

Argentina - Summary Report

WPS National Action Plan (NAP) Status:

Argentina adopted a NAP in 2015 for a three-year period. A new NAP is reportedly in development.

Overall Assessment:

Argentina demonstrates a strong commitment to the WPS agenda, a commitment that is expressed in many national documents. Argentina's NAP, published in 2015, is currently being updated.

National Importance/Political Will:

Gender equality is enshrined in the Argentine constitution and related laws, which are enforced by the police and the courts.¹ There are explicit references made to WPS/UNSCR 1325 in top national foreign policy² and national security documents.³

In 2008, the Argentine Ministry of Defense adopted a WPS Action Plan for gender mainstreaming in international peacekeeping operations.⁴ This was developed in response to Argentina's participation in UN operations. It led to many "policy reforms in the field of defense and the armed forces."⁵ For example, it strengthened pre-deployment training on gender issues and established a requirement for Gender Focal Points in the military.

Argentina adopted a WPS NAP in 2015 for a three-year period.⁶ A new NAP is currently under development. The NAP explicitly references the Ministry of Defense (MoD) and the Ministry of Security (which oversees public safety and security, the federal police, and the gendarmerie), as principal actors in the implementation of the WPS agenda and assigns specific tasks to them. Resources and positions have been allocated for NAP and WPS agenda implementation. For example, there is the MoD Directorate of Gender Policies, with Gender Offices distributed among the armed forces. The national police have plans for meeting

¹ See Article 75, subsection 22 and 23 of the Constitution of Argentina. Senado y Cámara de Diputados, *Constitución de Argentina*. (Argentina, January 3, 1995), at:

<http://servicios.infoleg.gob.ar/infolegInternet/anexos/0-4999/804/norma.htm>

² See Ministry of Foreign Affairs, *Decreto N° 1895/2015, Plan Nacional de Acción de la República Argentina para la Implementación de la Resolución N° 1325/2000 del Consejo de Seguridad de las Naciones Unidas y Subsiguientes*.s. Ministry of Foreign Affairs. (Argentina, September 21, 2015), at:

<https://www.argentina.gob.ar/normativa/nacional/decreto-1895-2015-252151/texto>

³ National Defense Policy Directive, Decree 1714/2009 (Argentina: National Defense Policy Directive, 2009) see CHAPTER III, "Regarding Human Rights and Gender Policies", subsection e) and its update Decree 2645 / 2014

⁴ Ministry of Defense, *Decreto 1714/2009*. (Argentina: Ministry of Defense, 2009), at:

<http://servicios.infoleg.gob.ar/infolegInternet/anexos/160000-164999/160013/norma.htm>

⁵ Argentine NAP: p. 10. Government of Argentina, *National Action Plan of the Argentine Republic for the Implementation of Resolution N°1325/2000 of the Security Council of the United Nations*. (Argentina, 2015), at: [https://www.peacewomen.org/sites/default/files/Argentina%20NAP%202015%20\(English\).pdf](https://www.peacewomen.org/sites/default/files/Argentina%20NAP%202015%20(English).pdf); and see the Spanish version at: [http://servicios.infoleg.gob.ar/infolegInternet/anexos/250000-](http://servicios.infoleg.gob.ar/infolegInternet/anexos/250000-254999/252151/Dto1895.pdf)

[254999/252151/Dto1895.pdf](http://servicios.infoleg.gob.ar/infolegInternet/anexos/250000-254999/252151/Dto1895.pdf)

⁶ Ibid.

NAP/WPS objectives, and they are monitored and evaluated for progress by the Gender Policy Council.⁷

Institutional Policy and Practice:

Strategy, Plans, and Policies

WPS has been integrated into strategy, plans, policy, and other doctrinal documents at the strategic, operational, and tactical levels.⁸

In the military, prevention of sexual violence is explicitly mentioned in strategy, plans, and policy documents at the strategic, operational, and tactical levels as well as in field manuals and handbooks.⁹ It is also explicitly identified as a hazard to operational effectiveness. WPS principles, gender analyses, and gender perspectives are integrated into police strategy, plans, policy, and doctrinal documents as well as in some field manuals and handbooks of the police forces.¹⁰

A full-time Military Gender Advisor (GENAD) has been appointed at the strategic and operational levels of the military forces and has been assigned as a member of the senior military commander's staff. GENADs receive certified training at the Argentine Center for Joint Training in Peacekeeping Operations (CAECOPAZ) as part of established practice.¹¹

In the police forces, a GENAD is part of the Human Resources staff and other staffs, but not at the highest level.¹² The Directorate of Gender Policies and Gender Offices focusing on Gender Focal Points (GFPs) exists in the armed forces and police forces, where GFPs are appointed throughout various police organizations.¹³

⁷ Ministry of Homeland Security, *Resolución N°58/2011*, (Argentina, March 11, 2011), at: http://revistarap.com.ar/Derecho/administrativo/fuerzas_armadas_de_seguridad/1ADM0098095548000.html and Ministry of Homeland Security, *Resolución N° 1021/2011*, (Argentina, October 20, 2011), at:

<https://www.argentina.gob.ar/normativa/nacional/resoluci%C3%B3n-1021-2011-188451/texto>

