



Words into Action: The Future of Security Sector Governance

Thursday, 27 November 2025
At Auditorium Ivan Pictet A1B, Graduate Institute, Maison de la Paix, Geneva

Agenda

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TIME	ACTIVITY
10:15 – 10:45	Welcome & Opening Plenary Discussants • Ambassador Nathalie Chuard, Director, DCAF • Ambassador Tim Enderlin, Head, Peace and Human Rights Division (PHRD), Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA)
10:45 – 12:00	Panel The Future of Security Sector Governance in a Changing Geo-Political World The world faces rising uncertainties from geopolitical flux, disruptive technologies, and climate change, alongside escalating conflicts and democratic backsliding. This panel explores how democratic security sector governance can be leveraged to help achieve sustainable peace, development, and human dignity for all. Discussants • Dr. Uju Agomoh, Founder & Executive Director of Prisoners' Rehabilitation and Welfare Action (PRAWA), Executive Committee Member of African Security Sector Network (ASSN) • Dr. Fonteh Akum, Executive Director of the Institute for Security Studies (ISS) • Prof. Dr. Aries A. Arugay, Professor, Department of Political Science, University of the Philippines Diliman, Quezon City • Ms. Dunja Mijatović, Former Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights (2018-2024), OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media (2010-2017) Moderator Ms. Béatrice Godefroy, Deputy Director, DCAF
12:00 – 13:00	Networking lunch at Maison de la Paix

13:15 – 14:30	Panel Rethinking Security Sector Governance in Syria, Lebanon, and the Middle East Amid deepening crises and shifting alliances, can smarter security sector governance unlock stability – or will outdated models fuel further collapse? This panel challenges conventional approaches to security sector governance and explores bold pathways for transformation in Syria, Lebanon, and beyond. Discussants • H.E. Yasser Al Jundi, Head of the Diplomatic Institute of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Syrian Arab Republic • H.E. Tarek Mitri, Deputy Prime Minister of Lebanon • Mr. Rislan Shibrahim, Security Advisor to the Vice President of the State of Palestine Moderator Ambassador Nathalie Chuard, Director, DCAF
14:30 – 15:00	Coffee Break
15:00 – 16:15	Panel Inclusive Security for Global Safety — Overcoming the Barriers This panel provides a dynamic, solutions-focused exploration of the persistent resistance to inclusive approaches in peace and security. Despite compelling evidence that inclusive security leads to more effective and sustainable outcomes, progress remains slow and uneven. The panel examines the root causes of this resistance and identifies concrete pathways for change. Discussants • Dr. Lara Scarpitta, OSCE Senior Adviser on Gender Issues and Head of the Gender Issues Programme in the Office of the Secretary General • Mr. Per-Roe Petlund, Consultant on Women, Peace and Security, formerly Norwegian Armed Forces • Ms. Sofia Calltorp, Director, UN Women Geneva Office and UN Women's Chief of Humanitarian Action (online) • Ms. Jacqueline O'Neill, Director, Transnational Conflict Analysis and Support, Global Affairs Canada (online) Moderator Ms. Nathalie Gendre, Head, Gender and Security, DCAF
16:15 – 16:45	Closing remarks Discussant • Ambassador Didier Chassot, Assistant Director General, Head, Europe and Middle East Division, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)