Press Release - Washington, DC June 20, 2020

#1325AndBeyond – Essay Contest

In January 2020, Women In International Security (WIIS) and the Heinrich Böll Stiftung Washington, DC launched an international essay competition—1325AndBeyond—to mark the 20th anniversary of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 (UNSCR 1325).

WIIS and the Heinrich Böll Stiftung Washington, DC are proud to announce and publish the winning essays. WIIS President Chantal de Jonge Oudraat commented on the great number and high caliber of submissions from around the world, and stated that “this made the selection process extremely competitive.” “It led us to award two second prizes; two third prizes and six honorable mentions.” She noted that “the essays highlight innovative and imaginative ideas as well as concrete strategies to achieve the objectives of UNSCR 1325 and the WPS agenda in the 2020s.” Bastian Hermisson, Head of the Heinrich Boell Stiftung Washington DC, remarked that “At a time when the world, women's rights, societies and nations are facing unprecedented multiple intersecting challenges to human security and lasting peace, the Heinrich Boell Stiftung Washington, DC has been honored to support this international essay competition stimulating innovative and courageous thinking by young intellectual leaders on how to make the WPS agenda more effective and successful over the next decade.” He added “We've been excited and pleased to see the great variety of perspectives, calls for a more comprehensive WPS agenda and implementable solutions coming from different parts of the world.” de Jonge Oudraat and Hermisson expressed the hope that international organizations and national governments would take the recommendations of the essay writers to heart.

The winning essays will be made available on the WIIS and HBS websites over the course of one week starting June 30. For more information contact info@wiisglobal.org.

- Ana Laura Velasco Ugalde (Mexico) – First Prize - UNSCR 1325 and the WPS agenda: A Feminist Response to Authoritarianism
- Agathe Christien (France) – Second Prize - Enhancing WPS in the 2020s: Lessons Learned and Strategies for Transformative Change
- Annina Claessen (Sweden) – Second Prize - Mobilizing a Forgotten Sector: A Case for a New Media Code of Ethics on Gender and Conflict
- Paula Drummond & Tamya Rebelo (Brazil) – Third Prize - 1325 and Beyond: Moving Forward the WPS Agenda in Latin America
- Muhammad Ammar Hidayatulloh (Indonesia) – Third Prize - WPS in Asean: Progress, Gaps and Way Forward
- Esther Luigi (France) – Fourth Prize - 1325 and Beyond: Ways Forward for the United Nations

Honorable Mentions
• Itodo Samuel Anthony (Nigeria) - Dismantling the structural prejudices that promote gender inequality: The Panacea to Upturning a Culture of Violence Against Women in Conflict Situations
• Chelsea Cohen (Zimbabwe) - The Third Awakening: The Decade of SHE Politics
• Karla Drpic (Croatia) - How the Private Sector Can Advance UNSCR 1325 in the 2020s
• Tabitha Mwangi (Kenya) - UNSCR1325 and Beyond: Engagement of Women in Dialogue with Terrorist and Violent Extremist Groups
• Gudlaug Olafsdottir (Sweden) - Promoting Women’s Rights: Creating Conditions for Post-Conflict Peace
• Andrea Tuemmler (United States) - Escaping the Closet: Women, Peace and Security was Already Queer