

**WOMEN IN THE SECURITY SECTOR**  
**- A REGIONAL PERSPECTIVE**  
A Collection of Thematic Papers

*STRATEGIC RESEARCH INSTITUTE*  
*BELGRADE, 2011*

**STRATEGIC RESEARCH INSTITUTE**

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ISBN 978-00-00000-00-0

*Published with the support of the Royal Norwegian Ministry of Defence*

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## **GENDER AND SECURITY SECTOR REFORM TOOLKIT (DCAF TRANSLATION FOR THE WESTERN BALKANS REGION)**

In the three-year period, from 2008 to 2011, the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF), the United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (UN-INSTRAW), and the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (OSCE/ODIHR) published a series of tools on gender equality and security sector reform (SSR) which gathered 17 researchers and one organization.

After publishing the 13<sup>th</sup> and the last tool, the Annex was published, which included the list and description of international agreements and national legislation related to the topic. That is how the comprehensive three-year work was completed, which also got its translation for use in the Western Balkans region (Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, and Montenegro).<sup>1</sup>

The Toolkit is an extensive material of 400 pages with all the annexes, and it provides the detailed information and relevant analyses on the topic of gender issues and Security Sector Reform.

The translation provides the information on gender issues and SSR for everyone dealing with these topics in the Western Balkans region, so it is aimed for representatives of legislative and executive branches, security sector personnel, non-governmental organizations, regional and international organizations, and science and research institutions. The idea behind the Toolkit is to assist to all the interested security sector actors during the gender equality integration within the reform process.

The Toolkit provides the answer to the question why the gender issues are important for the SSR process, and it also gives the examples of practical solutions for the integration of these issues in the process of the security sector reform. Besides that, it suggests the approaches to the SSR which are in compliance with the basic principles of gender equality. It also contains the material necessary for the preparation of gender training.

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<sup>1</sup> Original title: *Set priručnika o rodnim pitanjima i reformi sektora bezbjednosti*. Ur. Megan Bastick i Kristin Valasek. Ženeva: DCAF, OEBS/ODIHR, UN-INSTRAW, 2008-2010.

Tools, together with Practice Notes, cover 13 themes related to general and specific gender issues and Security Sector Reform:

1. Security Sector Reform and Gender,
2. Police Reform and Gender,
3. Defence Reform and Gender,
4. Justice Reform and Gender,
5. Penal Reform and Gender,
6. Border Management and Gender,
7. Parliamentary Oversight of the Security Sector and Gender,
8. National Security Policy-Making and Gender,
9. Civil Society Oversight of the Security Sector and Gender,
10. Private Military and Security Companies and Gender,
11. SSR Assessment, Monitoring and Evaluation and Gender,
12. Gender Training for Security Sector Personnel,
13. Implementing the Women, Peace and Security Resolutions in Security Sector Reform.

The Toolkit consists of the User Guide, 13 Tools, 13 Practice Notes, and one Annex. The User Guide provides the answers on purpose, target group, structure, contents, and development of the Toolkit, as well as on the future steps in this field. The Annex (on International and Regional Laws and Instruments) contains the review of international and regional agreements, and other documents and instruments related to the gender and Security Sector Reform.

The complete material has 14 attractively designed booklets with thematic front page illustrations. Every booklet is printed in different colour, which is visually emphasising the diversity of the areas covered. The content of every booklet is made easy-to-use, the text is presented in two columns, and Practice Notes are printed separately as four-page sheets. The aesthetics

of the Toolkit presents the attractiveness of the topics in the best manner. All the Tools, together with Practice Notes and Annex, are available online through the DCAF website ([www.dcaf.ch](http://www.dcaf.ch)), where the hardcopy version can also be ordered on the page *Publications > The Gender and Security Sector Reform Toolkit*.

CIP - Каталогизација у публикацији  
Народна библиотека Србије, Београд

351.86:305-055.2(082)

WOMEN in the Security Sector - a Regional  
Perspective : a Collection of Thematic  
Papers / [editor Jovanka Šaranović ;  
translation Biljana Rakić]. - Belgrade :  
Strategic Research Institute, 2012 (Belgrade  
: Vojna štamparija). - 195 str. : graf.  
prikazi, tabele ; 24 cm

Tiraž 150. - Str. 5-6: Foreword / Jovanka  
Šaranović. - Napomene i bibliografske

reference uz tekst. - Bibliografija uz sve  
fajlove.

ISBN 978-86-81121-11-5

а) Безбедносни сектор - Жене Зборници)  
Родна равноправност - Безбедносни сектор -  
Зборници

COBISS.SR-ID 189298700