



Global Network of Women Peacebuilders

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## Civil Society Organizations Announce the Peace Forum Opening Panel and Reception to Commemorate the 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of UNSCR 1325

**New York, September 28, 2015** - October marks the fifteenth anniversary of the groundbreaking unanimous adoption of United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325 on Women, Peace and Security, along with six follow-up resolutions. However, we still must effectively transition from commitment to implementation. The United Methodist Women (UMW), the Global Network of Women Peacebuilders (GNWP), the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF), the International Peace Bureau (IPB), Baha'i International Community, the National Council of Negro Women (NCNW), and World Council of Churches (WCC), and our co-sponsors, invite everyone to come together for the Peace Forum on **October 28-30<sup>th</sup>, 2015**.

Civil society participants working on UNSCR 1325 and women's peace and security locally, nationally, regionally, or globally will mobilize in New York on October 21, 2015 for the preliminary event "Voices From the Field: A Global Call for Implementation of UNSCR 1325," where key recommendations will be consolidated and presented formally to UN high level leadership, media, important civil society actors, and other stakeholders at the Peace Forum.

The Peace Forum will commemorate achievements and participants will strategize on strengthening and mobilizing women and men for effective implementation of the Women, Peace and Security agenda. It will highlight best practices for implementation with a particular focus on efforts from civil society through a number of workshops and panel events beginning with the **Opening Panel: "Men on the Stand" on October 28, 2015 from 3-5 PM EST** and following with the **Peace Forum Reception from 5-7 PM**.

Additional workshops will occur on October 29-30<sup>th</sup>, and will exhibit the achievements of numerous international civil society actors. They will draw attention to gaps in implementation and present practical recommendations and alternative concepts and strategies for the empowerment of women to work toward a more comprehensive, sustainable and gender-just global security system. The workshops will engage men and boys to work alongside women and girls to implement UNSCR 1325 and to participate in the prevention of violent conflict and promotion of peace sustainability.

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