



Women & War Book Launch and Symposium Power and Protection in the 21st Century

May 5 and 6, 2011

Participant Bios

Sanam Anderlini
Executive Director/GNWP Adviser
International Civil Society Action Network (ICAN)



Sanam Naraghi-Anderlini is the co-founder of the International *Civil society Action Network (ICAN)* (www.icanpeacework.org), a US-based NGO dedicated to supporting civil society activism in peace and security in conflict affected countries. For over a decade she has been a leading international advocate, researcher, trainer and writer on conflict prevention and peacebuilding. In 2000 she was among civil society drafters of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on women, peace and security. Between 2002 and 2005 as Director of the Women Waging Peace Policy Commission, Ms. Anderlini led ground breaking field research on women's contributions to conflict prevention, security and peacemaking in 12 countries. Since 2005 she has also provided strategic guidance and training to key UN agencies, the UK government and NGOs worldwide, including leading a UNFPA/UNDP needs assessment into Maoist cantonment sites in Nepal. Between 2008 -2010 Ms. Anderlini was Lead Consultant for a 10-country UNDP global initiative on "Gender, Community Security and Social Cohesion" with a focus on men's experiences in crisis settings. She has served on the Advisory Board of the UN Democracy Fund (UNDEF), and was appointed to the Civil Society Advisory Group (CSAG) on Resolution 1325, chaired by Mary Robinson in 2010. She has written extensively on women and conflict issues including *Women Building Peace: What they do, why it matters* (Rienner, 2007) and *What the Women Say: Participation and SCR 1325* (MIT/ICAN 2010). Ms. Anderlini is a Senior Fellow at the MIT Center for International Studies. She is also currently serving as the Senior Expert in Gender, Peace and Security Issues on the UN's Mediation Standby Team. Ms. Anderlini is Iranian by birth, and has twin daughters.

Chantal de Jonge Oudraat
Director, Jennings Randolph Fellowship Program
U.S. Institute of Peace



Chantal de Jonge Oudraat is director of the Jennings Randolph Fellowship Program. Before joining USIP, de Jonge Oudraat was an adjunct associate professor at the Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service, Georgetown University, and a senior fellow at the Center for Transatlantic Relations, Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies, Johns Hopkins University, where she focused on transatlantic relations and global security issues. In 2002, she was a recipient of the Robert Bosch Foundation Research Scholar Fellowship at the American Institute for Contemporary German Studies (AICGS), Johns Hopkins University. De Jonge Oudraat is a member of Women In International Security (WIIS) and served on its executive board (1998-2007) and as its vice president (2001-2007). She received her B.A. in political and social sciences from the University of Amsterdam, her M.A. from the University of Paris I (Sorbonne) and her Ph.D. in political science from the University of Paris II (Panthéon).

Abigail Disney
Filmmaker, Philanthropist, and Founder of Fork Films
Producer of the film “Pray the Devil Back to Hell”



Abigail E. Disney is a filmmaker, philanthropist, and scholar. She has produced a number of documentaries focused on social themes, including the award-winning 2008 film *Pray the Devil Back to Hell*, which discovered and shared with the world the little-known story of how a small band of women dared to break barriers of gender and politics in Liberia and end a century of entrenched civil war. The film inspired her to form Peace is Loud (peaceisloud.org), an organization that supports female voices and international peace-building through nonviolent means. Her current project, —Women, War & Peace,” is in production for PBS Wide Angle by her production company, Fork Films. Ms. Disney also serves a number of social and political organizations including the Daphne Foundation, which she founded along with her husband Pierre Hauser. Currently, Ms. Disney also serves on the boards of the Roy Disney Family Foundation, the White House Project, the Global Fund for Women, the Fund for the City of New York, and Peace is Loud, as well as the advisory boards of a broad range of organizations working in the areas of poverty, women’s issues, education and environment. Ms. Disney received her Bachelors degree from Yale University, her Masters degree from Stanford University, and her Doctorate from Columbia University.

