

New Approaches to Moderating Violent Extremism

WHAT: Nineteen leaders from **Pakistan, Lebanon, Bosnia, and Rwanda** are beginning their second week in the United States learning from one another's experiences working to moderate violent extremism. On **Jan. 20**, they will release recommendations for what the international community can do to support their work.

The leaders have participated in public events in Cambridge, Mass., including attending courses at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government. They now head to Washington, DC to interact with hundreds of decision makers from the U.S. government and military, foreign governments, private security contractors, regional security organizations, and non-governmental organizations.

WHO: Members of Parliament, civil society leaders, journalists, and academics from **Pakistan, Lebanon, Bosnia, and Rwanda**, with expertise ranging from Pakistani national defense strategies to Rwandan post-conflict reconciliation. **Ambassador Swanee Hunt**, chair of The Institute for Inclusive Security, will lead events throughout the two weeks. **News legend Dan Rather** will participate in some Washington, D.C. events. **(Additional participants may be found on the following pages.)**

WHEN & WHERE: Cambridge, Mass., Jan. 12 – 15, 2010

Washington, D.C., Jan.15 – 19, 2010

Featured Event: Policy Forum 2010 Luncheon

JW Marriott Hotel, Jan. 19, 2010, 12 p.m. – 2 p.m.

Members of the media are encouraged to attend any events listed below.

Additional events are likely to be announced.

Participants will be available to speak with media through Jan. 21, 2010.

WHY: Countering violent extremism is now one of the primary goals of foreign policy in the United States and in NATO countries. While traditional counterintelligence strategies have continued to work in some contexts, they have been costly in lives lost, money spent, and damage to national reputations. Decision makers in the United States and its allied countries have rarely considered the particular contributions that women in leadership positions make to moderating extremist voices and activities.

These two weeks represent the first time that such a large number of women leaders have gathered to exchange success stories on this topic and advocate to decision makers in the United States. The recommendations that emerge from the discussions and meetings promise to point the international community in a new direction for engaging violent extremists and creating more sustainable peace.

CONTACT:

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Pakistani Delegation[†]

Shabana Fayyaz

Assistant Professor

Defense and Strategic Studies Department, Quaid-I-Azam University, Islamabad

- Teaches courses on terrorism and South Asia
- PhD candidate at the University of Birmingham's Political Science and International Studies Department; researching the question of terrorism and Pakistan
- Former senior research fellow at Quaid-I-Azam University and journalist at Pakistan Television Corporation's National News Bureau

Mossarat Qadeem

Executive Director

PAIMAN Alumni Trust

- Taught for 14 years at the University of Peshawar's Department of Political Science and was previously assistant director of the university's Women Study Centre, working on women's political participation, gender and good governance, and women and conflict transformation
- PhD candidate at the Institute of Social Sciences in the Netherlands, focusing on women in politics in Pakistan
- Conducts training, surveys, and research in the Federally Administered Tribal Areas and North-West Frontier Province on issues such as violence against women, women in conflict, and the impact of displacement on women

Humaira Shahid

Research Scholar

Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, Harvard University

- Researches and writes about violent customary practices, Islam, and tribal culture
- Former member of the Provincial Assembly in Punjab (2002 to 2007)
- Previously editor of *The Post* newspaper and magazine, *Woman Issues* newspaper

Kishwar Sultana

Director

Insan Foundation

- Foundation programs focus on gender equality and women's empowerment, children's leadership development
- Involved in UNIFEM's Afghanistan/Pakistan Dialogue on Women, Peace and Security and Implementation of Security Council Resolution 1325 in Pakistan
- Former gender and communication coordinator for Canadian International Development Agency Devolution Support Project (2004 to 2008)

† Longer biographies available on request

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Lebanese Delegation[†]

Wafa Abed

President

Institute of Progressive Women Union

- Woman delegate for the Progressive Socialist Party since 2004
- Coordinates activities for women's political empowerment with several political parties

May Akl, PhD

Foreign Press Secretary

MP (and former Prime Minister) Michel Aoun

- Founding member of Free Patriotic Movement political party
- Lecturer at St. Joseph University
- Former journalist at *The Beirut Times* and *An-Nahar*

Elissar Douaihy

Training and Mobilization Coordinator

Women Empowerment: Peaceful Action for Security and Stability (WEPASS)

- WEPASS is joint collaboration between United Nations Population Fund and National Commission for Lebanese Women
- Former social worker at Ministry of Social Affairs, Development Services Center
- Worked with internally displaced families in Ain El Remmaneh, providing counseling, needs assessment, reintegration assistance

