

Date and time: Wednesday 13th March 2019 from 3:00-4:15 pm
Venue: UN HQ Conference Room 12
Host: Nordic Women Mediators – Iceland
Co-hosts: The Office of the Prime Minister and Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Iceland, UNU-Gest and Höfði Reykjavík Peace Centre



Women at the Table!

Transformative change - Women shaping the agenda of peace, transitional justice and political agreements

In peace processes around the globe, women only represent 2% of mediators, 8% of negotiators and 5% of witnesses and signatories, according to data from UN Women and the Council on Foreign Relations. Meaningful inclusion entails women at the table as equal participants, presenting their perspectives, interests and demands. First, how can we create conditions for women to first shape *their own* agenda by means of consolidating their (different) perspectives, interests and demands into a clear mandate of unified positions? Second, how can women deliver as a united front with the aim of influencing peace agreements, transitional justice and the political agendas while backed and supported from a broad coalition of women? These questions and more will be elaborated upon by the distinguished panellists that include women with mediation, activist, academic and political backgrounds.

Speakers on the Panel:

The Experience from the Women's List in Iceland: Is it Applicable at International Level?

Kristín Ástgeirsdóttir is one of the founding members of the Women's List in Iceland (1982) and the Women's Alliance (1983) and a Member of Parliament (1991 – 1999). She worked for UNIFEM in Kosovo seconded by the Iceland Crisis Response Unit of the Icelandic Ministry for Foreign Affairs (2000 – 2001). Kristin is a former director of the Icelandic Centre for Gender Equality (2007 – 2017).

Northern Ireland women's Coalition (NIWC): Acting Together for Peace

Anne Carr was the Co-ordinator of the Women Together for Peace organisation from 1990 – 2002 and the Founder, Co-chair and Director of the Community Dialogue organisation. She participated in the Belfast/Good Friday Agreement negotiations in 1996 – 1998 for the Northern Ireland Women's Coalition (NIWC). The NIWC was established in 1996, inspired by the Icelandic Women's List, to ensure the inclusion of women in the peace talks concluding in the 1998 Good Friday Agreement.

Kosovo Women's Solidarity for Survivors of Conflict Related Sexual Violence

Vlora Çitaku, Ambassador of the Republic of Kosovo to the United States, served as the Deputy Foreign Minister of the Republic of Kosovo from 2007 to 2009 and Minister of European Integration from 2010 to 2014. She has been active in ensuring reparation to survivors of conflict related sexual violence and worked towards their recognition as victims of war entitled to public support and justice.

Airwaves as a Platform for Change: Transitional Justice and Reparation for Survivors of Wartime Rape

Chouchou Namegabe is a Radio Journalist and the Co-founder and former Director of AFEM-South Kivu Women's Media Association in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Currently based in the US, Chouchou is dedicated to launching Anzafrika, a ground-breaking initiative to promote sustainable economic empowerment of SGBV survivors in the Great Lakes through impact investment.

Moderator: **Dr. Sarah Taylor** is a Research Fellow and Head of International Peace Institute's Women, Peace and Security Program building on more than 15 years of experience working to ensure women's participation and women's rights. Her prior roles include Executive Coordinator of the NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security (2008 – 2014), and Advocate for Women, Peace and Security at Human Rights Watch (2015 – 2017).



Kristín Ástgeirsdóttir



Anne Carr



Vlora Çitaku



Chouchou Namegabe



Dr. Sarah Taylor