



KEY TO PEACE, KEY TO PROTECTION: Women Peacekeepers in Action

FRIDAY MAY 29, 2020
08:00 - 09:30 ET via Zoom



The Permanent Missions of Canada, Ghana, and Zambia to the United Nations invite you to a Virtual High-Level Event on the **International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers** that will challenge assumptions and push the conversation about women in peace operations forward. A dynamic panel will highlight the diverse roles and responsibilities that women peacekeepers play in missions, including at leadership levels. Panelists will demonstrate how women peacekeepers contribute to the range of mandated objectives, including the protection of civilians, promotion of human rights, and community engagement.

Permanent Representatives, Deputy Permanent Representatives, Military and Police Advisors, and Experts are invited to attend. Participants will be invited take the floor to share perspectives and pose questions. **REGISTER:** <http://tinyurl.com/PKDay2020>

MODERATOR: H.E. Ms. Jacqueline O'Neill, Ambassador for Women, Peace and Security, Canada

OPENING SPEAKERS

Under-Secretary-General Jean-Pierre Lacroix, United Nations Department of Peace Operations
Assistant-Secretary-General Åsa Regnér, Deputy Executive Director, UNWOMEN

PANELISTS

Brenda Lucki, Commissioner, Royal Canadian Mounted Police
Unaisi Bolatolu-Vuniwaqa, Police Commissioner, United Nations Mission in South Sudan
Commander Marcia Andrade Braga, Brazilian Navy, Winner of the 2019 Military Gender Advocate of the Year Award
Colonel William Nortey, Ghana Armed Forces
Representative of the Zambian Police Service (TBC)

BACKGROUND:

May 29 is [International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers](#). The International Day in 2020 will celebrate and highlight the critical role played by women in UN peace operations. May 27-29 is also Protection of Civilians Week at the United Nations. 152 Member States have endorsed the Declaration of Shared Commitments on UN Peacekeeping Operations, which includes specific commitments to expand the role and contribution of women. Moreover, in January 2019, the Secretary General released the Uniformed Gender Parity Strategy (2018-2028) which identifies targets to increase the deployment of uniformed women in peace operations. In November 2017, Canada launched the [Elsie Initiative for Women in Peace Operations](#). The Elsie Initiative is a pilot project through which Canada is developing and testing innovative approaches to increase the meaningful participation of women in UN peace operations.