Claudia Chamoun Abi Nader, PhD

Professor

Military Academy

- President of the Council of Thought
- Professor in French literature at the Military Academy since 1980; has taught more than 2,000 military officers
- June 2009 US Department of State alumna member of the month

Dima Sensenig, PhD

Director

Institute for Women's Studies in the Arab World, Lebanese American University

- Professor of communication; expert on violence in Arab television
- Active in UN Division for the Advancement of Women

[†] Longer biographies available on request

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Bosnian Delegation[†]

Radmila Karlas

Journalist

Novi Prelom

- Independent media expert and founder of *Novi Prelom*, an alternative magazine promoting tolerance
- Correspondent for BBC's Serbian Service, covering Republika Srpska (1997 to 2007)
- Former coordinator for Bosnia and Herzegovina efforts at Amnesty International (1998 to 2004)

Natalija Petric

Legal Adviser and Attorney

Center for Free Legal and Psychosocial Assistance for Women

- Program coordinator for Advocacy Actions for Legislative Changes
- Has served on working groups for Bosnia's Agency for Gender Equality; Republika Srpska's Ministry of Justice; and the United Nations Development Programme in Bosnia
- PhD candidate in gender studies at University of Novi Sad

Amra Seleskovic

Founder and Director

Vesta Association

- Facilitated nine public debates about Bosnia's path to the European Union; debates initiated by the Office of the High Representative and the EU Special Representative, with focus on the role of civil society
- Vesta Association advocates for citizen participation in social change movements
- Former news editor in radio and television journalism for the community radio station Vesta Radio in Tuzla

Snjezana Susnjara, PhD

Professor of Philosophy

University of Sarajevo

- Former head of Joint Affairs at the Ministry of Defence
- Consultant at Gender Centre in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina; represented Gender Centre in the European Council
- Participated in creation of National Action Plan for Bosnia on UN Security Council Resolution 1325

[†] Longer biographies available on request

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Rwandan Delegation[†]

Jane Gatete Abatoni

National Executive Secretary

Rwandese Association of Trauma Counselors

- Elected vice president of Pro-Femmes/Twese Hamwe, umbrella organization for Rwandan women's NGOs
- Works with international donors (EU, USAID, UNIFEM) and key Rwandan institutions (Gacaca Commission, Rwanda Demobilization and Reconciliation Commission)

Alice Urusaro Karekezi

Lecturer and Researcher

Faculty of Law, National University of Rwanda

- Former adviser on gender and conflict to the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, addressing the General Assembly of the UN in 1999
- Worked for four years with Justice, Human Rights, and Governance Program
- Completing PhD in peace and development studies at Göteborg University in Sweden, focused on *gacaca* in post-genocide Rwanda

Angelina Muganza

Executive Secretary

Public Service Commission

- Former minister of State, developing five-year plans of action for youth employment, women's employment, and the elimination of child labor (2002-2007)
- Former head of Ministry of Gender and Women in Development, creating national gender policy and promulgating an inheritance law (1999-2002)
- For five months in 1995, served as director of Ministry of Rehabilitation and Social Reintegration, working with demobilized soldiers and vulnerable families

Jacqueline Muhongayire

Member of Parliament

East African Legislative Assembly

- Former MP in Rwanda (1995-2007); deputy speaker of parliament from 1997 to 2000
- Member of FFRP, the Rwandan parliament's only cross-party caucus, and Rwanda Women Leaders Caucus
- Expert in governance and in gender and peacebuilding

Prisca Mujawayezu

Commissioner

National Unity and Reconciliation Commission

- Bridges divides among Rwandans healing from the 1994 genocide
- Deputy CEO of the Private Sector Federation
- Previously executive secretary of Conseil de Concertation des Organisations d'Appui aux Initiatives de Base

[†] Longer biographies available on request

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The Institute for Inclusive Security Colloquium

Jan. 12 – 21, 2010

Schedule of Events (Tentative)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2010 (WASHINGTON)

9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Roundtable Discussions

JW Marriott Hotel
1331 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC, 20004

Participants will discuss recommendations for increasing women's activity in countering violent extremism in their respective countries with experts and policymakers from the U.S. government, U.S. military and police, foreign governments, private security contractors, regional security organizations and non-government organizations.

These discussions are subject to the Chatham House Rule, with **no attribution allowed**. Participants are free to use the information received, but neither the identity nor the affiliation of the speaker(s), nor that of any other participant, may be revealed.

