Gender and Security in Afghanistan, India and Pakistan

Annotated Bibliography

2013

The Consortium on Gender, Security and Human Rights created this Annotated Bibliography for the Women’s Regional Network (WRN). WRN aims to provide an opportunity for key women leaders in Afghanistan, Pakistan and India to unify efforts across borders and to build a common vision to address issues they face in trying to secure peace and stability in the region. The Network is especially concerned with the inter-linkages between security, extremisms, corruption and militarization, including the militarization of aid and development as they impact women’s lives. WRN commissioned this annotated bibliography, which maps recent studies, reports and other materials on these topics, in order to enable WRN members and partners to become familiar with the current discourse and evidence related to these themes.

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The Consortium on Gender, Security and Human Rights created this Annotated Bibliography for the Women’s Regional Network to provide a guide to the landscape of academic research on gender and security in Afghanistan, India and Pakistan; Eliza Berg, Lindsey Bouzan, Ekta Patel, Kathrine Bjerg Christensen, Caitlin Bagby, Jaqueline Daigneault, Savannah Riddle, Kathleen Yuki Davis, Samantha Pride, Lindsay Carpenter, Sarah Blair, Luca Koritsanszky, Jacqueline Daigneault, Jennine Sawwan, Paige Goodlett, Nargis Karimova and Mikaela Ringquist all made important contributions to this project.

This bibliography is by no means an exhaustive listing; among its limitations, it is restricted to articles published in English.

Insofar as possible, entries includes citations, published abstracts, quotations of key sentences (indicated in quotation marks, and followed by page number) and additional annotations by the interns who worked on this bibliography, and URLs for articles that are available on line. Books usually are only briefly summarized, often with the table of contents included.

This annotated bibliography is meant to introduce readers to the landscape of academic research and debate in this field, and to help support the reader in her or his own research. Despite the inclusion of quotations and page numbers in the annotations, we strongly advise the reader not to quote directly from this document, but rather to use it to direct you to the literature that will be of use to you.

If you are familiar with resources that you think should be included in this annotated bibliography, please send the citation, or, better yet, an annotation, and we will add it to the bibliography, with your name as reviewer. Resources can be submitted through our website at: genderandsecurity.org/projects-resources/annotated-bibliographies.
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PREFACE: A GUIDE TO USING THIS BIBLIOGRAPHY

How the Bibliography is Organized

For ease of reading, the bibliography has been divided into six main thematic sections, reflecting different dimensions of women’s in/security.

Each of the six thematic sections is further divided into two sub-sections – one for “South Asia Resources” and a second, “Global Resources,” for resources which are not geographically-specific to the region, but which still address the interests of WRN members and partners. (Please note: while the “South Asia Resources” sections endeavor to present as much available material as possible, the “Global Resources” sections will, of necessity, represent a much smaller percentage of all available “Global Resources.”)

Within each sub-section, sources are listed alphabetically, with full citations, followed by abstracts (where available) and notes describing the source’s content or main findings. Below the notes is a final section which lists the following: Theme, Subthemes, Geographical Focus and the Language(s) in which the source is available.

While the division of the bibliography into six thematic sections may be useful, it must also be stressed, however, that the multiple dimensions of women’s in/security, in actuality, are tightly interrelated, and interact dynamically in women’s lives. For this reason, it is unsurprising that many resources address several different dimensions of women’s (in)security at once; in those cases, the resources have been placed in the most congruent thematic section, and the additional themes were listed in the “Subthemes” for each resource.

The six major thematic sections are:

I. Personal In/Security
   Resources are predominantly about the personal, bodily and emotional security of women. Violence against women proves to be a recurrent theme, including domestic violence, sexual violence, harassment, trafficking, women’s health and reproductive rights, early marriage, and female feticide.

II. Political In/Security
   Resources are predominantly about the security of women in regard to public activism, leadership and political participation and representation, and women’s engagement in peace processes and peacebuilding. The section includes resources relevant to Security Sector Reform, as well as UNSCR 1325 (which we use as a shorthand term for the whole so-called “Women, Peace and Security” agenda, as developed by the international women’s activist and policy communities).

III. Economic In/Security
   Resources are predominantly about the women’s ability to participate in the formal and informal economy and to secure a livelihood. Topics include property
IV. Militarization and Women’s Security

This theme is divided into three separate sub-sections.

- **Militarization & Armed Conflict**
  Resources are predominantly about the impact of war on women, and women’s various forms of engagement with war.

- **Small Arms and Light Weapons**
  Resources explore the impact of the proliferation of small arms and light weapons on women’s security.

- **Militarization of Aid**
  Resources explore the impact on women of the increasing militarization of both humanitarian assistance and development aid programs. 

  _Important Note:_ Most available resources about the militarization of humanitarian assistance do not consider the impact on local populations in general, much less on women. An Appendix has been included to give the reader a sense of the gender-blind literature in this field.

V. Corruption, and Lack of Accountability & Transparency

Resources explore the prevalence of corruption – in both public institutions and daily personal life – as well as governments’ and law enforcement agencies’ lack of accountability and transparency in punishing and preventing corruption. Resources also address issues of justice and impunity.

VI. Useful Websites

This section features an array of online databases, internet portals, links to online research centers, publications, forums and organizations which produce resources related to the themes of this bibliography. Although many of their currently-available relevant resources have been included in this bibliography, these websites should prove useful for finding new resources as they become available.

Please note that inclusion of a resource in any of these sections does not represent endorsement of its point of view by the WRN or the Consortium on Gender, Security and Human Rights; instead, it is meant to give the reader access to a variety of analyses and viewpoints.
How to Navigate and Search the Bibliography

Given the length of the bibliography, there are three different forms of navigation which might be useful.

1) Search by Section or Sub-Section:
To navigate by thematic section or sub-section, simply go to the Table of Contents, and choose the section you wish to view. Then place your cursor over it, hold down the “Control” key on PCs, or the “Command” key on Macs, and click on the section title. You will be automatically taken to the exact page in the document where the desired section or sub-section begins.

2) Search by Sub-themes:
If you wish to see the entire range of where a particular issue appears in the bibliography, throughout all of the sections, you can search by “Subtheme.” As noted above, each resource has been tagged with a list of subthemes which outline the major topics covered by the source; a comprehensive list of the subthemes used in this bibliography appears below. To search by subtheme, just choose one from the list, and use your computer’s “Find” feature (hold down “Control + F” on PCs, or “Command” + “F” on Macs) and then type in the subtheme you wish to locate.

3) Search by Keyword
Of course, if there is something you are looking for that does not appear on the subtheme list, you can also search for any keyword you choose!

Themes and Subthemes Used in this Bibliography

Accountability
CEDAW
Child Marriage
Children’s Rights
Civil and Political Rights
Conflict Prevention
Conflict Resolution
Corruption
Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency
Crime
DDR (Disarmament, Demobilization & Reintegration)
Democratization
Development
Discrimination
Displacement
Domestic Violence
Economic In/Security
Education Access
Electoral Reform
Empowerment
Environment and Resources
Ethnic Conflict
Gendered Power Relations
Gender Mainstreaming
Gender Quotas
Gender-Based Violence
Gendered Identities
Geopolitics
Girls’ Rights
Governance
Health
Human Rights
Human Security
Impact of Armed Conflict on Women
Impunity
Inequality
Justice
Livelihoods
Migration
Militarization & Armed Conflict
Militarization of Aid
Militarization and Women’s Security
Minority Rights
NATO
Patriarchal Norms
Peace Processes
Peacebuilding
Personal In/Security
Policing
Political In/Security
Political Representation
Political Violence and Terrorism
Post-Conflict Reconstruction
Property Rights
Protection
Public Policy
Reconciliation
Redefining Security
Religion
Religious Extremism and Fundamentalisms
Rule of Law
SCR 1325
Secularism
Security
Security Sector Reform
Sexual Harassment
Sexual Slavery
Sexual Violence
Small Arms and Light Weapons
State Failure to Protect
Trafficking of Persons
Transparency
Violence against Children
Violence against Women
Violence against Women in Public Spaces
Violent Abuses by Armed Groups
Violent Abuses by the State/Security Sector
War Crimes
Widows
Women and Armed Conflict
Women’s Activism
Women’s Agency
Women’s Civil Society Organizations
Women Human Rights Defenders
Women’s Leadership and Participation
Women’s Rights
Youth Violence
I. PERSONAL IN/SECURITY

A. South Asia Resources


Notes:
Amnesty urges the Government of India to pay special attention to the forgotten women victims in Gujarat. Specific recommendations to both the Governments of India and Gujarat are contained in the last section of the report. It uses two key cases to illustrate abuses such as gang rape, murder of relatives of and employees of victims and the subsequent investigations, trials, appeals and retrials.

Theme: Personal In/Security
Subthemes: Violence against Women; Justice, Gender-Based Violence; Violence against Children; Accountability; State Failure to Protect; Impunity
Geographical Focus: India
Language: English
*Recommended


Notes:
This brief study examines sexual slavery practices in Devadasi, Jogini and Mathamma; the violence and exploitation faced by girls and women; and the need for urgent action among public officials, media and NGOs.

Theme: Personal In/Security
Subthemes: Sexual Slavery; Violence against Women; Religion
Geographical Focus: India
Language: English

Notes:
“The historical cruelties perpetrated on the hapless Hindu widow are well-documented. They have been the stuff of legends and legislation. What is less known is that even in contemporary India, women, although they may not have to undergo the barbarism of forcible tonsure, continue to suffer grievously in innumerable ways. Equally ignored are widows in other parts of the world. They figure among the most deprived sections of society, with little legal protections and few safety nets, whether they live in Syria or Somalia, Ireland, Canada or the United States.” (Arvind)

Theme: Personal In/Security
Subthemes: Widows; Women’s Rights; Patriarchal Norms; Justice
Geographical Focus: India
Language: English


Notes:
The compilation lists research materials dealing with the security and protection of defenders, resources that women activists can consult concerning their wellbeing and self-care, manuals dealing with how to document and monitor violations of women's rights, as well as manuals on the rights and mechanisms available to women human rights defenders at risk. The list also provides reference materials that address specific themes, particularly relevant to women defenders, such as sexual orientation, religious fundamentalisms and conflict.

Theme: Personal In/Security
Subthemes: Women Human Rights Defenders; Women’s Rights; Religious Extremism and Fundamentalisms
Geographical Focus: General, South Asia
Language: English
*Recommended


Notes:
“Most college girls have to face a series of physical and verbal abuse every single day on their way to and from their institutions. The rowdy attitude of the bus conductors, the lustful ogling of the passengers and the frequent pushing and shoving end up instilling a fear of going to college. Harassment at workplace is a more frightful story. The flirtatious attitude of male colleagues, frequent invitations to "lunches" and unwelcome interferences in their jobs terminate with women either hating their work or transforming into rude, cold and stone-face creatures minus all her sense of femininity. Some more unfortunate ones find themselves complying with the demands of their colleagues, flirting in return and degrading themselves in their own eyes.” (Aufaz)

Theme: Personal In/Security
Subthemes: Economic In/Security; Violence against Women in Public Spaces; Sexual Harassment; Education Access
Geographical Focus: Pakistan
Language: English


Notes:
“This paper is a preliminary examination of some of the dimensions of child marriage in Afghanistan and its consequences. It includes information about traditional views of marriage, current marriage laws, international standards, reports of psychologists and gynecologists, opinions of Afghan experts and authorities, and data from prisons, schools, and hospitals. Almost all respondents interviewed in the course of this study, from schoolgirls through to legal experts, felt that child marriage must be prosecuted and stopped with the will and efforts of relevant government agencies and institutions. Most suggested that a much higher minimum age of marriage is appropriate, usually somewhere in the twenties.” (Bahgam and Mukhatari)

Theme: Personal In/Security
Subthemes: Women’s Rights; Girls’ Rights; Child Marriage; Education Access; Health; Patriarchal Norms
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan
Language: English


Notes:
This article deals with the Taliban’s actions to prevent women from carrying out work that has not traditionally been considered appropriate for women -- a source of significant insecurity for women.

“Gunmen in the southern Afghan city of Kandahar have killed the country's most prominent policewoman, officials say...Taliban rebels, who banned women from joining the police when they were in power, said they had carried out the shooting...The BBC's Martin Patience in Kabul says Ms. Kakar was one of only a few hundred female police officers in Afghanistan and that she had previously received death threats.” (BBC News)

Theme: **Personal In/Security**
Subthemes: **Women’s Leadership & Participation; Violence against Women; Policing; Security Sector Reform; Patriarchal Norms; Political In/Security**
Geographical Focus: **Afghanistan**
Language: **English**


Notes:

Progress of Women in South Asia “presents a holistic overview of the situation of women in South Asia since 2005. It delineates the strides made and the challenges that persist in relation to violence against women, economic and political empowerment of women, disaster preparedness, health and education...” (Bisht)

Theme: **Personal In/Security**
Subthemes: **Political In/Security; Economic In/Security; Violence against Women; Women’s Leadership and Participation; Health; Education Access**
Geographical Focus: **South Asia**
Language: **English**


Notes:

“Violence against women in the home has increasingly been seen as a development issue in addition to being a core rights one. But, threats to physical security in public spaces continue with impunity, and the same geographical band
that shows poor health, education and employment outcomes for women and girls – namely, extending from Afghanistan, through Pakistan, north India and parts of Bangladesh – is also the band where women and girls are often too scared to venture out.” (Bodia Das)

Theme: Personal In/Security
Subthemes: Domestic Violence; Violence against Women in Public Spaces; Education Access; Economic In/Security; Women’s Leadership and Participation; Impunity; Patriarchal Norms
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, Bangladesh
Language: English


Notes: This 100-page report documents a virtual epidemic of crimes of violence against women, including domestic violence rates as high as 90 percent, at least eight reported rapes every 24 hours nationwide, and an alarming rise in so-called honor killings.

Theme: Personal In/Security
Subthemes: Violence against Women; Sexual Violence; Women’s Rights; Violence against Women in Public Spaces; Domestic Violence; State Failure to Protect; Policing; Justice; Patriarchal Norms
Geographical Focus: Pakistan
Language: English


Notes: The report highlights that the region faces enormous challenges in addressing inequalities in reproductive health of poor women, and focuses on the risks they face. This phenomenon perpetuates an inter-generational cycle of poverty. Nearly 185,000 women in South Asia die from causes related to pregnancy every year, and millions more are affected by acute or chronic illnesses as a result of childbearing. Widespread gender discrimination also adversely impacts poor women's health in the region.

Theme: Personal In/Security

Notes:

“Protection' is a two-edged weapon. The very fact that this is the principal focus of the Act for women within marriage or out-of-marriage relationships only reinforces the view that women, by and large, are vulnerable to all kinds of violence in their relationships with men.

“With the passage of the Domestic Violence Act, for the first time in the history of legal ramifications directly linked to women, the state has recognised that violence is not only physical and/or sexual. Equally, violence can be psychological, verbal, and economic and act as warning signs of future physical violence. With this in mind, the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005, has laid down stringent rules to prosecute men who harass, beat or insult women at home.” (Chatterji)

Theme: **Personal In/Security**
Subthemes: **Domestic Violence; Justice**
Geographical Focus: **India**
Language: **English**


Notes:

“This mission report from September 1999 looks at the situation of violence against women in Afghanistan and Pakistan, assessing the right to physical security, right to education, right to health, right to employment, freedom of movement, freedom of association, rights of minority women, trafficking/prostitution, the Ministry for the Propagation of Virtue and Suppression of Vice, the war and Islam, refugees in Pakistan, among other areas.” (Coomaraswamy)

Theme: **Personal In/Security**

**Abstract:**

“All countries comprising the south Asian region have responded in some measure to the challenges posed by violence against women in the region. However, what remains a matter of concern is the fact that apart from India, none of the other south Asian countries have adopted domestic violence legislation or made the necessary changes to anti-trafficking legislation. Progress to ensure security and a world without violence for women has been slow but its pace especially in the last decade has been heartening. Violence against women, as borne out by research from around the world, can be effectively combated if a healthy partnership prevails between women's groups and the state apparatus.” (Coomaraswamy)

**Notes:**

Although not completely focused on how corruption causes these problems for women, it does specifically list corruption as a cause in the abuse of women, particularly in trafficking.

**Theme:** Personal In/Security

**Subthemes:** Corruption; Violence against Women; Domestic Violence; Trafficking of Persons; Justice; Women’s Civil Society Organizations; Patriarchal Norms

**Geographical Focus:** South Asia

**Language:** English


**Abstract:**

“Gender-based violence constitutes a major public health risk and is a serious violation of basic human rights throughout the world. Counter to many Western images of Muslim women as passive victims, women's groups in Pakistan have begun to organize to respond to these conditions. This study is based upon in-depth interviews conducted with the founders and senior staff of Dastak (Knock on the Door), a shelter for women in Lahore, Pakistan that uses a human rights framework to provide services and advocate for public support for women’s rights to safety and security. The study explores how Pakistani women
are taking action against violence within their social, cultural and political reality and analyzes how the human rights approach has been applied in a non-Western, Muslim, developing country.” (Critelli)

Theme: **Personal In/Security**  
Subthemes: Gender-Based Violence; Women’s Rights; Violence against Women; Women’s Activism; Health  
Geographical Focus: Pakistan  
Language: **English**


**Abstract:**  
“Despite the overwhelming media attention to the rise of fundamentalism, Pakistan’s vocal women’s movement has remained unrevealed and unexamined. Gender violence is integral to the agenda of the women’s movement, because of the profound violation of women’s human rights to life and security. This article draws on formal in-depth interviews and participant observation with women’s activists of two prominent women’s nongovernmental organizations in Lahore, Pakistan. Using a transnational feminist framework and feminist social movement theory, it examines the organizations’ strategies for change and how the historical, political, and social environments of their fields for protest shape these strategies. The struggles and achievements of women’s activism against gender violence are analyzed with implications beyond the experiences of these organizations.” (Critelli & Willett)

Theme: **Personal In/Security**  
Subthemes: Religious Extremism and Fundamentalisms; Women’s Civil Society Organizations; Women’s Activism; Gender-Based Violence  
Geographical Focus: Pakistan  
Language: **English**


**Notes:**  
This report contains the findings of the Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women, Its Causes and Consequences, following her official visit to Afghanistan in July 2005. It addresses the diverse forms of violence against women in the country within the context of conflict and post-conflict situations
and key measures and initiatives needed to ensure the protection and promotion of the rights of women and the elimination of violence against women.

Theme: **Personal In/Security**  
Subthemes: **Violence against Women; Women’s Rights; Impact of Armed Conflict on Women**  
Geographical Focus: **Afghanistan**  
Language: **English**  
*Recommended


**Notes:**  
This work explores women's perspectives on matters of security and related policy, focusing on women in South Asia who are battling society, insecurity and violence in some form. It examines theories of security, creates new agendas for empirical research in security studies, and brings together statistical, ethnographic and survey data.

Theme: **Personal In/Security**  
Subthemes: **Violence against Women; Redefining Security; Women’s Rights**  
Geographical Focus: **South Asia**  
Language: **English**  
*Recommended


**Notes:**  
“Over the past three years, Rights & Democracy has been directly involved in the reform of family law in Afghanistan. Through fieldwork and research work, a number of questions, reflections and lines of analysis were raised that needed further discussion. To this end, four authors have reflected on a series of questions that are central themes of this book: the evolution of reforms in 20th century Afghanistan; the participation of civil society in the legislative process in the post-Taliban era; the marriage contract and registration of marriages; and the gap between the theoretical discourse and practice with regards to protecting the rights of women.” (Farhoumad)
Themes: **Personal In/Security**  
Subthemes: Civil and Political Rights; Human Rights; CEDAW; Women’s Rights; Women’s Civil Society Organizations; Gendered Power Relations; Discrimination  
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan  
Language: English


Notes:  
This op-ed article reminds the US that it invaded a country in the name of liberating women, yet has forgotten them. It calls on US and NATO to ensure the long-term protection of women's rights.

Theme: **Personal In/Security**  
Subthemes: Militarization & Armed Conflict; Justice; NATO  
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan  
Language: English


Notes:  
Section 6 of India’s National Plan of Action for Children 2005 addresses the Rights of the Girl Child. It specifically identifies as goals the end of sex selection, female feticide and infanticide, as well as child marriages. Its objectives include addressing the root causes of harmful practices such as son preference and the elimination of harmful practices that result from son preference such as prenatal sex selection, female feticide and infanticide. Strategies to reach these goals include advocacy through community and religious leaders as well as government officials, and enforcement of laws that protect the equal rights of the girl child.

Theme: **Personal In/Security**  
Subthemes: Children’s Rights; Girls’ Rights; Women’s Civil Society Organizations; Gendered Power Relations; Patriarchal Norms; Accountability  
Geographical Focus: India  
Language: English

Notes:
While the Indian legal framework with respect to trafficking is found to not be very effective in protecting victims and punishing offenders, there have been several recent actions on the part of the government, the NGO community, and the judiciary to rectify these outages.

Theme: Personal In/Security
Subthemes: Trafficking of Persons; Justice
Geographical Focus: India
Language: English


Abstract:
“State officials of Gujarat, India were directly involved in the killings of hundreds of Muslims since February 27 and are now engineering a massive cover-up of the state's role in the violence, Human Rights Watch charged in a new report released today. The Indian parliament is scheduled today to debate the situation in Gujarat, and may vote to censure the Indian government for its handling of the violence. The police were directly implicated in nearly all the attacks against Muslims that are documented in the 75-page report, ‘We Have No Orders to Save You’: State Participation and Complicity in Communal Violence in Gujarat. In some cases they were merely passive observers. But in many instances, police officials led the charge of murderous mobs, aiming and firing at Muslims who got in the way. Under the guise of offering assistance, some police officers led the victims directly into the hands of their killers. Panicked phone calls made to the police, fire brigades, and even ambulance services generally proved futile. Several witnesses reported being told by police: ‘We have no orders to save you.’” (Human Rights Watch)

Notes:
Indian government officials have acknowledged that since February 27, 2002, more than 850 people have been killed in communal violence in the state of Gujarat, most of them Muslims. Unofficial estimates put the death toll as high as 2,000. At this writing, murders are continuing, with violence spreading to rural areas fanned by ongoing hate campaigns and economic boycotts against Muslims. The attacks against Muslims in Gujarat have been actively supported by state
government officials and by the police. HRW investigates these crimes and makes recommendations to the government and international community.

Theme: **Personal In/Security**  
Subthemes: Violent Abuses by the State/Security Sector; Corruption; State Failure to Protect  
Geographical Focus: India  
Language: English


**Notes:**  
This 150-page report documents repeated failures both in providing health care to pregnant women in Uttar Pradesh state in northern India and in taking steps to identify and address gaps in care. Uttar Pradesh has one of the highest maternal mortality ratios in India, but government surveys show it is not alone in struggling with these problems, including a failure even to record how many women are dying.

Theme: **Personal In/Security**  
Subthemes: Health  
Geographical Focus: India  
Language: English, Hindi


**Notes:**  
This 54-page report documents the continued use of the archaic practice and the continued reliance on the "results" by many defense counsel and courts. The practice, described in outdated medical jurisprudence textbooks used by many doctors, lawyers, and judges, involves a doctor inserting fingers in a rape victim's vagina to determine the presence or absence of the hymen and the so-called "laxity" of the vagina. These findings perpetuate false and damaging stereotypes of rape survivors as "loose" women. Defense attorneys use the findings to challenge the credibility, character, and the lack of consent of the survivors.

Theme: **Personal In/Security**  
Subthemes: Justice; Rule of Law; Women’s Rights; Sexual Violence; Health  
Geographical Focus: India  
Language: English
Notes:

Some forms of violence get more attention than others. Terrorism and insurgency have effects which go far beyond the direct deaths and injuries that they cause, undermining security and economic development. But for sheer numbers of lives destroyed, criminal violence and suicide deserve more attention. This brief looks at how all forms of armed violence require more attention, and more holistic policy. Institutional cooperation—between ministries, the central and state governments, and between government and civil society—is only beginning to occur.

Theme: **Personal In/Security**
Subthemes: Impact of Armed Conflict on Women; Political Violence and Terrorism; Crime; Development; Small Arms and Light Weapons
Geographical Focus: India
Language: English
*Recommended


Notes:

“There are many circumstances in which the use of force by the police is considered a legitimate action. Indeed, even in a democratic society, police are distinguished by their legal authority to use force to coerce citizens (Klockars, 1985). Given the high potential for the police to abuse force, checks and balances are needed to minimize the use of force and make officers accountable when they resort to it.

“India has approximately 2.4 million men and women in official policing (IISS, 2011; NCRB, 2011). Their work is regulated by the Indian Constitution, by statute and case law, and by the internal rules and procedures that regulate the use of force and govern the circumstances in which official violence is permissible. But there is growing consensus within India that police reform should be elevated on the national agenda.” (India Armed Violence Assessment)

Theme: **Personal In/Security**
Subthemes: Policing; Security Sector Reform; Corruption; Violent Abuses by the State/Security Sector
Geographical Focus: India

Notes:
- This report looks at the motivations and impact of dowries in India and their connection with violence against women.

Theme: **Personal In/Security**
Subthemes: Violence against Women; Patriarchal Norms
Geographical Focus: India
Language: English


Notes:
- This study was “conducted to research factors that create greater safety and inclusion for women in public spaces around Delhi. The survey gathered and analyzed information about the: (a) nature and forms of gender-based violence and/or harassment faced by women, (b) spots where these incidents happen and that are perceived to be unsafe and inaccessible to women, (c) strategies adopted by women to defend themselves, (d) role of governing agencies and the police in safeguarding women’s rights, and (e) societal perceptions and attitudes to sexual harassment. The findings and recommendations are part of the strategic framework to guide interventions to make Delhi a safer city for women.”
(JAGORI & UNIFEM)

Theme: **Personal In/Security**
Subthemes: Sexual Harassment; Violence against Women in Public Spaces; Women’s Rights
Geographical Focus: India
Language: English
*Recommended

Notes:
“The aim of the study was to develop a comprehensive understanding of the phenomenon of child abuse, with a view to facilitate the formulation of appropriate policies and programmes meant to effectively curb and control the problem of child abuse in India. The National Study on Child Abuse is one of the largest empirical in-country studies of its kind in the world. This study also complements the UN Secretary General’s Global Study on Violence against Children 2006.” (Kacker)

Theme: Personal In/Security
Subthemes: Violence against Children
Geographical Focus: India
Language: English


Notes:
“Among big-ticket issues of individual and national security, fundamental rights for minorities in Pakistan are often overlooked. The fundamentals of their status as legal citizens always remain precarious, and often too contingent even in daily entitlements under the law. It can be as simple as registering a marriage: In Pakistan, for instance, registering a marriage between a Hindu woman and a Hindu man is just not possible. For any religious minorities, the inability to register their marriages and to enforce or contest the legality of their marriage certificates, amounts to denying them a fundamental human right. Yet, for religious minorities in Pakistan, legalizing their marriages has just not featured as a state priority.” (Khan)

Theme: Personal In/Security
Subthemes: Discrimination; Human Rights; Civil and Political Rights; Religion’ Minority Rights
Geographical Focus: Pakistan
Language: English


Notes: While Pakistan is considered one of the most dangerous countries for women, the author gives examples of how incremental changes have been taking place to secure women’s rights.

Notes:

“*Community Warriors* is anchored in historically and politically constructed notions of identity, power and ethnic allegiance. The book's lucid narrative style facilitates a seamless passage through the sociocultural history of post-independence Bihar and unravels the disturbing aspects of the march of democracy in this much feared and also promising 'heart of India'. Kumar addresses the issues of the process of democratization, ethnic conflict, state power, social movements, Dalit politics and peasant unrest, providing a key to understanding contemporary India.

“Kumar pays attention to the status of women in the caste system and the crimes committed against them. This book is looking closer at the roots of the Naxals conflict. “Naxals often speak the language of democratic rights of people and also slaughter mercilessly those considered the ‘enemy’ as signs of a deep ambivalent praxis that dismisses and simultaneously replicates the norms of feudal-caste violence.” (Kumar)


Notes:

A study demonstrating that women in Herat Province, Afghanistan have an extraordinarily high risk of dying during pregnancy and childbirth, along with the highest maternal mortality ratio in the world outside of Africa.

**Notes:**
A groundbreaking survey of over 1,000 Afghan women and men about their attitudes and experiences regarding the health and human rights of Afghan women. The report reveals that an overwhelming majority of Afghan women and men do not support Taliban policies but do strongly support basic human rights and freedoms for all.

Theme: **Personal In/Security**  
Subthemes: Political In/Security; Health; Human Rights; Women’s Rights; Civil and Political Rights  
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan  
Language: **English**


**Notes:**  
“As the Domestic Violence Act enters its fourth year, the execution of the law presents new challenges as well as opportunities. With more and more women filing cases under the PWDVA, the courts are being confronted with domestic violence, and concomitant issues like never before. Therefore, the attempt of the fourth Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) Report is to provide an overview of what has worked and what has not. Examining court orders, judgments, meeting with relevant stakeholders, interviews, and other materials has provided useful insights into the working of the law. Since the data collection for this report builds on the earlier reports, it seeks to ascertain emerging trends, glean best practices, and identify gaps.” (Lawyers Collective Women’s Rights and Initiative and International Center for Research on Women)

Theme: **Personal In/Security**  
Subthemes: Domestic Violence; Justice  
Geographical Focus: India  
Language: **English**  
*Recommended*

Notes:
“Debate about the cultural underpinnings of domestic violence in India is being stirred by a study that found a woman's risk of being beaten, kicked or hit rises with her level of education.
“The incidents were documented in a series of studies carried out by the Washington-based International Center for Research on Women in collaboration with independent Indian researchers. The cross-cultural study looked at the problem of domestic abuse in India, Egypt, Chile and the Philippines and found that violence against women was prevalent across regions, communities and classes.” (Majumdar)

Theme: **Personal In/Security**
Subthemes: **Domestic Violence**
Geographical Focus: **India**
Language: **English**


Notes:
“They are little hubs of hope scattered throughout the USA, especially in cities that have a sizable Indian population. Twenty-five organisations with names like Asha, Manavi, Sakhi, Maitri, Sneha and Sahara, all committed to helping South Asian women trapped in situations of domestic violence.
“Not only are these women isolated by language, they are without relatives or friends, many are even terrified to take a bus. In such a foreign cultural setup, women feel disempowered. For the men, there is this huge pressure to do well and prove themselves and they vent this pressure on their wives.” (Martyris)

Theme: **Personal In/Security**
Subthemes: **Domestic Violence; Women’s Civil Society Organizations**
Geographical Focus: **India, USA**
Language: **English**

Notes:

“This report looks to stimulate improvements and provide recourse to justice for women in Afghanistan's prison system, many of whom are incarcerated for perceived "sexual perversions or crimes", which may have included girls running away from home, or even rape victims.” (Medica)

Theme: **Personal In/Security**
Subthemes: **Women’s Rights; Sexual Violence; Justice; Civil and Political Rights; Gender-Based Violence; Patriarchal Norms**
Geographical Focus: **Afghanistan**
Language: **English**


Notes:

This report looks at the reasons behind women's self-immolation. Findings showed that “cases were characterized by forced marriage or engagement (29%), abuse from husbands or in-laws (40%), and child marriage (30%), or a combination. Key informants reported that they believed self-immolation and gender based violence were a consequence of women’s demands for control, specifying that women's receipt of greater rights under the new Karzai government are resulting in their increased demands, provoking the violence against them.” (Medica Mondiale)

Theme: **Personal In/Security**
Subthemes: **Gender-Based Violence; Child Marriage**
Geographical Focus: **India**
Language: **English**


Notes:

Medica Mondiale presents this current report, which it hopes will provide an insight into the scope of the problem of child marriage and its devastating effect on reproductive and sexual health rights.

Theme: **Personal In/Security**
Subthemes: **Child Marriage; Gender-Based Violence; Impact of Armed Conflict on Women**

Abstract:
“The term violence against women is not new to us. But today this problem is very seriously committed through all over the world especially in south Asia likes, Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Shrilanka, Mayanmar, Nepal and Afghanistan. In this paper I have tried to explore the nature, forms, causes, impact and the remedies are available of violence against women in South Asia especially in Bangladesh. Lastly I have recommendations on how to combat women violence in Bangladesh as well as South Asia in the light of International organization of violence against women by considering the socio-economic and cultural environment of Bangladesh. The paper is based on secondary sources of information like books, journals, research reports and newspapers. Relevant literature has also been collected through Internet browsing.” (Mollah)


Abstract:
“In South Asian countries the amalgamation of Buddhist, Confucian, Hindu, Islamic and Christian traditions have shaped the personalities of women and determined their social status. Rigid cultures and patriarchal attitudes which devalue the role of women, result in the wide spread occurrence of violence against women. The family structure, in which the man is the undisputed ruler of the household, and activities within the family are seen as private, allows violence to occur at home. As well as traditional forms of violence such as wife-battering and sexual assault, women in these countries are also exposed to dowry crimes such as bride burning, kidnapping for the purposes of prostitution, and “honour killings”. Laws permit discrimination against women and discourage reporting of violent acts. Efforts to remedy this situation must include changes in local laws as well as assistance from the United Nations and the international community.” (Niaz)

Notes:
“The report presents the findings of surveys on domestic violence conducted with women in 4,700 households in 16 provinces located across Afghanistan in 2006. The research is the first to report on domestic violence throughout the country based on samples of women that are representative of the ethnic and geographic diversity of Afghanistan. The findings of this research are alarming: 87.2% of women experienced at least one form of physical, sexual or psychological violence or forced marriage, and most, 62.0%, experienced multiple forms of violence. Overall, 17.2% of women reported sexual violence, with 11.2% experiencing rape. Furthermore, 52.4% of women reported physical violence, with 39.3% saying they had been hit by their husband in the last year. Women who experienced psychological abuse totaled 73.9%, while 58.8% of women were in forced marriages, as distinct from arranged marriages. There were broad variations between provinces with 100% of Kochi women living in Kabul reporting at least one form of physical, sexual or psychological violence; 42.6% of women in Kandahar experiencing sexual violence; and 91.6% of women in Khost experiencing forced marriages.” (Nijhowne and Oates)


Notes:
“The gang rape of a 23-year-old Indian woman in Delhi last December sparked angry protests and outrage throughout the country, and in some places abroad. The horrific incident has brought two things into international focus: first, the misogyny of Indian society and the patriarchal norms that continue to govern women’s lives as they embrace opportunities and change; second, people’s
unwillingness to be lulled into silence and their anger against the continued apathy of the government and law enforcement towards the ‘almost normalised’ violence against women.” (Parashar)

Theme: Personal In/Security
Subthemes: Violence against Women; Patriarchal Norms; Impunity; State Failure to Protect
Geographical Focus: India
Language: English


**Notes:**
This 2009 report flags both the pervasiveness of gender violence and the need for systematic and continuous data.

Theme: Personal In/Security
Subthemes: Gender-Based Violence; Sexual Violence; Patriarchal Norms
Geographical Focus: India
Language: English
*Recommended


**Notes:**
“The 2010 Gender Violence in India Report focuses on violence in public spaces, drawing attention to the kinds of violence to which women are especially vulnerable when they step out of their homes. This year’s report contains short accounts of four forms of public violence—street sexual harassment, workplace sexual harassment, ICT-related gender violence and gendered political violence. Each account both draws on any available data and flags the absence of specific kinds of data.” (Prajnya)

Theme: Personal In/Security
Subthemes: Violence against Women; Sexual Violence; Violence against Women in Public Spaces; Patriarchal Norms
Geographical Focus: India
Language: English
*Recommended

Abstract:
“The overlay of conflict, displacement and gender violence is altogether so traumatic as to beg the question: is true, sustainable peace possible where the experience of gender violence is both widespread and deeply embedded? A discussion about gender violence and peace-building takes us back to very old questions about peace and justice, which this essay explores by summarising what we know about gender violence, conflict and displacement.” (Rajagopalan)

Theme: Personal In/Security
Subthemes: Violence against Women; Gender-Based Violence; Displacement; Impact of Armed Conflict on Women; Justice
Geographical Focus: South Asia
Language: English
*Recommended


Notes:
This essay examines understandings of and needs for security, contrasting the concerns of security policy-makers and issues raised by feminist scholars and the reality of South Asian women’s lives. The essay identifies what security research and policy should be about; for example, female infanticide, domestic violence and marital rape threaten women's lives and safety and should this be included in security agendas.

