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# Integrating Gender in Peace and Conflict Research:

#### The Case of PRIO

Gender-In Webinar: Integrating Gender in Research on Civil Security for Society,

12 December 2022

Independent • International • Interdisciplinary

### Basic facts: Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO)

- Academic research institute
- Established in 1959
- Independent foundation
- Staff ca. 103 (2022)
- 2022 turnover 180 million NOK (USD 20.4 million)
- Project funded







# Gender perspectives in peace and conflict research

### Gender research - a core research agenda at PRIO

A leading research environment in Norway

#### Gradually evolving research agenda

- Gender specific projects
- Gender mainstreaming
- Human resources policies female staff
  - Management support
- External pressure/requirements



# Gender perspectives in peace and conflict research

#### Historical timeline

#### First few decades

- Sporadic projects
- Limited awareness
- Few women employed

#### 1990s: emerging agenda

- First project funding, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA)
- Recruitment of first fulltime gender researcher (doctoral student)
- Seminar series (with Norwegian Institute of International Affairs, NUPI)

2006: major change – large project funding from the MFA



### Gender perspectives in peace and conflict research

#### The Gender, Conflict and Peacebuilding Project

- Aim: "to build research capacity in Norway on women, peace and security"
- The PRIO Gender Team
- First national action plan on 'Women, peace and security'
- Funding for one year at the time
- Important first building block



Established PRIO Gender Research Group



### PRIO Centre on Gender, Peace and Security – established in 2015



PRIO Centre on



- Purpose:
  - "Be a resource hub" on gender, peace and security
    - Build bridges between research, policy and practice
    - Platform for public debate
    - Provide policy input
    - Education and training
  - Increase the visibility of PRIO's gender research
- Multi-year funding (three years at the time)







#### **Staff**

- Core people
  - 4 (one fulltime coordinator)
- Associated people (members of Gender Research Group)
  - 25 (incl MA students, PhD researchers, interns)
- Global Fellow
  - Professor Jacqui True, Monash Gender, Peace and Security Centre,
     Monash University, Australia



#### Research

- Research projects
- Publishing

   (academic
   journals,
   books, book
   chapters,
   reports etc.)

### Teaching and Training

- UN High-Level Seminar
- Nordic
   Women
   Mediators'
   Network
- Research School (PhD)
- Training courses (ministries etc.)

#### Conferences, Seminars and Workshops

- Research and policy conferences
- Symposium series on sexual violence
- Mini-seminars
- Workshops

#### Policy Advice and Public Outreach

- Policy briefs
- Networking
- Electronic newsletter
- Social media (Facebook and Twitter)
- Op-eds.
- Blog posts (PRIO blog)



#### **Key Thematic Research Areas:**

- 'Women, Peace and Security' (WPS) and the UN Security Council
- Normative Framework on WPS
- Conflict-related Sexual Violence
- Women/Gender and the military
- Gender and Peace Mediation/Peace processes
- Women/Gender and Peacebuilding
- Gender and 'Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration' (DDR) Processes
- Maternal Health and Conflict
- Gender and Preventing/Combating Violent Extremism
- Children Born of War
- Women in Diplomacy
- Global Index on Women, Peace and Security
  - <u>https://giwps.georgetown.edu/the-index/</u>



### PRIO GPS Centre Activities: Teaching

- Research School Course (PhD) in Gender, Peace and Conflict
- Lectures at MA courses in 'Peace and Conflict Studies' and 'Gender, Peace and Conflict' – both at University in Oslo (UiO)
- PRIO Summer School Course in Peace and Conflict (UiO)





## PRIO GPS Centre Activities: Training

#### **An Example of Training for Impact**

- UN High Level Seminar on Gender and Inclusive Mediation Strategies (since 2013)
  - Application of gender perspective
  - Inclusion of women







### PRIO GPS Centre Activities: Policy Impact

#### **Examples of Policy Impact**

- Norwegian National Action Plans on WPS
- Women in Mediation
  - Nordic Women Mediators
  - Global Alliance of Women Mediators
- Presence at high-level events (UN meetings, donor conferences etc)









# Gender perspectives in peace and conflict research

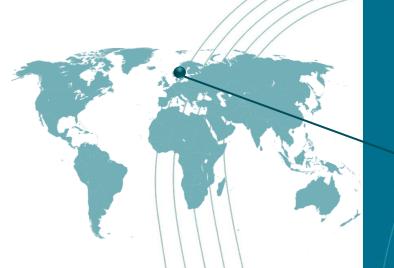
#### What are the benefits of including gender?

- Research:
  - Improved understanding of the nature of conflict how it affects women and men differently
  - Improved understanding of how conflicts can be prevented, mediated and resolved
  - New topics on the agenda
    - Example: Sexual violence in armed conflicts
- Improved project development capacity:
  - Positioning vis-a-vis key sources of funding (Research Council of Norway, EU/ERC, ministries etc)
  - Higher funding success rate
- Staff recruitment more diverse staff
  - Research career opportunity especially for many women
  - Growing interest among male researchers more focus on gender research (not only about women)





### Thank you





www.prio.org

Peace Research Institute Oslo

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