Media interested in attending these roundtables should contact Jonathan Talbot at talbot@huntalternatives.org, 202-403-2016 (office), 202-997-4744 (mobile) no later than Monday, January 18, 2010.

Participation by media in the roundtables is subject to approval by roundtable facilitators.

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12 p.m. – 2 p.m.

JW Marriott Hotel
1331 Pennsylvania Ave.
N.W.
Washington, DC, 20004

Policy Forum 2010 Luncheon

The Policy Forum will be the culmination of two weeks of consultations on moderating extremism with women leaders from Pakistan, Lebanon, Bosnia, and Rwanda. Working to moderate the influence of those who promote violence and reject dialogue, these leaders demonstrate that women are one of the most important untapped resources to promote stable governments.

These experts will join 450 professionals with interest in peace and security issues including representatives of government, militaries, police, private contractors and non-government organizations during Inclusive Security's 11th annual Policy Forum luncheon.

Speakers:

Jody Williams

1997 Nobel Peace Prize Co-Laureate

Ambassador Swanee Hunt

Chair, The Institute for Inclusive Security

Dan Rather

Global Correspondent and Managing Editor, *Dan Rather Reports*

Shabana Fayyaz*, Pakistan

Assistant Professor at the Defense and Strategic Studies
Department of Quaid-I-Azam University

May Akl*, Lebanon

Foreign Press Secretary for Michel Aoun (current Member of
Parliament and former prime minister)

Snjezana Susnjara, PhD*, Bosnia

Former Head of the Joint Affairs Office in the Ministry of Defence

Angelina Muganza*, Rwanda

Executive Secretary of the Public Service Commission

* Tentative list of speakers. Please find brief biographies on
previous pages.

Media interested in attending or covering the luncheon should
contact Jonathan Talbot at talbot@huntalternatives.org,
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TUESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2010 (WASHINGTON) CONTINUED

4:30 p.m. – 6 p.m.

Knight Studio A
The Newseum
555 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Washington, DC 20001

**Taping of a special episode of *Dan Rather Reports*,
“Can Women Stop War?”**

This show will feature women leaders from Bosnia, Lebanon, Pakistan, and Rwanda discussing their experiences working to prevent, resolve, and help societies recover from armed conflicts in very different contexts. Ambassador Swanee Hunt, chair of The Institute for Inclusive Security, will draw on her work elevating the voices of women in peace processes around the world. Dan Rather, global correspondent and managing editor of HDNet’s *Dan Rather Reports*, will host the show.

Alice Urusaro Karekezi*

Lecturer and Researcher, Faculty of Law, National University of Rwanda, Rwanda

Mossarat Qadeem*

Executive Director, PAIMAN Alumni Trust, Pakistan

Amra Seleskovic*

Founder and Director, Vesta Association, Bosnia

Dima Sensenig, PhD*

Director, Institute for Women’s Studies in the Arab World, Lebanese American University, Lebanon

* Tentative speakers. Please find brief biographies on previous pages.

Space in the studio is very limited. Only pre-confirmed guests will be admitted to The Newseum. Media interested in attending the taping as a member of the studio audience or in covering the event should contact Jonathan Talbot at 202-403-2016 or talbot@huntalternatives.org by noon EST, Monday, January 18, 2010.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2010 (WASHINGTON)

In the afternoon, **Inclusive Security will release recommendations from the four delegations.**

No public events announced yet.

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 21, 2010 (WASHINGTON) CONTINUED

9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Center for Strategic and
International Studies
1800 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006

Leaders on the Front Lines Combating Extremism: The Pakistan Experience

Driven by ideological, political, religious, and other convictions, violent extremists create instability, traumatize communities, and undermine the creation of stable governments. Women are among the most effective actors combating extremism. Leaders from Pakistan will share lessons derived from their varied experiences, noting in particular the roles and approaches women use to moderate extremism in the region.

Introduction: Carla Koppell

Director, The Institute for Inclusive Security

Moderator: Jerry Hyman

Senior Adviser and President, Hills Program, Center for Strategic and International Studies

Speakers:

Shabana Fayyaz*

Assistant Professor, Defense and Strategic Studies Department,
Quaid-I-Azam University

Mossarat Qadeem*

Executive Director, PAIMAN Alumni Trust

Humaira Shahid*

Research Scholar, Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study,
Harvard University

Kishwar Sultana*

Director, Insan Foundation

*Tentative speakers. Please find brief biographies on previous pages.

Media interested in attending or covering the event should contact **Neal Urwitz**, Media Relations Manager, Center for Strategic and International Studies, at 202.775.3167 or nurwitz@csis.org.