Theme: Political In/Security
Subthemes: Redefining Security; Gender-Based Violence
Geographical Focus: South Asia
Language: English
*Recommended


Abstract:
“In examining the control women have over family, health and fertility, and cultural expression—three indicators of women's status—it is clear that since the fall of the Taliban, women in Afghanistan lack support for the fundamental
functions of a human life and find their choices and decision-making frustrated.”
(Riphenburg)

Theme: **Personal In/Security**
Subthemes: Human Rights; Post-Conflict Reconstruction; Gendered Power Relations; Health; Gendered Power Relations
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan
Language: English


Notes:
“Analyzes gender dynamics and social change in post-Taliban Afghanistan, role of women in countering Islamic radicalism, impact of gender, the state and economic development on the status of women in Afghanistan, and provides a description of women’s civil and political rights in post-Taliban Afghanistan.” (Human Rights & Human Welfare)

Theme: **Personal In/Security**
Subthemes: Political In/Security; Development; Civil and Political Rights; Religious Extremism and Fundamentalisms; Gendered Power Relations
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan
Language: English


Notes:
“How could a tribal council in the Pakistani village of Meerwala Jatoi decree that a young woman be raped in revenge for a crime allegedly committed by her brother? They were certain they could get away with it, of course. And they would have, except that the local imam spoke out against it during Friday prayers; a journalist in the mosque that day reported the case; the story was picked up nationwide, then worldwide. Absent this circumstantial chain, the rape would have gone unremarked.

“In the end, the state must assert its right and responsibility to protect all its citizens. The culprits in acts like this now-famous panchayat-law rape must be punished, but in accordance with law. And the affected family must be tended to with sensitivity and care. Surely that cannot be in violation of any traditions or beliefs worth keeping.” (Sarwar)

Theme: **Personal In/Security**
Subthemes: Violence against Women; Sexual Violence; State Failure to Protect; Justice; Gendered Power Relations; Patriarchal Norms; Impunity
Geographical Focus: Pakistan
Language: English

Accessed on March 21, 2013. Available online:
http://www.guttmacher.org/pubs/journals/3613210.pdf

Notes:
“Little evidence from India is available regarding the ways in which early marriage may compromise young women's lives and their reproductive health and choices. Yet findings underscore the need to build support among youth and their families for delaying marriage, to enforce existing laws on the minimum age at marriage and to encourage school, health and other authorities to support young women in negotiating with their parents to delay marriage.” (Santhya et al.)

Theme: Personal In/Security
Subtheme: Health; Education Access; Girls’ Rights; Accountability
Geographical Focus: India
Language: English


Abstract:
“A booklet which aims to break the cycle of impunity in cases of honour killings by clarifying common misconceptions about the law, providing information on some basic aspects of the law, and the legal machinery in Pakistan as it relates to murder.” (Women Living Under Muslim Laws).

Theme: Personal In/Security
Subthemes: Impunity; Violence against Women; Justice; Rule of Law; Corruption; Patriarchal Norms
Geographical Focus: Pakistan
Language: English

Notes:
This report contains the results of a survey on the nature and incidence of Violence against Women in Pakistan. It finds that as many as 70 percent of women in Pakistan experience domestic violence. This violence includes beating, mutilating body organs, sexual violence or torture, broken bones, acid attacks or burning to death. It also finds that as many as eight women - half of them minors - are raped in Pakistan everyday. Sexual harassment is also prevalent, often times perpetrated by male members of staff who perceive women working outside the home as signs of indecency.

Theme: **Personal In/Security**
Subthemes: **Violence against Women in Public Spaces; Domestic Violence; Sexual Violence; Patriarchal Norms**
Geographical Focus: **Pakistan**
Language: **English**
*Recommended


Abstract:
“Across the world, gender violence is pervasive and persistent, cutting across divisions of class, caste, age and community. Across the world, data on gender violence is inadequate; there are few research initiatives that monitor, track and analyze gender violence in a sustained manner. These two statements, variations of which are common in most publications on gender violence or violence against women (Violence against Women), represent a curious contradiction. We do not know enough about the incidence, causes, costs and consequences of gender violence; but we do know that it is highly prevalent in its many forms and manifestations and that it adversely impacts the lives of women and men across the world. The objective of this paper is to identify and analyze the state of research on gender violence in South Asia. Without research to lend direction and suggest approaches, advocacy and activism run the risk of becoming ad hoc, however well-intentioned and well-executed. The nature, quality and accessibility of research make a tremendous difference to the service, advocacy and policy-making sectors that work on this issue.” (Srinivasan)

Theme: **Personal In/Security**
Subthemes: **Violence against Women; Gender-Based Violence**
Geographical Focus: **Pakistan, India**
Language: **English**

**Notes:**
“Despite the initial expectations of substantial change in women’s lives, the current situation in Afghanistan can be considered inhumane. Improvements have been made, but mainly in the larger cities such as Kabul. The majority of Afghan women in rural areas have benefitted little in their daily lives, following the end of the Taliban regime and the subsequent international interventions. Violence against women and girls is reinforced by the widespread use of harmful traditional practices, including forced isolation in the home, domestic violence, forced and child marriage and honor killings. For example, 80% of Afghan women have been affected at least once by domestic violence and nearly 60% of girls have been forced into marriage before the legal minimum age of 16.” (Subirana)

**Theme:** Personal In/Security  
**Subthemes:** Violence against Women; Domestic Violence; Impact of Armed Conflict on Women; Patriarchal Norms; Child Marriage  
**Geographical Focus:** Afghanistan  
**Language:** English


**Notes:**
A report by the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission that focuses on the rights of vulnerable persons, such as returnees, internally displaced persons, refugees, children, women and persons with disabilities.

**Theme:** Personal In/Security  
**Subthemes:** Displacement; Economic In/Security; Human Rights  
**Geographical Focus:** Afghanistan  
**Language:** English, Dari, Pashto

Notes:
Trust Law Women expert poll identifies as the world's most dangerous countries to be female in 2011, which includes Afghanistan, Pakistan and India. The ranking system is based on the following risk factors: health, economic/discrimination, culture/tribal/religious, sexual violence, non-sexual violence, and trafficking.

Theme: Personal In/Security
Subthemes: Redefining Security; Violence against Women; Discrimination; Health; Sexual Violence; Trafficking of Persons; Economic In/Security; Patriarchal Norms
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan, Pakistan, India
Language: English
*Recommended


Abstract:
“The ‘devadasi’ system has been the object of several studies and is quite controversial. Some authors, particularly in the past associated the ‘devadasi’ with power and prestige, other, more lately, with degradation and prostitution. This article firstly explores the origin of ‘devadasi’ practice and its evolution over time as well as its religious and ritual meaning, while attempting to identify the main factors explaining the signification of the ‘devadasi’ system in the past. Secondly it analyses the social status and economic condition of ‘devadasis’ and draws a global view of the reasons why young girls are still today consecrated in rural areas. Our argument is that the sanctions provided by social custom and apparently by religion are strictly combined with economic and social pressures. The social control and hegemonic masculinity of upper caste men is asserted and maintained through defilement and appropriation of lower caste and ‘dalit’ women’s sexuality. The symbolic meaning of the devadasis relies upon the gendering and sexualizing of caste relations of domination and subordination. In this logic, this article examines the intersections between gender, caste and violence.” (Maria-Costanza Torri)

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Theme: Personal In/Security
Subthemes: Violence against Women; Discrimination; Women’s Rights; Human Rights; Economic In/Security; Sexual Violence; Religion
Geographical Focus: India
Language: English


Notes:
This “57-page report documents particular customary practices that violate the rights of women and girls throughout Afghanistan, describes the Government’s response to these practices and makes recommendations to end such practices. Based on extensive research and interviews carried out in 2010 in 29 of 34 provinces of Afghanistan with women, men, Government authorities, religious leaders, women’s rights and civil society activists and community groups, UNAMA Human Rights (HR) found that such practices are pervasive, occurring in varying degrees in all communities, urban and rural, and among all ethnic groups. The report found that such practices are further entrenched by the Government’s inability to fully protect the rights of women and girls, highlighting the need to expedite implementation of the Law on Elimination of Violence against Women, which criminalizes many harmful traditional practices. The report notes that most harmful traditional practices are both crimes under Afghan law and inconsistent with Sharia law, citing the relevant article of the law and principles of Sharia law.” (UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Geneva)

Theme: Personal In/Security
Subthemes: Violence against Women; Human Rights; Women’s Rights; Justice; Religion; Education Access; Patriarchal Norms
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan
Language: English
*Recommended
Notes:
The report provides details of information gathered from the “primary database on Violence against Women, developed as a tool to provide quantitative support to the various anecdotes illustrating violence affecting Afghan women. The focus is on the nature of incidents of Violence against Women and their consequences; an overview of provinces that collected the data; types of organizations that women approach to report incidents of alleged violence; and profiles of the complainant and the perpetrator. The database will be used to monitor the extent and features of Violence against Women cases to identify the impact of programs resulting from informed policies and legislation.” (UNIFEM)

Theme: Personal In/Security
Subthemes: Violence against Women
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan
Language: English

UN Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children Affected by Armed Conflict. 2010. February 2010 Mission Report by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children in Armed Conflict on visit to Afghanistan. UN Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children Affected by Armed Conflict. Accessed on March 20, 2013. Available online: http://www.unhcr.org/refworld/docid/4c0e143b2.html

Notes:
The report is a follow-up mission to her previous visit to Afghanistan in July 2008 looking at the measures taken by national authorities to protect children, child protection provisions in peace negotiations, sexual violence, and detention of children by national and international forces.

Theme: Personal In/Security
Subthemes: Sexual Violence; Children’s Rights; Trafficking of Persons; Peace Processes
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan
Language: English


Notes:
“This summary report presents the findings of the South Asia research in five parts: (1) trafficking patterns in the South Asian countries, also addressing the challenges of data collection; (2) a regional analysis of legal frameworks relevant in addressing child trafficking; (3) a regional analysis of policy responses and implementation, including civil society initiatives, multi-stakeholder cooperation and community mobilization; (4) prevailing conceptual approaches that influence anti-trafficking initiatives in the region, and conclusions from a child rights-based perspective on prevention, protection and empowerment; and, lastly, (5) recommendations.” (UNICEF)

Theme: **Personal In/Security**  
Subthemes: **Trafficking of Persons; Children’s Rights; Girls’ Rights;**  
Geographical Focus: **South Asia**  
Language: **English**


**Notes:**  

Theme: **Personal In/Security**  
Subthemes: **Violence against Women; Economic In/Security; Livelihoods; Women’s Leadership and Participation; Political Representation**  
Geographical Focus: **South Asia**  
Language: **English**


**Notes:**  
The Report of the Seventh South Asia Regional Ministerial Conference in Dhaka, Bangladesh presents an analysis of the key points discussed particularly on violence against women and economic security and rights in South Asia.

Theme: **Personal In/Security**

Notes: This report contains the findings of the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences, following her official visit to Afghanistan in July 2005. It addresses the diverse forms of violence against women in the country within the context of conflict and post-conflict situations and key measures and initiatives needed to ensure the protection and promotion of the rights of women and the elimination of violence against women.


Abstract: “Naga women live in a politically sensitive environment given their people’s prolonged struggle for self-determination. They also face the complexity of a society that is undergoing the binary of change and continuity, with the pull towards modernity, on the one hand, and strong undercurrents of traditional and customary practices on the other. The latter are often geared towards a strong patriarchal system that is often inclined to disfavoring women. Nevertheless, Naga women have managed to engage themselves effectively within their traditional space and have significantly impacted their society. Through a tactful and non-contentious stance, they have continued to influence the dynamics of peacemaking. This article looks at some narratives of contemporary Naga women who are active peacemakers in a geographically and politically divided Nagaland.” (Vamuzo)

Theme: Personal In/Security

Notes:

“To conclude, violence against women remains a pervasive, yet under-acknowledged Human Rights violation in all countries of the world, being especially prevalent in Bangladesh (UNFRA 2000). “Violence against women is a deeply entrenched problem in most societies because attitudes and practices that support violence are institutionalized in custom and law at all levels of society – marriage and the family, home, community and state” (Johnson et al., 2008, p. 3). The Bangladeshi government commits itself to respect, protect and fulfill the rights of women and to work towards the elimination of violence against women through international conventions, covenants and treaties. Withdrawing its reservations to article 2 and article 16.1[c] of CEDAW will allow the full implementation of the convention and for the promotion of women’s full enjoyment of their rights including those related to family life. To promote Women’s Human Rights and prevent any form of violence against women, the Bangladeshi government must commit to ensuring a number of prerequisites. These include gender equality; improvement of service delivery (ensuring access to justice and services for victims, e.g. women’s refuges and shelters); the allocation of adequate resources and funding; ensuring that “victims of violence have access to immediate means of redress, rehabilitation and protection” (CEDAW/C/BGD/Q/7/20a); and they must hold offenders accountable for their actions, establishing transparency and accountability in order to enforce positive regulations and legislation […]” (Wiegand)

Theme: Personal In/Security

Subthemes: Violence against Women; Sexual Violence; Women’s Leadership and Participation; Women’s Rights; Justice; CEDAW; Gendered Power Relations; Accountability; Transparency; Patriarchal Norms

Geographical Focus: Bangladesh

Language: English


Notes:

“In their attempt to assassinate girl-activist, Malala Yousufzai, has the Taliban inadvertently rescued the narrative of violence against women?
“The long-term developmental aim of Gender-Based Violence (GBV) is to change power inequalities between men and women in society. Exacerbating factors such as poverty, injustice, discrimination or lack of awareness or disempowerment of women and girls, is the core of the GBV agenda. However, the UN preference for GBV linkages with developmental goals has meant that the politics of Violence against Women (VAW) has deflected or at least, diluted, the focus from the immediate perpetrators, purpose and benefits of violence. Instead, the GBV approach looks closer at socially constructed masculinity rather than material-based patriarchy, to be the direct motivation or cause of criminal intent behind such violence.

“The GBV projects offer to rehabilitate masculinities, change the broader power structures, and improve the justice-education-health systems or gender relations in communities, rather than simply recognize the criminal and his immediate motivation. The recent attack on a 14 year old girl-activist, Malala Yousufzai, by the Tahreek e Taliban Pakistan (TTP) has pushed the reset button on the momentum that was being gained by the GBV. The Taliban’s attack may have inadvertently rescued the narrative of the VAW approach, which calls for more direct focus on immediate causes and perpetrators and more urgent responses to cases of violence against women.” (Zia)

Theme: **Personal In/Security**
Subthemes: Gender-Based Violence; Violence against Women; Gendered Power Relations; Development; Patriarchal Norms;
Geographical Focus: Pakistan
Language: English

**B. Global Resources**


Notes:
This study looks at how activists manage to stay safe, well, and healthy, physically and emotionally, in the face of so many daily risks and challenges. Aimed at sustaining activism, is it based upon the stories of 100 activists from 45 countries.

Theme: **Personal In/Security**
Subthemes: Women’s Activism; Health; Women Human Rights Defenders; Women’s Civil Society Organizations
Geographical Focus: Global

Notes: This manual recognizes the invaluable and courageous work of women's human rights defenders (WHRDs), reflects on the types of threats they face, and introduces a variety of security strategies used by WHRDs for self-protection in response to threats.

Theme: **Personal In/Security**
Subthemes: Women Human Rights Defenders; Women’s Leadership & Participation, Political In/Security; Women’s Activism; Women’s Civil Society Organizations
Geographical Focus: Global
Language: **English**
*Recommended


Notes: CWGL composes a Campaign theme in consultation with women's human rights advocates worldwide and then circulates an announcement for the campaign as widely as possible. See their website to view examples of passed campaigns from around the world, on such topics as Violence against Women and militarization or State accountability for ending Violence against Women.

Theme: **Personal In/Security**
Subthemes: Violence against Women; Human Rights; Women’s Activism; Accountability; Gender Based Violence
Geographical Focus: Global
Language: **English**
*Recommended

Abstract:
“This paper discusses trafficking in persons within a human security framework by identifying factors that heighten the insecurity of women and children within countries of origin, transit and destination. The author begins by reviewing the definitions in use and assessing the scope of the problem, and describing vulnerable populations and harmful practices. The paper then addresses conditions of vulnerability, including economic conditions, the entrenchment of organized crime, and civil war and unrest. It examines responses to the problem in countries of origin, transit, and destination, and concludes with recommendations for future policy intervention.” (Clark)

Theme: Personal In/Security
Subthemes: Trafficking of Persons; Economic In/Security; Impact of Armed Conflict on Women; Crime
Geographical Focus: Global
Language: English


Notes:
This compendium “documents the key processes involved in initiating multi-stakeholder joint programming on violence against women. It culls interim lessons from 10 pilot countries. Initiated by the Inter-agency Task Force on Violence against Women, the report provides a pragmatic overview of using joint programming as an approach to maximize results and sustainability. It aims to provide guidance for in-country stakeholders (UNCTs, government and civil society) that are commencing similar multi-stakeholder joint programmes in countries globally.” (Inter-Agency Task Force on Violence against Women)

Theme: Personal In/Security
Subthemes: Violence against Women
Geographical Focus: Global
Language: English


Notes:
This report focuses on reparations to women who have been subjected to violence in contexts of both peace and conflict and makes note of international standards that support a right to remedy.

Theme: Personal In/Security
Subthemes: CEDAW; Violence against Women; Justice
Geographical Focus: Global
Language: English
*Recommended


Abstract:
“The focus of this consultation paper is on strategies and programmes to combat trafficking, highlighting best practices. The paper contains an overview of the activities falling under “trafficking”, the reasons for the vulnerability of victims, the local and international legal framework, the effectiveness or otherwise of the police in combating trafficking, the sensitivity of the police, the administration and the judiciary to gender-related crimes, the nature and adequacy of rescue operations and their effectiveness; rehabilitation programmes of the State Government or NGOs. prevention of re-trafficking, and some successful strategies.” (Manohar)

Theme: Personal In/Security
Subthemes: Trafficking of Persons; Rule Of Law; Justice
Geographical Focus: General
Language: English


Notes:
“This report shows that addressing the problem of gender inequality requires actions both outside and within the health sector because gender power relations operate across such a wide spectrum of human life and in such inter-related ways. Taking such actions is good for the health of all people - girls and boys, women and men. In particular, inter-sectoral action to address gender
inequality is critical to the realization of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).” (Sen and Piroka)

Theme: Personal In/Security
Subthemes: Health; Gendered Power Relations; Development
Geographical Focus: Global
Language: English


Notes: An overview of cultural practices in the family that violate women's rights, from FGM, to honor killings, witch hunting, economic and cultural appeasement, caste, marriage, discriminatory laws, son preferences, among others. The report highlights State responsibility to end harmful practices and provides recommendations to governments.

Theme: Personal In/Security
Subthemes: Violence against Women; Patriarchal Norms; Discrimination; Women's Rights
Geographical Focus: Global
Language: English


Notes: The report reviews the international legal framework as well as the approach of the mandate to the particular situation of women human rights defenders and those working on women’s rights or gender issues. The report further examines the risks that these defenders face, identifies the nature of the activities of the reported victims, the alleged violations and the perpetrators involved. The report also looks at the existing protection mechanisms and the strategies that these defenders use to keep themselves safe.

Theme: Personal In/Security
Subthemes: Women Human Rights Defenders
Geographical Focus: Global
Language: English
II. POLITICAL IN/SECURITY

A. South Asia Resources


Abstract:
“The manual has been designed for the training of trainers (ToT) program for media and civil society on gender and security in Nepal. This activity is part of a broader project by the Institute of Human Rights Communication (IHRICON) and Saferworld, with support from the Swiss Development Corporation, which strengthens the development and implementation of gender-sensitive policy and programming on security in Nepal. “The manual is designed for a three-day workshop. It is accompanied by two sets of PowerPoint slides: Gender and security, and Security and security sector reform (SSR), and a Companion workbook. The workbook contains tools, hand-outs, briefing information sheets and selected reading materials. It has been designed to be as helpful as possible to trainers. It also contains daily learning diaries and lists of resources on gender and security issues for journalists and civil society. The workbook can be given to participants for use during the workshop and for future reference.” (Abdela et al.)

Theme: Political In/Security
Subthemes: Security Sector Reform; Human Rights; Peacebuilding; Gender Mainstreaming
Geographical Focus: Nepal
Language: English


Notes:
The following themes are addressed in this report:
• The continued politicization of women’s rights
• Neglect of men in gender programming
• Perceptions of ‘gender’ as a negative term and an external construct
• Lessons that have not been learned

Summary of Lessons-to-be-Learned
• There are no quick fixes to development concerns, gender issues, and over 20 years of conflict in Afghanistan. This is a long-term effort. Programs – and funding – must demonstrate their commitment to Afghanistan. This also entails building trust with Afghan communities before intervening.
• Post-conflict contexts bring opportunities for new roles for women and men. Gender roles could change while gender relations might remain the same. Projects that promote strategic interests could contribute to changes, while those meeting practical needs might not necessarily impact the status quo.
• A gender focus entails men as well as women. Projects for women should coexist with gender initiatives, but there should be clarity between the two and care that neither group feels marginalized. A rights-based approach could work to address both women and men.
• Gender mainstreaming should be combined with a focus on women so that ‘mainstreaming’ retains a gender perspective and that women may still benefit from increased opportunities with a view to equity.
• Development concepts (such as gender, civil society, democracy) might exist in Afghanistan even though the terms are new. These terms will be better rooted in existing local contexts and processes.
• The aid community should work to better coordinate efforts – especially with gender programs. This will facilitate coordination for local gender and women’s groups and mitigate trends for competition and corruption.
• Local organizations need further capacity building, and international groups could benefit from genuine transitions to Afghan leadership.
• Afghan women and men have agency and are able to articulate their needs and interests – when given the opportunity.
• Aid interventions need a more thorough understanding of the historical, social, and cultural contexts, and gender identities within those contexts. This will prevent the proliferation of facile analyses and the use of images and stereotypes.
• If we fail to learn the lessons above, there may be negative externalities of development interventions, including backlashes and increased violence against women.” (Abirafeh)

Theme: Political In/Security
Subthemes: Economic In/Security; Post-Conflict Reconstruction; Gendered Power Relations; Development; Women’s Rights; Gender Mainstreaming; Geopolitics; Women’s Agency; Corruption
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan
Language: English
Notes:

International troops are expected to have fully withdrawn from Afghanistan by 2014-15. It is a critical time for Afghan women who fear they could lose the fragile gains in women’s rights made since 2001. The Afghan Australian Development Organisation (AADO) hosted a delegation of 8 Afghan Members of Parliament and Civil Society Leaders for a 2-day Roundtable discussion with key stakeholders to develop recommendations on how women’s rights can be prioritised and protected during transition and post-2014, and how women’s participation in the peace process can be ensured.

The agenda was organized key pillars of UNSCR 1325: prevention of violence; participation of women at all levels of decision-making relating to management and resolution of conflict; protection of women and girls; and Relief and Recovery measures. Four key issues emerged as crosscutting themes: Security, Education, Justice and Participation and Representation. The second day focused on extrapolating recommendations for action out of these pillars and crosscutting themes.

Theme: Political In/Security
Subthemes: Women’s Rights; Women’s Leadership & Participation; Peace Processes; UNSCR 1325; Personal In/Security; Education Access; Justice
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan
Language: English


Abstract:

“Despite many positive advancements in Afghan women’s lives over the past ten years, progress remains fragile and at times limited to rhetoric. There have been countless numbers of resolutions, laws, policies, action plans and strategies to empower the women of Afghanistan, but the track record for their implementation remains appalling. Anticipating gatherings of world leaders and major regional actors in Istanbul, Brussels and Bonn, Afghan women emphasize that any roadmap for economic development, peace, stability and security will not achieve its vision if it does not explicitly address women’s inclusion and participation. Women consistently remind policy makers to uphold their existing commitments and frame transition plans based on protecting advancements in human and women’s rights and acknowledging the sacrifices Afghan women make for protection of those rights.
“This paper reflects the perspectives and recommendations of Afghan women who have participated in a series of meetings, roundtables and workshops organized by Afghan Women’s Network (AWN). The following overview of consultation outcomes and recommendations presents how women see their future and the future of Afghanistan thru 2014 and beyond.” (Afghan’s Women’s Network)

Theme: **Political In/Security**  
Subthemes: **Women’s Rights; Women’s Leadership and Participation; Gender Mainstreaming; Peacebuilding; Economic In/Security; Security Sector Reform**  
Geographical Focus: **Afghanistan**  
Language: **English**


**Abstract:**

“In [this] report in addition to assessing the presence of women in national and state organs both in terms of quality and quantity, opportunities for women's access to political rights and their presence and role in civil society institutions, was also reviewed, and the activities performed in the area of women's political rights was investigated.

“Information collected in this report was based on library and field monitoring activates. Interviews were made and statistics were collected by Commission’s monitoring team all over the country to complete the preliminary data collection for this report.

“Assessment criteria for this report was based on the national laws including the Constitution and ordinary laws, Afghanistan National Strategy and the international human rights documents, especially documents to which Afghanistan government is a signatory.” (Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission)

Theme: **Political In/Security**  
Subthemes: **Women’s Leadership and Participation; Women’s Rights; Women’s Civil Society Organizations**  
Geographical Focus: **Afghanistan**  
Language: **English**

Notes:
In Pakistan, the past two years have proved to be significant with the approval of six bills that protect women’s rights. However, there are many who still feel that implementation will remain a challenge, especially in the provinces. In this paper, the author argues that strict reforms must be made for the implementation of these new laws so that they cannot be undermined by non-state actors who are perpetrators of violence and do not support women’s rights.

Theme: Political In/Security
Subthemes: Women’s Rights; Security Sector Reform; Corruption; Governance
Geographical Focus: Pakistan
Language: English


Abstract:
“Ten years after the September 11th attacks in the United States and the military campaign in Afghanistan, there is some good news, but unfortunately still much bad news pertaining to women in Afghanistan. The patterns of politics, security/military operations, religious fanaticism, heavily patriarchal structures and practices, and ongoing insurgent violence continue to threaten girls and women in the most insidious ways. Although women’s rights and freedoms in Afghanistan have finally entered the radar screen of the international community’s consciousness, they still linger in the margins in many respects.

“Socio-cultural and extremist religious elements continue to pose serious obstacles to reconstruction and development efforts. These constraints and impediments have an immensely devastating impact on the lives of girls and women in Afghanistan, and most often result in severely impairing quality of life and even reducing female life expectancy.

“Another ominous trend that has undermined Afghan women’s rights is President Hamid Karzai’s political constituency, consisting of increasingly conservative and religious fundamentalist characters. In order to appease them and gain political support, the Karzai government has compromised women’s rights, and in some cases has cast a symbolic vote to Taliban-like mindsets. Meanwhile, women politicians, activists, and journalists constantly face intimidation and threats, and a number have even been assassinated.

“One glance at the health and education statistics pertaining to Afghan girls and women alone is enough to see that improvements have been painfully
gradual, and attention to these harsh realities has been grossly deficient. This paper examines these health and education variables, as well as the government policymaking that has triggered setbacks in women’s rights. Trends in violence against women and insecurity are also analyzed.

“All of the variables that negatively affect the lives of girls and women in Afghanistan are interconnected and interdependent. Therefore, none of them can afford to be overlooked. Overall, the situation for girls and women in Afghanistan remains bleak and tragic.” (Alvi)

Theme: Political In/Security
Subthemes: Personal In/Security; Impact of Armed Conflict on Women; Religious Extremism and Fundamentalisms; Patriarchal Norms; Women’s Rights; Education Access; Corruption; Health; Gendered Power Relations; Gender-Based Violence
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan
Language: English


Notes: “Amnesty International believes that, five years on, the Government of Gujarat remains unrepentant for its failings to protect the Muslim minority and to ensure that victims obtain justice, truth and reparations. The organization strongly disagrees with the claim by the Government of Gujarat (under the leadership of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) who were also in power during the 2002 communal violence) that normalcy has returned to the state.” (Amnesty International)

Theme: Political In/Security
Subthemes: Personal In/Security; Justice; Human Rights; Accountability; State Failure to Protect; Minority Rights
Geographical Focus: India
Language: English
*Recommended


Theme: Political In/Security
Subthemes: Security Sector Reform; Gender Mainstreaming; Policing
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan

**Abstract:**

“Pakistan is in urgent need of electoral reform. Currently, there are a number of pressing domestic issues that are seemingly of higher priority for national and international stakeholders, such as the widespread devastation caused by the flood, the economic downturn, and rising extremism. With the general election approaching in 2013, and the recent adoption of the 18th amendment by Parliament, it is crucial that stakeholders turn their attention to reforming a weakened and flawed electoral system in order to support democracy and national stability. There are various aspects of electoral reform that require attention. This paper examines electoral reform as it pertains to the political participation of women with regard to exercising their right to vote.” (Ansari)

**Theme:** Political In/Security  
**Subthemes:** Women’s Leadership and Participation; Electoral Reform  
**Geographical Focus:** Pakistan  
**Language:** English


**Abstract:**

“This article examines the double standards associated with a precarious international peacebuilding strategy in Afghanistan based on impunity and half-truths rather than accountability and transitional justice. Many international organizations have turned a blind eye to past and current human rights atrocities through forms of rationalization based on an empowerment of cultural differences, relativization of progress and ‘policy reductionism’. Consequently, and in the absence of consistently applied rights instruments, societal divisions along gender, ethnic and other lines have intensified Afghanistan’s culture of intolerance to human rights, thereby violating the very principles the international community purports to uphold. Drawing on first-hand experiences, personal interviews and a sober analysis of trends, this article challenges some of the conventional assumptions held about the perception and knowledge of human rights among Afghans. It concludes by identifying possible areas of future study to better understand both the prospects for transitional justice and how ordinary Afghans...
continue to cope with widespread injustice and inequality.” (Azarbaijani-Moghaddam)

Theme: Political In/Security
Subthemes: Peacebuilding; Justice; Human Rights; Inequality; Impunity; Accountability
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan
Language: English


Abstract:
“This article deals with the notion of how borders have a penchant for becoming a marker of security. The moment borders become securitized the question of flows across them acquires particular importance. In the colonial period this was marked by concern over dacoits, thugees and hooligans who crossed the district border at will. In the post-colonial period concern remains over undocumented migrants and whether their arrival threatens the nation form. Against this background the article addresses the notion of flows and increasing violence at the borders, fencing as the most recent marker of such violence and how women and the evolution of their relationship to the border is shaped through the discourses of violence.” (Banerjee)

Theme: Political In/Security
Subthemes: Migration; Displacement; Violence against Women
Geographical Focus: India
Language: English


Notes:
“Women in Peace Politics explores the role of women as agents and visionaries of peace in South Asia. Peace is redefined to include in its fold the attempt by women to be a part of the peace making process, reworking the structural inequalities faced by them and their struggle against all forms of oppression. This volume, the third in the series of the South Asia Peace Studies, deals with the myriad dimensions of peace as practised by South Asian women over a period of time. It chronicles the lives of "ordinary" women—their transformative role in peace and an attempt to create a space of their own. Their peace activism is examined in the historical context of their participation in national liberation movements since the early twentieth century. The articles in the collection adopt a new approach to understanding peace—as a desire to end repression that cuts across caste, class, race and gender and an effort on the part of women to transform their position in society.” (AbeBooks).
Theme: **Political In/Security**  
Subthemes: **Redefining Security; Peacebuilding; Women's Leadership and Participation; Women’s Activism; Gendered Power Relations**  
Geographical Focus: **South Asia**  
Language: **English**

**Notes:**  
This paper looks at transitional justice (TJ) and reconciliation in Afghanistan. They main objective is to link debates concerning TJ and reconciliation as a vehicle to transform the conflict-ridden society of Afghanistan to a secure, stable, democratic and progressive society. It aims to show despite fundamental inter-connectedness the two processes are often perceived by the political elites to be under-mining one another.

**Theme:** **Political In/Security**  
**Subthemes:** **Justice; Reconciliation; Peacebuilding**  
**Geographical Focus:** **Afghanistan**  
**Language:** **English**


**Notes:**  
“The relationship between the State and civil society is exemplified by violence, exhibiting a lack of faith in the normative mode of political bargaining. Increasingly, ethnic groups and social classes are negotiating with the State in the idiom of violence as a means of articulating their demands. This study argues that the rise of these phenomena is largely an outcome of the socio-political and economic processes.” (Behera)

**Theme:** **Political In/Security**  
**Subthemes:** **Economic In/Security; Violent Abuses by Armed Groups; Violent Abuses by the State/Security Sector**  
**Geographical Focus:** **South Asia**  
**Language:** **English**  
*Recommended*

Notes:

“This book is a collection of papers presented at the second annual conference on India's neighbourhood titled - Changing Political Context in India's Neighbourhood and Prospects of Security and Regional Cooperation, organised by Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses (IDSA) in November 2008. The papers outline the common challenges that the countries face, identify the factors that inhibit inter-state cooperation, acknowledge the costs of non-cooperation, and reaffirm the need for the states in South Asia to shed their differences and engage with each other in meaningful ways. There is a common view that people of South Asia have natural affinities based on shared history, geography, and culture and there is a natural bonding amongst the people, which transcends the relationship between countries and governments. The contributors to this volume argue that the states of South Asia should take these facts into account which refashioning their policies towards each other and towards the region, and take initiatives to deal with common challenges facing them collectively, which would lay the foundation for a better tomorrow for the people of South Asia.” (Institute for Defense Studies and Analyses)

Theme: Political In/Security
Subthemes: Geopolitics
Geographical Focus: South Asia
Language: English
*Recommended


Notes:

This article concerns: “a tribal woman who was stripped and assaulted in India's north-eastern state of Assam is to contest the parliamentary elections.”

“She was stripped by locals when she took part in a rally in 2007 demanding better tribal rights.”

“She is a symbol of Adivasi exploitation, of minority exploitation in Assam. We want her to contest the parliament polls on our ticket and she has agreed,’ AUDF general secretary Hafiz Rashid Choudhury said.” (Bhaumik)

Theme: Political In/Security
Subthemes: Minority Rights; Justice; Women’s Leadership and Participation
Geographical Focus: India
Language: English

Abstract: “This article seeks to characterise the nature of the post-Taliban 'reconstruction' project in Afghanistan through an analysis of observations and interviews collected in the Ministry of Women's Affairs (MoWA) in 2007. Based on a case study of a 'gender empowerment' training programme administered by the MoWA and funded by an international aid agency, I underline some intricacies in the relationships that are built in development encounters. I argue that the current efforts to include gender issues in politics are part of a broader cultural project aimed at setting up the conditions of possibility for the creation of a modern Afghan state. I show how reconstruction does not simply consist in the formation of a bureaucratic apparatus based on Western models of liberal democracies but primarily involves cultural and symbolic production.” (Billaud)

Theme: Political In/Security
Subthemes: Post-Conflict Reconstruction; Gendered Power Relations; Gender Mainstreaming; Development; Empowerment; Governance; Religion; Democratization; Women’s Rights
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan
Language: English


Notes: Authors highlight what they see as progress made in Afghanistan in the last ten years vis-à-vis security force assistance and international security, and highlight strategies ahead. Authors focus exclusively on the security sector rather than governance or other areas related to overall human security in Afghanistan.

Theme: Political In/Security
Subthemes: Security Sector Reform; Geopolitics
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan
Language: English

**Notes:**
“The present research conducted with communities in Afghanistan, Uganda and Nepal offers many examples of both innovative achievements and missed opportunities in connecting grassroots activism for peace and rights up to sub-national and national level political processes. To enable meaningful participation of women, Care’s research demonstrates the need for donors and the UN to make changes in their funding and diplomatic engagement. Longer-term donor funding is needed to embed women’s participation and peacebuilding into wider integrated programmes that address the economic, livelihoods, health and psychosocial needs of those women, their families and the broader community.”
(Care)

Theme: **Political In/Security**
Subthemes: Women’s Leadership and Participation; Peacebuilding; Economic In/Security; Post-Conflict Reconstruction; SCR 1325; Governance; Livelihoods; Health; Women’s Civil Society Organizations
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan, Nepal, Uganda
Language: English


**Notes:**
This collection of articles explores the reasons for women’s under-representation in peace processes, in terms of both participation in peace processes and gender content in agreements. The publication puts forward the experiences of women from the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Timor Leste, India, Solomon Islands and Nepal, highlighting the benefits and obstacles to their participation in such processes. It contains practical recommendations on how to make international norms a reality in peacemaking as well as how to strengthen women’s participation in, and contribution to, peace processes and agreements. It also offers a list of recommended resources; a shorthand explanation of key international standards related to women's rights; and a set of ‘pointers' for mediation teams on how to include gender in their work.

