

*Conference will be held in Yerevan on June 1st – June 2nd, 2018*

 *in “Ararat” hall of “IBIS Yerevan Centre” hotel*

*During the last day of the Conference and special open-air discussion is planned*

**The Sixth International Conference:**

**“Challenging Wars and Conflicts: Peace and war through the gender lens”**

**PLEASE NOTE THAT SOME CHANGES MAY OCCUR**



**Friday, June 1, 2018**

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| **09.00 - 09.30** | Registration and coffee |
| **09.30 - 10.00** | Official opening: The 7th International Conference *Gulnara Shahinian, Chair of “Democracy Today” NGO**H.E. Dr. Piotr Antoni Switalski, Ambassador, Head of the EU Delegation to Armenia (tbc)**H.E. Judith Margaret Farnworth, Ambassador of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to Republic of Armenia (tbc)**H.E. Mr. H.E. Mr. Jonathan Lacote, Ambassador of French Republic to Republic of Armenia* *H.E. Mr. Paweł Cieplak, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Republic of Poland to Republic of Armenia* *H.E Mrs. Ani Šaginjanová - Deputy Head of Mission, Economic, political, development, consular agendas of embassy of Republic of Poland in Republic of Armenia* *Mr. Martin Fredriksson - Charge d'Affaires of Embassy of Sweden to Republic of Armenia (tbc)* |
| **10.00 - 11.30** | **Panel 1: Does the media play a role in conflict prevention and peace building?** |
|  | Media helps shape what we see and hear about conflicts around the world. In many situations these are the perspectives of those who manage the media and select the news that are covered. Media owners have economic interests; they want to sell their stories and programs to a public who will buy their newspapers or watch their programs. Increased corporate control over media outlets in some countries also plays a role in controlling the types of stories that get covered and the way stories are framed. A common journalist principle is this: “If it bleeds, it leads.” That means violent conflict will be headline news, not news of cross-cultural dialogue and understanding. This tendency to cover conflict and violence distorts reality leading the masses to believe that conflict is pervasive while peace is abnormal. The media coverage often dismisses the stories about people building peace – most often they are presented as powerless victims. This is specifically true about women, who are very rarely presented as change makers, the one’s that make strong investments in establishing stability and conflict prevention. The panel will discuss the methodologies developed to bring peace related stories to the media’s attention.**Key note speech: *Ms. Anna-Karin Johansson****, the Swedish Women Mediation Network.***Panelists:** *Maria Wiernikiwska (Poland), Sophie-Nivelle Cardinalle (France), Mine Balman (Cyprus), Dina Aboul Hosn (Syria), Zaruhi Hovenessian (Armenia), Janeth Bedoya Lima (Columbia), Nadezda Agisnkina (Russia), Radja Nameed Rashid Zahir (Iraq), Jackline Abrahamian (USA) via skype.* **The panel is moderated by Vartan Hovenessian, Bars Media (Armenia).**  |
| **11.30 - 12.00** | Time for Q&A  |
| **12.00 - 12.30** | Coffee break |
| **12.30 - 14.00** | **Panel 2: Is frontline journalism dangerous for women?** |
|  | Panelists will discuss the challenges women journalists face when conducting their professional work: absence of interest towards women’s issues on the part of the editors, working in culturally diverse environments not always receptive towards their profession, growing violence and killings of journalists for their professional work are issues of high international concern and panelists will present some promising practices.**Panelists:** *Anastasia Malgazova (Ukraine), Adriane Ohanessian (USA), Journalist from Georgia, Taus Serganova (Ingushetia), Kheidy Omarkhadzieva (Chechnya), Institute for War and Peace (Armenia), Ghegham Bagdazsarian (Nagorno-Karabakh), British Journalist (tbc). Ms*Nadja Zimmermann( Israel )**Panel is moderated by Nune Sarkissian, Media Initiatives Center (Armenia)** |
| **14.00 - 14.30** | Time for Q&A |
| **14.30 - 15.30** | Lunch |
| **15.30 - 16.30** | **Panel discussion: Journalists ethics in writing on security and gender issues in the North Caucasus.** The panel will present to discussion between representatives of civil society and journalists from Northern Caucasus and other regions including federal and online media. The issues related to better presenting gender issues, peace building and religion and ethical issues. The problems of colonialization and orientalization would be addressed, as well as how to be objective and keep confidence of readers at the same time protecting their security. **Panelists:** *Ms. Taus Serganova (“Dosh” journal, Chechnya), Abdula Duduev (“Dosh” journal Chechnya), Aida Mirmaksudova (Daptar.ru, Dagestan), Journalist from Ingushgetia (tbc) Journalist from Caucasian Knot (tbc), Darija Zuk (TV rain, Russia), Anna Alekseeva (Snob, Russia).* **Panel is moderated by Irina Kosterina, Heinrich Böll Foundation (Russia)** |
| **16.30 - 17.00** | Time for Q&A |
| **17.00 - 17.15** | Coffee break |
| **17.15 - 18.00** | **Breakout sessions** *Group discussions, master classes on peace journalism, screening of films and exhibition opening*.**Group 1: Human stories of peace and war: Bars Media****Group 2: Peace photography: Adrine Ovanesian** **Group 3: Human stories in peace and war: Media Initiatives Center**  |
| **18.00 - 18.15** | Comments and discussions from the audience - and wrap up of the first day |