Helga Hernes
Senior Adviser
Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO)



Helga Hernes is a senior advisor on ‘women, peace and security’ issues at the Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO). She is also serving as chair of the Norwegian Parliamentary Intelligence Oversight Committee (part time). She has previously been director of a number of research programs and projects at various research institutes in Norway. She has published articles and books on a variety of topics, such as international relations, multinational corporations, welfare

state research and women’s research. Her work has been published in a number of languages and she has lectured in many countries. Helga Hernes has also had a political and diplomatic career. For two periods (1988-1989 and 1990-1993) she served as State Secretary at the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. From 1996-1998 she was special advisor for UN peacekeeping operations. From 1998-2003 she was appointed as Norwegian ambassador to Austria and Slovakia, and from 2002-2004 Norwegian ambassador to Switzerland and the Vatican. Helga Hernes has served on a number of public boards and commissions both in Norway and other Scandinavian countries, the United States and Europe in the field of social science and research policy as well as in a public service capacity. She holds a master’s degree in political science from Johns Hopkins and a PhD from the University of Baltimore.

Kathleen Hicks
Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Strategy, Plans, and Forces
U.S. Department of Defense



Dr. Kathleen Hicks was appointed as the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Strategy, Plans, and Forces in February, 2009. Dr. Hicks is responsible for advising the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy and the Secretary of Defense on all matters pertaining to the development of U.S. national security and defense strategy. She oversees the strategic guidance development, review, and assessment for military contingency plans and the plans for the day-to-day military activities of Combatant Commanders. In addition, Dr. Hicks leads Policy’s efforts to provide strategic guidance and implementation oversight to the Department’s planning, programming, and budgeting process as well as various force development, force management, and corporate support

processes. This includes the integrated assessment of U.S. military posture, force structure, and associated defense activities and capabilities.

Dr. Hicks joined the Defense Department from the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), where she was a Senior Fellow. At CSIS, Dr. Hicks directed the following projects: Beyond Goldwater-Nichols Department of Defense Governance, Transitioning Defense Organizational Initiatives, Capabilities-Based Planning for Stability Operations, and the Future of U.S. Civil Affairs Forces. In addition, she co-directed the CSIS Task Force on Nontraditional Security Assistance, led strategy, planning, and process assessments for the Project on National Security Reform, and assessed the national security community's role in improving global health.

From 1993 to August 2006, Dr. Hicks held a variety of career civil service positions within the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, beginning as a Presidential Management Intern and rising to the Senior Executive Service. She participated in the 1997 and 2005 Quadrennial Defense Reviews and authored follow-on planning guidance to implement the 1993 Bottom-Up Review and 2001 Quadrennial Defense Review. As Director for Policy Planning, she was responsible for overseeing the development of U.S. defense strategy and improving long-range policy planning capability within the Department of Defense. In addition, as the Director for Homeland Defense Strategic Planning and Program Integration, she developed DoD's first-ever Strategy for Homeland Defense and Civil Support.

Dr. Hicks holds a PhD in Political Science from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, a master's degree from the University of Maryland's School of Public Affairs and an A.B. magna cum laude from Mount Holyoke College. She is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

Sheldon Himelfarb
Director, Center of Innovation: Media, Conflict, and Peacebuilding
U.S. Institute of Peace



Sheldon Himelfarb joined USIP from The Corporate Executive Board, where he was on the Technology Practice Leadership Team, working with Chief Information Officers from governments, universities, and multi-national corporations. Prior to this, he served as foreign policy adviser to a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, the head of North American Documentary Development for Yorkshire TV, and the CEO/Executive Producer for Common Ground Productions, the media division of Search for Common Ground. He is an award-winning filmmaker, former commentator for National Public Radio (Sunday Morning Edition) and author of numerous articles on politics, popular culture and conflict. He has managed peacebuilding programs in numerous conflicts, including Bosnia, Iraq, Angola, Liberia, Macedonia, Burundi and

received the Capitol Area Peace Maker award from American University. He holds a Ph.D. from Oxford University and a B.A. in political science from Johns Hopkins University. He has held visiting or guest scholar positions at the Brookings Institution, Harvard University and the Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies at Johns Hopkins University.