Theme: **Political In/Security**
Subthemes: **Peace Processes; Women’s Leadership and Participation; SCR 1325; Gendered Power Relations**
Geographical Focus: **Asia Pacific, Northeast India**
Language: **English**

*Recommended*


**Abstract:**

“From August 2010 to August 2012, The Institute for Inclusive Security implemented a program in Pakistan with support from the US Institute of Peace titled Pakistani Women Moderating Extremism. The initiative supported the formation of a national coalition of women leaders dedicated to curtailing extremism and promoting social cohesion. This first policy brief of a two-part series explores the impact of extremism on Pakistani women, illustrates the critical role that women play in moderating it, and provides policy recommendations for how to support Pakistani women’s peacebuilding efforts and address radicalization and extremist violence.” (Chartellier)

Theme: **Political In/Security**

Subthemes: **Religious Extremism and Fundamentalisms; Women’s Leadership and Participation; Peacebuilding**

Geographical Focus: **Pakistan**

Language: **English**


**Abstract:**

“Through a comparative study of India and Pakistan's national security discourses, this article explores the linkages between post-colonial India and Pakistan's nationalist/communalist identities, configurations of masculinities, and gendered representations underpinning their nuclear (in)securities. This paper contends that the colonial politics of place-making in the sub-continent has not only inscribed a process of ‘othering’ between these states but has also facilitated the rise of divergent visions of post-colonial nationalisms, which, at each of their phases and with particular configurations of masculinities, have used women's bodies to re-map India-Pakistan's borders and national (in)securities. This paper particularly draws attention to a new form of gendered manipulation in South Asian politics in the late 1990s, whereby both states, embedded in colonial notions of religious/cultural masculinities, have relied on discourses of Hindu/Indian and Muslim/Pakistani women’s violence and protection from the
'other' to pursue aggressive policies of nuclearization. It is at this conjectural moment of a Hinducized and Islamicized nationalism (flamed by the contestations of a Hindu versus an Islamic masculinity) that one needs to provide a feminist re-interpretation of India-Pakistan's nationalist identities, gendered imaginaries, and their re-articulation of national (in)securities - that represents a religious/gendered 'otherness' in South Asia's nuclear policies.” (Das)

**Theme:** Political In/Security  
**Subthemes:** Gendered Identities; Religion; Nationalism; Geopolitics  
**Militarization & Armed Conflict**  
**Geographical Focus:** Pakistan, India  
**Language:** English

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**Notes:**  
This publication seeks to examine peacemaking efforts in three conflicts in India, which vary greatly in terms of root causes, actors and geographic location. By doing so, this publication attempts to briefly highlight the diversity of India’s experience in peacemaking and thus encourage more comprehensive and extensive comparative policy work on this subject. This report includes three case studies: Kashmir, Manipur and the dialogue process with the Naxalites in Andhra Pradesh. All three case studies make recommendations on lessons learned from the respective dialogue efforts.

**Theme:** Political In/Security  
**Subthemes:** Conflict Resolution; Peace Processes, Women’s Civil Society Organizations  
**Geographical Focus:** India  
**Language:** English  
*Recommended

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**Notes:**  
“This report examines the main factors that hinder Afghan women's participation in decision-making, political and policy-making processes. It focuses on female figures who are active in political, social and cultural arenas in
Afghanistan. Overall, three main elements are identified: 1) lack of political will within the Karzai administration; 2) the influence and threat of politicized Islam; and 3) the lack of a broad socio-political approach to promote women leaders.” (Ahmandi and Esmaty)

Theme: Political In/Security
Subthemes: Women’s Leadership and Participation; Governance; Religion; Gendered Power Relations; Gender Quotas
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan
Language: English
*Recommended


Notes:
“Minority leaders and human rights groups have long criticized the country's blasphemy laws for being unduly harsh, arguing that they are regularly exploited by extremists to target and discriminate against minority groups, and misused by others to settle petty disputes or exact personal vengeance.” This report examines Pakistan's blasphemy laws and their impact on human rights. (Freedom House)

Theme: Political In/Security
Subthemes: Human Rights; Justice; Religious Extremism and Fundamentalisms; Minority Rights
Geographical Focus: Pakistan
Language: English


Notes:
This Checklist provides country-specific information that identifies achievements, good practice and obstacles to UNSCR 1325 implementation. It has been compiled by GAPS members and staff to monitor progress in the women, peace and security agenda in five conflict-affected regions.

Theme: Political In/Security
Subthemes: SCR 1325; Women’s Leadership and Participation; Peace Processes; Gender Mainstreaming
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan, DRC, Nepal, Ireland, Sri Lanka
Notes:

“Women’s issues are a highly sensitive subject in the Afghan peace and reconciliation process. Even though women constitute 50% of the Afghan population, they are being systematically marginalized from the peace process playing only a symbolic role. This dynamic is at odds with the expectations and desires of 95.7% of the Afghan public who considers that the participation of women is necessary. What is more concerning, is the fact that there are indications that the Afghan government is willing to compromise women's rights as an incentive for the opposition groups to enter into peace negotiations. What is the status of women in the peace process? Can the current peace process promote women’s rights and gender equality, avoid social and political discrimination, and prevent women's deprivation and marginalization? How can the participation of women in the peace process be supported? What are the real concerns of people, especially women, regarding the peace process? Does the peace process in Afghanistan provide for stable peace, justice, transparency and inclusiveness?”

(Hussaini)

Theme: Political In/Security
Subthemes: Peace Processes; Gender Mainstreaming; Women’s Leadership & Participation; SCR 1325; Women’s Rights; Gendered Power Relations; Discrimination
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan
Language: English


Abstract:

“Nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) have recently become the focus of much scholarly debate. Yet, we know little about the pressures that NGOs face and the contexts that they operate within, for most empirical research focuses solely on the relationship between NGOs and the state. By contrast, this article focuses on the relationship between women's NGOs and religious fundamentalism in Pakistan. I rely on ethnographic data collected in Pakistan between January and June 2004 to argue that Islamic fundamentalism poses a unique challenge to
women's NGOs in the country. I examine the various strategies and responses used by women's NGOs in Pakistan to counter fundamentalism. I conclude with a critique of the strategies employed by women's NGOs and discuss their possibilities and limitations for bringing about structural changes in the position of women in Pakistan.” (Jafar 2007).

Theme: Political In/Security
Subthemes: Women’s Civil Society Organizations; Religious Extremism and Fundamentalisms
Geographical Focus: Pakistan
Language: English


Notes:
“The ‘Extremism Watch Project’ at Jinnah Institute aims to address the need to define the concept of extremism as it exists in Pakistan today. The objective is to outline and categorize the forms taken by religiously motivated violence, define the context for each category and trace existing trends to inform civil society representatives and policy-makers of the complexities that attend the use of such violence by groups and individuals. ‘Extremism Watch: Mapping Conflict Trends in Pakistan 2010-2011’ is the outcome of research undertaken from September 2010 to September 2011, and aims to present a holistic picture of religious extremism as observed over this time period.” (Jinnah Institute)

This report includes a chapter on gender: “Through a Gendered Lens” by Madeeha Ansari and Mishal Khan, pages 45 – 50.

Theme: Political In/Security
Subthemes: Religious Extremism and Fundamentalisms; Gender–Based Violence; Militarization & Armed Conflict; Impact of Armed Conflict on Women
Geographical Focus: Pakistan
Language: English


Notes:
This op-ed article makes the case for women's participation in peace negotiations, peacebuilding, and political leadership in Afghanistan, dismissing the idea that women's absence is "cultural".

Notes:
“The goal is to investigate what women’s empowerment might mean in different contexts, such as in protracted conflict without third party mediation in Northeast India, and in a post-conflict setting with heavy multilateral and international involvement in Nepal. We approach this question by studying how gendered political power is trans-formed in conflict, assuming that differences in the forms and expressions of gendered power relations during and after conflict impact on how ‘empowerment’ might be achieved.” (Kolas)


Abstract:
“This article explores the political representation of women following the Afghan and Iraq wars. It highlights the creation of constitutions that include the mandated participation of women in the political system. It explores the growth of women's rights following the inclusion of women as members of the legislative bodies. In addition, the article discusses the efforts of the United Nations (UN) to promote women's political representation. The influence of international norms on the adoption of gender quotas in the two countries is noted.” (EBSCO host)

Abstract:

“The article focuses on the use of gender quotas in political membership. It notes that several countries employ gender quotas, including Rwanda, Sweden, and Argentina, and explains that more research is needed which examines the quotas from a feminist perspective. The country of India is examined for its role regarding the topic and the book "The Politics of Presence" by Anne Phillips is mentioned. The connection between gender quotas and identity politics is explored and the body of literature generally regarding women in politics is discussed.” (EBSCO host)

Theme: Political in/Security
Subthemes: Gender Quotas; Women’s Rights; Women’s Leadership and Participation; Governance; Gendered Identities
Geographical Focus: India
Language: English


Notes:

“This chapter examines obstacles to the substantive representation of women’s gender interests in the Wolesi Jirga. In using the term *women’s gender interests* in this context, the study refers to the collective interests of women that emerge as a result of social construction of gender roles and relations in Afghanistan (Wordsworth 2007, 3). These interests are distinct from (but often overlap with) those that arise from other aspects of women’s identity. […] This chapter argues that as women’s gender interests are in essence collective interests, often (and ideally) cross-cutting ethnic and regional divisions, their substantive representations require collective action among gender activists (men or women).” (Larson)

Theme: Political In/Security
Subthemes: Political Representation; Gendered Power Relations; Gendered Identities; Women’s Rights; Women’s Activism
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan
Language: English

Notes:

“Almost a decade after the overthrow of the Taliban in Afghanistan, the government of President Hamid Karzai is promoting talks with them as well as other insurgent groups. … It is too early to tell what, if any, impact, these secret U.S.-Taliban talks will have on the current reconciliation and reintegration process, including the APRP. Questions abound, including whether these secret talks will end up circumventing the official Afghan peace process, thus in effect, rendering the APRP a reconciliation without legs. What is clear, however, are the troubling signs that both the US and the Karzai Administrations are willing to offer significant compromises in an area in which both have publicly stated that there would be no room for compromise, namely women’s rights.

“While many Afghan women support a peace process, pointing to the impact of the escalating violence on their everyday lives, they do so with extremely large caveats. These caveats pertain not only to their (lack of) participation in the process thus far, but also to the very real concern that the legal, social and political rights they have gained over the past decade will be traded away for a peace that ignores the stark reality of their lives and further disenfranchises them from their hard-won, but still precarious, place in Afghan public life.

“This paper will examine what these caveats are, and whether or not they are simply too large to sustain the possibility that the current reconciliation and reintegration process will in fact leave the women of Afghanistan better off than without a settlement; the possible entry points for Afghan women’s meaningful inclusion in the reconciliation and reintegration process; and how the international community, including Canada, might be able to support these entry points.” (Levine)

Theme: Political In/Security
Subthemes: Women’s Rights; Peace Processes; Personal In/Security; Violence against Women; Post-Conflict Reconstruction
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan
Language: English


Notes:
This report is based on the findings of the workshop organized by TLO in February 2011, "Women's Grassroots Voices: Afghan Peace & Reintegration". The workshop facilitated a critical exchange of experiences, thoughts and analysis of the role of Afghan women in peacebuilding among the 11 provinces from South, East and North. The workshop built upon earlier workshops organized by the Afghan Women’s Network on women, peace and security which brought together Afghan women organizations and activists to identify and recognize their role in the Afghanistan Peace and Re-integration Program (APRP) initiated by the Government. This workshop amplified the voices of women from the grassroots level, in order to complement the process.

Theme: **Political In/Security**  
Subthemes: **Peacebuilding; Women’s Activism; Women’s Civil Society Organizations**  
Geographical Focus: **Afghanistan**  
Language: **English**  
*Recommended


Notes:  
“The UN Human Security Report (2005) recorded this alarming trend when it stated that 40% of all peace accords collapse within five years of signature. It is this grim reckoning that driven the male bastion of the UN Security Council to open up and ask- whether these peace processes can deliver? For whom do these peace processes deliver? Whether there is a better way? It is this cluster of questions that underpins my assertion that it is necessary to bring in gender perspectives if peace making is to go beyond reaching power sharing arrangement between ‘armed’ elites and that it involves a transformative agenda that includes broader social justice, economic and participatory rights issues.”  
(Manchanda)

Manchanda discusses peace processes in Afghanistan, Nepal, Bangladesh and the Naga in India.

Theme: **Political In/Security**  
Subthemes: **Peace Processes; SCR 1325; Democratization; Human Security**  
Geographical Focus: **South Asia**  
Language: **English**

Notes:
The work chronicles the innovative approaches of Naga women who mediate among armed actors and mobilize for peace and reconciliation across conflict divides. The report documents the activities of Naga women to sustain ceasefires, strengthen the formal peace process, and encourage the pursuit of long-term stability in northeastern India. “Their efforts include: negotiating informally with state and non-state actors to protect their communities, mobilizing for peace and reconciliations; and participating in the official peace talks to sustain the ceasefire, extend it to other actors, and forge a more inclusive process.” (Manchanda)

Theme: Political In/Security
Subthemes: Peace Processes; Women’s Leadership and Participation; Reconciliation; Peacebuilding
Geographical Focus: India
Language: English
*Recommended


Abstract:
“Although there is a growing body of feminist discourse establishing that war and peace are gendered activities, and consequently women’s experiences, responses and needs are different, this if often overlooked by national and international policy-makers. Studies making visible the centrality of women’s agency in peace building and the need to have women participate at the peace table are ignored by the dominant conflict, peace and security discourse. This paper maps the complex and variegated picture of civilian and militarized women’s agency in moments of violent social transformation and the peculiarities of their languages of resistance and empowerment.” (Manchanda)

Notes:
“The post conflict situations highlighted here—Afghanistan, Sri Lanka and Nepal—are located in a region marked by severe gender inequalities or as in the case of Sri Lanka, gender disempowerment.” (Manchanda)

Theme: Political In/Security
Subtheme: Peace Processes; Peacebuilding; Women’s Agency; Inequality; Empowerment; Post-Conflict Reconstruction
Geographical Focus: South Asia; Afghanistan, Sri Lanka and Nepal
Language: English

Notes:
This intervention at the Second Forum on Minority Issues in Geneva in November 2009 explains obstacles to the effective political participation of Dalit women in India and provides recommendations to the government and UN.

Theme: Political In/Security
Subthemes: Human Rights; Discrimination; Women’s Leadership and Participation; Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency; Minority Rights
Geographical Focus: India
Language: English


Abstract:
“If reservations for women in panchayati raj institutions are to lead to their empowerment in real terms, social, economic and political conditions which facilitate and encourage their participation need to be created.” (Mohnaty)

Theme: Political In/Security
Subthemes: Gender Quotas; Women’s Leadership and Participation; Electoral Reform; Governance; Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency
Geographical Focus: India
Language: English


Abstract:
“The adoption in 2000 of Security Council Resolution 1325 has rightly been described as a watershed moment. Not only does this resolution recognize women as potentially vulnerable in times of conflict, it specifically, and importantly, recognizes women as political actors, as agents in peace processes and as key stakeholders in peace-building. More than a decade after its adoption,
however, questions remain as to whether 'gender security' is an elusive goal in conflict and post-conflict situations. There is little to suggest that Resolution 1325 has heralded the kind of transformative change that was hoped for by many, and the challenges of effective implementation continue to arise. There is also the question of compromise in the negotiation of peace agreements and in post-conflict reconstruction. Nationalist sentiment, frequently reinforced by religious and cultural claims, all too often turns on questions relating to sexuality, gendered identities, roles and status. In times of crisis, in fragile states, women and girls become the repository of tradition, and gender identities become the markers of national and group identities, often presumed central to a process of nation-building. In the context of ongoing conflict in Afghanistan and Pakistan, the challenges in ensuring that peace processes meet the requirements of Security Council Resolution 1325 are particularly acute. Over the last year, the possibility of 'talking to the Taliban' has repeatedly been raised. For women and girls in Pakistan and Afghanistan, the stakes are particularly high in any such negotiations. This article explores the position of women in Pakistan and the role that militant religious forces have played in limiting the potential of democratic transitions since the foundation of the state.” (Mullally)

Theme: Political In/Security
Subthemes: SCR 1325; Women and Armed Conflict; Peace Processes; Nationalism; Democratization; Religious Extremism and Fundamentalisms; Gendered Identities
Geographical Focus: Pakistan
Language: English


Abstract:
“Tensions between the constitutional commitment to equality and the politicization of Islam create conflicting claims for Pakistan's legal system. These claims have focused, in particular, on the sphere of intimate domestic and sexual relationships. Although the fundamental rights chapter of the Constitution guarantees equality before the law, the pursuit of gender equality has frequently been sacrificed to religious-cultural claims defining and limiting women's status. Yielding to such claims has served the interests of nation-building while at the same time guarding against any serious threat to the modernizing agendas of Pakistan’s political elite. Lost within such compromises is the recognition of women as bearers of rights, with equal rights to participate in the definition of religious-cultural norms. Lost also is a recognition of difference. Feminists, Islamic reformists and secularists have all been marginalized and excluded from a state that claims to guarantee equality to all. This article examines the strategies pursued by feminist movements within Pakistan and within the legal profession in attempting to resist the demands of conservative Islamist movements.” (Mullally)

Abstract:

“Debates in India following on from the *Shah Bano* case highlight the extent to which gender equality may be compromised by yielding to the dominant voices within a particular religion or cultural tradition. As the Indian Supreme Court noted in *Daniyal Latifi & Anr v Union of India*, the pursuit of gender justice raises questions of a universal magnitude. Responding to those questions requires an appeal to norms that claim a universal legitimacy. Liberal feminist demands for a uniform civil code, however, have pitted feminist movements against proponents of minority rights and claims for greater autonomy for minority groups. Against the background of growing communal tensions, many feminists have argued for more complex strategies - strategies that encompass the diversity of women's lives and create a sense of belonging amongst women with diverse religious-cultural affiliations. Liberal theories of rights that abstract from the concrete realities of women's daily lives have not always addressed the institutions and procedures necessary to build that sense of belonging. This article examines the contribution made my discourse ethics theorists to debates on models of multicultural arrangements. It argues that deliberative models of democracy recognize the need for 'difference-sensitive' processes of inclusion, potentially assisting feminism in resolving the apparent conflict between the politics of multiculturalism and the pursuit of gender equality.” (Mullally)


Notes:

Along with governments and the private sector, civil society organizations (CSOs) are playing an increasingly important and expanded role in improving transparency, participation, access to services and the rule of law. This book
attempts to examine the changing roles of civil society in global and national governance. It identifies factors that influence the effectiveness of civil society in promoting democratic governance.

Theme: Political In/Security  
Subthemes: Political Violence and Terrorism; Governance; Transparency; Corruption; Rule of Law; Women’s Civil Society Organizations  
Geographical Focus: South Asia, Southeast Asia  
Language: English


Notes:  
“The article offers information on the efforts of Afghan women in handling social issues and politics in Afghanistan. Member of Parliament (MP) Fawzia Koozi, activist Hassina Sayed, and entrepreneur Mariam Sadat emphasize their role in politics by stressing their political and civil rights toward economic improvement. Moreover, the efforts of MP Gulali Nur Sati and Humaira Rasuli, head of Medica Afghanistan, for health care innovation, security and humanitarian aid of women, are discussed.” (EBSCO host)


Abstract:  
“What is the present state of women’s political participation at the local government level in Bangladesh and India? What factors led both governments to initiate several affirmative actions for the enhancement of women’s participation? What factors impede their participation in the political arena? And what happens to women of both the countries once they participate in the local government bodies? This study seeks to answer these questions and is based mainly on secondary research. The available findings suggest that despite undertaking affirmative actions by both governments, women are still victimized
by structural, religious and cultural impediments. The finding also suggests that once they make their way into the political process, their counterparts do not cordially accept them. Although few NGOs and women's organizations have been vocal in favor of women’s equal rights, their initiatives remain inadequate. Another important finding is that women members cannot exert any influence in decision making at the local level. Once they ask for their legitimate rights, they are often victimized, assaulted, and harassed.” (Panday)

Theme: Political In/Security
Subthemes: Violence against Women; Women’s Leadership and Participation; Political Representation; Women’s Rights; Gendered Power Relations; Democratization; Governance
Geographical Focus: India, Bangladesh
Language: English


Notes:
In this article, the author argues that Pakistan is essentially a transitional country where the old order is crumbling, giving way to a newer society that is grappling with geostrategic compulsions, domestic violence and a post-colonial state which refuses to realign its structures and priorities to a ‘new’ Pakistan in which women are active in the public sphere and youth under 26 are the new majority.

Theme: Political In/Security
Subthemes: Geopolitics; Domestic Violence; Women’s Leadership and Participation; Governance
Geographical Focus: Pakistan
Language: English
*Recommended


Notes:
“The following paper provides background on the little-known Khuddam ul-Furqan group, an Islamist faction that preceded the larger Taleban movement, joined it in the 1990s and re-established itself after the Taleban regime’s collapse in 2001. The aim of the paper is to better understand their current position and capabilities for dialogue, and what their possible role may be both in the recently
established High Peace Council and in the broader political process in Afghanistan.” (Ruttig)

Theme: **Political In/Security**
Subthemes: **Peace Processes**
Geographical Focus: **Afghanistan**
Language: **English**

*Suggested*


**Notes:**
Sajjad challenges the assumptions of the ISAF's Afghanistan Peace and Reintegration Programme (APRP), stating reintegration and reconciliation may not be mutually reinforcing. Moreover, unless adequate support for the reintegrating combatants is provided, and the need to transform highly antagonistic relations between the insurgency leadership and the GoA to a more civic one through generating trust and confidence on both sides (as required for political reconciliation) is properly addressed, neither reintegration nor reconciliation will be achieved.

Theme: **Political In/Security**
Subthemes: **DDR; Reconciliation**
Geographical Focus: **Afghanistan**
Language: **English, Dari, Pashto**


**Notes:**
In her testimony to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Ms. Salbi makes recommendations on reconciliation options for Afghanistan that will ensure the needs of women are included.

Theme: **Political In/Security**
Subthemes: **Reconciliation; Justice; Political Participation**
Geographical Focus: **Afghanistan**
Language: **English**

Notes:

“In Bhubaneswar, India from 27th to 29th March 2011, under the aegis of PIPFPD- Odisha Chapter and Sansristi, a gender resource centre, a small group of activists, writers and scholars met to discuss UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women Peace and Security and its relevance in the Indian context. The objective was to set the momentum on a National Action Plan (NAP) for the implementation of SCR 1325 in India. This weblink provides an overview of the discussions, which took place at the meeting by acclaimed academicians and experts (including PIPFPD members) representing the women’s equality movement in particular and development in general.” (Sansristi)

Theme: Political In/Security
Subthemes: SCR 1325; Women’s Leadership and Participation; Gendered Power Relations
Geographical Focus: India
Language: English
*Recommended


Notes:

This report highlights the difficulties encountered during the military, political, and humanitarian intervention of Afghanistan and reconstruction, which resulted from the dominance of pre-modern forms of society and the lack of statehood. It describes the capacity of Afghan institutions and actors – i.e., the Afghan state, Afghan civil society, and the traditional elites – to become involved with development cooperation efforts, and reviews the advantages and disadvantages involved in cooperating with these three institutions/actors, as well as the experiences gathered in that regard in the past four years.

Theme: Political In/Security
Subthemes: Governance; Post-Conflict Reconstruction
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan
Language: English

Notes: This article highlights the value of women's engagement in peacebuilding, why they should be included, and what they do for peacebuilding. It highlights two case studies of women's peacebuilding in Liberia and Kashmir.

Theme: Political In/Security
Subthemes: Peacebuilding; Women’s Leadership and Participation; SCR 1325
Geographical Focus: Kashmir
Language: English
*Recommended


Notes: This Second Shadow Report urges the CEDAW Committee to ask the Government of Pakistan to explain what steps it has taken as a State Party to overcome the threats posed by the country’s ‘Talibanisation’ on the one hand and the undermining of progress caused by perennial problems of ineffective governance and lack of ownership.

Theme: Political In/Security
Subthemes: CEDAW; Governance; Religious Extremism and Fundamentalisms; Women’s Rights
Geographical Focus: Pakistan
Language: English
*Recommended


Notes: The research revealed that there is discrimination, exploitation, oppression and violence against women in politics. Violence as one of the root causes hindering women’s political participation and chilling women from entering the political arena. With this revelation, SAP-International initiated Violence against WomenIP Program in five countries of South Asia through SAP National country
offices in Bangladesh, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka and partner organization in India.

Theme: **Political In/Security**
Subthemes: **Personal In/Security; Violence against Women in Public Spaces; Women’s Leadership and Participation**
Geographical Focus: **South Asia**
Language: **English**
*Recommended


**Notes:**
“The challenge facing political decent societies everywhere is one of maintaining internal security and external threats with maximal respect for human rights obligations under customary and treaty-based international human rights law. India is not unique in confronting this challenge; yet it remains singular in its tardy recognition of human rights responsibilities.” (Subramanian)

**Theme:** **Political In/Security**
Subthemes: **Violent Abuses by the State/Security Sector; Human Rights; Policing**
Geographical Focus: **India**
Language: **English**
*Recommended


**Abstract:**
“The Afghan National Army and Police Forces are meant to take over responsibility for security from international forces in 2014. By then, the country should have 170,000 police officers, both male and female. The integration of female police goes back to an SDC initiative that focused on gender-related issues within the framework of the Afghan security reform. So far, 1241 police women have been recruited. The government’s goal is to increase this number to 5000 policewomen by 2014. This is a difficult undertaking in a challenging context, although indispensable if Afghanistan wishes to establish a police force that offers equal access to and quality of security services to both men and women.” (Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation)

**Notes:**
An analysis of the impact of ongoing conflicts and law and order disturbances on Pakistani women; their systematic exclusion from peace building and policy recommendations for a more gender sensitive and gender equitable approach to conflict resolution in Pakistan.

**In Dari:**

**In English:**

**Notes:**
Women’s entitlement to security has often been overlooked in the process of post conflict police reform. This briefing note reviews key components of gender-sensitive police reform (GSPR) in post-conflict states.

“This study focused specifically on lessons learned from gender-sensitive police reform in Kosovo, Liberia and Sierra Leone. The study’s findings show that gender-sensitive police reform constitutes a vital instrument in advancing the implementation of Security Council Resolution 1325, and implementing women’s human rights entitlements under the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). It is an excellent means by which to establish accountable, equitable, effective and rights-respecting police services that are capable of delivering for women in crisis and post-conflict situations.” (UNIFEM, 3)
Subthemes: SCR 1325; Security Sector Reform; CEDAW; Policing; Post-Conflict Reconstruction; Women’s Rights
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan
Language: Dari, English


Notes:
Dari translation of Security Council Resolution 1325, annotated and explained.

Theme: Political In/Security
Subthemes: SCR 1325
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan
Language: Dari


Notes:

Theme: Political In/Security
Subthemes: SCR 1325
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan
Language: Dari


Notes:
This paper provides an overview of the police sector in Afghanistan, assesses reform efforts since 2002, and identifies five key issues that must be addressed if the objective of creating an effective Afghan National Police (ANP) is to be achieved.

Notes:

“Recourse to religion and a focus on faith-based organizations as a point of entry for development initiatives has gained momentum in recent years, with serious implications for women’s rights. The case of Pakistan provides ample illustration of these trends. In the 1980s, several women’s research and advocacy groups, such as Women Living under Muslim Laws, engaged with Islamic frameworks to pursue a gender equality agenda. When post 9-11 propaganda targeted “oppressed Muslim women” with blatant hypocrisy, this led to an academic turn in the direction of exploring, rescuing, and in some cases reinventing the agency of veiled Muslim women, even in cases that signified pietistic acceptance of discrimination.

“This new scholarship has matured into a full-blown project to challenge and reject the viability of universal, liberal and indigenous secular feminist possibilities in Muslim-majority countries as culturally inappropriate. This thinking permeates tangible development policies and projects across Pakistan, as a celebrated confirmation of the pragmatic possibilities of development subsumed and framed by religion. Ironically, the policy-directed research espousing this framework is often shaped and directed by priorities and actors - such as foreign consultants or academics - removed from the collective developmental, political or activist paradigms of the country itself. Pakistani development activists and feminists who act as subcontractors for these projects may find themselves in a bind, projecting a secular political identity whilst engaging in donor-funded development projects that reinforce the communitarian logic of religion.

“Three examples of the policy direction of Anglo-American international development agencies, particularly DFID and USAID, highlight the new directions of ‘donor-driven Islam’ - development assistance that introduces a creeping theocratization of formerly rights-based approaches to gender.” (Zia)
Soon after his coup in October 1999, General Pervez Musharraf reassured the Pakistani people that his was not an obscurantist religious agenda. Instead, he referred to the Ata Turk model as his inspiration in his mission to rescue Pakistanis from corrupt democratic governments that had dominated the 1990s. A photo release of him holding two Pekinese dogs in his arms (commonly considered na-paak or unclean by Muslims) and surrounded by his short-haired wife, elderly mother and artist daughter, earned him a seal of approval from progressive upper-classes at home and the international community at large. Unlike the previous dictator, Gen Zia ul Haq, who carried out the oppressive and misogynist Islamisation project between 1977-88, this new-age military ruler seemed to espouse modern, ‘secular’ and liberal credentials. Thereafter began an era that has been dominated by several sociological changes in the country. In this article, three underlying concepts will be explored in relation to these changes and their impact on women. These include a critique of the romanticisation of the agency of women members belonging to the religio-political party in government; the strategic shifts in ideological positioning within the women’s movement; and the impact of the debate over religion and secularism in relation to women’s political reality. This essay discusses the interplay of the understandings and contradictions of Islamic and secular identity politics in the Pakistani women’s movement. The methodology incorporates a reading of existing scholarship as well as observation of feminist activism in the political context of Pakistan.” (Zia)

Theme: Political In/Security
Subthemes: Women’s Activism; Religion; Secularism
Geographical Focus: Pakistan
Language: English

B. Global Resources


Abstract:
“The negotiations leading to peace are never simple. They are wrapped in history and identity, in the struggle for power and the quest for justice, in personal loss, grief, fear and uncertainty. In contemporary civil wars and internal conflicts, where violence reaches into homes and villages, sometimes pitting neighbours against each other, peace cannot be imposed from above. The burden of peace-
making and peace - building must be shared by all members of society.”
(Anderlini)

Notes:
This book tells many stories of women who have actively negotiated peace amidst their countries’ conflicts. Encouraging readers throughout the world, “Women at the Peace Table” describes the obstacles faced by women who wanted to get involved in peace negotiations and the strategies they adopted.

Theme: Political In/Security
Subthemes: Peace Processes; Peacebuilding; Women’s Leadership & Participation
Geographical Focus: Global
Language: English


Notes:
This report is designed to meet a need that was clearly expressed by women’s rights activists to more effectively challenge religious fundamentalisms and to learn about strategies of resistance in other countries. This report concentrates on the strategies these movements use to influence society and politics as well as feminist strategies of resistance. Collectively and as individuals, women have long been resisting and challenging religious fundamentalisms through an immense variety of strategies.

Theme: Political In/Security
Subthemes: Religious Extremism and Fundamentalisms; Women’s Activism; Women’s Leadership & Participation; Women’s Rights
Geographical Focus: Global
Language: English
*Recommended


Abstract:
“This paper is the second in a series of studies into issues in conflict
prevention and peacebuilding by civil society of the Global Partnership for the
Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC). This paper is based on the experiences
and discussions undertaken through the first three years of the Global Partnership.
It builds on the outcomes of regional conferences and action agendas, the global
conference “From Reaction to Prevention: Civil Society Forging Partnerships to
Prevent Violent Conflict and Build Peace” that took place at the United Nations
Furthermore it also advances on the publication People Building- Successful stories
of civil society that was published in July 2005. Lastly it benefits from the insights
and practical experiences of the regional initiators of the Global Partnership.
“The purpose of the study is to provide an in-depth review of the many roles
and functions that can be undertaken by civil society organizations and it provides
an overview of the key challenges facing the wider field of civil society working for
peace.” (Barnes)

Theme: Political In/Security
Subthemes: Women’s Civil Society Organizations; Peacebuilding; Conflict
Prevention
Geographical Focus: Global
Language: English

http://www.dcaf.ch/Publications/Civil-Society-Oversight-of-the-Security-Sector-and-
Gender-Tool-9

Notes:
“This tool provides an introduction to the importance and benefits of
integrating gender issues into civil society oversight of the security sector,
including practical examples and recommendations. Civil society can contribute
to the process of security sector oversight in a number of different ways, including
through both formal and informal mechanisms. Ensuring that gender issues are
addressed, and that women and women’s organisations are fully included, can
make these mechanisms more participatory and comprehensive. Gender-
responsive civil society oversight mechanisms can more effectively ensure that
the needs and interests of both women and men are visible and included, and
therefore that the security sector is held accountable for protecting all members of
the population.” (DCAF)

DCAF has developed this tool designed to be a resource for civil society
organisations (CSOs) engaged in oversight of the security sector, as well as those
CSOs that seek to play a more active role in this regard. The tool is also relevant
for policymakers and officials in national governments, international and regional
organisations, and donor countries around the world that are engaged in designing
and implementing security sector reforms and that could play an active role in
strengthening and supporting civil society engagement.

**Notes:**
This study aims to find out more about “women’s activism in the face of armed conflict and its aftermath, and to recommend to the international community and its partners how future action can be undertaken that will ensure that the vital contribution of women does not continue to be lost or ignored. The study addresses the importance of respecting women’s human rights – in particular the right to participation and non-discrimination.” (Barry)


**Notes:**
“This guide is for women who have not formally studied security or worked with the security sector. The guide first explains security, the security sector, security sector reform (SSR) and civil society and women’s role in security sector reform. Section Two outlines steps for women and civil society to become involved in security sector reform through research, coalition building, planning, developing recommendations, advocacy and engagement. The last part of the guide includes a toolkit for each of the six steps in Section Two, such as stakeholder mapping exercises, templates for action plans, sample letters to security officials and a sample agenda for gender and SSR trainings. Another important part in this section addresses how to frame a group’s message on security and talking points for countering skeptics to women’s involvement in SSR.” (Bastick and Whitman)

Notes:
This 10 year anniversary “Handbook examines the degree to which the Security Council has internalized the thematic agenda of Women, peace and security in its geographic work, specifically in the Council’s country-specific resolutions. The handbook is a reference guide for both progress made and action to be taken on the Women, Peace and Security agenda.” The analysis assesses the consistency with which Council resolutions reflect the language and intent of SCR 1325. Good practice extracts from resolutions are presented and critical recommendations are made. (Butler, Mader and Kean)


Notes:
“The Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF) has been working to support the integration of gender issues in security sector institutions and security sector reform (SSR) processes since 2003, including through the development of practice oriented documents for SSR practitioners. In February 2008, DCAF published a Gender and SSR Toolkit in collaboration with
the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (OSCE/ODIHR) and the United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (UN-INSTRAW). Designed to provide a practical Introduction to gender issues for SSR practitioners and policy-makers, the Toolkit includes a series of 24-page “tools” and 4-page “practice notes” on thirteen different SSR topics.

“During the development of the Toolkit it became clear that there was also a need for practical training materials on gender and security sector reform. This led to the creation of the Gender and Security Sector Reform Training Resource Package and the Gender and Security Sector Reform Training website. These training resources are designed for SSR trainers and educators and others delivering training on gender and security issues. They include interactive exercises for different types of audiences, discussion topics, general training tips, an online discussion forum and examples from the ground.

**Examples from the Ground**

“These examples from the ground are concrete illustrations of ways in which a gender perspective has been integrated in different security sector institutions and security processes around the world. They can help policymakers, trainers and educators better understand and demonstrate the linkages between gender and SSR.

“The examples were compiled by DCAF based largely on publicly available research, data and reports. At times these were supplemented with material obtained from individuals and institutions directly involved.

“The examples are organised around the following nine themes, for which a short introduction is provided at the beginning of each section:

- Police Reform and Gender
- Defence Reform and Gender
- Justice Reform and Gender
- Penal Reform and Gender
- Border Management and Gender
- Parliamentary Oversight of the Security Sector and Gender
- National Security Policy-Making and Gender
- Civil Society Oversight of the Security Sector and Gender
- SSR Assessment, Monitoring and Evaluation and Gender

“Since some of the examples are relevant to more than a single theme, the table on pages 4-5 is a key to the subject matter of each. It also identifies the examples addressing the cross-cutting issues of gender-based violence, peacekeeping and recruitment and retention of women in the security sector.”

