Canada, and Mexico, would embed a feminist gender analysis in all foreign policy and national security priorities, strategy, and budgeting.

A loose coalition of civil society groups, including WPSI grantees ICRW and the Council on Foreign Relations, is conducting research and advocacy to advance this work in the U.S. Although some grantees cautioned that the label might be a turnoff, the idea, whatever it is called, "has started probably the most important stream of work in my career," said ICRW's Lyric Thompson, "with the highest potential impact in terms of changing the world of anything I've ever done."

In any case, to get policymakers to care, "we need to create grassroots pressure, and one of the ways that happens is with storytelling, because it's part of culture change," said Jamie Dobie of Peace is Loud. ICAN's Sanam Anderlini noted that funding for TV shows and dramas about women making peace and war could work the way shows featuring LGBTQ folks helped change American culture and law. Such art "can show the very human emotion and drama of the real people that underlie the truth of data and policy, sparking people's imagination beyond the news."

And new research is proving that the stakes go far beyond the foreign policy and national security silo. Hudson's upcoming book, *The First Political Order: How Sex*

Shapes Governance and National Security Worldwide, proves quantitatively that the subordination of women at the household level harms a nation's prosperity, health outcomes, and stability.

The bottom line: gender matters, and women's inclusion in the peace and national security conversation can change the world. That is the message the public needs to hear "in their daily lives, while driving, watching the news, on billboards," said Georgetown's Melanne Verweir.

"If three more foundations did what the Compton Foundation did, we'd be a lot further down the road," said WPS consultant Olivia Holt-Ivry. Careful and substantial additional investment will be able to build on the structural groundwork of the Compton Foundation's Women, Peace, and Security Initiative and its new network of dedicated activists.

ENDNOTES

- 1 While the Women, Peace, and Security agenda is global in scope, involving both grassroots groups and international non-governmental organizations, this report refers only to activities of the Compton Foundation's Women, Peace, and Security Initiative and to its grantees, which are nearly all U.S. organizations focused on U.S. policies.
- 2 O'Reilly, Marie, et al, *Reimagining Peacemaking: Women's Roles in Peace Processes*, International Peace Institute, June 2015.
- 3 Hudson, Valerie M., and Hilary Matfess. "In Plain Sight: The Neglected Linkage Between Brideprice, Raiding and Rebellion." *International Security* 42, #1 (Summer 2017): 7-40. Doi: 10.1162/ISEC_a_00289
- 4 See Carol Cohn's op ed, "The Perils of Mixing Masculinity and Missiles," *The New York Times*, Jan. 5, 2018.

APPENDIX: WOMEN, PEACE, AND SECURITY INITIATIVE GRANT PARTNERS

Bush School of Government and Public Service Program on Women, Peace, and Security, Texas A&M University | 2016-2018

The program conducted teaching, outreach, and research through the WomanStats Project to document links between the security of women and that of the countries where they live.

Center for a New American Security | 2016-2018

This bipartisan think tank added a gender lens to its research and analysis, focusing on inclusive personnel policies and gender balance in its efforts to shape the national security debate.

Columbia University School of International and Public Affairs | 2016-2017

Columbia professor Yasmine Ergas created a global network of academics and practitioners working on gender and international affairs to document best practices and forge connections.

Consortium on Gender, Security, and Human Rights, University of Massachusetts Boston | 2017-2018

Professor Carol Cohn's Feminist Roadmap for Sustainable Peace convened scholars and researchers from around the world to generate new policy solutions for postwar reconstruction that take into account political and economic processes and structural inequalities.

Council on Foreign Relations Women and Foreign Policy Program | 2016-2018

The prominent think tank leveraged its reputation to elevate the issue of WPS on the U.S. foreign policy agenda, including consultations on developing a new governmental WPS strategy.

Double Hope Films | 2016

Filmmaker Vanessa Hope's in-production documentary uses Taiwan's President Tsai Ing-Wen as a case study on women's political leadership and nation-states' security and peace.

Fuller Project for International Reporting | 2016-2018

This nonpartisan news organization reported from around the globe on issues that affect women and increased media coverage of women's role in U.S. foreign policy.

Futures Without Violence | 2017

This national NGO is working to combat violence against women and children around the globe and conducted a bipartisan workshop for leaders who work on WPS.

Georgetown University Institute for Women, Peace, and Security | 2016-2018

Through an oral history project, podcast, and new index to measure countries' WPS commitments, this institute lifted up the efforts of particular women in working for peace.

Inclusive Global Leadership Initiative, University of Denver | 2017-2018

Professors Erica Chenoweth and Marie Berry conducted research to measure how gender diversity in nonviolent protest campaigns impacts their success and held educational programming to bridge academic research and social movements.

Institute for Inclusive Security | 2016-2017

The Institute for Inclusive Security carried out strategic advocacy and communications targeting policymakers to build a more inclusive peace and security agenda.

International Center for Research on Women | 2016-2018

This research institute provided recommendations to policymakers on developing and implementing the new WPS strategy and conducted advocacy to advance a feminist foreign policy.

International Civil Society Action Network | 2016-2018

This nonprofit supports grassroots peacebuilders in conflict zones and closed political spaces. Its animated videos and Peace Heroes series shared practical guidance on applying a gender lens to its programs.

Just Vision | 2017

This nonprofit team of human rights advocates, journalists and filmmakers created and ran public engagement for a documentary, “Naila and the Uprising,” to spotlight Palestinian women’s nonviolent community organizing in the First Intifada.

MADRE | 2018

This New York-based women’s human rights organization worked with the Congressional Progressive Caucus Center to champion gender justice and human rights in foreign affairs.

Ms. Magazine | 2016-2017

Ms. collaborated with other grantees to feature women’s personal stories and journalism on gender inclusion in peace and security issues online and in its print magazine.

New America | 2016-2018

Experts on national security and gender parity at this Washington think tank teamed up for research and journalism on integrating gender into national security policy and advancing new security paradigms.

NGO Working Group on Women, Peace, and Security | 2016-2017

This coalition of 18 international non-governmental organizations worked at the United Nations to integrate the voices of women human rights defenders, activists and peacebuilders into daily activity and government accountability mechanisms.

Peace is Loud | 2016-2018

This New York nonprofit produced and developed an impact campaign for *Women, War & Peace: Part II*, a series of four films broadcast to millions on PBS showcasing women’s groups fighting for a political voice in their countries’ peace efforts.

Ploughshares Fund Women’s Initiative | 2017-2018

The Initiative promoted an inclusive and peaceful foreign policy agenda that does not rely on nuclear weapons, through thought leadership, grantmaking, and network-building.

SFFILM | 2017

This San Francisco nonprofit established the Women, Peace, and Security Fellowship to support two filmmakers documenting women's efforts to end conflict and advance peace.

The OTHRS | 2016

This filmmaking collective worked on a multimedia storytelling project about women working on deradicalization inside the Muslim community.

U.S. Civil Society Working Group on Women, Peace, and Security | 2016-2017

This nonpartisan network of 35 organizations produced policy papers on topics like the impact of violent conflict on women and women's participation in peacebuilding.

Truman Center for National Policy | 2016-2017

This network of young progressives in foreign policy and national security provided leadership development trainings to its women members to position them as leaders in national security.

War Stories, Peace Stories | 2017

In partnership with Peace Direct and Spectrum Media, this symposium explored the ways in which media coverage and storytelling can influence conflict and peace processes.

WNET | 2018

In partnership with Peace is Loud, the New York PBS station regranted to five public television stations across the nation to produce events to tie local issues to *Women, War & Peace: Part II*.