Carla Koppell
Senior Advisor, Office of Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment
U.S. Agency for International Development



Carla Koppell currently serves as the US Agency for International Development Senior Coordinator for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment and a Senior Advisor to the USAID Administrator. In that role, she is accelerating our efforts to integrate gender equality as cross-cutting priority throughout the agency. Previously, Carla was director of The Institute for Inclusive Security and the Washington, DC office of Hunt Alternatives Fund where she worked to ensure that peace processes around the world involve women and civil society. In that role she worked extensively with women leader from volatile conflict zones including Afghanistan, Iraq, and Sudan. Earlier in her career, Koppell was senior adviser and, prior to that, interim director of the Conflict Prevention Project at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington, where she authored "Preventing the Next Wave of Conflict: Understanding Non-Traditional Threats to Global Stability." Ms. Koppell served as deputy assistant secretary for international affairs of the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development. She was also special assistant to the administrator of the US Agency for International Development (USAID), director of the USAID climate change program, and has worked for the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. She received her M.A. in public policy from Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and her B.A. from Cornell University.

Kathleen Kuehnast
Director, Gender and Peacebuilding Center
U.S. Institute of Peace



Kathleen Kuehnast is director of the Gender and Peacebuilding Center at the United States Institute of Peace (USIP). Prior to her present position, Kuehnast had a 15-year career in international development, where she worked extensively with the World Bank managing research and programmatic projects and advising policymakers (government and non-government) on social development concerns, with a focus on gender related concerns. She has worked in a similar capacity with the Asian Development Bank, the German Technical Cooperation Agency and the U.N.

Development Program. From poverty studies like, *Better a Hundred Friends than a Hundred Rubles: Social Networks in Transition in Kyrgyzstan*, to conflict-related development projects, *Whose Rules Rule? Everyday Border and Water Conflicts in Central Asia*, Kuehnast has focused on the role of qualitative social analysis as a critical perspective, especially in understanding the role of women in economic transition and post-conflict reconstruction. Dr. Kuehnast is co-editor of the volume, *Women and War: Power and Protection* (USIP Press). As a recipient of the Mellon Foreign Fellowship at the Library of Congress (2000) and the Kennan Institute for Advanced Russian Studies Fellowship (1999) at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, she has studied and written extensively on the impact of post-Soviet transition on Muslim women of Central Asia, and is co-editor of the volume, *Post-Soviet Women Encountering Transition: Nation Building, Economic Survival, and Civic Activism*. Kuehnast holds a Ph.D. in socio-cultural anthropology from the University of Minnesota. Her master's degree in education is from the University of St. Thomas.

Pat Mitchell
President and CEO
The Paley Center



Pat Mitchell, President and CEO of The Paley Center for Media From network correspondent and producer to president and CEO of PBS to her current position, Pat Mitchell's career is characterized by her focus on media as a powerful force for social change. Her work has been recognized with forty-four Emmy Awards, five Peabody's, and two Academy Award nominations. Mitchell has received numerous honors including the Sandra Day O'Connor Award for Leadership, the Women in Cable and Telecommunications Woman of the Year Award, and was a 2008 Broadcasting & Cable Hall of Fame Honoree. Ms. Mitchell serves on the boards of the Sundance Institute, the Mayo Clinic, VDAY (a movement to end violence against women), Human Rights Watch, and the Jordan River Foundation's U.S. board. A member of the Council on Foreign Relations and the International Women's Forum, she is also a director of AOL. Pat Mitchell was named to Newsweek's 2011 list of 150 Women Who Shake the World.