(DCAF)

Theme: **Political In/Security**
Subthemes: **Security Sector Reform; Gender Mainstreaming; Policing; Justice**
Geographical Focus: **Global, Afghanistan is Mentioned.**
Language: **English**
*Recommended
Notes:

“The goal of reducing gender inequalities in political representation has been elusive in many different kinds of political systems, even though women have made substantial progress in legal rights, education, economic resources, employment opportunities, and healthcare in the same polities. This book argues that gender quotas are an important strategy to improve women's political representation in legislatures and political parties and it lays out the history of this approach across the globe. It suggests however, that gender quotas are themselves not an 'easy fix' to gender discrimination since similarly designed quotas have had different outcomes across cases. The book's comparative approach untangles the various factors which need to be considered in designing, lobbying for, and implementing gender quotas so that they can be effective. While teasing out some shared experiences, this volume encourages coalitions of activists to develop context-appropriate strategies to craft effective campaigns to end women's exclusion from political decision-making. It also emphasizes that women's movements need to build public support for gender quotas and influence their design and implementation if they are to move beyond 'tokenism' and significantly improve political representation for women. It is a tremendously useful and informative volume for activists and scholars across the globe and does a masterful job in explaining divergent outcomes both within regions and across them. Hoodfar and Tajali argue that although more and more countries are successfully and creatively using gender quotas, some of the wealthiest long-standing democracies still continue to experience greater legislative gender inequalities.” (Diane Singerman, Middle East Studies at American University)

Theme: Political In/Security
Subthemes: Gender Quotas; Political Representation; Electoral Reform; Gendered Power Relations; Women’s Activism
Geographical Focus: Global
Language: English


Notes:

“This tool is designed to provide a basic introduction to Security Sector reform and gender issues for the staff of national governments (including in donor countries), security sector institutions, and regional and international
organisations, responsible for the development of SSR policy and programming. Civil society organisations, academics and researchers working on gender and security matters will also find it useful.” (DCAF)

Theme: Political In/Security
Subthemes: Security Sector Reform; Gender Mainstreaming
Geographical Focus: Global
Language: English


Abstract:

“UNSCR 1325 is a Security Council Resolution designed to operate in post-conflict contexts. ‘Post-conflict’ is a discourse with contested temporal and spatial aspects, raising questions about how different perspectives towards ‘post-conflict’ has affected interpretations of UNSCR 1325 on the ground. Given the contestability of ‘post-conflict’, surprisingly little research has focused upon how what is identified as the ‘post-conflict problem’ shapes responses to UNSCR 1325. To address this gap, I contrast configurations of ‘post-conflict’ within three different initiatives in Serbia that have drawn upon UNSCR 1325. The constructions of ‘post-conflict’ are understood through an analytical strategy concerned with the representation of conflict and post-conflict reconstruction within each initiative. Making explicit antagonisms at the heart of ‘post-conflict’ demonstrates how the logic of gender security as it relates to UNSCR 1325 is shaped by the specific problematization of ‘post-conflict’. This article outlines new empirical research on the utilization of UNSCR 1325 within three different political contexts in Serbia to assert the importance of realizing the contestability of ‘post-conflict’ contexts in shaping how we might respond to UNSCR 1325, and indeed, any international policy or ambition intended as a response to post-conflict situations.” (McLeod)

Theme: Political In/Security
Subthemes: Post-Conflict Reconstruction; SCR 1325
Geographical Focus: Serbia
Language: English


Notes:

“United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 recognizes both war’s adverse effects on women and women’s important contributions to peace and security. Yet despite the resolution being passed unanimously over a decade ago,
women are still generally underrepresented in formal peace negotiations and to date only 33 countries worldwide – and only 5 in the Commonwealth – have approved National Action Plans (NAPs) to implement the resolution. *Gender, Peace and Security* examines women’s role in both conflict and post-conflict reconciliation. It describes how UNSCR 1325 provides support for women in peace-building processes and provides case studies of how it has been implemented in selected countries, including the benefits of NAPs and women’s involvement in their adoption.

“Essential reading for Ministers and senior officials looking to develop NAPs, or anyone with an interest in the role of women in international affairs.” (Amazon.com)

Theme: **Political In/Security**  
Subthemes: SCR 1325; Peace Processes; Peacebuilding  
Geographical Focus: Global  
Language: **English**


**Notes:**

“Women’s engagement in peace-building is recognized by many international institutions as a crucial element of recovery and conflict prevention – a fact reflected in Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000), which commits the United Nations (UN) and its member states to engaging women in conflict prevention and peace-building. The serious threat of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) during and after armed conflict is also recognized by the UN, as well as at the national level through national plans of action on SGBV.” (Moser)

This study was developed to inform programming and advocacy in the areas of prevention of sexual and gender-based violence and women’s participation in peacebuilding. It focuses on specific thematic areas of good practice and highlights examples of women’s successful engagement in peacebuilding.

Theme: **Political In/Security**  
Subthemes: Peacebuilding; Women’s Leadership and Participation; Gender-Based Violence; Sexual Violence; Personal In/Security; SCR 1325; Conflict Prevention; Post-Conflict Reconstruction  
Geographical Focus: Global  
Language: **English**

**Notes:**

“It is widely recognized that women bear a heavy burden in conflict and post conflict societies, both directly through violence perpetrated against themselves and their families and as survivors attempting to reconstruct destroyed communities. There is also growing recognition of women as ‘agents of change’ skillfully reshaping and rebuilding communities affected by conflict. As this report attests, women worldwide – as government representatives, activists, leaders of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and women’s networks and other concerned citizens -- have persevered through threats and conditions of violence to initiate transformative processes within conflict and post conflict societies. Undeterred by rebel groups, authoritarian regimes, cultural restrictions or resource limitations, and often at great personal risk, women continue the work of promoting peace and security in their communities.

“The objective of this report is to explore community-based initiatives undertaken by women’s organizations and civil society seeking to promote women’s participation in peace processes. By communicating directly with women and organizations in the field, we have been able to highlight experiences and insights through the perspectives of the women participants themselves. The resulting narrative can assist in closing policy gaps in part by identifying, documenting and sharing organizational activity directed at implementing Security Council Resolution (SCR) 1325.” (Suthanthiraraj and Ayo)

**Theme:** [Political In/Security]

**Subthemes:** Impact of Armed Conflict on Women; Gender-Based Violence; Peacebuilding; Women’s Civil Society Organizations; Post-Conflict Reconstruction; SCR 1325; Peace Processes

**Geographical Focus:** Global

**Language:** English

*Recommended


**Notes:**

“The report highlights the practical barriers that women – particularly the poorest and most excluded – face in negotiating justice systems and the innovative approaches that governments and civil society are pioneering to overcome them. It explores the ways in which women are reconciling guarantees

90
of their rights with the realities of living within plural legal systems. And it highlights the severe challenges that women face in accessing justice in the aftermath of conflict, as well as the enormous opportunities for change that can emerge in these most difficult times.” (Turquet)

Theme: Political In/Security
Subthemes: Justice, Women’s Rights; Women’s Civil Society Organizations
Geographical Focus: Global
Language: English
*Recommended


Notes:
This collection of UNIFEM papers brings together a considerable body of analytical and advocacy work undertaken over the last five years, grounded in programming that has helped advance the women, peace and security agenda in policy and practice. It includes papers on gender issues in early warning, peace processes, peacekeeping, post-conflict planning and financing, and transitional justice. Together, the papers in this collection describe a range of ongoing efforts to strengthen the UN’s capacities to promote peace and prevent violence.

Theme: Political In/Security
Subthemes: SCR 1325; Peace processes; Peacebuilding; Post-Conflict Reconstruction; Justice
Geographical Focus: Global
Language: English
*Recommended


Notes:
The Guide provides a basic introduction to CEDAW and Security Council resolution 1325 on women, peace and security, and reviews their commonalities, synergies, and potential strategic uses, particularly in the context of conflict and post-conflict reconstruction.
The Training Module is a tool to build the capacity and awareness of gender equality advocates in government and civil society in the Southern Caucasus to advocate for and support the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and UN Security Council resolution 1325 on women, peace and security.

Theme: **Political In/Security**  
Subthemes: SCR 1325; CEDAW; Discrimination; Gendered Power Relations; Women’s Rights  
Geographical Focus: Southern Caucasus  
Language: English


Notes:  
This publication provides concrete recommendations to support women’s effective participation at all stages of a peace process, promote gender-sensitive peace negotiations and agreements, and encourage the mainstreaming of a gender perspective throughout the implementation of peace accords.

http://www.unifem.org/attachments/products/supporting1325.pdf

Notes:  
“Women, Peace and Security” brings together UNIFEM’s advocacy and action with the strength of women to redefine international frameworks and policies that will ensure that there is global commitment and realization of resolution 1325. Case studies from Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Latin America, the Caribbean, Central and Eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States are highlighted to encourage hope for women worldwide.
Notes:

This report analyses the needs of women and girls in post-conflict situations; identifies the challenges to women’s participation in preventing, resolving and recovering from conflict; and specifies national and international measures aimed at ensuring that women’s priorities are addressed, their right to full participation is realized, a gender perspective is applied to peace building, and all public actions are consistent with Member States’ international human rights obligations.

Theme: Political In/Security
Subthemes: Women's Leadership and Participation; Conflict Prevention; Conflict Resolution; Peacebuilding; Post-Conflict Reconstruction; Human Rights
Geographical Focus: Global
Language: English

http://www.peacewomen.org/translation_initiative/

Notes:

“The PeaceWomen Translation Initiative was established to tackle language barriers and to increase awareness of the United Nation’s founding resolution on women, peace and security around the world, Security Council Resolution 1325 (SCR1325), and the follow-up resolutions. This initiative aims to promote local ownership and women’s participation in conflict prevention and peace-building.

“PeaceWomen.org is the only website to house all existing – over 100 – translations of SCR 1325. Translations of Security Council Resolution 1325.” (Peacewomen.org) The successor resolutions on women, peace and security have many translations as well.

Theme: Political In/Security
Subthemes: SCR 1325
Geographical Focus: Global

Notes: “This report provides an overview of progress in implementing resolution 1325 (2000). It includes (a) information on measures taken to improve the capacity of Member States to implement the resolution, including information on best practices; (b) an assessment of the processes by which the Security Council receives, analyses and takes action on information pertinent to resolution; (c) a review of the implementation and integration of the 2008–2009 System-wide Action Plan for implementing the resolution; and (d) an update and further development of the set of indicators contained in the report of the Secretary-General of 6 April 2010 (S/2010/173) as well as an outline of a programme of work detailing roles and responsibilities vis-à-vis the indicators within the United Nations system and a time frame to render the indicators operational.” (UN Security Council)

Theme: Political In/Security
Subthemes: SCR 1325
Geographical Focus: Global
Language: English


Notes: “This report provides an account of an extraordinary set of 25 meetings held in the summer of 2010 between women peace activists and senior United Nations leaders in conflict-affected countries. It details women’s perspectives on resolving conflict and building peace more effectively, identifies issues of common concern across different contexts — as well as areas of divergence — and makes proposals for improving international, regional and national efforts to protect women and promote peace.” (United Nations Women)

Theme: Political In/Security
Subthemes: Peacebuilding; SCR 1325; Women’s Activism; Women’s Civil Society Organizations; Conflict Resolution
Geographical Focus: Global

Notes:
“The Regional Experts Meeting on Engendering Instruments and Mechanisms of Peace-Building brought together women legal experts, human rights advocates, Peace-Building and development professionals, to deliberate on ways and means of engendering the application of instruments such as peace accords, and post-agreement mechanisms such as Truth and Reconciliation commissions. The consultation sought to promote a common understanding and commitment by women and men to work towards breaking down gender-based biases and barriers in peace work; and to equip women with the analytical and interventional skills and confidence to sustain their struggles for gender-justice and their participation and sustainability of their organizations in Peace-Building processes at all levels and in all spheres.” (Urgent Action Fund for Women’s Human Rights)

Theme: Political In/Security
Subthemes: Peace Processes; Peacebuilding; Justice; Gendered Power Relations; Women’s Leadership & Participation; Women’s Civil Society Organizations
Geographical Focus: Global
Language: English
*Recommended

III. ECONOMIC IN/SECURITY

A. South Asia Resources


Summary Points from Article, p.1132:
- “India is the World Bank’s largest single borrower, with cumulative loans over $44bn
• India’s diversity, “enormous” burden of disease, and chronic underfunding of health care have hindered progress
• Despite Pakistan’s relatively high gross national product per capita, its health indicators compare poorly with those of its neighbours
• Social action programmes, promoted by the bank, have been controversial
• Although the bank has adopted differing approaches to the countries of South Asia, the substantial challenges posed by the region mean that progress will be slow” (Abbasi)

Notes:
This article briefly discusses the ways that poverty, corruption, inadequate health infrastructure, and gender imbalance in India are all interconnected.

Theme: Economic In/Security
Subthemes: Corruption; Health; Governance; Gender Inequality
Geographical Focus: India and Pakistan
Language: English


Notes:
“Education has been proved to be the foundation of every society and good news for its bright future, and access to education is a certain and fundamental right of all human beings, children in particular. It is famously said, “Where the gate of a school opens, the gates of ignorance are closed.” From the perspective of the sacred religion of Islam, and national and international instruments, education is the right of all children, both girl and boy. All Afghan children should access this right fairly and equally, without any discrimination on such grounds as race, ethnicity, religious denomination, language, place of birth, social status, and so forth. Equality of educational opportunity is one of the prerequisites of the society.” (Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission)

Theme: Economic In/Security
Subthemes: Children’s Rights; Education Access; Discrimination; Girls’ Rights
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan
Language: English

Notes:
“This paper addresses policy concerns specifically in the area of gender equality and portrayal in the media. In light of the status of women and its impact on Pakistan’s society and economy, of Pakistan’s explicit commitment to international covenants to improve the status of women, and of the media’s immense power as a means of social change, the development and implementation of appropriate media and gender policies will be of great national benefit...

“This marginalization of women negatively impacts the quality of media content, such that women’s voices remain muted in the presentation of news and issues, and women continue to be portrayed largely in negative stereotypes...

“Pakistan needs a comprehensive national media policy with a code of ethics and best practices.” (Ansari)

Theme: Economic In/Security
Subthemes: Gendered Power Relations; Discrimination
Geographical Focus: Pakistan
Language: English


Notes:
“Families need to be reassured that the state can provide a safe and wholesome environment in which women can be allowed to emerge and operate, without, for instance, the threat of public violence. Assistance organizations and policymakers need to find ways to help women negotiate better outcomes for gender-related conflicts within their families and communities. Finally, it is clear that without a viable poverty reduction strategy that does more than pay lip service to gender considerations, the lives of millions of women and girls will not improve in the immediate or distant future.” (Azarbaijan-Moghaddam)

Theme: Economic In/Security
Subthemes: Personal In/Security; Development; Violence against Women in Public Spaces
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan
Language: English

Notes:
The Pakistan Millennium Development Goals Report 2010, produced by the Planning Commission, Government of Pakistan analyses the present status and challenges towards achieving the MDGs in Pakistan. It is a comprehensive document, which will generate discussions in both public and private sector organization focused on economic and social development.

Theme: Economic In/Security
Subthemes: Development
Geographical Focus: Pakistan
Language: English


Notes:
This research examines perceptions of security among three sets of actors: peace support operations (PSOs), assistance agencies (AAs), and local populations, in countries in or recovering from crisis -- Afghanistan, Kosovo, and Sierra Leone.

“The research made three major findings. First, perceptions of security differ significantly among the three sets of actors. Within the context of their mission objectives, the military contingents that characterize PSOs understand security first and foremost in terms of “force protection”, that is, the need for protection of their own personnel from attacks and threats of attack. PSO perceptions of the security needs of AAs and local communities are viewed through those lenses. While AAs are also concerned about insecurity as it impinges on their ability to carry out their assistance and protection activities, they are more likely to take risks in the interest of carrying out their tasks. They also tend to have a better understanding of how socio-economic issues impact on security and generally have a better grasp than PSOs do of the concerns of local populations. For their part, local communities view security as safety from physical harm and abuse but also extending far beyond to encompass a sense of well-being, including elements such as employment, access to basic services, political participation, and cultural identity. As one respondent put it, “There is no peace without bread.” Thus, communities have a more holistic understanding of what constitutes security than the narrower concerns of the two other sets of actors.
“The second major finding is that perceptions differ significantly within each of the three sets of actors…. Thirdly, perceptions of security evolve significantly over time.

“The report proposes the concepts of physical and human security and of negative and positive peace as a framework for understanding the differing perceptions of security encountered.

“In sum, the data presented and analyzed by the study offers an intriguing and provocative look at the wide-ranging security needs of local communities and the uneven extent to which these are understood and responded to by major international institutions. The voices of local communities are not being heard, much less “privileged,” by outside actors. The dominant voices in transition environments instead are those of PSOs and AAs.

**Local perceptions of security:** “Afghans citizens have a much wider understanding of security than physical security alone. It is a multilayered concept in which socio-economic aspects – human security – play a key, if not preponderant, role. Typically, focus group discussions would start by identifying physical security issues, usually with an acknowledgement that there has been a significant improvement in recent months. This would be followed by debate within the group on the “elements” of peace. After some scratching the surface, issues of employment, access to services, and welfare would come to the fore. In sum, in the relatively secure physical environment of Kabul and the adjoining rural areas, the absence of armed conflict is an important consideration, but the absence of stable and secure livelihoods is the fundamental determinant in the security perceptions of local communities.

**Conclusions:** “Communities, AAs, and PSOs perceive security in ways different yet functional to their modus operandi. It is difficult to generalize on the basis of a short visit limited to the “Kabul bubble” and environs. Yet it is possible to say that the communities whose views were tapped in this study seem to have a much wider definition of peace and security than the outside actors. Peace is much more than the absence of war, they are saying. Positive peace – employment, education, health, electricity and a better life – is high on their agenda. They are also quick to define what is preventing positive peace from being achieved: a corrupt police force, criminality, and a pervasive sense that unless the warlords are reined in and if, Allah forbid, ISAF and the Coalition should leave, chaos could well ensue. This seems to be the central message.

(Donini et al.)

**Theme:** Economic In/Security
**Subthemes:** Militarization of Humanitarian Aid; Personal In/Security; Human Security; Redefining Security; Livelihoods; Health; Crime; Corruption; Education Access
**Geographical Focus:** Afghanistan, Kosovo, Sierra Leone
**Language:** English

Notes:

“This case study is a part of a larger research project on women’s participation in different development programmes and projects in Afghanistan, examining the impact of their involvement on gender roles and relations within their families and communities. Specifically, the project explores women’s participation in the National Solidarity Programme (NSP)’s Community Development Councils (CDCs) as well as nongovernmental organisation (NGO)-initiated microfinance groups under the Microfinance Investment Support Facility for Afghanistan (MISFA). This particular case study looks at women’s participation in a microfinance programme in an outer suburb of Mazar-i-Sharif, Balkh Province.

“Overall, the study’s results suggest that the arrival of the MFI was not the sole factor driving changes in the community’s gender relations. Rather, it was part of a combination of factors—including community context, exposure to migration, educational level, and individual and household characteristics—all of which contributed to the empowerment of many of the study’s female informants.” (Echavez et al.)

Theme: Economic In/Security
Subthemes: Development; Gendered Power Relations
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan
Language: English
Recommended*


Notes:

“The present study aims to identify and critically examine the current programmes, action plans and interventions of government, UN and donor agencies, NGOs and CSOs towards child labour elimination and achieving Education for All goals in India. It also evaluates the actual implementation results for child labour, education and poverty alleviation.” (Global March against Child Labour)

Theme: Economic In/Security
Subtheme: Children’s Rights; Education Access, Livelihoods
Geographical Focus: India
Language: English

Notes:
ICRW, in collaboration with researchers from India and Sri Lanka, presents the synthesis report of a multi-site research study on social protection, exploring the links of women's ownership of property and inheritance rights and their experience of domestic violence. This report brings together three research summaries as well as a cross-site analysis undertaken by ICRW.

Theme: Economic In/Security
Subthemes: Domestic Violence; Property Rights
Geographical Focus: India, Sri Lanka
Language: English


Abstract:
“As patterns of poverty and vulnerability in South Asia change, households have to balance immediate needs and long-term goals. For the poor, these choices, and the costs of precautionary measures, are particularly acute and call for suitable government policies. While policy-makers face a number of trade-offs between promotion, prevention and protection goals, careful design can maximize the potential to reconcile these objectives. A review of experience suggests a number of lessons regarding the relative benefits of targeted and universal programmes; the need to differentiate microfinance products for different groups amongst the poor; ways of basing the self-targeting of public works on rights rather than stigma; and the influence of political processes (such as decentralisation) for the overall effectiveness of social protection.” (Kabeer)

Theme: Economic In/Security
Subthemes: Public Policy; Inequality; Livelihoods
Geographical Focus: India and Bangladesh
Language: English

Abstract:

“This paper provides comparative analyses across women’s employment-status groups to examine how processes of exclusion and constrained and adverse inclusion shape different women’s labor market opportunities and outcomes in Lucknow, India. It examines under what conditions, if at all, women’s labor contributes to household-poverty reduction and for which work types paid employment leads to increased voice for women in the household, one dimension of a process of empowerment. It finds that women’s labor force participation has a meager influence on household and individual level development outcomes largely due to the inter-related processes of exclusion and inclusion, where social norms and responsibilities for reproductive work can lead to constrained inclusion in the labor market, adversely affecting women’s terms of incorporation. The findings have relevance for programming focusing on improving the range and quality of choices for women in the paid economy.” (Kantor)

Theme: **Economic In/Security**  
Subthemes: **Livelihoods; Development**  
Geographical Focus: **India**  
Language: **English**


Notes:  
*Everyday Equality: Be the Change* tracks progress made in South Asia for women and analyzes the situation in areas such as violence against women and economic empowerment. The author, Naina Kapur, presents examples from different countries and provides recommendations to policy makers. This was the base document for the Seventh South Asia Regional Ministerial Conference in Dhaka, Bangladesh in October 2010.

Theme: **Economic In/Security**  
Subthemes: **Violence against Women; Gendered Power Relations; Empowerment; Development**  
Geographical Focus: **South Asia**  
Language: **English**

Women farmers in Manipur are seen involved extensively in production, land preparation, selection, sowing, applying manure, fertilizers, weeding, transplanting, threshing, winnowing and harvesting. Not only this they perform multiple roles ranging from animal care, grazing, fodder collection and cleaning of animal sheds. These roles are apart from being a mother, a wife and a daughter in law. Yet this is the most vulnerable segment and most undernourished facing harassments ranging from physical to emotional. Their predominant role remains to be acknowledged as farmers and agricultural workers since they do not have independent access, ownership or control over land. The empowerment of the women in Manipur should include different policies for those residing in hills and those residing in valleys. In hills where land is a common property resource and village councils decide the fate of the land ownership and management, allowing women to actively participate in the important meetings and allowing them to take important decisions would go a long way in empowering them. (Manipur Women Gun Survivor Network)


Notes:
“The papers in this issue of the Review of Women’s Studies examine the relationship of women to water, setting it in the institutional environment of gender relations and state policy. Despite the policy initiatives and attendant programmes to expand access to water users, given our hierarchical society, the conversion of drinking water into a private good where the market plays an important role in who can benefit and who pays the cost adversely affects women and the lower castes and classes.” (Watercredit.org)

Theme: Economic In/Security
Subthemes: Environment and Resources; Discrimination; Gendered Power Relations
Geographical Focus: India
Language: English

Notes:
“Pakistan is crippled by an education emergency that threatens tens of millions of children. No country can thrive in the modern world without educated citizens. The emergency has disastrous human, social and economic consequences, and threatens the security of the country. This publication highlights the government's obligations for providing education, statistics on the country's educational poverty, and the impact of lack of education on women and girls and the country's economic growth, among other topics.” (March for Education)

Theme: **Economic In/Security**  
Subthemes: **Education Access**  
Geographical Focus: **Pakistan**  
Language: **English, Urdu, Dari, Pashto**


Notes:
In this article, Mukherjee describes the different types of food insecurities that women and girls face in South Asia. These include: (1) Mortality based food insecurities; (2) Natality based food insecurity; (3) Basic facility based food insecurity; (4) Special facilities inequality based food insecurity; (5) Profession based food insecurity; (6) Ownership based food insecurity; (7) Household based food insecurity; (8) Seasonality based food insecurity. Upon describing these, she then details her own suggestions to help alleviate the problem for the future.

Theme: **Economic In/Security**  
Subthemes: **Human Security; Inequality**  
Geographical Focus: **South Asia**  
Language: **English**


Notes:
“Pakistan Employment Trends 2011 is a comprehensive report regarding progress towards achieving Millennium Development Goals target 1b “full and productive employment and decent work for all”. In this report, both quantitative and qualitative aspects of existing employment in the country have been analyzed as well as its comparability in the region. This report provides information for making necessary national policies for the creation of quality employment to perform decent work in Pakistan.

“Despite recent gains in terms of employment and unemployment, the reviewed labour market indicators highlight the gender gap. Women continue to be underutilized in the economy and labour market as reflected in their overall participation, as well as in the distributions in terms of economic sector and status groups.

“Disaggregated, employment-to-population ratios in Pakistan reveal major gender biases in the country’s labour market activities. Although, the gender gap narrowed significantly by 8.5 percentage points until 2010-2011, the trend seems to have slowed down in recent year.

“It is apparent that Pakistan faces a special gender challenge. The analyses point to several persisting gender gaps, which need to be closed, in order to fully utilize Pakistan’s labour potential. The gender issue as a cross cutting theme needs to be strengthened in policies, in order to improve the situation for women in the labour market with regard to labour market access and quality of jobs.” (PBS)

Theme: Economic In/Security
Subthemes: Livelihoods; Gendered Power Relations; Discrimination
Geographical Focus: Pakistan
Language: English


Notes:

“Where Women are Leaders is a narrative history of the Self-Employed Women’s Association (SEWA) the 40,000-strong union of India’s poorest women which has increasingly become an inspiration to and living example of a new development model relevant to low-income women worldwide. SEWA’s unique organizing tactics focus on the poorest and most vulnerable women in Indian society - those who are self-employed or working in the informal sector and who have been marginalized by mainstream development strategies.” (Zed Books)

Theme: Economic In/Security
Subthemes: Women’s Leadership and Participation; Inequality; Development; Livelihoods
Geographical Focus: India
Language: English
Notes: “For Afghans, human security is not only the ability to survive, but also the chance to live a life of dignity and have adequate livelihoods. Bringing an end to insecurity should not therefore be sought solely through military solutions, but with a long-term comprehensive strategy that abides by the promises of development and promotion of human rights. This report proposes that the real security challenge is for the reconstruction process to generate services and jobs, protect human rights.” (UNDP)

Theme: Economic In/Security
Subthemes: Human Security: Livelihoods; Human Rights; Development
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan
Language: English


Notes: “Violence in northern Pakistan has forced millions of people to flee from their homes. Even with the dire living conditions of these displaced communities, there is a hidden opportunity in the midst of this crisis to improve the educational status of women and girls.” (Winthrop)

Theme: Economic In/Security
Subthemes: Displacement; Education Access
Geographical Focus: Pakistan
Language: English


Notes: “This report examines the lack of economic opportunities in combination with cultural and social norms that determine outcomes for women to a significant
degree. Mobility restrictions directly undermine female access to medical care, education, opportunities for paid work, voting and other forms of political and community participation. The more women are secluded in households or settlements, the more they lack access to a broad range of information and are unaware of their legal rights, the importance of health maintenance and participating in the public sphere.” (World Bank)

Theme: Economic In/Security
Subthemes: Education Access; Women’s Rights; Livelihoods; Mobility; Health; Civil and Political Rights; Patriarchal Norms
Geographical Focus: Pakistan
Language: English


Notes:
“...This report aims to give female home-based workers a voice so they can describe their conditions and suggest ways in which their situation can be improved. It contains the findings of interviews with 520 home-based workers across five provinces in Afghanistan. It was evident from HRRAC’s research on the status of informal workers in Afghanistan (see HRRAC’s 2010 report “Securing Human Dignity”) that women workers faced specific problems and circumstances in addition to those encountered by all informal workers. It is clear that the commitments contained in NAPWA, the MDG and the Afghan Constitution will never be realized unless more effort is made to research and address the problems faced by women workers.” (Wright)

Theme: Economic In/Security
Subthemes: Livelihoods; Discrimination; Development
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan
Language: English, Dari, Pashto


Abstract:
“In seeking to best understand the role of rural development in sustainable peace-building, we address several key questions throughout this paper: What is
the background that led to the present situation and what implications does this have for today’s policy makers? What factors or conditions will determine or threaten peace? What roles are foreign militaries playing in peace building? What efforts are underway to rebuild the state structures and create conditions that at least make peace feasible? What are the lessons learned elsewhere in participatory rural development that can now be applied in Afghanistan? What lessons can be drawn from Afghanistan’s history and the National Solidarity Programme and applied to Afghanistan’s rural development as a whole?” (Zakhilwal and Thomas)

Theme: Economic In/Security
Subthemes: Peacebuilding; Development
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan
Language: English

B. Global Resources


Notes:
This article notes how millions of women globally spend hours a day collecting water, the impact of water on women's health (from spinal problems related to carrying water, to water borne illnesses), to the growing scarcity of water in many countries, and to the access to water for livelihoods.

Theme: Economic In/Security
Subthemes: Health; Environment and Resources
Geographical Focus: Global
Language: English


Abstract:
“Using cross-country and panel regressions, this article investigates how gender inequality in education affects long-term economic growth. Such inequality is found to have an effect on economic growth that is robust to changes in specifications and controls for potential endogeneities. The results suggest that gender inequality in education directly affects economic growth by lowering the average level of human capital. In addition, growth is indirectly affected through the impact of gender inequality on investment and population growth. Some 0.4–0.9 percentage points of differences in annual per capita growth rates between
East Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia, and the Middle East can be accounted for by differences in gender gaps in education between these regions.” (Klasen)

Theme: Economic In/Security
Subthemes: Education Access; Development; Gendered Power Relations; Inequality
Geographical Focus: Global, includes South Asia
Language: English


Notes:
“The goal of this policy is to improve the lives of citizens around the world by advancing equality between females and males, and empowering women and girls to participate fully in and benefit from the development of their societies.

“It will be addressed through integration of gender equality and female empowerment throughout the Agency’s Program Cycle and related processes: in strategic planning, project design and implementation, and monitoring and evaluation. This integrated approach positions the Agency to address gender gaps and the constraints that hold women back.

“A ten country study using Demographic and Health Survey (DHS) data of ever married women reporting spousal/intimate partner violence shows rates ranging from 48 percent in Zambia, 44 percent in Colombia, and 42 percent in Peru, to 18 percent in Cambodia, 19 percent in India, and 22 percent in the Dominican Republic.

“...for instance India, Bangladesh, Pakistan and Nepal reserve 33 percent of legislative seats for women at the municipal and district levels.” (USAID)

Theme: Economic In/Security
Subthemes: Women’s Rights; Empowerment; Gendered Power Relations; Livelihoods; Domestic Violence; Political Representation
Geographical Focus: Global
Language: English

IV. MILITARIZATION AND WOMEN’S SECURITY
1) Militarization & Armed Conflict

A. South Asia Resources


Notes:
“In their campaign to undermine support for the Government, the Taliban fails to differentiate between military objectives and civilians, and even targets civilians intentionally. This report is a detailed investigation into the allegations of a campaign of terror carried out by insurgents. It finds their actions to be in direct contravention to Islamic Shari’a, Afghan domestic and international law.” (AIHRC)

Theme: Militarization and Women’s Security - Militarization & Armed Conflict
Subthemes: Personal In/Security; Violence against Civilians; Impact of Armed Conflict on Women; Political Violence and Terrorism
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan
Language: English, Dari, Pashto


Notes:
“Amnesty International is concerned about reports of grave human rights abuses perpetrated by armed groups and government forces in areas where the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958 is in force. This briefing - prepared for a government-convened committee reviewing the Act - primarily focuses on reported abuses committed by security forces; however, Amnesty is also concerned about abuses perpetrated by armed groups, the high incidence of custodial deaths, torture, rape, extrajudicial killings and "disappearances" in the Northeast. Amnesty urges the Government to repeal the AFSPA.” (Amnesty International)

Theme: Militarization and Women’s Security - Militarization & Armed Conflict
Subthemes: Personal In/Security; Violent Abuses by the State/Security Sector; Violent Abuses by Armed Groups; Violence against Women; Sexual Violence; Impunity; Impact of Armed Conflict on Women
Geographical Focus: India
Language: English
*Recommended


Notes: “The Naxalite conflict has been recognized as the ‘single biggest internal security challenge ever faced’ by India. The loss of life, forcible displacement of more than 40,000 and serious violations of human rights and humanitarian law by security forces are documented in this report.” (ACHR) It should be noted that gender-awareness in this report is minimal.

Theme: Militarization and Women’s Security - Militarization & Armed Conflict
Subthemes: Personal In/Security; Human Rights; Displacement; Violent Abuses by the State/Security Sector; Impact of Armed Conflict on Women
Geographical Focus: India
Language: English
*Recommended


Notes: The author discusses women's vulnerabilities in the conflict-ridden northeast region of India, how women deal with violence, the role of the North East Network and helping/empowering women's groups to deal with violence.

Theme: Militarization and Women’s Security - Militarization & Armed Conflict
Subthemes: Personal In/Security; Gender-Based Violence; Women’s Civil Society Organizations; Empowerment; Impact of Armed Conflict on Women
Geographical Focus: India
Language: English
*Recommended

Abstract:
“"Security demographics" has become a new subfield of security studies in recent years as scholars envision the security implications of long-term demographic change. States with high fertility rates and large youth populations can pose a security risk when combined with high unemployment-youth may embrace radical politics that threaten the security of the state and its neighbors. The effect of the "youth bulge" on national security is the focus of a similar report by Population Action International, showing that countries with youth populations of 40% or more were 2.3 times more likely to experience civil war in the 1990s than states with smaller youth populations.” (Boer)

Theme:
Subthemes: Economic In/Security; Female Feticide; Youth Violence
Geographical Focus: Asia, including focus on India
Language: English


Notes:
“Women of Nagaland and Assam find themselves on the receiving end of violence from three fronts: the state, the militants and a corresponding escalation of domestic violence. The effects of violent acts like rape, sexual abuse and assault lead to emotional trauma and what is known as Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. The loss [women] face is not just emotional or physical, but transfers into the economic and social spheres as well. Most women face a decline in social legitimacy and find themselves relegated to the fringes of society with no one to care for them or to speak on their behalf.” This study looks at the impact of conflict on women in Nagaland and Assam, examines how women are coping with these conflict situations, assesses women's hopes and aspirations and offers recommendations.” (Center for North East Studies and Policy Research)

Theme: Militarization and Women’s Security - Militarization & Armed Conflict
Subthemes: Personal In/Security; Violent Abuses by Armed Groups; Violent Abuses by the State/Security Sector; Domestic Violence; Sexual Violence; Economic In/Security; Impact of Armed Conflict on Women
Geographical Focus: India
Language: English
*Recommended

**Notes:**
Chenoy focuses on the issue of militarization in India, and its gendered impacts on society. The author argues that despite the widespread belief that India is not militarized, especially in comparison to neighboring Pakistan, militarization is actually a pervasive and pressing issue. This manifests in an evolving nationalist militarist discourse, where concerns for security have resulted in high spending on defense at the expense of social spending. In turn, society is militarized, as evidenced by the military values and corresponding gender roles and stereotypes that are reiterated and reinforced in public discourse. Chenoy calls for the de-securitization of the state as it is, moving towards a more “inclusive gendered human security.” Women’s movements in India play a key role here in challenging the militarization of state and society.

Theme: **Militarization and Women’s Security**  
Geographical focus: India  
Language: English


**Notes:**
“Over 20,000 people have been killed in the last five decades in Manipur. Today more than 30 armed groups operate in Manipur - ranging from small outfits to organizations with several thousand members. Besides them, dozens of battalions of the Indian Army and several units of Indian paramilitary forces are stationed throughout the state at the Indo-Burma-border. Manipur is one of the most conflict-ridden states in India. Women and children of Manipur suffer most in this conflict, even when they are not targeted directly. They are traumatized by the deaths of family members. They bear the brunt of the emotional and socio-economic impacts of violence. Apart from that, women themselves are particularly vulnerable to violence and intimidation at gunpoint, often used as a deliberate military and political tactic. Also women and girls continue to be tortured, raped and killed at gunpoint. To address the impact of the ongoing conflict Manipur Women Gun Survivors Network organized a Community Consultation on the topic “Gender and Armed Conflict in Manipur” on 5th March 2012 from 10am to 1 pm at the Classic Hotel, Imphal, Manipur.” (Control Arms Foundation of India)

Theme: **Militarization and Women’s Security - Militarization & Armed Conflict**

**Notes:**

The report reviews the history of women’s rights reforms in Afghanistan, assesses donor efforts to empower women since 2001, analyzes the security situation and its impact on women, and details women’s concerns about proposed reconciliation efforts. It concludes with recommendations for U.S./NATO policymakers.

**Theme:** Militarization and Women’s Security - Militarization & Armed Conflict


**Notes:**

This study looks at the impact of armed conflict on the lives of women in the North East region of India, finding that gross violations of women's rights are sanctioned by the community and a tool used by the state.

