

## **Young Women and Next Generation Initiative in Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Mentorship Programme Final Meeting**

**15 May 2023**

*Virtual event*

### **Background**

The Vienna Center for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation (VCDNP) and the International Affairs Institute (IAI) in the framework of the EU Non-Proliferation and Disarmament (EUNPD) Consortium have launched a *Young Women and Next Generation Initiative*, a new initiative to encourage young women and the next generation to enter the non-proliferation, arms control and disarmament field.

Driven by the widely perceived age and gender imbalances among experts and practitioners in the non-proliferation, arms control and disarmament field, the *Young Women and Next Generation Initiative* aims to help address such imbalances by exposing college and university level students to arms control issues, increasing their awareness of them and encouraging their participation in events and workshops. The initiative also aims to respond to the very limited offering of relevant courses on WMD issues in colleges and universities at undergraduate and master's level. The goal is to help students understand how to pursue a career in the field, making the best use of their own skills.

The Initiative includes the creation of a mentorship programme, the conveying of workshops and meetings, and the organization of outreach visits at universities.

### **Mentorship Programme**

Inspired by the [CNS Young Women in Nonproliferation Initiative \(YWINI\) Mentorship Program](#), the Young Women and Next Generation Initiative (YWNGI) Mentorship Programme aimed at offering a similar opportunity for young women in undergraduate, graduate and post-graduate studies in Europe and third countries by pairing successful candidates (mentees) with well-established experts (mentors).

### **Final Meeting**

The final meeting will be an opportunity to bring Mentors and Mentees together and strengthen their network. The meeting will also be an occasion for organizers to get feedback on the programme and learn from Mentors and Mentees' experiences. The meeting will be held online via Zoom.



Funded by the European Union

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### Tentative Agenda

14.30 *Opening Remarks*

**Stefan Tressing**, Deputy Head of Division, Disarmament, Non-proliferation and Arms Export Control, EEAS  
**Elena Sokova**, Executive Director, VCDNP

14.40 **Topical Presentations on Non-Proliferation and Disarmament**

Moderator:

**Paola Tessari**, Senior Fellow, IAI

Speakers:

- **Insaf Senouci** (student, Science Po Grenoble)  
*“The Power of Art: Female and Gender-Nonconforming Voices in the Conversation on Non Proliferation and Disarmament”*
- **Stephanie Verlaan** (student, Europa-University Viadrina)  
*“She is Everywhere”*
- **Verle Moyson** (intern, UNODA Vienna Office)  
*“Presenting at the AMC Conference”*
- **Jennet Charyyeva** (student, Bilkent University)  
*“The Triumph of Humanity: A Review of 'Hiroshima' by John Hersey”*
- **Amanda Narhan Pereira** (student, Pontificia Universidade Católica de São Paulo)  
*“Time to rethink economic sanctions from a gender-based perspective”*
- **Elin Bergner** (research assistant, Open Nuclear Network)  
*“Conflating factors: At the nexus of non-traditional security and nuclear risk”*
- **Natalina Popat** (student, Oxford University)  
*“Gender and Race in Security”*
- **Irene Palomo** (intern, European Research Council Executive Agency – ERCEA)  
*“Bringing Gender and Diversity into Disarmament, Non-Proliferation, and Arms Control”*

16.10 Break

16.20 **How to deal with rejections**

Moderator:

**Manuel Herrera**, Researcher, IAI

Speaker:

**Elizabeth Bone**, Career and Academic Advisor, Middlebury Institute of International Studies

17.00 **Reflections on the Mentorship Programme and Lessons Learned**

Moderator:

**Federica Dall’Arche**, Senior Research Associate, VCDNP

17.30 Closing remarks

**Sybille Bauer**, Director of Studies, SIPRI and Chair of the EUNPD Consortium

17.45 Meeting ends