Morley
Composer and Singer



"Morley embodies modern-day NY femininity in all its multicultural finesse." New York Times, Emerging Artist of the Year. Morley is a singer-composer, recording artist from New York City who breathes sensuality into activism with her worldly lyrical stance. Morley considers social and global activism an integral element of her music and uses its medicine as a tool for dialogue facilitation when she works

with teenagers from domestic and international conflict zones. Over the years she has taught yoga and dance release to women and children in shelters and safe homes. In addition, she's taught yoga and meditation to ex offenders, experiences that clearly inform her music and world view. Morley has had the distinct honor to present at TEDWomen and TEDxEast. She has performed for His Holiness the Dalai Lama, Nelson Mandela, Mary Robinson, Ela Gandhi, Sonia Sanchez, Ravi Shankar, as well as numerous events at the United Nations and The Auburn Theological Seminary. Morley has written, collaborated, and toured nationally and internationally with renowned artists such as Dr. Bernice Johnson Reagon, Toshi Reagon, Dave Matthews, Raúl Midón, Sheryl Crow, Queen Latifah, Angélique Kidjo, and Sarah McLachlan, to name a few. She has released CDs independently as well as through Sony and Universal Records. Her new CD, *Undivided* will be available in May. Visit Morley at www.morleymusic.org for more information. (Picture by Pascal Perich)

Manal Omar
Director of Iraq and Iran Programs
U.S. Institute of Peace



Manal Omar joined USIP as a program officer for the grant program in August 2008. Currently, she serves as Director of Iraq and Iran Programs under the Center for Post-conflict Peace and Stability Operations. Previously, she was regional program manager for the Middle East for Oxfam - Great Britain, where she responded to humanitarian crises in Palestine and Lebanon. Omar has extensive experience in the Middle East. She worked with Women for Women International as regional coordinator for Afghanistan, Iraq and Sudan. Omar lived in Baghdad from 2003 to 2005 and set up operations in Iraq. She launched her career as a journalist in the Middle East in 1996. UNESCO recruited her to work on one of her first lead assignments in Iraq in 1997-1998. Omar worked more than three years with the World Bank's development economics group. She has carried out training programs on in Yemen, Bahrain, Afghanistan, Sudan, Lebanon, Occupied Palestinian Territories, Kenya and many other countries. Omar's activities have been profiled in the mainstream media by the Washington Times, the LA Times, the BBC, NPR, Glamour, the London Times and Newsweek. Her articles and opinion pieces have appeared in the Guardian, the Washington Post, Azizah Magazine and Islamica Magazine. Omar is on the board of directors of Women Without Borders, an international NGO based in Austria and an active member of the American Muslim community. In 2007, Islamic Magazine named her one of the ten young visionaries shaping Islam in America. She holds an M.A. in Arab studies from Georgetown University and a B.A. in international relations from George Mason University.

Inger Skjelsbæk
Senior Researcher, Deputy Director
Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO)



Inger Skjelsbaek is Senior Researcher and Deputy Director at the Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO), and holds a doctorate in psychology from the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU). Her research interest includes gender studies, political psychology, peace and conflict research and research methodology. Skjelsbaek has published several articles in international academic journals, including articles in *European Journal of International Relations*, *International Feminist Journal of Politics*, *Peace and Conflict: Journal of Peace*

Psychology and *International Peacekeeping*. She has also edited two books and has written numerous book chapters. In addition, she has published a number of reports and press commentaries, and is used as a commentator and a lecturer, both domestically and internationally. Skjelsbaek has also been a visiting researcher at the University of California, Berkeley. She maintains strong links with the University of Oslo, where he supervises MA and doctoral students and gives regular guest lectures. Skjelsbaek has received research grants from, among others, the Fulbright Foundation, the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Research Council of Norway. Skjelsbaek is currently working on a multiyear project focusing on perpetrators of sexual violence crimes from the Bosnian war. The aim is to interview perpetrators who have received sentences in the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) about their acts and punishment aiming to answer the question why rape was opted for in the war setting. In the summer of 2011, as well as the summer of 2012, she will be a guest researcher at the Human Rights Center at University of California, Berkeley. In addition, she is developing another new multiyear project involving international collaboration focusing on documentation of sexual violence in war.