**Theme:** Militarization and Women’s Security - Militarization & Armed Conflict

Notes: In 1993, “the bloody conflict in Indian-controlled Kashmir was in its fourth year. Indian troops had embarked on a "catch and kill" campaign against Muslim militants, resulting in a sharp escalation of human rights abuses.” PHR and Human Rights Watch provided comprehensive documentation of the consequences of India's abusive policy in Kashmir in this report. (Lacopino)

Theme: **Militarization and Women’s Security - Militarization & Armed Conflict**  
Subthemes: **Personal In/Security; Human Rights; War Crimes**  
Geographical Focus: **Pakistan, India**  
Language: **English**


Abstract:  
“Afghan women have been the symbolic target of competing discourses and political strategies. The US-led bombing of Afghanistan used the rhetoric of women's emancipation as a major reason for the attack without pursuing real ‘liberation’. The misogynist Taliban discourse, as it was promulgated in the Pakistan-based refugee camps and heavily funded by the western world, marked a severe deterioration in Afghan women's rights. After the US-led military intervention of 2001, the Karzai government's unfounded claims vis-à-vis women's betterment have not been realized. Afghan women, a clear majority of the Afghan population, are not at the centre of the government's concerns or those of the international community. Engaging these problematics, this article claims that conventional politics, informed by statist and masculinist ideologies and practices, are incapable of ensuring Afghan women's emancipation.” (Khattak)

Theme: **Militarization and Women’s Security - Militarization & Armed Conflict**  
Subthemes: **Personal In/Security; Women’s Rights; Women’s Leadership and Participation; Gendered Power Relations**  
Geographical Focus: **Afghanistan**  
Language: **English**

Notes:
The report focuses on grave violations committed against children, with an emphasis on recruitment and use of children, killing and maiming of children, and attacks on schools. It identifies parties to the conflict, both State and non-State actors, who are responsible for such violations. In particular, the report highlights how children have been used by anti-government elements, including for suicide bombing or for planting explosives, or recruited by the Afghan National Security Forces, despite the official government policy. It also sheds light on the detention of children for alleged association with armed groups by Afghan authorities, as well as international forces present in Afghanistan.

Theme: Militarization and Women’s Security - Militarization & Armed Conflict
Subthemes: Violence against Children; Violent Abuses by Armed Groups; Violent Abuses by the State/Security Sector; Personal In/Security
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan
Language: English


Notes:
“In the meta-narrative of histories, the dominant motif of women in violent conflict is the Grieving Mother. Yet, there are many faces of women in conflict in South Asia. Women have negotiated conflict situations by becoming citizens, combatants, heads of households, war munitions workers, prostitutes, producers of soldiers and war resisters, and political leaders at the local and national levels. At one end in South Asia, is the Woman of Violence represented by the Armed Virgin of the LTTE (Liberation Tigers of Tamil Ealam), and at the other, the Woman of Peace, symbolized by the Naga Mothers Association in the nationalist struggle for an independent Nagaland.

“Structured around six narratives of women negotiating violent politics in their everyday lives, this book shifts the focus away from the victimhood discourse and explores women’s agency for both peace and conflict. Threaded through these essays is the controversial theme of the dualism of "loss and gains": the societal upheaval caused by conflict opens up public spaces for women, thus bringing about unintended but desirable structural changes for women’s empowerment; yet, it is precisely at this time that the impulse to women's transformation is circumscribed by the nationalist project itself, which casts women in the role of guardians of the community's accepted and acceptable distinct cultural identity and tradition.” (Sage Publications)

Theme: Militarization and Women’s Security - Militarization & Armed Conflict

Abstract:
“It has been nearly a decade since the U.S. invaded and occupied Afghanistan. What are the origins of the conflict? And what are the prospects for conflict resolution, peace-building, reconstruction, and development? In this paper, a conceptual framework drawing on world-system theory, feminist insights, and the economics of war literature is applied toward an explanation of the structural roots of the ongoing conflict. I argue that U.S. intervention in Afghanistan should be seen as a key element in the building of a post-Cold War world order predicated on the (re)assertion of U.S. hegemony and the global spread of neoliberal democracy, justified by the so-called global war on terror. But the conflict also unveils the injurious effects of hyper-masculinities, whether on the part of the occupiers or the insurgents. Next, the paper describes the humanitarian actions of transnational feminist networks, which have mobilized to oppose militarism and neoliberalism and to promote economic and gender justice in Afghanistan (among other conflict zones). Finally, the paper offers a (gendered) human security policy framework as an alternative to the U.S. preference for a military solution. Such an approach would replace the current focus on privatization, national security, and military escalation with a virtuous cycle of people-oriented economic development, regional cooperation, social protection, and gender justice.” (Moghadam)


Abstract:
“When there is violence in society, women feel its impact first. But this impact is ignored, their needs marginalized and their security undermined. In this paper an effort is made to explore the vulnerabilities of Kashmiri women who lack the much needed conditions of survival that is security which is but the responsibility of the state. The paper explores how the lack of adequate protection adversely affect their empowerment in all spheres of life and suggest a way forward for the state to consider to ensure that women are empowered politically, economically and represented adequately at all levels of decision-making. I argue that it is imperative that the government, both at the centre and in the state, realize the importance of creating stakes for the population in Jammu and Kashmir to end the violence and discontent. It is important to invest in the human capital through policies of education, development and accountability. The policy that the government is expected to follow should have zero tolerance on human rights violations; have a reconciliation approach opening a new tradition of governance.” (Sangra)

Theme: Militarization and Women’s Security - Militarization & Armed Conflict
Subthemes: Political In/Security; Personal In/Security; Economic In/Security; Development; Gendered Power Relations; Human Rights; Empowerment; Impact of Armed Conflict on Women; State Failure to Protect; Education Access; Accountability
Geographical Focus: India
Language: English


Notes:
“This publication is the outcome of a baseline study on Women in armed conflict situations in North East India. The past two decades have experienced unprecedented violence in the northeast region where the impact on women is a serious concern. Between 2003 and 2005 much has happened including the formation of Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC) and the setting up of a review committee on Armed Forces Special Powers Act, 1958 by the Government of India in 2004.” (North East Network).

Theme: Militarization and Women’s Security - Militarization & Armed Conflict
Subthemes: Impact of Armed Conflict on Women; Gender-Based Violence; Personal In/Security
Geographical Focus: India
Language: English

Abstract:
“In Sri Lanka's armed conflict, gender, sexuality, and sex work are intermeshed with militarized nationalism. Militarization entrenches gender performances and heteronormative schemes while enabling women to transgress these—whether as combatants or as sex workers. Familiarly, in this nationalist encounter, women are expected to safeguard culture, notably through proper dress and sexual conduct. Sexual activity that challenges containment arouses anxiety because loyalty to military group or communal boundary can be compromised. Drawing on three examples—a dress code call by a Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam women's wing, consequences for a woman alleged to be a sex worker, and the public stripping of an alleged suicide bomber at a military checkpoint—this article explores how gendered behaviors and sexualities marked as culture are constructed and controlled in the interests of militarized, nationalist projects; how women can be both agents and objects of these controls; and the implications for women who refuse to comply.” (Tambiah)

Notes:
“War has militarized the culture of Sri Lanka, specifically the role women play in society. A new militarized lifestyle has caused women to rethink their “gender positions, economic responsibility, personal security, and autonomy, including sexual behavior.” This research focuses on gender roles, and how they are constructed and then controlled within militarized societies. Specifically, the paper examines two cases: women suicide bombers, and female sex slaves. It also looks at how women may negotiate and resist these types of militarized behaviors.” (Tambiah)

Theme: Militarization and Women’s Security - Militarization & Armed Conflict
Subtheme: Nationalism; Patriarchal Norms; Gendered Identities; Political Violence and Terrorism; Women’s Agency
Geographical Focus: Sri Lanka
Language: English


Abstract:
Delves into the issue of violence, terror and human security in Afghanistan. Effect of the collapse of the international system and massive suffering in Afghanistan; Implementation of the interim agreement of an international security force and peace building in Afghanistan; Significance of the rights of women in the Afghan society.
Theme: Militarization and Women’s Security - Militarization & Armed Conflict
Subthemes: Personal In/Security; Economic In/Security; Health; Impact of Armed Conflict on Women; Political Violence and Terrorism; Post-Conflict Reconstruction; Women’s Rights
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan
Language: English


Notes:
“The United States’ foreign policy in Afghanistan has a long history of misguided plans and misplaced trust – a fact that has contributed to the destruction of the social and physical infrastructure of Afghan society. Afghans contend that after having fought as U.S. allies against the Soviet Union – with the price of more than two million dead – the United States swiftly walked away at the end of that bloody, twenty-three-year conflict. The toll of the war on Afghan society reflected in current statistics is so staggering as to be practically unimaginable: 12 million women living in abject poverty, 1 million people handicapped from land mine explosions, an average life expectancy of forty years (lower for women), a mortality rate of 25.7 percent for children under five years old, and an illiteracy rate of 64 percent. These horrific indicators place Afghanistan among the most destitute countries in the world in terms of human development” (Wali)


Abstract:
“The article examines the link between the crises in women's health and human rights in Afghanistan and the political circumstances that caused them. The wall of silence that separated the political events of Communist era from their human consequences perpetuates humanitarian crises and frustrates relief workers and activists in their efforts to end crimes against humanity. As a result of the division between humanitarian crises and the political discourse that would alter
them, conflicts remain unresolved, leaving the victims exposed to multiple abuses.” (EBSCO host)

Theme: Militarization and Women’s Security - Militarization & Armed Conflict
Subthemes: Personal In/Security; Health; Impact of Armed Conflict on Women; Human Rights
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan
Language: English


Notes:
“Pakistan’s Domestic Violence Bill has become the latest fatality in the barter between women’s rights, NATO, and issues of national security. The Domestic Violence Bill was introduced in Pakistan’s National Assembly in 2006…. “At the initiative of women activists and the NCSW, and with the support of women parliamentarians, the Domestic Violence Bill was tabled once again by the National Assembly at the beginning of 2012 for review and possible enactment. However, in the context of the November 2011 US-led NATO attack on a Pakistani checkpoint, Salalah, and the resulting deaths of 25 Pakistani soldiers, the Domestic Violence Bill suddenly became a flashpoint in this climate of very strained US-Pakistan relations. When the bill was “tabled in parliament for review in early April 2012, the conservative opposition party (Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz, PML-N) colluded with the religious party (JamiatUlemaIslam-Fazlur, (JUI-F), to resist the Domestic violence Bill as a ‘ploy to westernize Pakistani women and culture.” (Zia)

Theme: Militarization and Women’s Security - Militarization & Armed Conflict
Subthemes: Personal In/Security; Domestic Violence; Women’s Activism; NATO; Religion
Geographical Focus: Pakistan
Language: English

B. Global Resources

Note: There is an extensive, wide-ranging and growing literature about gender, militarization and war, which is not specific to Afghanistan, Pakistan and India. Both bibliographies and syllabi on the topic are widely available (see, for
example, [http://www.genderandsecurity.umb.edu/syllabus.html](http://www.genderandsecurity.umb.edu/syllabus.html), and the current bibliography neither can nor should attempt to reflect the vast proliferation of this work. Therefore, in the section below, we have only included resources which were found in the course of our searches for region-specific resources, but which turned out to have a wider geographical range.


Notes:

This book uses a feminist gender analytic framework to examine the diversity and complexity of women’s experiences of and agency in war and peacebuilding. Individual chapters address conflicts from around the world, including Afghanistan, Pakistan and India, as well as Sri Lanka and Bangladesh.

Text includes A Conceptual Framework by Carol Cohn, as well as chapters on: Women and the Political Economy of War (Angela Raven-Roberts); Sexual Violence and Women's Health in War (Pamela DeLargy); Women as Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons (Wenona Giles); Women’s Political Activism in the Face of War and Militarization (Carol Cohn & Ruth Jacobson); Women and State Military Forces (Jennifer G. Mathers); Women, Girls and Non-State Armed Opposition Groups (Dyan Mazurana); Women and Peace Processes (Malathi de Alwis, Julie Mertus & Tazreena Sajjad); Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (Dyan Mazurana & Linda Ekerbom Cole); and Women "After" Wars (Ruth Jacobson).

Theme: Militarization and Women’s Security - Militarization & Armed Conflict
Subthemes: Violence against Women; Displacement; Health; DDR; Peace Processes; Post-Conflict Reconstruction; SCR 1325; Women in Fighting Forces; Justice; Women’s Activism; Women’s Agency; Women’s Civil Society Organizations; Redefining Security; Livelihoods; Economic In/Security
Geographical Focus: Global, including Afghanistan, Pakistan and India, as well as other parts of South Asia
Language: English


Abstract:

“October 2010 marked the 10th anniversary of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 (UN Resolution 1325). The unanimous passage of UN Resolution 1325 recognized, for the first time in the history of the Security
Council, the link between gender equality, peace, and security. The 10th
anniversary of this landmark resolution heralds a move toward implementing UN
Resolution 1325 in peace and security operations to improve operational
effectiveness. Today, gender equality is recognized as a force multiplier in
operational planning and execution strategies.

“Yet when military planners and policy makers credit what has increased
effectiveness in peacekeeping and security operations, they rarely, if ever,
mention gender equality. Nevertheless, recent efforts made by UN peacekeeping
missions and NATO to implement UN Resolution 1325, show that security actors
are more successful when they take into account the different needs, status, and
experience of men and women in the local population, and when peace and
security missions include women in executing operations and decisionmaking.

“A growing body of evidence from the field reveals that the inclusion of
women enhances operational effectiveness in three key ways: improved
information gathering, enhanced credibility, and better force protection. Empirical
evidence underscores the fact that attention to the different needs, interests, and
experiences of men and women can enhance the success of a variety of security
tasks, to the benefit of both civilians and soldiers.” (Dharmapuri)

Theme: Militarization and Women’s Security - Militarization & Armed
Conflict
Subthemes: SCR 1325; NATO
Geographical Focus: Global
Language: English


Abstract:
“Contributing to the growing literature on feminist geopolitics, this article
addresses the security discourses employed by the Karimov regime in
Uzbekistan's post-independence nation-building process. It examines the ways in
which militarism and the ‘culture of war’ are productive of gendered national
identities in Uzbekistan, focusing on how the ‘protector–protected’ relationship
figures prominently in the Karimov regime's anti-terrorist rhetoric. It does so
through a textual analysis of the Andijon uprising and the ‘Day of Memory and
Honor’ holiday. It argues that the terrorist threat has been a driving factor in the
pervasive militarization of society, but that official responses to state violence in
Andijon obscure alternative security concerns of the general population in
Uzbekistan – and more specifically those of women. It adds to existing feminist
geopolitics literature by expanding it into a new empirical context, while rejecting
the assertion that a ‘geopolitical’ analysis necessarily entails a ‘global’ approach.”
(Koch)

Theme: Militarization and Women’s Security - Militarization & Armed
Conflict
Subthemes: Nationalism; Gendered Identities; Geopolitics; Political Violence and Terrorism;  
Geographical Focus: Uzbekistan  
Language: English


Notes:  
“This report chronicles the key discussion points of the Strategic Conversation on Militarism and Violence Against Women, convened by the Center for Women’s Global Leadership (CWGL) at Rutgers University from June 9-11, 2011. The meeting brought together thirty feminist activists, academics and experts from around the world to: (i) identify and explore feminist perspectives of militarism; (ii) examine the intersections between militarism and violence against women; and (iii) develop global feminist strategies to challenge militarism.” (LaForgia)

Theme: Militarization and Women’s Security - Militarization & Armed Conflict  
Subthemes: Personal In/Security; Violence against Women; Impact of Armed Conflict on Women; Women’s Leadership & Participation  
Geographical Focus: Global  
Language: English


Notes:  
*Women, War, Peace* describes the effects of armed conflict on women, including in regard to sexual violence, displacement, women’s health, and the impact of peacekeeping operations. It also describes their achievements in working towards peace and reconciliation, and argues for women’s essential roles in conflict prevention, peace processes, and post-conflict rebuilding. Key recommendations focus on finding ways to protect and empower women.

Theme: Militarization and Women’s Security - Militarization & Armed Conflict

**Notes:**

“Throughout most of the twentieth century, it was rare to hear about women terrorists. In the new millennium, however, women have increasingly taken active roles in carrying out suicide bombings, hijacking airplanes, and taking hostages in such places as Palestine, Iraq, Afghanistan, Sri Lanka, Lebanon, and Chechnya. These women terrorists have been the subject of a substantial amount of media and scholarly attention, but the analysis of women, gender, and terrorism has been sparse and riddled with stereotypical thinking about women’s capabilities and motivations.

“In the first section of this volume, contributors offer an overview of women’s participation in and relationships with contemporary terrorism, and a historical chapter traces their involvement in the politics and conflicts of Islamic societies. The next section includes empirical and theoretical analysis of terrorist movements in Chechnya, Kashmir, Palestine, and Sri Lanka. The third section turns to women’s involvement in al Qaeda and includes critical interrogations of the gendered media and the scholarly presentations of those women. The conclusion offers ways to further explore the subject of gender and terrorism based on the contributions made to the volume. (The University of Georgia Press)

**Theme:** Militarization and Women’s Security - Militarization & Armed Conflict

**Subthemes:** Political Violence and Terrorism

**Geographical Focus:** Palestine, Iraq, Afghanistan, Sri Lanka, Lebanon, Chechnya.

**Language:** English


**Notes:**

“By and large, international assistance operations still effectively neglect the specific needs of women and girls in armed movements as part of the DDR process…. Women combatants, supporters and dependents have not equally benefited from services, cash incentives, health care, training, travel remittance,
small business grants or housing support that flow to their male counterparts—males with guns—as part of DDR packages…. The terrible irony is that women and girls are not invisible to armed groups, who see them as essential, accessible—and often expendable—military assets. Yet having survived the devastating experiences of war as combatants, sexual captives or military “wives” and slave or willing labourers in the conflict period, these women and girls often become invisible when DDR planning begins.

“This handbook is UNIFEM’s contribution to those planning and executing DDR. It contains reflections and lessons learned, case studies and practical guidance in the form of a model standard operating procedure.” (Heyser)

Theme: **Militarization and Women’s Security - Militarization & Armed Conflict**
Subthemes: DDR; SCR 1325
Geographical Focus: Global
Language: English

*Recommended


**Notes:**

The Report examines the changing nature of violence in the 21st century, and underlines the negative impact of repeated cycles of violence on a country or region’s development prospects. Preventing violence and building peaceful states that respond to the aspirations of their citizens requires strong leadership and concerted national and international efforts.

Theme: **Militarization and Women’s Security - Militarization & Armed Conflict**
Subthemes: **Impact of Armed Conflict on Women; Development; Post-Conflict Reconstruction**
Geographical Focus: Global
Language: English

**3) Small Arms and Light Weapons**

**A. South Asia Resources**

**Awaz-CDS. 2011. Disarming Domestic Violence: A Survey on Proliferation and Misuse of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW).** Pakistan: International Action

Notes:

“In domestic violence gun violence is alarmingly high. Perhaps most shockingly, the greatest risk of gun violence to women around the world is not on the streets, or the battlefield, but in their own homes. Women are three times more likely to die violently if there is a gun in the house. Usually the perpetrator is a spouse or partner, often with a prior record of domestic abuse. Gun violence can be part of the cycle of intimidation and aggression that many women experience from an intimate partner. For every woman killed or physically injured by firearms, many more are threatened.

“These are the results of a snapshot study conducted in districts of South Punjab including Multan, Muzafargarh, Rajanpur and DG Khan by IANSA members at Awaz Foundation Pakistan: Centre for Development Services.

“Findings:

- 65% illegal firearms are being used for violence against women.
- Farmers and labourers are more involved in such crimes because of illiteracy.
- 94% perpetrators directly use guns to threaten their wives, which is alarming.
- 49% rifles are used not only for threatening the women but also for beating and whipping them at home.
- In 86% cases, police don’t pursue such cases considering it as private matters.

“Conclusion: This research study is unique of its kind although much work has been done on women violence but study on women violence focussing firearm/gun violence is exceptional. Due to constraint of resources we could only rely on quantitative data which is further strengthened by in-depth interviews and focus group discussions. We found few facts as women don’t have access to legal institutions which may be considered as a basic reason for unregistered cases. Along with this police department are not properly equipped both technically and in legal terms that they could maintain and properly file the crime data. Women shelter homes needs special attention of government in order to provide them with better legal aid and living facilities. People have some of reservations about these matters because of the fear of defamation of the dignity and honour of their family, that is why they hesitate to share such cases openly.” (IANSA)

Theme: Militarization and Women’s Security - Small Arms and Light Weapons
Subtheme: Domestic Violence; State Failure to Protect
Geographical Focus: Pakistan
Language: English
Notes:

Gautam’s essay first defines “small arms” and “light weapons,” and then takes a comprehensive look at the gendered effects of the proliferation of small arms globally, as well as in Nepal’s violent conflict. She also analyzes the economics and geography of the illegal trade in small arms and light weapons.

“Legally speaking, Nepal has very strong laws and regulations against the purchase and ownership of small arms. There are strict procedures for licensing and renewal. However, the main question is how to prevent the illegal trade of small arms through the 800 mile long open border with India in the east, west and the south, and the possibility of such trade from the geographically difficult but technically feasible northern border with China. Even before the start of the Maoist insurgency, the use of illegal small arms in the Nepal-India border had been common, particularly in relation to ordinary crimes. Nepal has since become a paradise for illegal arms traders from the Middle East to Afghanistan and from Pakistan to India itself. It is only very recent that both the governments in Nepal and India have started talking about mobilizing the armed forces to control any type of illegal trade.

“In Nepal, the issue is the complete regulation and control of the Nepal-India border, which would be against the provision of the 1950 Nepal-India Peace and Friendship Treaty which provides for an open border and free movement of citizens from both countries without any travel documents or proof of identity. It is particularly difficult to control the illegal trade of small arms when there is a demand and a huge financial Interest and corruption in the government and in defence agencies.” (Gautam)

Theme: **Militarization and Women’s Security - Small Arms and Light Weapons**
Subtheme: **Personal In/Security**; **Sexual Violence**; **Domestic Violence**; **Crime**; **Corruption**; **Violent Abuses by Armed Groups**; **Violent Abuses by the State/Security Sector**
Geographical Focus: Nepal
Language: **English**


**Notes:**

Rates of murder, and firearms murder in particular, vary dramatically across India’s 28 states and seven union territories, as well 35 cities with over one
million residents. National statistics and autopsy findings reveal the range of variation between states and cities. Murder and firearms death are declining in many regions, but much of the country still faces extreme problems. This Issue Brief identifies those areas worst affected and those most immune. Access to illegal firearms is a major element in this variation.

Theme: Militarization and Women’s Security - Small Arms and Light Weapons
Subthemes: Personal In/Security; Crime
Geographical Focus: India
Language: English


Notes:
“647 Pakistani women were killed in the name of ‘honour’ in 2009 revealed a report by the autonomous Human Rights Commission of Pakistan (HRCP). Firearms were used in 48% of such incidents. Women’s rights organisations say that last year saw a sharp rise in violence against women but that real numbers are not known since the majority of cases are never reported.” (IANSA 2011)

Theme: Militarization and Women’s Security - Small Arms and Light Weapons
Subtheme: Domestic Violence; Personal In/Security; Justice; Patriarchal Norms
Geographical Focus: Pakistan
Language: English


Notes:
A comprehensive look at the threats caused by small arms, including the direct and indirect costs, and the toll they take on humanitarian assistance workers and on economic development. “Many agencies and studies have concluded that small arms have a disproportionate impact on women and children compared with men. Both gender and age alter the experience of small-arms violence, and it is often vulnerable groups that bear the greatest burden.” (IRIN)

Theme: Militarization and Women’s Security - Small Arms and Light Weapons
Notes:
“Despite relative stability, a number of countries remain in the grip of politically or ethnically motivated armed struggles. Communist rebels continue to disrupt everyday life in Nepal. The aftermath of war in Afghanistan has serious repercussions for the people of that country. And despite a ceasefire between the government and the Tamil Tigers, Sri Lanka is struggling to overcome the dislocation that years of conflict have caused. Relationships among many religious communities are based on mistrust. Civilians are the largest category of gun owners and boast more small arms than the police, the military and the insurgents together. This proliferation of weapons creates a general culture of violence and it is in this context that violence against children is too readily used and tolerated. This study looks at why violence against children occurs and what needs to be done to stop it.” (Kane)


Abstract:
“More than 375 women medical doctors from all over India discussed the impact of guns on women’s health during the national conference of the Association of Medical Women in India (AMWI) in Nagpur, India, on 15-16 October. Participants included Representatives from International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW) and their ‘Aiming for Prevention’ programme. Dr. Arti Basu, of AMWI gave a keynote speech on “tackling violence against women, issues and strategies”. She spoke about sexual and other
forms of violence against women during militant attacks in North East India, Jammu & Kashmir, and the experience of medical personnel treating women with injuries as a result of attacks with guns. Dr. Balkrishna Kurvey of the Indian Institute for Peace, Disarmament & Environmental Protection (IIPDEP) and the IANSA International Advisory Council spoke about IANSA, IPPNW and how to get involved in work on the small arms issue.” (IANSA)

Theme: Militarization and Women’s Security - Small Arms and Light Weapons
Subtheme: Health; Personal In/Security; Violence Against Women; Gender-Based Violence; Impact of Armed conflict on Women
Geographical Focus: India
Language: English


Notes:
The Manipuri Women Gun Survivor's Network ’s direct interventions involve a gender sensitive approach to the gun crisis in the northeast of India, supports women economically and brings them forward to play a crucial role in small arms policy. It is the first initiative of its kind in India.

Theme: Militarization and Women’s Security - Small Arms and Light Weapons
Subthemes: Personal In/Security; Economic In/Security; Women’s Civil Society Organizations; Gender-Based Violence
Geographical Focus: India
Language: English

B. Global Resources


Notes:
“There are estimated to be nearly 650 million small arms in the world today. Nearly 60 per cent of them are in the hands of private individuals – most of them men. And the vast majority of those who make, sell, buy, own, use or misuse small arms are men. What does this mean for the world’s women and girls?
“This report looks at the impact on women of guns in the home, in communities and during and after conflict. In each of these contexts, it looks at
violence committed with guns against women, the role women play in gun use, and the campaigns women are spearheading against gun violence.

“Large numbers of women and girls suffer directly and indirectly from armed violence. Women are particularly at risk of certain crimes because of their gender – crimes such as violence in the home and rape. And although available data supports the widespread assumption that most direct casualties of gun violence are men, particularly young men, women suffer disproportionately from firearms violence, given that they are almost never the buyers, owners or users of such weapons.

“Guns affect women’s lives when they are not directly in the firing line. Women become the main breadwinners and primary carers when male relatives are killed, injured or disabled by gun violence. Women are displaced and forced to flee their homes for an uncertain future. Displaced women often face starvation and disease as they struggle to fend for their families. And women, like men, are caught in the crossfire, both in times of war and of peace.

“Violence against women, whether committed with boots or fists or weapons, is rooted in pervasive discrimination which denies women equality with men. It occurs in a variety of contexts and cuts across borders, religions and class. This is not because violence against women is natural or inevitable, but because it has been condoned and tolerated as part of historical or cultural practices for so long. Violence against women in the family and community, and violence against women as a result of state repression or armed conflict, are part of the same continuum: much of the violence that is targeted against women in militarized societies and during armed conflict is an extreme manifestation of the discrimination and abuse that women face in peacetime. Whatever the context or immediate cause of the violence, the presence of guns invariably has the same effect: more guns mean more danger for women.” (IANSA)

Theme: **Militarization and Women’s Security - Small Arms and Light Weapons**

Subtheme: **Disarmament; Violence against Women; Impact of Armed Conflict on Women; Domestic Violence; Violent Abuses by State/Security Sector; Crime; DDR**

Geographical Focus: Global

Language: **English**


**Notes:**

“This new publication from the IANSA Women's Network aims to show why it is important to include women in small arms control and disarmament initiatives by consolidating information and opinions from experts on gender and security issues. It is based on interviews with 17 practitioners from around the
world as well as a review of relevant materials and documents. It first presents a number of reasons for and examples why women’s participation is important in the field of small arms control and disarmament. It then highlights some of the challenges to women’s participation and provides some suggestions for overcoming them.” (IANSA)

Theme: **Militarization and Women’s Security - Small Arms and Light Weapons**
Subtheme: **SCR 1325; DDR; Women’s Leadership and Participation; Women’s Activism**
Geographical Focus: **Global**
Language: **English**


**Notes:**

“This report presents the main findings of an assessment conducted in Lebanon, Jordan and Occupied Palestinian Territory from January to May 2011 by providing a situation overview, challenges and entry points for action in each country and presenting recommendations for future interventions. Although the impact of gun violence on women in the region has remained largely invisible, the proliferation of small arms has prevented women from exercising some of their most basic rights. Direct and indirect impacts of small arms on women in the Middle East include armed domestic violence and “crimes committed in the name of honour,” as well as long term social, economic and psychological effects of revenge killings between male family members, tribal vendettas and celebratory shootings resulting in death and serious injury. Women who have been injured are considered an added burden on the family, and in some cases they are marginalised and rejected by their family. When a woman loses her husband to gun violence, she must struggle to provide for family members.

“Women’s groups have already been working hard on violence against women, but what challenges have prevented women’s groups from engaging with the issue of small arms? Small arms control and disarmament is a sensitive, sometimes taboo, issue that is difficult to address without seeming to take sides politically. Currently there is no consolidated data on either firearm use or violence against women, making the problem hard to assess. Varying notions of crime and punishment throughout the region complicate the issue. Private justice is often considered legitimate, especially where institutions are weak, and such incidents are not always officially reported. Laws to protect women’s rights are either not sufficiently developed or not sufficiently implemented. Laws still exist to pardon and give reduced penalties for ‘crimes committed in the name of honour’.
“Women’s groups have expressed readiness to work on small arms control and disarmament, and have identified opportunities for action. These differ in each of the three countries examined. For women’s rights and civil society organisations in Lebanon, the best way to tackle the problem is to present small arms control as a protection issue rather than a political one. This means looking at it from the angle of protecting women rather than disarming one group over another. In Jordan, where authorities are desperate to control civilian gun possession, women identified UN Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000) as a starting point for action. In Occupied Palestinian Territory, women can work with the Palestinian Authority to improve law enforcement in the West Bank and raise awareness among youth to break the links between masculinity, guns and violence.” (Gerome)

Theme: **Militarization and Women’s Security - Small Arms and Light Weapons**  
Subtheme: **Violence against Women; Patriarchal Norms; Domestic Violence; Personal In/Security; Religion; Crime; Justice; Women’s Activism**  
Geographical Focus: **Palestine, Jordan, Lebanon**  
Language: **English**


Notes:

“Discussions towards the creation of the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) present an important opportunity to better regulate the international trade in the conventional arms and ammunition. Of these, it is most often small arms and light weapons (SALW) that are used to facilitate and commit various forms of violence and crimes against women, both during and outside of armed conflict. These forms of violence violate international human rights law and international humanitarian law.

There are different understandings and interpretations of gender-based violence and it often becomes a synonym for violence against women. What needs to be made clear is that gender-based violence affects, and can be aimed at, both men and women. For example, sexual violence against men is also now increasingly acknowledged as means of gender-based violence against men, which occurs in times of conflict and peace. However, the focus of this paper is gender-based violence against women as defined by the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) as being ‘directed against a woman because she is a woman or that affects women disproportionately.’” (IANSA Women’s Network)
Theme: **Militarization and Women’s Security - Small Arms and Light Weapons**
Subtheme: **Gender-Based Violence; Domestic Violence; Personal In/Security; Violence against Women; Sexual Violence**
Geographical Focus: Global
Language: English


**Notes:**
“It would not be possible to rape women in front of their communities and families, on such a large scale in much of the world’s conflicts, if the availability of small arms and light weapons was controlled.” (Masters)


**Notes:**
“This month's anniversary of UN Security Council 1325 is significant for women, peace and security, but also for something less positive - an occasion to highlight how little it has to say about disarmament and small arms. Small arms are simply not mentioned in the text in the way that landmines are, despite their widely known and documented role in armed conflict.” (Masters)

Myrttinen, Henri, and Kate McInturff. 2008. *Gender, Small Arms and Development: The Case of Southern Sudan*. Ottawa: Peacebuild, the Canadian Peacebuilding
Notes:

“The role of small arms is intimately linked to pragmatic security and economic needs and to the definition of the appropriate roles of women and men in meeting those needs. Development and disarmament projects must meet those pragmatic needs, but they cannot do so without taking into consideration the gender roles of the community actors with whom they are engaged. The international community has become increasingly aware of the inter-linkages between the issues of gender, small arms and light weapons and development. Though there is an increasing awareness both at the policy and programming level, there is still a lack of information on and understanding of this crucial nexus.

“This paper examines the situation in Southern Sudan from the point of view of the challenges faced in working with gender, small arms and light weapons and development issues. It looks at the efforts of local administrative structures, local civil society organisations, international organizations and international civil society organizations in addressing these challenges. In particular, it examines Canadian and Canadian-supported efforts in this field.

“Small arms continue to play a significant functional and symbolic role in the lives of the Southern Sudanese population. A return to pre-civil war values is not desirable from the point of view of women's human rights. However, some of the existing values within these communities could provide an important basis for disarmament and development efforts.

“The paper concludes that increased coordination amongst civil society, national, bi-lateral and multilateral actors at the policy and programming level is essential to effective development and small arms control. Coordination needs to take place not only at the level of programming and projects but also at the policy level. Specifically, there is a need for the coordinated implementation of international norms such as United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security and the Geneva Declaration on Armed Violence and Development. Mechanisms for knowledge-sharing on existing policy and practice and past lessons learned on issues of gender, small arms control and development need to be further developed and supported. Development actors need to provide structural mechanisms for the assessment of security issues and small arms reduction actors need to provide structural mechanisms for the assessment of development issues. All actors need to provide structural mechanisms for the assessment of gender issues.

“Finally, the intersection of small arms, gender and development exists, in each case, in a specific local context. The function of small arms and light weapons, security and development needs, and gender roles and relations must be understood within that local context in order to provide an effective and locally-relevant programming.” (Myrttinen et al.)

Theme: Militarization and Women’s Security - Small Arms and Light Weapons
3) Militarization of Aid

(Note: There are additional resources about the militarization of aid in a separate Appendix, at the end of this bibliography. The reason is that in our search for resources that look at the impact on women of the militarization of humanitarian assistance and development aid, we found little about the impact on women, or even about the impact on local “recipients” at all. The Appendix offers the interested reader a window in the dominant discourse about this subject as it is available through largely US-based academic and policy sources. Although the literature is overwhelmingly gender-blind, it is possible to extrapolate from the trends it charts to possible impacts on women’s security.)

A. South Asia Resources


Notes:

“The thesis of this paper is that mainstreaming gender at senior levels in the Afghan government faces obstacles due to a number of reasons. The first is the uncommitted, uncoordinated, and erratic gender mainstreaming regime aimed at visibility rather than impact. The second is the lack of a coherent woman’s movement, where an elite group fails to connect with and mobilise the mass of ordinary women who form a potentially powerful and supportive constituency. The third is the highly militarised environment in which the reconstruction of Afghanistan is taking place, where some military actors can simultaneously disregard women as collateral damage while others see control of women’s status as symbolic of struggles for appropriating legitimacy.” (Azerbaijani)
Abstract:

“This paper analyzes the role of International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in aid delivery and militarization of reconstruction in Afghanistan. In order to win the hearts and minds of the Afghan population, American troops for the first time established a Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT) in 2002 in Gardez province which is followed by other PRTs in Bamyan, Kundiz, Mazar-e-Sharif, Kandahar, and Hirat provinces throughout 2003. PRT a civil-military organization within ISAF originally designed to assist in stability through capacity building, reconstruction and delivery of "essential public services such as security, law and order, justice, health care, and education" (PRT Handbook 2011, p 2). In contrary stability was not achieved and the Afghan government also remained weak. Afghan President Hamid Karzai criticized PRTs and urged its transition and dismantling because he believes that they are impediment to the central government’s expanding its authority throughout the country. Using qualitative and quantitative analysis this paper we addresses these questions: Why PRT was created? How it militarized the reconstruction in Afghanistan? And what are the consequences of these militarization efforts.” (Besmel & Deasy).

Notes:

This paper discusses the confusion among Afghans regarding who is in charge due to the parallel structure of aid delivery. In fact, President Karzai believes that the current structure of aid delivery has actually weakened the Afghan government. The U.S. bombing followed by dropping aid packages continues to add complexity to the issue. Additionally, relief work has been used as a logistical tool by the military to “gain the hearts and minds” of the Afghan population. The paper suggests that the military should stick with security rather than humanitarian aid. Women in particular are not supportive of the PRTs because they feel as the teams come in to do their work in the name of “women” and “women’s rights.”

Theme: Militarization and Women’s Security - Militarization of Aid
Subtheme: Governance
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan
Language: English
Notes:

"In London and Washington, national security and foreign aid policies are increasingly linked. Significant amounts of aid to countries such as Afghanistan and Iraq is tied into military and security operations.... In a new report published today, relief agency Oxfam calls on donors to allocate life-saving aid based on need - and not on short-term political or military gains. What are the dangers of blurring defence and development projects?" (Guardian)

This podcast includes a panel discussing the impact of securitization of aid -- the subordination of aid and development programs to defense and security objectives -- on development aid, aid workers, and the on-the-ground impacts on communities themselves. Issues include security constraints resulting in almost no interaction with local Afghans, and the execution of projects such as schools, clinics, and airports that may not be tailored to the immediate needs of local communities; and the emphasis on high-visibility, short-term projects which do not meet people’s long-term needs. Although foreign aid has always been political, what is different is the degree of militarization of aid and of the use of aid to militarize the state.

This panel argues that the “stabilization” agenda is a military agenda and not a humanitarian effort. One segment of this discussion focuses on the question of whether or not aid has been sufficiently directed toward women.