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 21, 2010 (WASHINGTON) CONTINUED

10 a.m. – noon

How Women Moderate Extremism: Challenges of Civil Society in Bosnia

United States Institute
of Peace
1200 17th Street N.W.
2nd floor
Washington, D.C. 20036

The **USIP Gender and Peacebuilding Initiative** and **The Institute for Inclusive Security** present a panel discussion on the ongoing challenges of civil society in Bosnia, and in particular, how women in civil society are addressing issues of extremism. Fifteen years after the Dayton Accords ended the war in Bosnia-Herzegovina, local civil society organizations among Bosnians have met with a fairly low level of acceptance. From ethnic politics to urban-rural divides, the legitimatization process has been slow and arduous. The panelists will offer views about the Bosnian reluctance to engage in civil society as a part of the peacebuilding process, and the role women have played in moderating extremism in their divided country. The panelists will offer their own recommendations on how the international community can support their efforts to stabilize their country.

Speakers:

Radmila Karlas*

Journalist focused on war crimes and reconciliation; Author of *Four Leaf Clover*, Banja Luka

Natalija Petric*

Attorney, United Women, Banja Luka

Amra Seleskovic*

Director, Vesta Association, Tuzla

Daniel Serwer

Vice President, Centers for Innovation, United States Institute of Peace

Snjezana Susnjara*

Professor of Philosophy, University of Sarajevo, and Consultant to the Gender Center of the Federation of Bosnia-Herzegovina

Moderator: **Kathleen Kuehnast**

Gender Adviser, Gender and Peacebuilding Initiative,
United States Institute of Peace

*Tentative speakers. Please find brief biographies on previous pages.

Before attending this event, the media are asked to contact **Allison Sturma**, USIP's Office of Public Affairs and Communications, 202-429-4725, or asturma@usip.org.

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 21, 2010 (WASHINGTON) CONTINUED

11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Moderating Extremism: Lebanese Leaders' Perspective

Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars
Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center
One Woodrow Wilson Plaza
1300 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20004-3027

The Middle East Program of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars and Inclusive Security will host a panel discussion on extremism and civil engagement in Lebanon. Five Lebanese experts will offer views about elevating civil engagement as a part of the peace-building process and the role women have played in moderating extremism in their divided country.

Seating is limited and a photo ID is required for entry. Please reserve a seat by emailing mep@wilsoncenter.org or faxing 202-691-4184 with name and title, affiliation, and email.

Speakers:

Wafa Abed*

President, Institute of Progressive Women Union

May Akl, PhD*

Foreign Press Secretary for MP and former Prime Minister Michel Aoun

Elissar Douaihy*

Training and Mobilization Coordinator, Women Empowerment: Peaceful Action for Security and Stability (WEPASS)

Claudia Chamoun Abi Nader, PhD*

Professor, Military Academy

Dima Sensenig, PhD*

Director, Institute for Women's Studies in the Arab World, Lebanese American University

Moderator: **Carla Koppell**, Director, The Institute for Inclusive Security

* Tentative speakers. Please find brief biographies on previous pages.

Media planning to attend the event are asked to contact **Sharon A. McCarter**, Vice President for Outreach & Communications, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, 202-691-4016, or sharon.mccarter@wilsoncenter.org.

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About Inclusive Security

[The Institute for Inclusive Security](http://www.inclusivesecurity.org) uses research, training, and advocacy to promote the inclusion of all stakeholders, particularly women, in peace processes. We work with a global network of well over 1,000 women leaders from more than 40 conflict regions. Our research gives policymakers new strategies to drive inclusion by examining tangible contributions of women peace builders. Our training provides leaders the specialized skills and knowledge to direct local, national, and international peace-building. Our advocacy to high-level policymakers promotes change that makes peace processes more broad-based, and thus sustainable. To learn more, visit <http://www.inclusivesecurity.org>.

About Hunt Alternatives Fund

[Hunt Alternatives Fund](http://www.huntalternatives.org), a family foundation based in Cambridge, Mass., provokes sustainable social change through a blend of operating and grant-making programs. Since its founding in Denver in 1981, the Fund has contributed more than \$80 million toward a wide spectrum of social issues. Currently working to strengthen youth arts organizations, support social movement leaders, advocate for inclusive peace processes, combat the demand for modern-day slavery, and inspire women to political leadership, we convene allies, build their capacity, and empower them to achieve systemic change. To learn more, visit the Hunt Alternatives Fund Web site at <http://www.huntalternatives.org>.

The Institute for Inclusive Security is a program of Hunt Alternatives Fund.

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