Tara Sonenshine
Executive Vice President
U.S. Institute of Peace



Tara Sonenshine is Executive Vice President of the United States Institute of Peace. In addition to her broad management responsibilities, she specifically oversees public education, public outreach, and programmatic activity. Prior to joining USIP, she was a strategic communications adviser to many international organizations including USIP, the International Crisis Group, Internews Networks, CARE International, the American Academy of Diplomacy and Women of Washington. Sonenshine has served in various White House capacities, including transition director for the National Security Council (NSC). In that position, she was responsible for coordinating an interagency process to review foreign policy

goals and priorities for the Clinton administration's second term. Before that, she served as special assistant to President Clinton and deputy director of communications for the NSC (1994-1995). In 1998, Sonenshine was at the Brookings Institution studying foreign policy and communications. Her career began in broadcast journalism in 1982 at ABC News in

New York, where she served as assistant to David Burke, the vice president of news. Sonenshine went on to become editorial producer of ABC News' Nightline, where she worked for more than a decade. She was also an off-air reporter at the Pentagon for ABC's World News Tonight. During her tenure at ABC News, Sonenshine earned ten News Emmy Awards for coverage of China, Iran, the Philippines, and South Africa. She also won the Columbia-DuPont Award for coverage of the Los Angeles riots. A former contributing editor for Newsweek, Sonenshine is the author of numerous articles on foreign affairs published in the New York Times, Washington Post, and other newspapers.

Deputy Administrator Donald Steinberg
Deputy Administrator
U.S. Agency for International Development



Deputy Administrator Donald Steinberg previously served as Deputy President for Policy at the International Crisis Group (ICG). During three decades with the US diplomatic service, he served as Ambassador to Angola, Director of the State Department's Joint Policy Council, Special Representative of the President for Humanitarian Demining, Special Haiti Coordinator, Deputy White House Press Secretary and NSC Senior Director for Africa. Other diplomatic postings include South Africa, Mauritius, Malaysia, Brazil and Central African Republic. His awards include the Presidential Meritorious Honor Award and the Frasure Award for International Peace. He holds master's degrees in journalism from Columbia University and political economy from University of Toronto, and a bachelor's degree from Reed College.

Ambassador Wegger Christian Strømme
Ambassador of Norway to the United States
Royal Norwegian Embassy



Wegger Chr. Strømme is the Ambassador of Norway to the United States. He came to Washington, D.C. in 2007, after serving as Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the UN in Geneva since 2005. He was Norway's Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations in New York from 2002-2005, served on the Security Council during Norway's tenure from 2000-2002 and as Norway's Deputy Foreign Minister from 1999 - 2000. Ambassador Strømme joined the

Norwegian foreign service in 1984 and has also practiced as an international lawyer. He is married to Reverend Doctor Cecilie J. Strømme and they have two daughters.

Agnes M. Fallah-Kamara Umunna
Journalist, and Radio Producer
Executive Director and Founder of Straight from the Heart Project