Theme: Militarization and Women’s Security - Militarization of Aid
Subtheme: Development; Education Access
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan
Language: English


Notes:

Militarization of aid has led to increased attacks on aid workers and Afghan colleagues due to stigma from working with “outsiders.” This peacebuilding effort during a violent military operation has not included locals in program development and lacks sustainability as a result. Aid delivered by soldiers is less likely to reach women and children. “...the military presence has resulted in the further exclusion of women from the public space and has had the effect of contributing to rigid interpretations of Islam and its accompanying restrictions on women’s rights.” (Cheshmak)

Theme: Militarization and Women’s Security - Militarization of Aid
Subtheme: Peacebuilding, Religion, Women’s Rights

Abstract:

“This article examines embodied geopolitics in Afghanistan by way of gender roles and relations among and between international workers and Afghan recipients of international information, aid, development and (in) security. My analysis is theoretically situated within critical feminist geographies and includes empirical data collected from qualitative surveys, interviews, focus groups and observations of Afghans and international workers in Kabul, Afghanistan (2006–2008). There is a significant and growing number of scholarly feminist critiques of and debates over the US-led international coalition's gendered approach to ‘saving’ Afghanistan from the Taliban. This article seeks to add to these studies by discussing these geopolitical encounters at the scale of bodily interactions. Specifically, it discusses how gendered freedom and savior fantasies illustrate spatial practices of othering through exclusion and intimacy, before turning to how these are enacted through representation, behavior, mobility and sexuality.” (Fluri)

Theme: Militarization and Women’s Security - Militarization of Aid
Subthemes: Personal In/Security; Geopolitics
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan
Language: English


Notes:

“Effective aid helps save lives, protect rights and build livelihoods. Yet in conflicts and politically unstable settings from Afghanistan to Yemen, lifesaving humanitarian assistance and longer-term efforts to reduce poverty are being damaged where aid is used primarily to pursue donors’ own narrow political and security objectives. This is not only undermining humanitarian principles and donors’ development commitments; it impacts on the lives of some of the most vulnerable people affected by conflicts and natural disasters.

“Some donors are increasingly concentrating both humanitarian and development aid on countries and regions seen to threaten their own immediate security interests, while neglecting other equally insecure, impoverished and conflict-afflicted places. Since 2002 one third of all development aid to the 48
states labeled ‘fragile’ by the OECD has gone to just three countries: Iraq, Afghanistan and Pakistan. During this period aid to Iraq and Afghanistan alone has accounted for over two-fifths of the entire $178bn global increase in aid provided by wealthy countries.

“From Afghanistan to Kenya, poorly conceived aid projects aimed at winning ‘hearts and minds’ have proved ineffective, costly, and have sometimes turned beneficiary communities and aid workers into targets of attack. Such practices are growing: US aid funds allocated to front-line military commanders to win ‘hearts and minds’ in Iraq and Afghanistan are now almost as large as the worldwide Development Assistance budget of the US government’s aid agency USAID.

“In Afghanistan, the Occupied Palestinian Territories, Somalia and elsewhere, donors and military forces have made aid conditional on the political and military cooperation of communities and aid organizations; and have used aid to buy information or compliance with military forces.

“While military assets and logistics have played vital roles in emergencies and natural disasters, aid inappropriately delivered using military forces themselves has sometimes led to wasteful and costly aid, while overlooking the real contribution that military and police forces can make to vulnerable communities’ security needs. For instance, the Spanish army’s high-profile vaccination programme and water distribution following the Haiti earthquake cost over 18 times that of comparable civilian efforts, which the Spanish military partly duplicated. These problems are not new, but the impact of conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan, as well as more recent aid policy shifts, have increased the trend. Both in Europe and North America, aid policies and programmes skewed by donors’ foreign policy and national security interests are beginning to be formally embedded in international development strategies and humanitarian practices. Foreign policy biases have since 2001 been written formally into aid policies and funding decisions in the USA, Canada and France. Elsewhere, including in the UK, Australia and the European Union, such priorities are at risk of being formally embedded in new international development strategies. Policy coordination across foreign, defence and development departments can help better address common obstacles to development: for example, tackling climate change and capital flight; protecting civilians in conflict; preventing irresponsible arms transfers. But recruiting aid and aid institutions for donors’ own national security objectives risks undermining the effectiveness of aid in meeting humanitarian needs and maximizing poverty reduction. Not only does this damage impartial attempts to provide aid and tackle poverty, but it often fails to build long-term security for recipient communities, their governments and donors themselves.”

(Oxfam)

“This report details the failings of aid delivered by the military in which security objectives replace the needs of marginalized groups, specifically women. Much focus is on short-term projects aimed to boost the image and perception of state authorities without an assessment of community needs. These projects and delivery of aid fail to consult with local community actors or draw from local resources, which can help in the sustainability. Afghans interviewed by Oxfam indicate that the short-term projects fail to provide sustainable solutions for their
needs and in fact draw combative attacks from all sides. The delivery of the aid from the military inevitably draws the presence of the Taliban and the communities are threatened even more than before. Additionally, the aid delivered from the military has proven to be both expensive and ineffective in comparison to civilian efforts.” (Oxfam)


Notes:
MADRE calls for an end to the occupation of Iraq due to the negative aftermath of militarized aid, particularly on women and children. Food and water turn to weapons, and the military lacks the training to deliver aid properly to the most vulnerable. The lack of involvement of local actors, threatens women and their children as the aid is obtained by the most powerful (men) being exchanged for cash, liquor or demanding sex from women and children. Additionally, products handed out as “aid” from the military without instructions can further harm the health of women and children -- such was the case of powdered milk which can cause diarrhea and death without proper handling. Specialized aid programs, like the UN World Food Program, which has substantive experience with food aid, were withheld from operating in Iraq for some time by the US military.


Notes:
Aid is now being channeled through the U.S. Department of Defense and the overall U.S. aid budget being delivered predominantly through the Commander’s Emergency Response Program (CERP). This report from
UNESCO details the dangers of an integrated approach involving securitization of development aid highlighting the fact that security considerations will override other priorities such as poverty reduction and education. With aid for education being funneled through the military and directly into building the structures of schools, this places children directly in the line of fire. There has been a decrease in school attendance, particularly for girls, linked to increased security risks for those that attend schools built by the military and military aid as well as for the families that choose to send their children to those schools. This report also reveals that the majority of the U.S. aid is being given to states involved in the “war on terror” including: Afghanistan, Iraq, and Pakistan.

Theme: Military and Women’s Security - Militarization of Aid
Subtheme: Poverty; Education Access, Girls’ Rights
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan
Language: English


Abstract:
This paper studies the effectiveness of a particular body of international law, namely the norms prohibiting discrimination against women, in the context of the international legal and institutional responses to sexual apartheid in Afghanistan. Specifically, it deals with the provision of UN humanitarian assistance in Afghanistan since the Taliban movement came to power in September 1996 and introduced harsh policies of gender discrimination that have progressively instituted a system of sexual apartheid. Divided into six sections, the first section presents an overview of the international law of humanitarian assistance. In the following sections, the practices of the UN are examined, focusing first on the practices of the political organs, and, second, on the institutional practice and on the real conduct of the organization. Finally, the arguments that have been used to justify the considered serious violations of international law are examined, and some conclusions are drawn regarding the role of international law and effective compliance with its standards.” (Verdirame)

Notes:
“Since the Taliban began its rule, humanitarian nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) and the UN have had to grapple with the gender policies of the new regime and decide whether to continue to operate in Afghanistan, and if so on what terms. At present, the UN is maintaining a large-scale operation in Afghanistan, having allocated some $100 million of humanitarian assistance in 1998 or about half of the total humanitarian aid to Afghanistan, the rest being provided by NGOs.
While primary responsibility for violations of women’s rights remains with Afghanistan as a state both legally and politically, the conduct of the UN in response to these policies has not been in accordance with international law. A disquieting finding from the perspective of international law—and from the perspective of “those values that international law seeks to promote and protect”—is that the UN not only failed to prevent and, later, to become an effective opponent of the gender policies of the Taliban regime, but that it actually incorporated discrimination against women in its humanitarian assistance and in the recruitment of local staff. Arguments supporting these choices, which have been put forward in both UN documents and in scholarly work are examined in this article.

Two further-reaching and interdependent arguments are made relating to the incorporation of discrimination against women in the provision of UN assistance. First, in spite of international standards prohibiting gender discrimination, international responses to systematic abuses of women’s rights continue to be tepid and largely ineffectual. The inability of international norms to influence the behavior of the UN itself testifies to the difficulty of dismantling a gender discriminatory hegemonic apparatus that is so resilient as to still influence the conduct of states and international institutions, notwithstanding the patent illegality of such behaviors.

Second, the UN’s conduct in Afghanistan was not decided by applying existing international law nor by implementing the decisions of the UN political organs. Instead, the practices of the UN’s institutional bureaucracy determined its actual behavior. (Verdirame)

Theme: Militarization and Women’s Security - Militarization of Aid
Subtheme: Patriarchal Norms; Discrimination; Justice
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan
Language: English

B. Global Resources


Abstract:

“Adopting a feminist perspective, this paper analyses the doctrine of humanitarian intervention and its impact on women in recipient states, particularly with regard to sexual violence. By analysing the phenomenon of post-conflict trafficking in Kosovo following the NATO intervention, the author presents a challenge to the ‘feminist hawks’ who have called for military intervention in situations of systematic sexual violence. It is the author’s contention that such intervention would be counterproductive for women’s rights.
and thus constitute a disproportionate response to sexual violence in terms of the international law governing the use of force.” (Godec)

Notes:
Godec discusses current critiques of militarized humanitarian intervention and delivery of aid, which do not consider women or a gender analysis of women’s post-intervention experience. This article seeks to analyze the impact of militarized humanitarian intervention in relation to sex trafficking & forced prostitution in Kosovo. Prior to 1999, Kosovo did not have a thriving sex-industry but within months of the troops, NGO’s, and UNMIK personnel arriving due to the conflict with Serbia, brothels were established around the military bases. Due to this influx of militarized aid deliverers, Kosovo is now a major destination country for trafficking women & children and the author attributes this to:

1. Sudden presence of military personnel creating immediate demand for sexual services
2. Post-intervention of Kosovo sustained the demand & fostered an environment where organized criminal network could reap the profits
3. Disruption of society & economy resulted in increased numbers of women & girls in need of income thereby creating a supply for the sex industry
4. Failure of the UNMIK to address the problem of trafficking allowed for a culture of impunity to prevail

In addition to a developing sex industry, the greater the military presence the greater gender-based-violence increased in Kosovo. Godec cautions that the same pattern of international presence and the subsequent outcome on women & girls is arising in conflict areas such as: Kuwait, Afghanistan & Iraq. As a preventative, Godec calls for gender awareness and education to be brought to peacekeepers and the military. “The key criterion is whether the benefits of the use of force will outweigh the costs.”

Theme: Militarization and Women’s Security - Militarization of Aid
Subtheme: Trafficking of Persons; Sexual Slavery; Sexual Violence
Geographical Focus: Global, Kosovo
Language: English


Notes:
With the UN peacekeeping troops going into Liberia with the promise of aid and security—sexual engagement with local Liberian women is common. Women living in the most extreme poverty conditions trade sex for items the UN troops can readily provide, such as a mobile-phone scratch card. The resulting rising numbers of pregnancies leaves children abandoned by their UN father after their tour is up and their mother who cannot raise a half-Liberian child due to social constraint.
V. CORRUPTION and LACK OF ACCOUNTABILITY & TRANSPARENCY

A. South Asia Resources


Notes:
“These atrocities are not described further in this report, but we refer readers to recent important initiatives that have been carried out to document these violations. We refer to the report of the Office of the High Commissioner on Human Rights, which provides an overview of the violations over the years as described in internationally available documentation. This report provides an important basis upon which further efforts to systematize documentation should be built. Another very significant study will be produced by the Afghan Justice Project, which recently published a preliminary version of a forthcoming report, based on first-hand research and investigations into particular atrocities. Other important documentation initiatives on crimes that occurred during the war and on who is responsible have been carried out by NGOs such as Human Rights Watch, Amnesty International and others.

“To date, this past has not been confronted. This report seeks to explore whether the people of Afghanistan want this to be addressed, and if so, how. The study left open the possibility of responses, which would indicate that confronting human rights violations is not a priority. However, the vast majority of people we spoke to have a deeply eroded trust in public authorities due to the absence of justice and protection of their rights, and they desire deeply that their suffering be recognized. This report makes recommendations on how this should be done.” (Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission)

Theme: Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency
Subthemes: Human Rights; Justice; Rule of Law
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan
Language: English


Abstract:
“In recent years, a substantial body of work has explored the differences in the behavior of men and women in a variety of economic transactions. We contribute to this literature by investigating gender differences in behavior when confronted with a common bribery problem. Our study departs from the previous literature on gender and corruption by using economic experiments. Based on data collected in Australia (Melbourne), India (Delhi), Indonesia (Jakarta) and Singapore, we show that while women in Australia are less tolerant of corruption than men in Australia, there are no significant gender differences in the propensities to engage in and punish corrupt behavior in India, Indonesia and Singapore. Hence, our findings suggest that the gender differences reported in the previous studies may not be nearly as universal as stated and may be more culture-specific. We also explore behavioral differences by gender across countries and find that there are larger variations in women's behavior towards corruption than in men's across the countries in our sample.” (Alatas et al.)

Theme: Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency
Subthemes: Gendered Identities
Geographical Focus: Australia (Melbourne), India (Delhi), Indonesia (Jakarta) and Singapore
Language: English


Abstract:
“In global business, business organizations and their representatives frequently encounter corruption and may be the perpetrators, victims, or simply participants in such acts. While international corruption has existed in multiple forms for several years, many individuals, companies, nations, and international organizations are currently attempting to reduce or eliminate corrupt acts because of their harmful effects on local economies and the quality of life of citizens. Several of these corruption curtailment efforts have been directed toward the supply-side of corruption, i.e., those who make corrupt payments. In developing an understanding of corruption, however, and formulating strategies for its
reduction, consideration must also be given to the demand-side of corruption, i.e., those who demand and accept corrupt payments. The rising trend in the use of corruption as a tool to discredit political opponents, the media's preoccupation with it as a highly marketable commodity, and the general public's fascination with seeing prominent personalities in embarrassing situations have brought scandalous and corrupt behavior, a common human frailty, into the limelight of international attention. The main issue taken up in this paper is that corruption can be a major obstacle in the process of economic development for Asian Countries and in modernizing a community.” (Al Noor and Rahman)

Theme: Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency
Subthemes: Development; Economic In/Security;
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan, Pakistan, India
Language: English


Notes:
Article addresses the political career, influence and performance of Benazir Bhutto as Pakistan's prime minister; details her move to jail opposition leaders and appoint her relatives to high office; discusses the ways she represented Pakistan in other nations. Description by Asma Jahangir, chairman of Pakistan's Human Rights Commission, of Benazir Bhutto's support for women's rights. Viewed within prevalence of political corruption in Pakistan.

Theme: Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency
Subthemes: Women’s Rights; Governance; Women’s Leadership & Participation
Geographical Focus: Pakistan
Language: English


Notes:
This report offers three comprehensive country studies, of India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.
“The right to information (RTI) has been recognised as a fundamental human right. The RTI is also a crucial underpinning of participatory democracy. Information is "the oxygen of democracy" – without information, citizens cannot make informed electoral choices or participate in decision-making processes. The right to information is also essential to accountability and good governance; secrecy is a breeding-ground for corruption, abuse of power and mismanagement.
No government can now deny that the public has a right to information or that fundamental principles of democracy and accountability demand that public bodies operate in a transparent fashion.” (Centre for Policy Alternatives)


**Notes:**

“There are few governance indicators that systematically capture the gender dimension of corruption in education. However, there is a growing consensus that corruption undermines the quality and quantity of public services, and reduces the resources available for the poor and the women, ultimately exacerbating social and gender disparities. Corruption hits disadvantaged groups – including women – harder, as they rely more on the public system, have less resources to make informal payments to access education services and seek legal protection. Women are also more vulnerable to specific forms of corruption such as sexual extortion in exchange for schooling, good grades and other school privileges.

“There is no empirical evidence available on the long term impact of corruption on gender disparities in the education sector. However, there is a general consensus that such practices have long term consequences on women’s education outcomes, psychological and physical health as well as gender equity, ultimately affecting long term social and economic progress. Measures aimed at tackling corruption in the education sector should therefore take into account the gender dimension of corruption by supporting women’s participation in schools’ management and oversight, promoting gender responsive education budgeting, recruiting more female teachers and raising ethical standards in the sector.” (Chêne)
Notes:

“This book is an in-depth empirical study of four Asian and African attempts to create democratic, decentralised local governments in the late 1980s and 1990s. The case studies of Ghana, Cote d'Ivoire, Karnataka (India) and Bangladesh focus upon the enhancement of participation; accountability between people, politicians and bureaucrats; and, most importantly, on whether governmental performance actually improved in comparison with previous forms of administration. The book is systematically comparative, and based upon extensive popular surveys and local field-work. It makes an important contribution to current debates in the development literature on whether 'good governance' and decentralisation can provide more responsive and effective services for the mass of the population - the poor and disadvantaged who live in the rural areas.” (Nielsen Book Data)

Crook and Manor describe the world of corruption in India, in terms of women, in this book. Women’s involvement in corrupt acts is also discussed. Then, within the context of corruption and a corrupt system, Crook and Manor inform the reader of how women respond and possible solutions to the problems that result.

Theme: Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency
Subthemes: Governance; Democratization
Geographical Focus: Ghana, Cote d'Ivoire, Bangladesh and India
Language: English


Abstract:

“While voluminous studies have attributed the continuing decline of institutional trust to political corruption, the link between corruption and institutional trust in Asia has yet to be explored systematically. Testing the effect of corruption on institutional trust is theoretically important and empirically challenging, since many suggest that contextual factors in Asia, such as political culture and electoral politics, might neutralize the negative impact of corruption. Utilizing data from the East Asia Barometer, we find a strong trust-eroding effect of political corruption in Asian democracies. We also find no evidence that contextual factors lessen the corruption-trust link in Asia. The trust-eroding effect holds uniformly across all countries examined in this study and remains robust even after taking into account the endogenous relationship between corruption and trust.” (Chang)

**Notes:**

“More than five years have passed since the beginning of the internationally led reconstruction of the Afghan state. The reconstruction of working democratic institutions and an efficient administration in order to extend the influence of the state over the whole territory was the initial objective of the intervention. This study of the Reconstruction National Integrity System (RNIS) analyses the interactions between a selected group of Afghan institutions that enable an environment in which corruption might be contained. These state institutions interact in order to warranty integrity within the state and form the integrity pillars. In order to evaluate the efficiency of each pillar, a review of the existing contrasts between the laws and regulations in use for each of the pillars’ actions and the reality of their application has been undertaken. Particular attention was given to the evaluation of donors’ actions, sequencing and prioritization in the reconstruction of the state’s integrity pillars.” (Delesgues and Torabi)


**Abstract:**

“Recent studies have identified various negative effects of public sector corruption. We add to these by considering the association between corruption and deaths due to major earthquakes. After developing a brief theoretical model of the relation between these two variables we test the proposition by analyzing 344 quakes occurring between 1975 and 2003. The empirical model takes into
account the endogeneity of corruption and controls for factors, such as earthquake frequency, magnitude, distance from population centers, and a country's level of development which influence quake destructiveness. The results indicate that public sector corruption is positively related to earthquake deaths.” (Escaleras, Anbarci, and Register)

Theme: Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency
Subthemes: Environment and Resources; Governance
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan, Pakistan, India
Language: English


Abstract:
“The article presents an overview of the condition of Afghanistan which is in the same perilous state as it was in the past. It mentions the arrival of Western powers that has influenced the political reform of the country. It adds that corruption and the abuse against women were still endemic in most parts of an ordinary Afghan life. Furthermore, the continued dependence of the country on the outside aid to secure its financial stability is also highlighted.” (EBSCO host)

Theme: Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency
Subthemes: Gender-Based Violence; Governance; Economic In/Security; Gendered Power Relations; Post-Conflict Reconstruction
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan
Language: English


Notes:
“The paper examines the evolving concept of substantive equality and its implications for South Asia, a region where, despite some gains, the stark reality of gender based discrimination is still all pervasive. The paper argues that substantive equality has evolved from a narrow concept of formal equality of treatment, to become a strategy to evaluate and address result and outcome in introducing laws and policies to accelerate gender equality and justice. While laws to eliminate direct discrimination are necessary to accelerate gender justice, substantive equality encourages the State to move beyond and introduce measures to address outcome and indirect impact that can perpetuate disadvantage. This evolution has helped to link acceleration of substantive equality with enjoyment
of other human rights of women, making an agenda on equality an inherent dimension of a rights based approach to all aspects of development.”

The paper argues that while laws to eliminate direct discrimination are necessary to accelerate gender justice, the need is for substantive equality where the State introduces measures to address the indirect impact that can perpetuate disadvantage. The necessity of accountability of both the public and private sectors to human rights guarantees is addressed.

Theme: **Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency**  
Subthemes: **Human Rights; Justice; Development; Gendered Power Relations; Discrimination**  
Geographical Focus: **South Asia**  
Language: **English**  
*Recommended*


Notes:  
This article analyzes Pakistan's low placement on the rule of law index by the World Justice Project, a quantitative assessment tool that seeks to find out not just how legal systems uphold universal principles of human rights, but also how “ordinary people” access justice. Pakistan scored the worst of 35 countries on corruption, fundamental rights and access to civil justice.

Theme: **Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency**  
Subthemes: **Rule of Law; Justice; Human Rights; Civil and Political Rights;**  
Geographical Focus: **Pakistan**  
Language: **English**  
*Recommended*


Notes:  
This report provides an insight on the current state of affairs of the women's rights struggle in Afghanistan while highlighting common themes of the feminist struggle across the globe. The report chooses five areas as exemplars of the wider situation of women, such as access to primary education, maternal mortality, threats to women human rights defenders, and domestic violence. This report underlines the failure of the government in recent years to advance the basic rights of women and girls, and identifies some of the shortcomings in donor priorities and assistance that have contributed to the backsliding.
Theme: Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency
Subthemes: Women’s Rights; Education Access; Women Human Rights Defenders; Domestic Violence; Health; Sexual Violence; Political In/Security
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan
Language: English, Dari, Pashto (Dari and Pashto for summary and recommendations only)


Notes:
“This article traces the role of women in the corrupt political sphere of South Asia. While women's participation in politics may be analysed in many ways, this article will concentrate on three major issues: women in leadership, women in mainstream politics, and the new women's movement as an alternative to the mainstream. Data and examples are drawn primarily from the four South Asian countries where women have achieved leadership positions in the last few decades: India, Bangladesh, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.” (Jahan)

Theme: Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency
Subthemes: Women’s Leadership and Participation; Political Representation;
Women’s Civil Society Organizations; Women’s Activism
Geographical Focus: India, Bangladesh, Pakistan and Sri Lanka
Language: English


Notes:
This report was undertaken to assess the position of women in marriage, the factors that inhibit her access to rights and the obligation of the State to take corrective measures to ensure the empowerment of women and their equal participation in this sphere.

Theme: Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency
Subthemes: Women’s Rights; Patriarchal Norms; State Failure to Protect; Personal In/Security
Geographical Focus: India
Language: English
Notes:
The South Asia Regional Consultation on the implementation of Concluding Observations of the CEDAW Committee, held in May 2008 in New Delhi, India, was an opportunity to assess and build on the accomplishments and momentum of advocacy in the region around CEDAW. Participants examined opportunities for and obstacles to promoting State implementation of the CEDAW Committee's Concluding Observations (or recommendations to the State) and contributing to the expansion of the women's human rights discourse nationally, regionally and internationally.

Theme: Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency
Subthemes: CEDAW; Women’s Rights; Women’s Civil Society Organizations
Geographical Focus: India, Pakistan, Afghanistan, South Asia
Language: English
*Recommended


Notes:
This study was conducted to evaluate the levels of gender discrimination governmental agencies. The study's objectives are to develop a database of sex disaggregated data, analyze results, identify gender imbalances in public sector jobs, assess implementation of Act-2010 on sexual harassment in the workplace, and provide recommendations for the future.

Theme: Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency
Subthemes: Human Rights; Discrimination; Sexual Harassment; Gendered Power Relations
Geographical Focus: Pakistan
Language: English
*Recommended

**Abstract:**
“The article reports on the United Nations (UN) survey titled "Corruption in Afghanistan, Bribery as Reported by Victims," which indicates that women pay bribes more often than men in the health sector. It states that 74% of cases, bribes are paid in speeding up procedures and 28% of cases, paid to receive better treatment. It notes that the report, which surveyed 7600 Afghan citizens in 12 provincial capitals and 1600 villages, found that one out of every two Afghan adults paid at least one kickback.” (EBSCO host)

**Theme:** Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency  
**Subthemes:** Women’s Rights; Governance; Health  
**Geographical Focus:** Afghanistan  
**Language:** English


**Abstract:**
“Engineering elections through gender quotas is a crucial component of strategies that seek to empower women through increased participation in the political system. In the south Indian state of Karnataka, this experiment has seen mixed results: it has made women more visible, decreased levels of corruption in Panchayati Raj institutions, and increased self-efficiency of women representatives. It is more difficult, however, to claim a substantive change in institutional priorities and state accountability. As important is the fact that nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) often provide significant training and support in successful cases. Engineering elections thus highlights possibilities for change through increased participation by women.” (Kudva)

**Theme:** Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency  
**Subthemes:** Governance; Women’s Leadership and Participation; Electoral Reform; Gender Quotas; Political Representation; Women’s Civil Society Organizations; Political In/Security  
**Geographical Focus:** India  
**Language:** English

Abstract:
“Based on a study of water rights and women’s rights in decentralised water governance in Maharashtra and Gujarat, this paper argues that decentralisation will fail to meet its desired objectives unless the value systems, culture and the nature of institutions, including the family, change. While the policy initiative of introducing quotas for women in public bodies is welcome and necessary, it is certainly not sufficient for the success of decentralisation in a society ridden with discrimination based on class, caste and patriarchy, and where the culture of political patronage is dominant. The presence of vibrant social and political movements that propose alternative cultural, social and political paradigms would be a necessary foundation for major social changes. The success of decentralised water governance is constrained by the conceptualisation of the larger reform in water at one level and the notions of the normative woman, community, public and the private domains, and institutions at another. Unless all of these are altered, decentralised processes will not be truly democratic.”
(Kulkarni)

Theme: Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency
Subthemes: Governance; Environment and Resources; Women’s Leadership & Participation; Gender Quotas; Democratization; Patriarchal Norms; Inequality
Geographical Focus: India
Language: English


Abstract:
“We draw on survey data from a national probability sample of 6,406 Afghan adults (aged 18 years and older) to explore gender differences in the perceptions of formal and informal justice systems. The study utilizes binary logistic regression to probe whether men and women differ in their attitudes and the extent to which other factors may mediate both within and across ethnic group differences. We find that women have more confidence in the formal system than their male counterparts, whereas the opposite is true for the informal system. The scholarly and policy implications of these results are discussed.” (Manganaro et al.)

Theme: Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency
Subthemes: Justice; Gendered Power Relations
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan
Language: English

Notes:

The National Action Plan is the government’s roadmap for implementing policies and commitments on women’s empowerment and gender equality.

Theme: Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency
Subthemes: Women’s Rights; Empowerment; Gendered Power Relations;
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan
Language: English, Dari, Pashto


Notes:

This report provides an overview of women's political participation in India, obstacles (including corruption), State obligations, and recommendations for enhanced participation.

Theme: Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency
Subthemes: Women’s Leadership and Participation; Governance
Geographical Focus: India
Language: English

Murphy, Seamus. 2012. “"My Policing was Nothing but Activism--It Had to Be".” *New Statesman* 141(5097): 28-9.

Notes:

“An interview is presented with former Indian police official Kiran Bedi. Bedi states that her work as a police officer and administrator was a form of social activism. She says that political corruption is the largest problem facing India in 2012. Bedi says that social conditions for women in India are mixed.” (EBSCO host)

Theme: Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency
Subthemes: Policing; Women’s Activism; Gendered Power Relations
Geographical Focus: India
Language: English

Notes:
“The present Shadow Report is a 233-page document in which different women's groups/organizations have contributed in an attempt to record the de facto position of women in India and how they face different kinds of discriminations in public and private life. The report has been the outcome of extensive national consultations between expert groups working on different issues of women's concern. Basically the report reviews gender discrimination in the framework of CEDAW; addressing each article and examining discriminations that persist despite the State guarantees of non-discrimination assured by the Constitution. The report locates different causes that underlie discrimination and suggests recommendations on how best to eliminate them.” (NAWO)

Theme: Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency
Subtheme: Political In/Security; Personal In/Security; Women’s Rights; CEDAW; Discrimination; Gendered Power Relations
Geographical Focus: India
Language: English


Notes:
“Assessing governance and its elements will lend insight into how development efforts are succeeding (or not succeeding) in securing choices for the people the government represents. Citizens’ Report on Governance and Development is an effort to understand the process and institutions of governance in India and its implications for development.” (National Social Watch)

Theme: Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency
Subthemes: Governance; Development
Geographical Focus: India
Language: English, Hindi
*Recommended

Available online:

Notes:
“KABUL, Afghanistan -- Afghanistan's top female official began a sustained verbal assault on women's shelters on Tuesday, accusing them of corruption and mismanagement, and insisting that the government was determined to take control of them, whether or not donors continue to give financial support. The shelters, nearly all of them supported by Western charities and governments, provide havens for women and girls fleeing sexual and physical abuse, and give the runaways an alternative to seeking help from the authorities, who often forcibly return them to their families -- and sometimes subject them to further abuse.” (Nordland)

Theme: Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency
Subthemes: Violence against Women; Gender-Based violence
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan
Language: English


Notes:
“Pakistan, for the first time in its history, has increased the women representation in its parliament in 2002 General Election to surpass the world average of around 15 per cent. This quantum leap has created a host of opportunities and challenges not only for the women representatives but also for democracy, democratic institutions, political parties and the country as a whole. This background paper is on the subject of increased women representation in the Parliament. It outlines some of the major issues regarding women's representation in Parliament and presents factual information on the history of women's representation in the Parliaments of Pakistan and other countries of the world.” (PILDAT)

Theme: Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency
Subtheme: Women’s Rights; Women’s Leadership and Participation; Governance; Gender Quotas; Political Representation
Geographical Focus: Pakistan
Language: English

“The Status Implementation of International Agreement of Women in Pakistan.”
Paper presented at Briefing Session for Parliamentarians, Islamabad, Pakistan.
Accessed on March 21, 2013. Available online:

Notes:
PILDAT held a briefing session for parliamentarians on The Status of Implementation of International Agreements on Women in Pakistan on March 29, 2004. The proceedings of the briefing session contain the speeches, presentations and papers presented by the speakers and resource persons at the session, as well as transcripts of the Q&A sessions among the speakers and the participants.

Theme: Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency
Subtheme: Human Rights; Women’s Leadership and Participation
Geographical Focus: Pakistan
Language: English


Notes:
The Scandal of the State is a revealing study of the relationship between the postcolonial, democratic Indian nation-state and Indian women’s actual needs and lives. Well-known for her work combining feminist theory and postcolonial studies, Rajeswari Sunder Rajan shows how the state is central to understanding women’s identities and how, reciprocally, women and “women’s issues” affect the state’s role and function. She argues that in India law and citizenship define for women not only the scope of political rights but also cultural identity and everyday life. Sunder Rajan delineates the postcolonial state in implicit contrast with the “enlightened,” postfeminist neoliberal state in the West. Her analysis wrestles with complex social realities, taking into account the influence of age, ethnicity, religion, and class on individual and group identities as well as the shifting, heterogeneous nature of the state itself.

“The Scandal of the State develops through a series of compelling case studies, each of which centers around an incident exposing the contradictory position of the Indian state vis-à-vis its female citizens and, ultimately, the inadequacy of its commitment to women’s rights. Sunder Rajan focuses on the custody battle over a Muslim child bride, the compulsory sterilization of mentally retarded women in state institutional care, female infanticide in Tamilnadu, prostitution as labor rather than crime, and the surrender of the female outlaw Phoolan Devi. She also looks at the ways the Uniform Civil Code presented many women with a stark choice between allegiance to their religion and community or the secular assertion of individual rights. Rich with theoretical acumen and activist passion, The Scandal of the State is a powerful critique of the mutual
dependence of women and the state on one another in the specific context of a postcolonial modernity.” (Duke University Press)

Perception, treatment, abuse, and exploitation of women are all described as effects of corruption.

Theme: Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency
Subthemes: Gendered Power Relations; Civil and Political Rights; Women’s Rights; Justice; Religion; Political In/Security;
Geographical Focus: India
Language: English


Abstract:
“Asia with its reputation for holding women in low regard has nonetheless had numerous female leaders over the last thirty years. Why this should be so and what effect this has is examined in this research. This study (1) explores several key variables in the political prominence of Asian women, (2) assesses what if any advantages or disadvantages women have in leadership roles in south or southeast Asia, (3) attempts to determine what if any impact women have as women in the politics of these regions, and (4) predicts rather gloomy prospects for female leadership in these regions.” (Richter)

Notes:
This article focuses on women in politics and leadership in South Asia. Although not completely focusing on corruption, the article does specify how female leaders are treated, perceived, and act within the system of corruption that currently exists.

Theme: Corruption, Accountability & Transparency
Subthemes: Political In/Security; Women’s Leadership & Participation; Women’s Rights
Geographical Focus: Burma, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Thailand, Vietnam, and India
Language: English


Abstract:
“Electoral systems can be powerful instruments for shaping the content and practice of politics in divided societies, such as Afghanistan; and their design needs to be closely linked to context. This paper explores the suitability of
Afghanistan's electoral mechanisms in light of the nation's political system, social divisions, and the process, which led to their adoption. There is no perfect electoral system; and the winners of the country's first-ever presidential election and the subsequent assembly elections face the formidable challenge of transforming Afghanistan from a war torn fiefdom into a nation. Hamid Karzai's victory and Afghanistan's improved, although fragile, security environment appear to represent an important step toward democracy. Yet, elections and electoral mechanisms are a necessary but insufficient means to the introduction and endurance of constitutional democratic government. The legitimacy of Afghanistan's new democratic institutions will rest on the government's progress in producing results, such as disarming the private militias of powerful commanders, some of whom represent sizeable ethnic minorities, and curbing the burgeoning poppy cultivation. An electoral system is but one piece, significant but not the linchpin, of the schema of Afghan political dynamics.” (Riphenburg)

Theme: Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency
Subthemes: Electoral Reform; Democratization; Minority Rights
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan
Language: English


Notes:
This article describes in detail the magnitude of a need in system change in Afghanistan. After describing the problems of the state, including the corrupt nature of state officials and the powerful influence of the Taliban, and how it affects its society, particularly women, Rohde explicates the processes needed to fix the issues at hand.

Theme: Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency
Subthemes: Gendered Power Relations; Post-Conflict Reconstruction
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan
Language: English


Notes:
“The national development paradigm is a paradox. On the one hand, there is a professed commitment to meeting the Millennium Development Goals by respecting, protecting and fulfilling economic, social and cultural rights. On the
other hand, there is clear policy prioritisation towards privatisation of services that affect the basic rights of the most marginalised, such as education, health, water and food distribution. In contrast with the "the language of rights", policy prescriptions push basic services away from the responsibilities and obligations of the State.” (Samuel and Kunhu)

Theme: **Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency**  
Subthemes: **Economic In/Security; Development; Human Rights; Human Security**  
Geographical Focus: **India**  
Language: **English**

**Sardesai, Rajdeep. 2011. “Force-feeding India.” Hindustan Times, September 8.**  
Accessed on March 21, 2013. Available online:  

**Notes:**  
This article reflects views of the ongoing struggle for greater democratic space and peace in India.

Theme: **Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency**  
Subthemes: **Governance; Democratization**  
Geographical Focus: **India**  
Language: **English**

Accessed on March 21, 2013. Available online:  

**Notes:**  
This article gives an overview of policy developments with respect to right to information legislation in South Asian countries.

Theme: **Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency**  
Subthemes: **Civil and Political Rights; Democratization**  
Geographical Focus: **India, Pakistan, South Asia**  
Language: **English, Dari**  
*Recommended

Accessed on March 21, 2013. Available online:  
This paper reflects on Canada's policies, interventions and financial contributions to Afghanistan. By the end of 2011, Afghanistan will have been a top Canadian foreign and defense policy priority for a decade. That engagement will undergo a major transition in 2011, but many questions, especially about next steps, remain open.