 **Saturday, June 2, 2018**

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| **09.00 - 09.30** | Registration  |
| **09.30 - 11.00** | **Panel 1: Constructive spirit and women’s peace building movements** |
|  | For generations, women have been at the forefront of peace advocacy and have demonstrated a unique willingness and capacity to bring together conflicting groups in the search for common ground. In the women-led peace efforts of recent years, advocates have been successful in convening diverse actors and creating the conditions for building consensus. By engaging those written off by the society and calling for reconciliation, dialogue, and cultural sensitivity to build social cohesion—not only as an end goal but as an operating principle - the voice of women peace builders has strongly established its importance.**Key note speech:** *Ketrien Hertzog, International Association for human values.***Panelists:** *Barween Amen (Iraq), Inna Airapetian (Chechnya), Chaida Odat (Syria), Eliko Bendeliani (Georgia), Nadia Zimerman (Israel/ Palestine), Natalia Martirosyan (Armenia), Anna Ishkhanyan (Armenia).* **The panel is moderated by Julia Karashvili, IDP Women Association "Consent" (Georgia).** |
| **11.00 - 11.30** | Time for Q&A  |
| **11.30 - 12.00** | Coffee break |
| **12.00 - 13.30** | **Panel 2: How to get the truth out? Women tell their stories.** |
|  | Women from different parts of the world will discuss their personal path and vision on how to make the media more truthful and gender sensitive. Women peace builders and human rights defenders, irrespective of the threats and violence they have been facing in recent years, must be identified as the recognition of their work has increased to a level that many women have received prestigious awards for their peace work, including the Nobel Peace Award.**Panelists:** *H Mentzolt (WILP Germany), Razia Sultana (Mianmar/Bangladesh), Katrien Hertog (Great Britain), Women Resource center (Armenia), Molly Freeman (USA), representatives of Nagorno-Karabakh(tbc),Audrey Odri Kalajan (USA), representatives of Tavush(tbc).***Panel is moderated by Viktoria Avakova (Armenia)**  |
| **13.30 - 14.00** | Time for Q&A |
| **14.00 - 15.00** | Lunch |
| **15.00 - 16.30** | **Breakout sessions** *Group discussions, master classes on peace journalism, screening of films and exhibition opening*.**Group 1: Demonstration of film “Courageous Heart of Irena Sendler with the following discussion.****Group 2: Demonstration of film “Together” by Mine Balman with the following discussion.****Group 3: Discussion on making forms in conflict areas – Media Initiative Center.** |
| **17.00 - 17.15** | Coffee break |
| **17.15 - 18.00** | **Panel discussion: OSCE Gender Civil society Group** **Panelists:** *H Mentzolt (WILP Germany), IDP Women Association "Consent" (Georgia), Tolekan Ismailova, Anne Marie Sancar, Gulnara Shahinian (Chair of “Democracy Today” NGO), Annalisa Milani, Luisa del Turco*  |
| **18.00 - 18.15** | Comments and discussions from the audience - and wrap up of the second day |

**Sunday, June 3, 2018**

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|  | **OPEN AIR ROUND TABLE: FRESH AIR – NEW IDEAS**  |
| **09.00 - 11:00** | **Visiting Geghard medieval monastery** |
|  | *Kotayk province of Armenia, partially carved out of the adjacent mountain, surrounded by cliffs. The monastery is a UNESCO World Heritage site. The group will attend a live concert of medieval music.*  |
| **11.00 - 13.00** | **Visiting Temple of Garni** |
|  | *The only standing Greco-Roman colonnaded building in Armenia and the former Soviet Union. An Iconic temple from the second century is located in the village of Garni, Armenia and is the best-known structure and symbol of pre-Christian Armenia.*  |
| **13.00 - 14.30** | **Walk in the village of Garni -** enjoying Lunch prepared by the local women  |
| **14.00 - 16.00** | **Breaking stereotypes: women negotiating and sustaining peace.** |
|  | *A round table discussion on collaboration between frontline journalists and women peace builders on methodologies to promote work by women*  |
| **16.00 - 16.30** | **Traveling back to Yerevan** – participants depart returning home. |