Agnes is a Journalist, Radio Producer/Presenter and Community Activist. She helps to record stories from survivors of the war in Liberia and see how best we can talk about the trauma they have gone through during the 14 years of war. As Executive Director and founder of Straight from the Heart Project, she used the project to engage victims, witnesses and perpetrators of the Liberian conflicts, and established it as a Non-Governmental and Not-For-Profit Media network that engages in nationwide advocacy program on radio, for War Victims to voluntarily give accounts of their participation in the Liberian conflict. With her extensive engagements she thought it wise to also established counseling for Peace Building, Psycho-social and trauma healing and other aspect of integration, reconciliation, and transitional and restorative justice mechanisms. Agnes has entirely devoted reconciliation and herself to promote healing, advocacy against war crimes, abuses and atrocities committed against humanity and their Societies during and after conflicts in Liberia. Her project, Straight from the Heart, is helping both victims and perpetrators of the Liberian crisis pick up the pieces and look with hopes for a better future. Her engagements, interactions and mingling with the victims, witnesses and perpetrators, realizing their physical and emotional needs and catering to them, have given her the greatest epitome in gaining their confidences and reliance. This transitional mechanism is working well in a magnificent manner enhancing the work of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Liberia (TRC) and other associated organizations. This venture needs to be adopted by other countries going through similar situation that Liberia was faced with. Agnes is very active in a variety of civic and cultural organizations that deals with victims, witnesses and perpetrators of the war in Liberia. Her recent book *And Still Peace Did Not Come* (2011) recounts the fall out of Liberia's terrible civil war.

Femke van Velzen
Filmmaker, Philanthropist, and Co-Founder of IF Productions
Producer of the film “Weapon of War”



Ilse and Femke van Velzen are internationally recognized, award-winning filmmakers. Their most recent film, *Weapon of War*, about rape in Congo, was recently awarded the “Gouden Kalf,” Holland’s equivalent of the Oscar. Their films have been broadcast and screened at film festivals worldwide and at such prestigious venues as the U.S. Institute of Peace and the Human Rights Council in Geneva. Ilse and Femke’s work focuses on exposing injustice in developing countries. Their previous work includes; *Return to Angola*, *Fighting The Silence* and *Weapon of War*. The filmmakers

have worked in the Congo for six years while making *Fighting the Silence*, about the consequences for victims of sexual violence and *Weapon of War*, confessions of rape by rebels and military. *Justice for Sale* their current film, emerged as a natural “next step” in the progression of the unintentional series. The filmmakers are proud that their work reaches a worldwide audience, but they are also committed to ensuring they capture the attention of policy makers and politicians. As part of their commitment to local communities, they offer their films as educational tools with travelling Cinema’s. They produce and direct documentaries under their own label IFPRODUCTIONS (<http://www.ifproductions.nl/eng/projects.html>).

Melanne Verveer
Ambassador-at-Large for Global Women’s Issues
U.S. Department of State



President Barack Obama appointed Melanne Verveer as Ambassador-at-Large for Global Women’s Issues. The President’s decision to create a position of Ambassador-at-Large for Global Women’s Issues is unprecedented, and reflects the elevated importance of these issues to the President and his entire Administration. In her capacity as director of the Department of State’s new office on Global Women’s Issues, Ambassador Verveer coordinates foreign policy issues and activities relating to the political, economic and social advancement of women around the world. She mobilizes concrete support for women’s rights and political and economic empowerment through initiatives and programs designed to increase women’s and girls’ access to education and health care, to combat violence against women and girls in all its forms, and to ensure that women’s rights are fully integrated with human rights in the development of U.S. foreign policy. Ambassador Verveer most recently served as Chair and Co-CEO of Vital Voices Global Partnership, an international nonprofit she co-founded. Vital Voices invests in emerging women leaders and works to expand women’s roles in generating economic opportunity, promoting political participation, and safeguarding human rights. Prior to her work with Vital Voices, Ambassador Verveer served as Assistant to the President and Chief of Staff to the First Lady in the Clinton Administration and was chief assistant to then-First Lady Hillary Clinton in all her wide-ranging international activities to advance women’s rights and further social development, democracy and peace-building initiatives. She also led the effort to establish the President’s Interagency Council on Women. Prior to her time in the White House, Ambassador Verveer served in a number of leadership roles in public policy organizations and as legislative staff. Ambassador Verveer has a B.A. and M.A. from Georgetown University. She is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, Women’s Foreign Policy Group, and numerous other organizations.