Theme: Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency
Subthemes: Post-Conflict Reconstruction
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan, Canada
Languages: English


Notes:

“This study aims to understand the nature of, and impediments to, women's participation in political life and governance; to elicit women's vision(s) of what the state structure and political culture should be; and to identify their recommendations for refining and altering those processes for political participation that are currently inadequate to meet women's needs.” (Shaheed)

Theme: Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency
Subthemes: Women’s Leadership and Participation; Political In/Security; Governance
Geographical Focus: Pakistan
Language: English, Urdu
*Recommended


Notes:

“This paper, while mindful of the complexities involved, will focus on women’s interaction with, and access to, power and politics in the more formalised political process, directly relating to states and governments in South Asia. It raises some of the issues concerned with the various spaces available to women at different moments, the strategies used by women activists to increase these spaces, and some of the more disconcerting contradictions.” (Shaheed)

This article describes the challenges faced by women in politics in South Asia and how women achieve these positions, the questions and challenges they face as a result, and identity-based politics. One of the challenges mentioned was corruption; how women were involved, and how they were treated as a result of it.

Abstract:
“Using data for the 2000s, this paper explores the impact of foreign aid and the percentage of women in parliament on corruption. In doing so, it combines the aid – corruption literature with the literature that addresses the impact of gender on corruption. We also inquire if aid is more effective in countries with a larger participation of women in parliament. We find that neither aid nor the percentage of women in parliament affects perceived corruption in a significant way. Moreover, the impact of aid on corruption does not seem to be affected by the share of women in parliament. On the other hand, a long-established democracy is consistently found to be significant in affecting corruption. Our results are robust to various specifications, alternative measures of corruption and use of estimation techniques.” (Shukralla and Allan)

**Notes:**
The Indian constitution provides many legal safeguards to the minority community and special provisions are made for their social and economic growth. Despite these, minorities in India face all types of inequity in the public sphere.

**Abstract:**

“This paper opens a window on the local state in eastern India. It studies the ways in which government officers in five districts of Bihar and West Bengal re-shaped one of India's major poverty alleviation programmes, the Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS). District and Block-level officials in Bihar converted a participatory programme of employment generation into a scheme for the construction of durable assets. Many poorer men and women obtained no work under the EAS. Outside Midnapore District, West Bengal, members of the rural poor were unaware of their right to demand work from the state. The acts of translation that we document were largely inspired by a fear of corruption on the part of junior officials. District and Block-level officials in Bihar worried that labour-intensive schemes would increase opportunities for rent-seeking and simple looting. That principals sought to constrain the actions of agents in this way suggests a weakness in the model of rent-seeking behaviour favoured by some economists. That the EAS was re-worked by well-educated, English-speaking government officials--and not by their subordinates--also suggests the need for refinement of a body of work on the 'vernacular' nature of the local state. No sharp distinction between elite and vernacular life worlds is evident in the field area.” (Srivastava et al.)

**Theme:** Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency  
**Subthemes:** Economic In/Security; Development; Livelihoods  
**Geographical Focus:** India  
**Language:** English


**Notes:**

The overall goal of this case study was to assess the mechanisms and structures through which opportunities for corruption were created or reduced in programs specifically designed during the post-conflict reconstruction process.

**Theme:** Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency  
**Subtheme:** Post-Conflict Reconstruction  
**Geographical Focus:** Afghanistan  
**Language:** English

**Notes:**

“The principles of indivisibility and interdependence imply that all rights operate concurrently. The categories of civil, cultural, political, economic and social broadly describe the cluster of rights they collectively encompass. They are not discrete categories as is evident in their interdependence and overlap in actual situations. For example, the case of women seeking to defy a dress code or seeking to publicly debate cultural rules affecting them is, in its broadest form, an assertion of their freedom of expression - a civil political right. However, the subject of assertion is social and cultural in nature. To represent it within just one category to the exclusion of the others would be an incomplete representation of the case that will not facilitate justice. In any given situation more than one category of rights intersect and operate simultaneously. Yet, these descriptive categories have come to be treated as discrete, autonomous and of varying importance.” (UNIFEM)

**Theme:** Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency  
**Subtheme:** CEDAW; Human Rights; Women’s Rights; Development; Civil and Political Rights; Women’s Leadership and Participation  
**Geographical Focus:** India  
**Language:** English and Hindi


**Notes:**

The publication is a comprehensive analytical report, which maps the situation and status of women in South Asia, within the framework of the twelve critical areas of concern identified in the Beijing Platform for Action.

**Theme:** Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency  
**Subthemes:** Human Rights; Women’s Rights; Women’s Leadership & Participation; Violence against Women  
**Geographical Focus:** South Asia  
**Language:** English  
*Recommended*

Notes:
“This first publication on Women and Men in Afghanistan: Baseline Statistics on Gender is therefore an effort to establish a statistical data base that would help strengthen advocacy, planning and policy making from a gender perspective, especially within government. By putting together and analyzing little-known facts about women and men in Afghanistan, the publication attempts to bring to the fore the realities that marginalize women and girls, make them invisible, and inadvertently lead to discrimination in various aspects of their lives. This handbook provides an initial source of the evidence needed to bring their concerns into public decision-making.” (UNIFEM)

Theme: Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency
Subthemes: Gendered Power Relations; Discrimination; Civil Society; Public Policy
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan
Language: English


Notes:
Includes fact sheets on women in Afghanistan on the following topics: population; health; education; marriage; labor; political participation; justice sector; security services; peacebuilding; media sector; violence against women; government commitments to women.

Theme: Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency
Subthemes: Development; Education Access; Women’s Leadership and Participation; Justice; Security; Violence against Women; Health; Livelihoods
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan
Language: English

Notes:
This report details the experience of key gender stakeholders convened by the Afghanistan Independent Election Commission Gender Unit (IEC GU) and UNIFEM on 19th October 2009 in Kabul, Afghanistan, to capture lessons learned on supporting women’s political participation in the 2009 Afghanistan elections for President and Provincial Council members. The report highlights recommendations for moving forward in preparation for the 2010 Parliamentary elections, including how to address the prospect of declining female participation and how to prevent electoral irregularities from 2009.

Theme: Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency
Subthemes: Women’s Leadership and Participation; Political Representation; Electoral Reform
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan
Language: English


Notes:
“The 2007 ‘Afghanistan Human Development Report: Bridging Modernity and Tradition - the Rule of Law and the Search for Justice’ builds on the 2004 Afghanistan Human Development Report. The human development conceptual framework and associated indicators were applied to better understand how justice and the rule of law can be strengthened to advance human development in Afghanistan. In addition to providing conceptual and other analytical tools for measuring and comprehending the linkages between human development and the rule of law, this Report presents bold policy alternatives to strengthen the rule of law in Afghanistan, including through formal and informal systems of justice.” (UNDP)

Theme: Corruption, Lack Accountability & Transparency
Subthemes: Rule of Law; Justice; Development
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan
Language: English
*Recommended

Notes:
This report examines the problem and impact of corruption on people's lives in Asia and the Pacific from a human development perspective. In particular, it hones in on the price corruption extracts on the lives of the poor and disadvantaged, including women, on for example their access to water, electricity, health, education, etc. This action-oriented report offers concrete solutions and recommendations for governments, civil society, etc., to tackle the problem of corruption in the Asia-Pacific.

Theme: Corruption, Lack of accountability & Transparency
Subthemes: Development; Economic In/Security; Health; Education Access; Human Security
Geographical Focus: Asia Pacific
Language: English
*Recommended


Notes:
“The Asia-Pacific region as a whole, especially South Asia, ranks near the worst in the world—often lower than sub-Saharan Africa—on basic issues such as protecting women from violence or upholding their rights to property, as well as on indicators in such key areas as nutrition, health, education, employment and political participation. This report interrogates how some countries in the region have succeeded in narrowing gender disparities more than others. It looks at three arenas where public policy can make a difference: building economic power, promoting political voices and advancing legal rights of women.” (UNDP)

Theme: Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency
Subthemes: Gender-Based Violence; Women’s Leadership and Participation; Women’s Rights; Gendered Power Relations; Economic In/Security; Property Rights; Health; Education Access; Livelihoods; Public Policy
Geographical Focus: Asia Pacific
Language: English

Notes:

This report explains the structure of India's government, the number of women holding political office (including at federal, state and local levels until 1998), legislation that promotes the participation of women, obstacles to their participation, efforts to increase women's roles in government, the need for gender sensitizing local government among other related topics.

Themes: Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency
Subthemes: Women’s Leadership and Participation; Governance; Gender Mainstreaming; Political Representation
Geographical Focus: India
Language: English


Notes:

“The report concludes that an effective approach to the reduction of poverty requires a broad understanding of chronic and profound impoverishment that should not be seen only as a lack of income but also as a deprivation of human rights. Poverty reduction strategies must focus on the root causes of poverty, in addition to addressing the consequences. This report examines poverty from different human rights angles including how abusive structures of power and entrenched discriminatory practices inhibit the poor from accessing opportunities that would allow them to overcome poverty. The report also examines how decisions that lead to inequitable allocations of resources are made and how insecurity compounds the conditions that give rise to, or sustain, poverty."

(UNHCR)

Theme: Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency
Subthemes: Economic In/Security; Inequality; Human Rights
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan
Language: English, Dari


Abstract:

“The paper examines the relationship between corruption and gender in the context of local government in India, using a Logit model. Recent debates about women's participation in electoral politics suggests that the presence of
more women in government will engender public policy, and also tends to reduce corruption. The evidence we examined indicates that gender is not a significant factor in explaining levels of corruption. Although nearly 40 per cent of the elective positions in the institutions of local government are occupied by women, there is no significant gender difference in attitudes towards rent-seeking or in actual levels of corruption between male and female representatives.” (Vijayalakshmi).

Theme: Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency
Subthemes: Governance; Women’s Leadership and Participation; Political Representation; Gender Mainstreaming
Geographical Focus: India
Language: English


Notes:
“...This article explores recent critiques in feminist theory to examine how gender-based asylum cases and human rights reporting on South Asia rely upon the most static and patriarchal understandings of culture to establish a basis for intervention or advocacy. It argues that while cultural practices indeed reflect upon women’s status, for gender-based asylum cases the emphasis may be more effectively placed upon a particular political system’s denial of women’s rights, or upon the interface between culture and the political system, rather than upon “culture” itself.” (Visweswaran)

Theme: Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency
Subthemes: Human Rights; Women’s Rights; Gender Power Relations; Patriarchal Norms
Geographical Focus: South Asia
Language: English


Notes:
“...The report is not a policy document, but constitutes input from the World Bank for the Government in the ongoing debate on women's role in Afghanistan's future. The challenge now is to formulate policies, develop and implement
reforms, in partnership between the Government and donors to provide practical and effective programs that will enable women to participate fully in the rebuilding of Afghanistan.” (World Bank)

Theme: Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency
Subthemes: Post-Conflict Reconstruction; Women's Leadership and Participation; Development
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan
Language: English
*Recommended

B. Global Resources


Introduction:
“IT is increasingly recognised that gender acts as a lens to magnify the impacts of corruption, particularly when it comes to service delivery in developing countries. Corruption in the provision of basic services such as health and education can have disproportionate and negative consequences for women and girls. It can seriously compromise their access to quality schools and clinics, their own social and economic empowerment and even their country’s prospects for growth, gender equality and wider social change.

“Corruption directly thwarts progress in all these areas by exacerbating poverty and gender gaps. In developing countries, the effects can be stark when basic services are of low quality and gender inequalities are already high. This working paper investigates corruption’s role in the process and the severe impact it exacts on women and girls.” (Chene et al.)

Theme: Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency
Subthemes: Development; Gendered Power Relations; Inequality; Health; Education Access
Geographical Focus: Global
Language: English

Notes:

“There is little research capturing the gender dimension of corruption in humanitarian assistance. However, as women represent the higher proportion of the population in need of assistance worldwide, they are likely to be disproportionately affected by the impact of corruption on the quality and quality of humanitarian assistance.

“Corruption in humanitarian aid occurs at all stages of the programme cycle, from the targeting and registration process, to the distribution of relief aid, procurement, financial management and programme evaluations. Women are more specifically affected by gender specific forms of corruption such as sexual exploitation and abuse. In the short term, corruption compromises women’s access to basic services such as food, shelter, family planning, health and education. This has long lasting physiological, psychological and social consequences, compromising women’s opportunities and prospects of social and economic empowerment. Strategies to mainstream gender and anti-corruption in humanitarian assistance programmes include promoting transparency and access to information as well as women participation in beneficiary feedback and monitoring mechanisms, introducing effective complaint mechanisms and raising aid workers’ ethical standards through the provision of training, guidance and codes of conduct.” (Chêne)

Theme: Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency
Subthemes: Health; Gender-Based Violence; Education Access; Economic In/Security; Empowerment; Human Security
Geographical Focus: Global
Language: English


Notes:

“The health sector is particularly exposed to corruption due to multiple information asymmetries, the complexity of health systems and the large size of public funds involved. Corruption in the sector takes many forms and ranges from undue influence on health policies, to embezzlement of funds, to the solicitation of bribes and under-the-counter payments at the point of service delivery. The consequences of expensive, ill-tailored, inaccessible or unsafe health products and services hit women particularly hard. This is because they often have higher and differentiated needs for health services, but also because they bear the brunt of poor services as primary providers of homecare and are less empowered to demand accountability and assert entitlements. Corruption in the health sector, therefore, contributes to and exacerbates in most developing countries persistent disparities in access to health services. This has hugely detrimental effects not only on the health of women, but also on their capabilities for educational
attainment, income-generation and thus, ultimately, their status and the attainment of gender equity.

“Strategies to address gender disparity in access to health caused by corruption include support for women’s participation in both the design of health services that are responsive to women’s needs and also their delivery.” (Chêne and Nawaz)

Theme: Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency
Subthemes: Health; Education Access; Economic In/Security; Gendered Power Relations
Geographical Focus: Global
Language: English


Abstract:
“Numerous behavioral studies have found women to be more trust-worthy and public-spirited than men. These results suggest that women should be particularly effective in promoting honest government. Consistent with this hypothesis, we find that the greater the representation of women in parliament, the lower the level of corruption. We find this association in a large cross-section of countries; the result is robust to a wide range of specifications.” (Dollar et al.)

Theme: Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency
Subthemes: Women’s Leadership and Participation; Political Representation; Governance
Geographical Focus: Global
Language: English


Notes:
This document provides a list of “guiding principles” that must be followed for a state to obtain true Electoral Justice. The realization of Electoral Justice requires a set of institutions, practices, norms, mechanisms, and
procedures that culminate in fair and open processes by which citizens choose those who are to govern them and to hold them to account.

Theme: Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency
Subthemes: Governance; Democratization; Electoral Reform; Justice
Geographical Focus: Global, Ghana
Language: English


Abstract:
“There is currently a myth in the making: that women are less corrupt than men. Recently some aid donors have cited statistical evidence that countries with larger numbers of women in politics and in the workforce have lower levels of corruption. That this finding can be explained by the fact that there are more women in politics and the workforce in liberal democracies that are anyway less corrupt than poorer less liberal regimes does not detract from the eagerness with which some development actors are seizing upon the potential role women might play in fighting corruption. The myth of women's incorruptibility is not, of course, new. It is grounded in essentialist notions of women's higher moral nature and an assumed propensity to bring this to bear on public life, and particularly on the conduct of politics. After demonstrating that some of the recent studies about gender and corruption record perceptions about propensities to engage in corrupt behaviour, this contribution suggests rather that the gendered nature of access to politics and public life shapes opportunities for corruption. In addition, corruption can be experienced differently by women and men, which has implications for anti-corruption strategies. A gendered analysis of corruption is in fact a useful entry-point to the examination of the gendered nature of accountability failures, and of gender-specific gaps in current attempts to promote good governance.” (Goetz)

Notes:
The author shows that the notion that women are less corrupt than men, more likely to behave with probity and integrity, is ironically the reverse of a myth that has kept them out of the public realm for centuries. Gender does indeed shape opportunities for corruption corruption – women in public office are generally excluded from male-dominated patronage and power networks. But to say this is different from the new myth that women’s gender and gendered socialization to determine their reactions to corruption. She suggest that we can understand these gendered opportunities by examining how women are recruited into and treated within key institutions that shape public life: political parties and state bureaucracies. Recommendations include focusing on institutional reforms that
promote interests of gender and social equity rather than investing in the myth of women’s incorruptible nature.”

Theme: Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency
Subthemes: Women's Leadership and Participation; Governance; Gendered Power Relations; Democratization
Geographical Focus: South Asia, Global
Language: English

*Recommended


Notes:
“The aim of this report is to encourage and assist individuals and institutions which work to promote and protect human rights to engage with corruptions issues and collaborate more closely with anti-corruption organizations. It may also assist those who combat corruption to recognize the value of human rights to their work and the advantages of closer collaboration with human rights organizations. In addition, the report may help to raise awareness among key stakeholders and the public of the links between corruption and human rights, thereby diminishing public tolerance of corruption and strengthening public support for anticorruption measure. It suggests some additional tools that individuals can use to denounce corruption as well as to protect those who combat it” (International Council on Human Rights Policy)

Theme: Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency
Subthemes: Human Rights
Geographical Focus: Global
Language: English


Notes:
This address considers the causes and consequences of corruption. It considers how systems can be made less vulnerable to corruption and how its own systematic weaknesses be attacked and exploited. Finally, it considers strategies in Latin America for reducing corruption.

Theme: Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency

Notes:

“This paper presents the case for ensuring that when implementing treaty obligations under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) or the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) it is important to carry out a gender analysis on any laws and rules of evidence that are devised or revised. Such an analysis will ensure that the provisions treat both men and women equally. First the paper will discuss what is meant by a gender analysis and mainstreaming. Next, the international human rights treaties that require gender equity in the criminal justice system will be reviewed. And finally, two important illustrations of the impact of a gender analysis on criminal laws and procedures in the Canadian Context will be analysed. The first area will be implementing the rights of disclosure of evidence under the ICCPR and the second will be the protection of witnesses under the UNCAC and the Optional Trafficking Protocol to the United Nations Convention on Transnational Organised Crime.” (UNTOC)

Theme: Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency
Subthemes: Gender Mainstreaming; Gendered Power Relations; Justice; Rule of Law
Geographical Focus: Global, Canada
Language: English


Abstract:

“Numerous studies have found negative connection between corruption level and economic development. At the same time few of them demonstrate correlation between women representation in politics and corruption level. This paper analyzes correlation between gender and corruption for a specific sample of countries, sharing common cultural and historical legacy – transition countries. Relationship
between higher number of women in parliament and decreasing level of corruption is supported by data. Relations with other forms of women social activity were found to be insignificant. Contribution of this paper to the research literature on this topic is twofold. First analysis on gender and corruption in transition economies has previously not been done. Second, this study could also be used for the practical policies on fighting corruption by application of gender quotas.” (Michailov and Melnykovska)

Theme: Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency
Subthemes: Women’s Leadership & Participation; Development; Gender Quotas
Geographical Focus: Global, Eastern Europe, Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS)
Language: English
*Recommended


Notes:
“...corruption in public sector organisations is linked to the percentage of women employed in them. Findings suggest that countries with a low proportion of women in the workforce may benefit from increasing the proportion of women in public organisations. But, in countries that already have a fairly large percentage of women in public employment, recruiting more women might increase corruption in public organisations. A possible explanation for this conclusion is that corruption levels may have more to do with group dynamics than with gender, or that a gender balance in the workforce will decrease corruption.” (Mukherjee and Gokcekus)

Theme: Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency
Subthemes: Women’s Leadership & Participation; Livelihoods;
Geographical Focus: Global, Argentina, Bolivia, Bulgaria Guyana Indonesia Moldova
Language: English
*Recommended


Notes:
“...corruption may affect progress towards gender equality and women’s empowerment by limiting women’s capacities to claim their rights. Evidence is
inconclusive on whether women are more or less prone to corruption than men. A review of recent literature indicates that a more important dimension is corruption’s disproportionate impact on women. This appears to be particularly the case in fragile state settings. Research shows that good practice to mitigate the effects of corruption on women include improved female participation in oversight processes and accountability systems.” (Nawaz)

Theme: Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency
Subthemes: Gendered Power Relations; Women’s Rights
Geographical Focus: Global
Language: English


Introduction:
“Gender and corruption is a surprisingly recent issue in anti-corruption scholarship. The first wave of research into the gendered dimensions of corruption focused on whether women are more or less corruptible than men, and whether the promotion of women in public life can be an effective anti-corruption strategy. A second line of enquiry examines the impact of corruption on women as a group, building on the growing evidence that corruption has a disproportionate impact on vulnerable groups in society. Both of these strands of research have already generated a wealth of policy-relevant insights that advance our understanding of the interplay between corruption and gender.” (Nawaz)

Theme: Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency
Subthemes: Women’s Leadership & Participation
Geographical Focus: Global
Language: English
*Recommended


Notes:
“This study has focused on the extent to which various forms and effects, as well as eradication strategies of corruption are gendered. This includes a mapping of the forms of corruption and their different demands in relation to men and women as well as an examination of whether women and men face different constraints in coping with and reporting corruption. The study should inform the
implementation of the current phase of the Danish Anti Corruption Programme (ACP) with respect to both segments of support to Government of Uganda and to Civil Society Organizations.

“The study verifies findings from international studies. Low income earners of both sexes are frustrated by petty corruption in their everyday lives and it affects their quality of life. There is resonance with other Ugandan studies that indicate that petty corruption has become endemic and a way of life. The study also confirms that there are gender differences in forms and effects of corruption. Most notably women experience extortion more frequently than men. They are more easily intimidated into paying a bribe especially in a post-conflict area like Pader. Sexual extortion as a special variation of extortion was highlighted as an issue by women in Kampala.

“Men are more frequently in contact with certain sectors such as traffic police and registration authorities and more so in a rural setting like Pader, whereas women appear to be more frequently in contact with medical facilities and schools in both a rural and urban setting. Women in both case studies had a common concern around limited access to justice concerning the police handling of cases of rape, defilement and domestic violence.

“Men especially in Pader referred to bribes as a way of “getting off the hook” when they are in trouble with the police, traffic police or the courts. This is linked to the issue of how corruption denies women access to justice. Women especially from Pader were very agitated about how perpetrators in defilement cases are released by the police without the cases being investigated. The study details how expensive and slow the criminal justice system is. Women do neither have the money nor the time to pursue justice.

“Men and women in both settings stressed how petty corruption frustrates their business opportunities. In Kampala in particular the women were very agitated with the issue of mismanagement and corruption related to management of markets. They described how they have to pay markets fees for stalls but that the market authorities allocate the “free” space outside the market to supporters or relatives and how it undercuts their income.

“It was mainly men that mentioned positive effects of corruption such as the opportunity to get rich. It appears also in other studies that men are more often in a position to benefit from corruption. Men however also stressed how not all men are equally benefitting and described how men not profiting get frustrated and how it may aggravate domestic violence and ethnic conflicts.” (Nordic Consulting Group).

Theme: Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency
Subthemes: Justice; Health; Economic (In)Security
Geographical Focus: Uganda
Language: English

Notes:

“The aim of the present expert report is to prepare recommendations on gender sensitive development cooperation approaches in combating corruption. As only a few studies and empirical investigations have so far been conducted on the connection between corruption and gender and these are in dispute, we first need to lay a sound foundation for this. To do this, we shall examine which gender impacts of corruption need to be taken into account and whether or how far corruption can be attributed to gender-specific causes.

“Corruption causes particular harm to poor sections of the population. Women, who make up the majority of the poor, are thus more severely affected by the effects of corruption. Moreover, a number of manifestations of corruption specifically affect women more severely, that is, as compared to male sections of the population, and often exacerbate existing forms of discrimination. These include corruption in education and health and in other social sectors, certain forms of corruption in the legal and judicial system (including regulation), so-called sexual corruption in the workplace and in public and private institutions and corruption in connection with trafficking in women (focal theme).

“Greater attention has also recently been directed at possible gender-specific causes of corruption. Current studies ascertain significantly less corruption in countries where women are represented more strongly in parliaments and public administration and where higher percentages of women are engaged in gainful employment. Furthermore, the women’s individual responses indicate that they are less prone to corruption than men. For different reasons, however, doubt has been cast on some of these research findings and conclusions. These misgivings pertain in particular to whether a direct connection can be inferred between gender identity and corrupt behavior, whether this is based on genuine differences in ethical standards, and whether raising the percentage of women per se can rate as an anti-corruption instrument, as these studies suggest.

“These doubts cannot be refuted by the present paper. The decisive aspect for the connection between gender and corruption appears to be the inequitable access of men and women to resources and positions of power, which can in turn be abused for corrupt purposes. This can take various, obvious and also subtler forms of disempowerment which go far beyond the question of quotas for women. It is therefore not sufficient to rely on raising women’s quotas for a “quick fix” in anticorruption. Instead, what is needed are sustainable impacts by raising the substantive participation of women, supplemented by additional measures to prevent and combat corruption that help curb and control power.

“An obvious and promising way to combine the joint concerns of anti-corruption and gender equality through innovative approaches and policies is to strengthen transparency and accountability as part of decentralization and/or promote municipal self-governance with substantive participation by representatives of poor sections of the population in the political process and in administration. At local level in particular, the instrument of gender-oriented
participatory budgetary planning and analysis affords ways of strengthening accountability, transparency and gender responsiveness and stemming corruption. This applies in particular when combined with specific anticorruption instruments in budget planning and analysis and in expenditure control.

“Another important approach is to step up efforts to prevent and combat corruption that affects women in particular. Possible measures are stronger anticorruption mainstreaming in education, health and other social sectors, preventing corruption in conjunction with advisory services to promote women’s rights, organizational advice in promoting codes of conduct relating to corruption and gender equity and their implementation and anti-corruption in connection with trafficking in women (focal theme). Each of these measures can be combined with other diagnostic and awareness raising instruments that serve to address gender discrimination and corruption” (Pech and Schimmel)

Theme: Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency
Subthemes: Development; Health; Education Access; Livelihoods;
Discrimination; Gender Quotas; Violence against Women
Geographical Focus: Global
Language: English


Abstract:
“There exists evidence in the social science literature that women may be more relationship-oriented, may have higher standards of ethical behavior and may be more concerned with the common good than men are. This would imply that women are more willing to sacrifice private profit for the public good, which would be especially important for political life. A number of papers with field data have found differences in the corrupt activities of males and females. Nonetheless they have drawbacks that may be overcome in a lab experiment. The aim of this paper is to see experimentally if women and men, facing the same situation behave in a different way, as suggested in the field-data studies or, on the contrary, they behave in the same way. The results found in the experiment show that women are indeed less corrupt than men.” (Rivas)

Theme: Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency
Subthemes: Economic In/Security
Geographical Focus: Global
Language: English
Notes:

Sever writes about the connection between gender and corruption:
“Discussions around women and public sector corruption/accountability have
tended to focus on whether or not women are less corrupt than men... However,
what is less analysed is the differential impact of corruption on women and men
and how anti-corruption measures are founded on particular assumptions of
gender roles and relationships. Corruption which drains public resources and
takes much needed funds away from national economic development or social
services, disproportionately affects women and the poor who are most dependent
on them.” (Sever)

Theme: Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency
Subthemes: Development; Economic In/Security
Geographical Focus: Global
Language: English
*Recommended

%20accountability%20in%20situations%20of%20conflict%20and%20fragility.pdf

Abstract:
“Donor support to social accountability in fragile and conflict-affected
states is a relatively new phenomenon. It has emerged with the lessons that top-
down anticorruption approaches have often failed and different approaches are
needed to improve state accountability to its people. With increasing support to
fragile and conflict-affected states, donors should focus their efforts to: identify
and support local accountability measures; strengthen partnerships across sectors,
as well as demographic and geographic divides; and support collaborative
governance and capacity building to strengthen the social contract between state
and society in the wake of crisis.” (Schouten)

Theme: Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency
Subthemes: Post-Conflict Reconstruction; Governance, Economic
In/Security; Development
Geographical Focus: Global
Language: English
Abstract:
“This study explores the relationship between corruption and human rights with a view to recommending ways in which UNDP could integrate more fully human rights perspectives into its anti-corruption technical assistance programmes. First, we consider the value of adopting a human rights based approach to anti-corruption strategies. Second, we make explicit the links among human rights, democracy and the rule of law, before discussing how corruption poses a threat to all three. We approach this relationship from several different angles: firstly by considering how corruption poses a serious threat to human rights promotion and protection; secondly, by considering how weak human rights promotion and protection can create conditions that increase the incidence of corruption; and third, by considering how human rights based approaches in anti-corruption strategies can strengthen democracy and the rule of law and promote the enjoyment of human rights in general. Fourth, we identify corruption as a matter of recognized international legal concern and we discuss the relevance of international legal frameworks to address it. Fifth, we review pertinent examples that illuminate in concrete the threat corruption poses to specific civil and political rights as well as to specific economic, social and cultural rights. Sixth, we discuss key actors and policy approaches to fight corruption which leads us finally to our recommendations as to the practical measures UNDP should take with its partners to fight corruption in line with international human rights standards.” (Bottiglieri and Sunga)

Notes:
“Corruption siphons public funds into private bank accounts, impairing economic, political and social development. Funds intended for development, including the building and maintenance of hospitals, schools and other essential services suffer directly as a result. There is thus a clear connection between widespread and systematic corruption and the squandering of natural resources which could have been used to strengthen economic and social development and to improve the enjoyment of human rights, which calls for corruption to be understood and addressed from the broader perspective of human rights based analysis, not only from a criminal law perspective.” (Bottiglieri and Sunga)

Abstract:

“Using several independent data sets, we investigate the relationship between gender and corruption. We show using micro-data that women are less involved in bribery, and are less likely to condone bribe-taking. Cross-country data show that corruption is less severe where women hold a larger share of parliamentary seats and senior positions in the government bureaucracy, and comprise a larger share of the labor force.” (Swamy et al.)

Theme: Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency
Subthemes: Women’s Leadership and Participation
Geographical Focus: Global
Language: English


Abstract:

“The demand for 30% reservations for women in electoral bodies has escalated in the last decade and has produced significant increases in women legislators in many countries. Those campaigning for quotas anticipated a change in government policies and priorities and an increased influence of women in decision-making. Such a shift in power depends both on the types of party systems and of electoral systems, issues widely overlooked. Utilizing proportional representation (PR) with a fixed party list system will certainly increase the number of women elected; but women selected must be party loyalists. Studies suggest their impact on policy is limited. Reservations in countries using the single-member constituency system require legal change. Women leaders of civil society organizations are more likely to win elections under the single-constituency system and thus have greater influence on policy. Many obstacles remain for women to be effective in all these male-dominated chambers.” (Tinker)

Notes:

This article has a section named “Corruption” which provides information and evidence on the role women play in corruption.

Theme: Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency
Subthemes: Women’s Leadership and Participation; Electoral Reform; Gender Quotas; Gendered Power Relations

Notes:
“Progress of the World’s Women 2008/2009 provides examples of how women are demanding accountability for action on commitments to promote gender equality and women’s rights from national governments, justice and law enforcement systems, employers and service providers, as well as international institutions. Accountability from a women’s rights perspective exists when all women are able to get explanations from those in power for actions that affect them, and can set in motion corrective actions when those responsible fail to promote their rights.” (UNIFEM)

Theme: Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency
Subtheme: Governance; Justice; Rule of Law; Gendered Power Relations; Women’s Rights
Geographical Focus: Global
Language: English

VII. USEFUL WEBSITES

(Note: In this section, when text is in quotation marks it means that it comes directly from the organization’s own website.)

A. South Asia Resources


Notes:
“The goal of The Afghanistan Analyst is to provide an online research portal for scholars, students, journalists, policy-makers, NGO/humanitarian workers, members of the armed forces and others who want to better understand Afghanistan.” Includes a bibliography, which has a section on “women, gender and family,” on pp. 160-170. http://christianbleuer.files.wordpress.com/2010/01/afghanistanbibliography2011.pdf
Afghanistan’s Centre for Research and Policy Studies (ACRPS).

Notes:

“ACRPS is a think-tank based in Kabul, Afghanistan that conducts policy research, analysis and advocacy. ACRPS was founded in December 2007 by three Afghans who share a common vision for the future of Afghanistan: a democratic country that acknowledges internationally-accepted values such as human rights, and an economically viable state that can harness the benefits of the free market.

“ACRPS has grown substantially since its inception and has quickly become a respected and valued research institution in Kabul that works with decision-makers in government, international institutions, foreign donors, civil society and the private sector in finding ways to improve the well being of the Afghan people.

“ACRPS’ aim is to critically analyse political, social, and economic policies and provoke debates within Afghan civil society and the international community in order to underline the significance of finding public policy solutions for Afghanistan. ACRPS pursues its aim through three key areas of activity: research and policy advice; training and funding research fellows; and organising and leading round tables and policy debates.

“ACRPS has a vision of serving the Afghan public interest by being a policy watchdog that analyses and critiques policies formulated by both the central government and international donors, while at the same time playing a key role in training and advising the next generation of domestic policy-makers.”

Telephone: 93 (0) 798 030144  
Contact: Haroun Mir Director  
E-mail: harounmir@yahoo.com


Notes:
“CPDS serves as a centre for advanced research and an information exchange on PEACE, DIPLOMACY, and DEVELOPMENT. The Centre offers objective, critical and non-partisan perspectives in four main areas: Global Governance, Human Security, Political Violence and Terrorism, and Peace and Security.”

Theme: Useful Websites
Subthemes: Human Security; Political Violence and Terrorism; Governance; Security


Notes:
Centre for Social Research’s core mission is to restructure gender relations toward a humane, equitable and gender-just society. We focus our attention toward empowering women, protecting and ensuring women’s rights and understanding social issues from a gender perspective.

Theme: Useful Websites
Subthemes: Gendered Power Relations; Justice; Empowerment; Women’s Rights
Geographical Focus: India
Language: English


Notes:
“The Economic and Political Weekly, published from Mumbai, is an Indian institution which enjoys a global reputation for excellence in independent scholarship and critical inquiry.

“First published in 1949 as the Economic Weekly and since 1966 as the Economic and Political Weekly, EPW, as the journal is popularly known, occupies a special place in the intellectual history of independent India. For more than five decades EPW has remained a unique forum that week after week has brought together academics, researchers, policy makers, independent thinkers, members of non-governmental organisations and political activists for debates straddling economics, politics, sociology, culture, the environment and numerous other disciplines.” (from Scholars without Borders website)

Theme: Useful Websites
Subthemes: Development
Geographical Focus: India
Language: English

**Notes:**
This is the official blog of the Gender Violence Research and Information Taskforce (GRIT) at Prajnya Initiatives, a non-profit organization based in Chennai, India, which works on issues relating to peace, justice, and security. The GRIT@Prajnya blog is meant to be a platform from which to begin discussions on gender-based violence in the region, an issue which the website claims is too commonly “brushed under the carpet or cloaked in secrecy.” Blog entries represent a wide range of varying content and form: academic articles, panel reports, personal reflections, informational links, photo and video entries, and more.

**Theme:** *Useful Websites*
**Subthemes:** *Justice; Security; Violence against Women; Women’s Rights*
**Geographical Focus:** *Chennai, India*
**Language:** *English*


**Notes:**
Monthly online journal addressing multiple political and human security issues in India and the wider region.

**Theme:** *Useful Websites*
**Subthemes:** *Corruption; Justice; Governance; Education Access; many more!*
**Geographical Focus:** *India & wider region*
**Language:** *English*
*Recommended*


**Notes:**
This special issue of India-Seminar reflects on the subjects of regional relationships (India and Afghanistan), the role of micro-finance in peace building, the Maoist conflict in Central India, the Self Employed Women’s Association (SEWA), women in leadership and feminist peace building. Authors from diverse backgrounds include a director of SEWA, a former Indian Ambassador, social science researchers, members of the Indian government, a vice-president of The World Bank and program director for the South Asia Forum for Human Rights.

**Theme:** *Useful Websites*
**Subthemes:** *Economic In/Security; Impact of Armed Conflict on Women; Violence against Women; Micro-Finance; Women’s Leadership & Participation*
**Geographical Focus:** *India*

Notes:
“The IAVA promotes systematic research on all forms of armed violence, from cross-border terrorism, domestic insurgencies, and militant separatism to less publicized risks to individuals, such as crime, social conflict, and gendered violence.”

Theme: Useful Websites
Subthemes: Security; Militarization & Armed Conflict; Gender-Based Violence; Political Violence and Terrorism; Crime
Geographical Focus: India
Language: English
*Recommended

Integrity Watch Afghanistan. [http://www.iwaweb.org/about_iwa.html](http://www.iwaweb.org/about_iwa.html)

Notes:
The Integrity Watch Afghanistan is an independent civil society organization founded in 2005/2006. The mission of the organization is to put focus on corruption by: “increasing transparency, integrity and accountability in Afghanistan through the provision of policy-oriented research, development of training tools and facilitation of policy dialogue.” (IWA)

The Integrity Watch Afghanistan’s website is great resource for information on the topics of transparency, corruption and accountability and lists their annual report and other relevant material on the page. The website is available in English, Dari, and Pashto.

Theme: Corruption, Lack of Accountability & Transparency
Subtheme: Post-Conflict Reconstruction; Accountability; Transparency
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan
Language: English, Dari, Pashto

*Journal of South Asian Development.*

Notes:
The Journal of South Asian Development (JSAD) publishes original research papers and reviews of books relating to all facets of development in
South Asia. While the JSAD is primarily a social science journal, it considers papers from other disciplines that deal with development issues. Geographically, the JSAD's coverage is confined to the South Asian region, which includes India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, Maldives and Afghanistan. Research papers may focus on one particular state, a group of states or the entire South Asian region. Papers that compare South Asian states or the region with other states and regions are also welcome.

Theme: Useful Websites
Subthemes: Development
Geographical Focus: South Asia
Language: English


Notes:
The Legatum Prosperity Index is the world's only global assessment of wealth and wellbeing; unlike other studies that rank countries by actual levels of wealth, life satisfaction or development, the Prosperity Index produces rankings based upon the very foundations of prosperity those factors that will help drive economic growth and produce happy citizens over the long term. The website will rank a country by its index, looking at the economy, entrepreneurship/opportunity, governance, education, health, safety/security, personal freedom, and social capital.

Theme: Useful Websites
Subthemes: Economic In/Security; Development; Governance; Human Security
Geographical Focus: Global, Afghanistan, Pakistan, India
Language: English


Notes:
“Northeast Women Initiative for Peace (NEIWIP) is a network of women organizations that are working for peace in the northeast region of India. Northeast India comprising of the eight states of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura and Sikkim is facing the onslaught of multiple armed conflicts since the late 1940s. A level of militarization has engulfed India’s Northeast under the garb of insurgency and counter-insurgency. And in the process women are assaulted, humiliated, raped and murdered during conflicts which are not of their making.
“NEIWIP brings together women from all over Northeast states to strategize an action plan to strategise an action plan for building peace, providing justice and political rights in the region ruptured by years of conflict.

“The network was formed on 13 June 2009 with the following objectives:

- To provide opportunity to bring together women from all walks of life including peace makers, academicians, researchers, policy makers, lawyers, social activist and students to share knowledge, raise issues, to listen to one another and determine ways to promote peace in the region.
- To strategise an action plan for building peace, providing justice and political rights in a society ruptured by years of conflict.
- To pressurize the government into 'sincere dialogue' with the insurgent groups to end recurring armed violence.
- To find solutions to promote empowerment of women in the region by involving them in decision making.
- To analyse and recommend the best ideas to the Government of India promote peace in the region.”

Theme: Useful Websites
Subthemes: Impact of Armed Conflict on Women; Peacebuilding; Justice; Violence against Women; Human Rights; Empowerment
Geographical Focus: India
Language: English

Pakistan-India People's Forum for Peace and Democracy. http://www.pipfpd.org

Notes:
This organization promotes peace between India and Pakistan through "people-to-people" initiatives and promotes democracy and secularism.

Theme: Useful Websites
Subthemes: Peacebuilding; Democratization; Secularism
Geographical Focus: India, Pakistan
Language: English
*Recommended

Peacemakers Trust. “Afghanistan Peacebuilding Links.”
http://www.peacemakers.ca/research/Afghanistan/AfghanistanPeaceLinks.html

Notes:
Comprehensive online resource hub for organizations/resources on Afghanistan.

Notes:
“SAHR is a democratic regional network with a large membership base of people committed to addressing human rights issues at both national and regional levels. SAHR aims at fostering the concept of multiple South Asian identities by enabling people to realise their ideals and aspirations for peace, democracy, secularism and human security, while promoting pluralism in approaches towards social, political, economic and cultural development of different communities, ethnic, linguistic, religious and other groups.”


Notes:
SARID is dedicated to promoting sustainable, environmentally sound and humane economic development strategies, and providing technology & building strategies for affordable, owner driven, sustainable shelter for people in South Asia and developing countries.


Notes:
Compilation of reports by the UN Secretary-General on the situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security.
Theme: Useful Websites
Subthemes: Security; Peacebuilding; Human Rights; Development;
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan
Language: English


Notes: UN Women’s focus areas are: Increasing women’s leadership and participation; ending violence against women and girls; engaging women in all aspects of peace and security processes; enhancing women’s economic empowerment; making gender equality central to national development planning and budgeting.

Theme: Useful Websites
Subthemes: Women’s Leadership & Participation; Violence against Women; Women’s Rights; Empowerment; Gendered Power Relations; Peace Processes
Geographical Focus: South Asia
Language: English

WE CAN End All Violence against Women - South Asia Regional Campaign.

Notes: This 6-year, 6-country regional campaign seeks “to end violence against women in their homes and in the larger society.”

Theme: Useful Websites
Subthemes: Violence against Women
Geographical Focus: South Asia
Language: English


Notes: The goal of this institute is to “advance a new paradigm for peace and security in Afghanistan that is inclusive of women’s perspectives.”

It is ”a woman-led initiative that focuses on increasing women’s leadership and inclusion in bringing peace and security to Afghanistan through research and evidence building and also strengthen the advocacy campaigns.
carried out many other women organizations. The unique aspiration of the Institute aims to engage Afghan women and their strategic participation to improve social cohesion, restore war torn communities, and restore relationships at the grassroots and national levels.”

“The rationale for RIWPS is that Afghan women at the grassroots have important contributions to the stability and community peace building in their traditional and emerging roles. Those contributions need to be documented and promoted for local and national peace & security. RIWPS will document those contributions of women leaders at the grassroots empower them with community mobilization and advocacy efforts and connect them to find and negotiate their spaces at the local governance structures as well as national governance structures.”

Theme: Useful Websites
Subthemes: Security; Conflict Resolution; Peacebuilding; Women in Leadership
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan
Language: English

B. Global Resources


Notes:
“The Human Security Report Project (HSRP) is an independent research centre affiliated with Simon Fraser University (SFU) in Vancouver, Canada. The HSRP tracks global and regional trends in organized violence, their causes and consequences. Research findings and analyses are published in the Human Security Report, Human Security Brief series, and the miniAtlas of Human Security. The HSRP also produces a range of online data, research, and news resources covering a broad range of global security issues.”

Theme: Useful Websites
Subthemes: Human Security
Geographical Focus: Global
Language: English


Notes:
“The International Crisis Group is now generally recognized as one of the world’s leading independent, non-partisan, sources of analysis and advice to
governments and intergovernmental bodies on the prevention and resolution of
deadly conflict.”

Theme: **Useful Websites**
Subthemes: **Conflict Prevention; Conflict Resolution**
Geographical Focus: **Global**
Language: **English**


**Notes:**
The Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO) is a non-profit research institution established in 1959, whose overarching purpose is to conduct research on the conditions for peaceful relations between states, groups and people. The institute is independent, international and interdisciplinary, and explores issues related to all facets of peace and conflict. To remain at the cutting edge of peace research, PRIO is both proactively involved in identifying new trends in global conflict, and oriented toward formulating and documenting new understandings and responses.

Theme: **Useful Websites**
Subthemes: **Conflict Prevention; Sexual Violence; Peacebuilding; Armed Conflict; Security**
Geographical Focus: **Global**
Language: **English**


**Notes:**
“The PeaceWomen Project promotes the role of women in preventing conflict, and the equal and full participation of women in all efforts to create and maintain international peace and security. PeaceWomen monitors the UN Security Council, the UN system, and provides a hub of information sharing on women, peace and security.”

Includes a complete posting of all National Action Plans (NAPs) on SCR 1325 adopted by governments around the world. Also includes NAPs on SCR 1820, 1888, 1889, and 1960. See the NAP from Liberia—an outstanding example.

Theme: **Useful Websites**
Subthemes: **Peacebuilding; Conflict Prevention; Women's Participation; SCR 1325; Security; Civil Society Organizations**
Geographical Focus: **Global**
Language: **English**
**Recommended**


Notes:  
TI's mission is “to stop corruption and promote transparency, accountability and integrity at all levels and across all sectors of society. Our Core Values are: transparency, accountability, integrity, solidarity, courage, justice and democracy.” The webpage provides links to other transparency/anti-corruption organizations and websites helping to fight corruption.

Theme: **Useful Websites**  
Subthemes: **Corruption; Accountability; Transparency**  
Geographical Focus: **Global**  
Language: **English**


Notes:  
“WomanStats Project is the most comprehensive compilation of information on the status of women in the world. The Project facilitates understanding the linkage between the situation of women and the security of nation-states. The WomanStats Project combs literature and conducts expert interviews to find qualitative and quantitative information on over 310 indicators of women's status in 174 countries.”

Theme: **Useful Websites**  
Subthemes: **Security, Gendered Power Relations**  
Geographical Focus: **Global**  
Language: **English**


Notes:  
“Women’s Initiatives for Gender Justice (WIGJ) is an international women's human rights organization advocating for gender-inclusive justice within the International Criminal Court (ICC). Based in the Hague, WIGJ advocates for the inclusion of gender based crimes in the investigations and prosecutions of the ICC and promotes the rights of women victims/survivors of armed conflict through the justice process, including through the Trust Fund for Victims.”

Theme: **Useful Websites**
Subthemes: Justice; Women’s Rights; War Crimes  
Geographical Focus: Global, Countries with cases before the International Criminal Court  
Language: English


**Notes:**  
“Women for Genuine Security is a U.S. based organization that promotes a world of genuine security based on justice and respect for others across national boundaries, a world free of militarism, violence and all forms of sexual exploitation. Through educational programs and resources, WGS promotes critical analysis, activist partnerships and greater accountability of the U.S. government for the violence, environmental devastation, and sexual abuse caused by the U.S. military in countries that host U.S. forces and bases.” Its resource page includes listings of books and articles about: Violence against Women; Gender and Militarism; Organizing & Peace; Military Policy; Environmental and Health Effects of Military Operations; Militarism and Globalization; Military Base Conversion; and Amerasian Children.

**Theme: Useful Websites**  
Subthemes: Security, Violence against Women; Militarization & Armed Conflict; Impact of Armed Conflict on Women; Human Security  
Geographical Focus: Global  
Language: English


**Notes:**  
The U4 Anti-Corruption Resource Centre includes sources which paint a comprehensive overview of gender and corruption: the impact of corruption on women, debates about whether women's political participation will decrease corruption, and other ongoing debates. The link above shows the search results from “Gender.”

The themes covered by U4 also include: Corruption and Aid; International Drivers of Corruption; Natural Resource Management; Evaluation & Measurement; the Health Sector.

**Theme: Useful Websites**  
Subthemes: Corruption; Accountability; Transparency; Impact of Corruption on Women; Women's Participation  
Geographical Focus: Global
United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR).  

Notes:  
“The Mission of the Institute is to assist the international community in finding and implementing solutions to disarmament and security challenges. Through its research and educational efforts, UNIDIR seeks to forward arms control and disarmament, contribute to conflict prevention and promote the development of a peaceful and prosperous world. UNIDIR strives to anticipate new security challenges and threats and to elaborate possible methods to address them before they become critical. Finally, UNIDIR serves as a bridge—among United Nations disarmament, security and development organizations and between the United Nations system and the broader security community—to create the necessary synergies to address and mitigate the effects of insecurity at the international, regional and local levels.”

Theme: Useful Websites  
Subthemes: Security; Development; Human Security  
Geographical Focus: Global  
Language: English


Notes:  
“UNODA provides substantive and organizational support for norm-setting in the area of disarmament through the work of the General Assembly and its First Committee, the Disarmament Commission, the Conference on Disarmament and other bodies. It fosters disarmament measures through dialogue, transparency and confidence-building on military matters, and encourages regional disarmament efforts; these include the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms and regional forums.”

Theme: Useful Websites  
Subthemes: Security; Small Arms and Light Weapons  
Geographical Focus: Global  
Language: English

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. “Convention against Corruption.”  
Notes:
This website provides the text of the Convention against Corruption, makes note of member states that are party to the treaty, highlights review mechanism and other information.

Theme: Useful Websites
Subthemes: Corruption; Accountability; Transparency,
Geographical Focus: Global
Language: English


Notes:
“This Fact Sheet has been prepared with the aim of supporting human rights defenders in their invaluable work. It is addressed primarily to State authorities, national and international non-governmental organizations, United Nations personnel, major private sector actors (including transnational corporations) and human rights defenders themselves. The Fact Sheet is also aimed at the wider public and may be useful to journalists and others in disseminating information on the role and situation of human rights defenders.” (United Nations)

Theme: Useful Websites
Subthemes: Human Rights; Governance
Geographical Focus: Global
Language: English


Notes:
The UNFPA website states, “Humanitarian crises - whether caused by armed conflict or natural disaster - always hurt women and girls the most.” UNFPA Humanitarian Response works to protect the reproductive health of communities in crisis.

Theme: Useful Websites
Subthemes: Security; Human Rights; Health
Geographical Focus: Global
Language: English

Notes:
“The United Nations Rule of Law Website and Document Repository is a promotional and educational tool for practitioners and the general public. It seeks to inform users about the UN’s work in the field of rule of law, and its efforts to coordinate and strengthen system-wide approaches in this field.”

Theme: Useful Websites
Subthemes: Rule of Law; Governance
Geographical Focus: Global
Language: English


Notes:
In addition to the region-specific website listed above, UN Women’s main website has information about its main focus areas, which include: Violence against Women; Women, Peace and Security (including information about and text of Security Council Resolutions 1325, 1820, 1888, 1889, 1960); Women’s Leadership & Participation; National Planning & Gender Budgeting; Women’s Economic Empowerment; and the Millennium Development Goals.

Theme: Useful Websites
Subthemes: SCR 1325; Human Rights; Women and Armed Conflict;
Women’s Leadership & Participation; Economic In/Security;
Empowerment; Development
Geographical Focus: Global
Language: English
APPENDIX - Gender- Blind Discussion of the Militarization of Aid

Note: This Appendix is here not because it speaks directly to the concerns of WRN members, but rather for the purpose of informing those who are interested about what the public and academic discussion of the topic “the militarization of humanitarian assistance” in the US looks like right now.

In our search for resources that look at the impact on women of the militarization of humanitarian assistance and development aid, we found little about women, or even about the impact on local “recipients” at all. The resources we found which could most easily be thought about in relation to women’s security (even if the authors did not make the connection) can be found in Section IV.3 of the annotated bibliography above. Predominantly, these addressed:

- The idea that Humanitarian Assistance (HA) as military strategy leads to short term projects designed to “win hearts and minds” instead of long term development planning and assistance;
- The problem of militarized HA leading to higher levels of insecurity for local communities, since ‘where western militaries go, the Taliban is sure to follow”;
- The idea that aid delivered by uniformed (mostly male) soldiers is less likely to reach women and children, and that it will lead to an increase in sexual exploitation and abuse of female aid recipients;
- The overall discrediting of HA organizations as tools of western militarization, resulting increasingly in their replacement by (often western-based) Muslim faith-based organizations. (The implications for women are not addressed in the literature we could find.)

But most of the literature we found paid little attention to these issues. Instead, looking at what was accessible through US search engines and academic databases, we found:

- Most of it is very general, and not region-specific;
- Overwhelmingly, it was written from the perspective of the “aid” providers, and we found it very difficult to find material on this topic from the region itself. That isn’t to say it doesn’t exist – but on all of the regional research center, think-tank and activist organization websites we went to, we could not find it;
- A tremendous amount of this literature focuses on the ways that the militarization of aid is a threat to humanitarian assistance workers, humanitarian assistance organizations, and to the idea of humanitarianism itself; almost none of it focuses on the dangers it creates for the local people (except, we can extrapolate, local
humanitarian assistance workers, some of whom are women), much less for specifically for local women and their communities;

- Another big stream of this literature is written from the point of view of western militaries, debating how effective humanitarian assistance is a “nonlethal weapon of war,” and whether it is good or bad for the military’s own well-being to mix military and humanitarian work;

- Other parts of the literature talk about the switch from Humanitarian Assistance to Humanitarian Intervention as pretext for war;

- Or the problem that the prospect of humanitarian intervention and the subsequent aid distribution from donor governments may ultimately influence rebel leaders to escalate their behavior and commit more human rights abuses;

- Despite the long history of humanitarian-military relations, much of the literature frames it as a particularly current issue, as these relations have become more pronounced in recent decades.

- Military outsourcing of humanitarian assistance to private security companies is another theme that emerges in the literature since the beginning of the most recent conflict in Iraq.

- If regionally specific, pieces (usually about Afghanistan) still focused on the issues listed above, and on the challenges of coordination among humanitarian actors, and between humanitarians actors and militaries;

- The most prominent people who write critiques of the militarization of aid (such as Duffield or Donini) do it with no gender analysis, and not a lot of attention to the affected local communities.

With those caveats, below is sampling of some of the gender-blind discussion that is currently found in US policy, academic and military communities.


Notes:
This report uses on-the-ground perspectives from Afghans who have experienced aid from U.S. PRTs. This 83 page long report covers topics ranging from principles, security, expectations intelligence gathering and cultural
sensitivity. Most importantly, it draws parallels between the abilities of the PRTs along with the current projects of local NGOs. The common sentiment is that even though the military is the most effective in implementing projects, Afghans know that NGOs are the ones that will stay with them for the long-term.

Theme: Militarization of Aid – Gender Blind, General Literature
Geographical Focus: Asia-Pacific, Central-Asia, Afghanistan
Language: English


Notes:
This article looks at the role that the Responsibility to Protect (R2P) principle has played in the recent interventions in Libya. Bellamy and Williams argue that historically, the use of force for human protection has faced obstacles in both policy and practice. The adoption of R2P in 2001, however, has made UN-authorized humanitarian military intervention possible. The authors explore this issue through the case of recent military interventions in Libya. They contextualize UN resolution 1973, which gave a legal basis for military intervention to protect Libyan civilians, by first summarizing the events leading up to its adoption. They then analyze the challenges of using military force explicitly for human protection, explaining that such interventions have been rare throughout history. The authors explain this rarity by pointing to three obstacles to military humanitarian intervention: disagreements on legal and moral principles, political objections, and prudential considerations. The authors argue that these obstacles have been in part overcome, and that resolution 1973 was made more likely, by a decade of advocacy on R2P. By making this argument, Bellamy and Williams point to the importance of R2P’s role in justifying the recent uses of humanitarian military interventions. This justification resonates most strongly on the level of legal and moral principles, where many traditional objections to such interventions have been made.

Theme: Militarization of Aid – Gender Blind, General Literature
Geographical Focus: Libya
Language: English


Abstract:
The Afghan crisis, now well into its fourth decade, has many layers. The military and political dimensions of the crisis grab the headlines. But the structural violence and poor governance that underpin it—grinding poverty, rampant abuse of power, criminalized economy, parlous condition of women and girls, poor access to health and other services—receives much less attention.

This report focuses on the lives and vulnerabilities of those affected by the crisis and on the attempts by local and international agencies to mitigate these vulnerabilities within the fraught and volatile Afghan context. It presents an analysis of the humanitarian situation on the ground and of the challenges and constraints faced by the humanitarian community in a fast-moving environment. Its conclusions point to urgent changes required to improve the response to a severe and deepening humanitarian crisis and to protect humanitarian agencies, to the extent possible, from overt politicization and manipulation.

In the context of the so-called “transition”—that is, the significant reduction of foreign troops and probable decrease in aid and international engagement in Afghanistan—it is important to take stock of the humanitarian situation and to review how humanitarian agencies are preparing for a future that is bound to be of great uncertainty and that might well result in an escalation of conflict, lawlessness, displacement, and humanitarian need. (Feinstein International Center)

Notes:

Due to PRTs, Afghanistan has become an “advanced laboratory” for the militarization of aid. Unable to properly negotiate peace and humanitarian norms, militarized aid has had a negative impact on the credibility within the aid community. NGO’s feel as though the PRTs and UN troops place them and their aid agencies at unnecessary risk. This paper discusses the health impacts on Afghans from ongoing conflict, particularly around access to health. Either due to intimidation and threats from security forces or hospitals being used as posts for military operations, Afghans increasingly do not have adequate access to health services. Additionally, malnutrition from the agricultural impact of conflict has also increased.

Theme: Militarization of Aid – Gender Blind, General Literature
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan
Language: English


Notes:

This article critiques the dominant claim that humanitarian space is currently shrinking. Brassard-Boudreau and Hubert first point out that no conclusive definition of humanitarian space exists, however they identify three main criteria for the definition based on an analysis of the term’s usage. Based on
these criteria, the authors find that overall there is, broadly speaking, no conclusive evidence that humanitarian space is shrinking over time. They do, however, point to the increasingly blurred boundaries between humanitarians and other actors (including militaries and their delivery of aid). In specific cases, they find that when donors are both occupiers and combatants, there is some shrinkage of humanitarian space, supporting critiques of the militarization of aid.

Throughout the article the authors highlight the slipperiness of the concept of “humanitarian space,” and the need to contextualize specific humanitarian issues in order to address them adequately. To this end, they argue that beneficiary-centered humanitarianism should replace the current focus on third party interests. This shift in focus would place an emphasis on perspectives of aid recipients, in order to identify new humanitarian strategies.

Theme: Militarization of Aid – Gender Blind, General Literature
Geographical focus: Iraq, Afghanistan, General
Language: English


Abstract:
“The Humanitarian Policy Group at the UK's Overseas Development Institute analyses humanitarian aid over the last decade. Using Afghanistan and other examples, Sarah Collinson and Samir Elhawary chart the way that 'Humanitarian Space' has evolved since the Cold War. They dispute the "consensus among humanitarian actors" that, in the last 10 years, this space has been shrinking.” (Collinson and Elhawary)

Notes:
Among humanitarian actors, the belief that humanitarian space is contracting is overwhelming. The events of 9/11 are believed to be a contributing factor in this belief, particularly regarding Western governments’ political and security objectives overseas. One of the sources of this shrinking space is the widespread misunderstanding of the complexities of the humanitarian work in its potential for challenging both security and political endeavors.

Theme: Militarization of Aid – Gender Blind, General Literature
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan, Sudan, Iraq
Language: English

In this article, Grespin identifies the strengths, weaknesses and consequences of the U.S. military in providing aid. She points out the need for armed security escorts for local non-governmental organizations to do their work in high-risk areas while at the same time acknowledging the blurred line between NGOs and non-combatants. The article also states that while not well known for their successful implementation of aid, the U.S. military exceeds in logistics and transportation - issues that NGOs simply do not have the resources for. Most importantly Grespin points out that often times this aid money risks being inappropriately distributed, such as “funneling of aid money to protection rackets run by insurgent groups and local militias”. The author concludes by stating that, “development is political and development comes from aid” therefore unintended repercussions will always be a byproduct of international aid.

Theme: Militarization of Aid – Gender Blind, General Literature
Subtheme: Security; International Aid and Development
Geographical Focus: Global
Language: English


This briefing paper from the NGO Coordination Committee in Iraq covers some trends and issues in humanitarian-military interactions. The author highlights a pressing concern for many NGOs working on the ground in Iraq, namely, the blurring of military and humanitarian roles. Hansen claims that this situation is a result of the US military’s efforts to provide humanitarian aid in attempts to win the “hearts and minds” of Iraqi citizens. Visibility is believed to be key to the success of winning the hearts and minds of civilians, US civil-military actors have generally kept high profiles and a well-publicized status in Iraq. Humanitarian actors, on the other hand, have kept a lower profile, due to security reasons. As a result, Hansen claims that neutral “humanitarian space” in Iraq is increasingly constricted. What makes this significant is that unlike in previous conflicts, there has been reluctance on the part of the humanitarian community, the UN, and donors to defend humanitarian space in Iraq against the encroachment of military actors. Hansen points out that this encroachment not only impacts humanitarian actors, but also the safety and welfare of beneficiary communities in Iraq.

Theme: Militarization of Aid – Gender Blind, General Literature
Geographical Focus: Iraq
Language: English

Abstract:

“This article traces one of the logics of the ongoing war in the Mano River region of West Africa. It argues that, in the wake of humanitarian interventions in Sierra Leone, combatants who moved on to fight in Liberia were more likely to use attacks against civilians in their military strategy. It suggests, however, that such tactical military choices are to be understood in terms of local contexts of meaning, most notably about the nature of political power. The author’s own ethnographic work with the kamajor militia in Sierra Leone and with Liberians United for Reconciliation and Democracy (LURD) in Liberia serves as the basis for this analysis, and he advocates a participant-observation”. (Hoffman, 2004)

Notes:

Hoffman details the methods of combatants in executing their military plan in such a way to maximize relief efforts from humanitarian interventions of other governments. As a way of jump-starting post-war economy, combatants know they must focus their targets on physical infrastructure and civilians. Combatants know and believe “…the more atrocious the conflict, the greater the level of aid”. Hoffman states, “…increased attacks on civilians in the Mano River war extending throughout Sierra Leone and Liberia are linked to the practices of humanitarian organizations that sought to limit abuses by investing heavily in post-conflict efforts to prevent combatants from renewing hostilities”.

Theme: **Militarization of Aid – Gender Blind, General Literature**
Geographical Focus: Sierra Leone, Liberia
Language: English


Notes:

The report observes that the international community still lacks a coherent policy to strengthen the state ahead of the withdrawal of most foreign forces by December 2014. The impact of international assistance will remain limited unless donors, particularly the largest, the U.S., stop subordinating programming to counter-insurgency objectives, devise better mechanisms to monitor implementation, adequately address corruption and wastage of aid funds, and ensure that recipient communities identify needs and shape assistance policies.

Theme: **Militarization of Aid – Gender Blind, General Literature**
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan

Notes:
In response to the growing number of attacks on humanitarian workers, Krahenbuhl questions the appropriateness of pairing humanitarian aid with political and military strategies. Neutral organizations such as the International Committee of the Red Cross are facing increased difficulty and danger when trying to access high conflict regions where humanitarian aid is needed most. However, the author does acknowledge that because of this rise in security risks, these aid workers often need the escort of military personnel to their sites. Recognizing that one cannot have it both ways (criticizing the military whilst at the same time requiring their security), Krahenbuhl concludes that, “It is essential that political and military decision makers seriously confront the far reaching consequences of making humanitarian aid an integral part of the counter-insurgency operations. Humanitarian organizations for their part must debate the consequences of their choices in a more self-critical and honest fashion and genuinely decide how they wish to operate”

Theme: Militarization of Aid – Gender Blind, General Literature
Geographical Focus: Global
Language: English


Notes:
Mojadidi cites incidences of militarized aid being carried out by troops in civilian clothing and the resulting increase in suspicion on the motives of aid. Other strategies of aid delivery has included U.S. military planes dropping pamphlets to encourage people to provide information about combative forces or face the result of losing aid. In general, the Afghanistan population is frustrated and distrusting of the aid agenda since it has been intertwined with the security priorities. Additionally, militarized aid has increased the deaths of Afghan nationals working in aid and development sectors due to the perceived involvement with politics of donor nations.

Theme: Militarization of Aid – Gender Blind, General Literature

**Abstract:**

“Invoking memories and imagery from the Holocaust and other German atrocities during World War II, many contemporary commentators and politicians believe that the international community has an affirmative obligation to deter and incapacitate perpetrators of humanitarian atrocities. Today, the received wisdom is that a legalistic approach, which combines humanitarian interventions with international criminal prosecutions targeting perpetrators, will help realize the post-World War II vision of making atrocities a crime of the past. This Article argues, in contrast, that humanitarian interventions are often likely to create unintended, and sometimes perverse, incentives among both the victims and perpetrators of atrocities. The problem is that when the international community intervenes in the civil wars or insurrections where most humanitarian atrocities take place, its decision is partially endogenous or interdependent with that of the combatants; humanitarian interventions both influence and are influenced by the decisions of the victims and perpetrators of atrocities. Herein lies the paradox: because humanitarian interventions tend to increase the chance that rebel or victim group leaders are going to achieve their preferred political objectives, such leaders might have an incentive to engage in the kinds of provocative actions that make atrocities against their followers more likely in the first place. More specifically, the prospect of humanitarian intervention often increases the level of uncertainty about the distribution of costs and resolve between the combatants. In turn, such uncertainty amplifies the possibility of divergent expectations between the dominant and rebel group regarding the outcome of a civil war. At bottom, the prospect of humanitarian intervention might sometimes increase the risks of genocidal violence. This Article turns to insights from the domestic framework of torts and criminal law to elaborate upon the theoretical framework that motivates this perverse dynamic, provides some contemporary illustrations from civil wars in Africa and the Balkans, and recommends improvements to the current regime to mitigate some of its unintended effects. This Article concludes that the optimal regime of humanitarian intervention would incorporate comparative fault principles that take into account the failure of victim (or rebel) leaders to take adequate precautions against the risks of humanitarian atrocities.” (Nzelibe, 2008)

Notes:
This paper looks at some of the tensions in the delivery of humanitarian assistance through military venues. It does so by focusing on the Combined Joint Task Force – Horn of Africa (CJTF-HOA), a US navy-administered task force of the United States Africa Command (AFRICOM). Piombo claims that CJTF-HOA’s primary mission is to counter terrorism and establish human security in the region, partly through humanitarian and civic assistance. After describing the history of CJTF-HOA and its objectives, the author reports on how it is viewed by actors on the ground, from both “above” and “below.” From “below,” Piombo profiles a noncommissioned officer with the Civil Affairs who navigates the restrictions and rules of CJTF-HOA funding in his attempts to best deliver humanitarian assistance to a region in Kenya. From “above,” Piombo presents the perspective of a commander in the same region, who sees those below pushing to deliver humanitarian aid as “good idea fairies.” This commander stresses military and strategic objectives over diplomatic and developmental ones. Piombo claims that the distinction between these objectives, however, is not nearly as clear to those working “below,” nor to the recipients of CJTF-HOA’s assistance. This article thus highlights the negotiations, contradictions, and problematics of the militarization of aid in a specific case study.

Theme: Militarization of Aid – Gender Blind, General Literature
Geographical Focus: Horn of Africa
Language: English


Notes:
“Both in countries where fragility is widespread and in those that are more stable, there is a moral case for ensuring aid effectively addresses the insecurity many poor people face. To date, the international community has had only mixed success in this regard and so the recent focus on conflict and security within the development agenda is to be welcomed. But many worry that the attention being given to these issues is motivated less by a concern for ordinary people and more by the perceived security interests of donors, one aspect of what is often referred to as the ‘securitisation’ of aid. We are right to reject such securitisation but, whilst doing so, must not lose sight of aid’s potential to promote genuine security and justice for poor people. Merely defending ‘business as usual’ would be to let down some of the very people our aid is meant to serve.

“This briefing is aimed at the UK’s development community and does two things. Firstly, it distinguishes between the potential for ‘securitisation’ to
influence, on the one hand, where and why aid is allocated and, on the other, how that aid is used. Secondly, it sets out a ‘developmental’ approach to meeting poor people’s security needs and calls on the UK’s development community to champion such a positive vision through its advocacy and programming.” (SaferWorld)

Box Six on page seven briefly outlines the impact on the ground of militaries doling out aid.

Theme: Militarization of Aid – Gender Blind, General Literature
Geographical Focus: Global
Language: English


Notes:
Utilizing the strategy “information operations”, the ARSIC strategically locates destitute villages to deliver humanitarian aid to gain the support of locals. This article is written from the perspective of how successful the military’s mission has been, not on the delivery of aid, but on the use of aid as a tool to gain access to and acquire information on anti-government forces. With providing information for their hunt of combatants comes their much needed relief aid. The author indicates this as a preferable method of aid compared to the Taliban.

Theme: Militarization of Aid – Gender Blind, General Literature
Geographical Focus: Afghanistan
Language: English


Abstract:
The article contends that, in the light of contemporary challenges, states are not only changing the meaning of the word ‘humanitarian’, but are also creating an expanding marketplace that includes international private security companies (PSCs) in the delivery of humanitarian assistance. Three types of factors – supply, demand, and ideational – have led to this development. On the supply side, state-demanded limitations on the private employment of violence and reduced commercial opportunities in Iraq have called for PSC diversification. On the demand side, states increasingly wish for non-state partners that are comfortable with their involvement in integrated solutions, something that PSCs, rather than nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), are more willing to embrace.
On the ideational side, NGOs are concerned that humanitarian endeavor is losing its neutral and impartial status in order to facilitate counterinsurgency, ‘hearts and minds’ activities. PSCs, in contrast, are content with the partial delivery of assistance and likely will continue to be so given, in large part, the experiences of their personnel.

Notes:
This article looks at a current trend in the militarization of aid: PSCs responding to humanitarianism as a market opportunity, replacing NGOs and humanitarian agencies. As the abstract notes, the author looks at supply, demand, and ideational characteristics to explain this trend. Spearin highlights the importance of the state in this shift, in that PSCs are in many ways are better-equipped than NGOs to respond to the opportunities and challenges that the state presents, specifically in the context of the “War on Terror.” Spearin claims that while humanitarian assistance was historically an end in itself, in the post-9/11 context, it has become both securitized and instrumentalized in the War on Terror. While NGOs lament this shift, Spearin claims that militaries embrace the instrumentalization of humanitarian assistance.

Theme: Militarization of Aid – Gender Blind, General Literature
Geographical Focus: General
Language: English


Notes:
This article examines the impacts of militarized aid in Haiti. Although the article states that development aid came into being during the Cold War, Western definitions of what make life valuable have dominated the forefront of humanitarian intervention. Aid as a political weapon has increased militarization of aid, and military presence within a war-torn country. This article asserts that the, “military’s area of expertise is not humanitarian aid.”

In addition, the article probes the issue of neutrality. According to the article, those who deliver the aid are oftentimes citizens of the same country as those receiving the aid. Militarized aid polarizes the people living together within a community because it politicizes humanitarian aid.

While Way does not offer any solutions, he encourages all parties involved to look at the implications of the situation before supplying aid, militarily or otherwise.

Theme: Militarization of Aid – Gender Blind, General Literature
Geographical Focus: Haiti
Language: English

**Abstract:**

The relationship between humanitarian and military actors has changed considerably in the past decade. Military functions have expanded beyond traditional war-fighting to encompass a range of tasks related to humanitarian goals, including support for humanitarian and rehabilitation efforts and the protection of civilians. As a result, interaction between the military and humanitarian aid providers has grown, raising difficult questions about the relationship between the two.

The military’s role in providing humanitarian assistance and protection to civilians in crises is not a recent phenomenon. One of the largest relief efforts in history, the Berlin Airlift, took place over half a century ago, in 1948. Since then, military forces have regularly been involved in crisis responses in countries as diverse as Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Iraq and Sudan. In addition, the Red Cross tradition and the foundations of international humanitarian law are both based on a deal brokered between civilian and military actors in the mid-nineteenth century.

Relations have, however, changed considerably in the past decade. International responses to complex emergencies have increasingly called on peacekeeping and military-led missions, alongside the more regularised military responses to natural disasters. Increased interventionism on the part of the UN, regional organisations and the major Western powers in response to internal conflicts has led to new challenges to military and humanitarian interaction. These challenges are shaping relations between humanitarians and state and private military forces in new ways.

Changes in the relationship between military forces and humanitarian organisations pose important questions for both communities. Constructive common ground and agreement on core issues of responsibility and competence is needed. This will call for strategic engagement between humanitarian organisations and defence establishments, to reinforce humanitarian principles, improve both communities’ understanding of each other’s comparative expertise, and seek agreement that the core objective of humanitarian action is to save lives and maintain basic human dignity in the face of widespread threats to human survival – regardless of a population’s strategic value.

**Notes:**

This research report gives a detailed contextualization of military-humanitarian relations, both historically and geographically. Historically, the authors point out that humanitarian-military relations were integral to the foundations of international humanitarian law, and they trace the ways in which these relations have changed over time. They also stress the need for humanitarian agencies to acknowledge and accept the role of private and public actors in the delivery of aid. They claim that in times of increasing vulnerability,
these actors can play the vital role of providing security for not only humanitarian agencies, but also the recipients of their services.

Theme: **Militarization of Aid – Gender Blind, General Literature**
Geographical Focus: **Global**
Language: **English**


**Abstract:**

“This article contends that the integration of humanitarian assistance in efforts to ‘win hearts and minds’ in counter-insurgencies has not been successful, and that the costs, both operational and legal, clearly outweigh any benefits. It demonstrates how such manipulation of humanitarian assistance runs counter to fundamental principles of international humanitarian law. In addition, a growing body of research suggests that the use of short-term aid and relief programmes as part of the counter-insurgency has been ineffectual, and that, in places such as Afghanistan, it may even have undermined the overall military goal of defeating insurgents. With the United States and NATO military operations winding down in Afghanistan, it is time for the military and policy-makers reviewing ‘winning hearts and minds’ as a counter-insurgency strategy to draw the lessons and recognize the importance of a neutral and independent space for humanitarian aid.” (Williamson)

**Notes:**

This article offers a recent assessment of the role of the US military in continuing its humanitarian efforts in Afghanistan. A section of particular interest concerns the development of Afghan perceptions regarding any Western-based international humanitarian organizations. The author argues that there seems to be a perception of a ‘loss of neutrality,’ that these organizations are now “judged as partisan” and as part of a Western agenda. (p. 1046)

Theme: **Militarization of Aid – Gender Blind, General Literature**
Geographical Focus: **Afghanistan**
Language: **English**