⁸ See Chapter III subsection E. Ministry of Defense, *Decreto 1714/2009*, (Argentina, October 10, 2011) at: <http://servicios.infoleg.gob.ar/infolegInternet/anexos/160000-164999/160013/norma.htm>; see also the Ministry of Defense, *Resolución N° 1348/08*, (Argentina: MoD, 2008) at: <https://docplayer.es/78701127-Anexo-i-a-la-resolucion-mindef-no-1348-08-recursos-de-lucha-contra-la-violencia-familiar.html>, Ministry of Defense, *Resolución 1226/08*, (Argentina: MoD, 2008), at:

https://www.argentina.gob.ar/sites/default/files/resolucion_1226_08_anexos.pdf; Ministry of Defense,

Resolución 1407/08, (Argentina: MoD, 2008), at:

https://www.argentina.gob.ar/sites/default/files/resolucion_1407_08_anexo.pdf; Ministry of Defense,

Resolución 01/2010, (Argentina: MoD, 2010).

⁹ Ibid. See also University of National Defense (UNDEF), *Militares Argentinas: evaluación de políticas de género*, (Argentina: UNDEF, September 2020), at:

https://www.argentina.gob.ar/sites/default/files/militares_argentinas_evaluacion_de_politicas_de_genero_libro_online.pdf

¹⁰ Ibid.

¹¹ See courses at CAECOPAZ, Centro Argentino de Entrenamiento Conjunto para Operaciones de Paz, (2020) at: <http://caecopaz.mil.ar/ofertaacademica.html>

¹² Resolution MoD N° 96/2014 establishes that each year the Chiefs of each Force and the Auditor General of the Armed Forces must designate personnel from the Gender Offices, the General Directorates of Personnel and the Auditors of each Force to receive specific training in "Gender and Institutional Management."

¹³ See Annex II, Comprehensive Gender Centers, Ministry of Homeland Security, *Resolución 1021/2011*, (Argentina: MoHS, October 20, 2011)

Nevertheless, information on NAP implementation by police forces is lacking, and the integration of WPS principles do not seem as advanced in the police as in the military.

Gender in the Ranks (Military and Police):

Service	Men	Women	Percent Women
Army	41,263	6,930	14%
Army Senior Women			
Navy	13,228	3,177	19%
Navy Senior Women			
Air Force	9,863	3,400	26%
Air Force Senior Women			
National Police ¹⁴			
National Police Senior Women			
Women Deployed			8%

Women have been allowed to occupy all positions in the military, including combat positions, since 2013. All positions in the police are open to women.

Although all military positions are open to women, few women have reached senior ranks, and none are in the senior ranks of combat occupations (in part because they were only recently opened to women).

In 2008, the Ministry of Defense set a target goal of 25-40% women in the ranks.¹⁵ Despite that one of the NAP's first objectives is to increase the presence of women in peacekeeping, in humanitarian operations and in decision-making bodies, only 8% of deployed personnel are women. No data was obtained on women serving in the national police.

Work Environment

Family Policies: The implementation of WPS principles in work environments is governed by the human resource guidelines for the military and police. Military and police personnel receive 90 days of paid maternity leave and 10 days of paid paternity leave.¹⁶ Childcare,

<https://www.argentina.gob.ar/normativa/nacional/resoluci%C3%B3n-1021-2011-188451/texto>; Ministry of Homeland Security, *Resolución 58/2011*, (Argentina: MoHS, March 14, 2011), at: <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/normativa/nacional/resoluci%C3%B3n-58-2011-180084/texto> and Ministry of Homeland Security, *Resolución 1021/2011*.

¹⁴ Sex disaggregated data was available for evaluation.

¹⁵ See Ministry of Defense *Resolución 1226/2008*

¹⁶ See Article 38 subsection E. Congress of Argentina, Ley 19101 (June, 1971), at: <http://servicios.infoleg.gob.ar/infolegInternet/anexos/15000-19999/19875/norma.htm>; Ministry of Defense, *Resolución N°706/2011*, (Argentina: MoD, 2011), at: https://www.argentina.gob.ar/sites/default/files/res_706_11.pdf; Ministry of Defense, *Decreto 3413/79*, (Argentina: MoD, 2011) at: <http://servicios.infoleg.gob.ar/infolegInternet/anexos/15000-19999/19213/texact.htm>

Ministry of Defense, *Resolución 198/2008* (Argentina: MoD, February 21, 2008), at: https://www.argentina.gob.ar/sites/default/files/resolucion_198_08.pdf

including kindergarten and family leave policies that support members of the military, are available and widely used.¹⁷

Protection Policies: Both the military and police have programs to prevent sexual harassment and assault of military and police personnel. The programs are both transparent and effective. The programs provide support to victims, and they ensure that perpetrators are prosecuted and punished.¹⁸ Moreover, there is a sexual harassment and sexual exploitation and abuse prevention program to address issues of military and police personnel as perpetrators of violence against civilians. If a member of the military commits an act of serious misconduct, they are sanctioned at the military disciplinary level and prosecuted in civil courts.¹⁹

Equipment and Facilities: There are gender-specific individual equipment within the military and police forces, including uniforms and personal protective equipment designed for and issued to all women. Facilities, including bathrooms and billets, are available for women in military and police quarters, and they are provided during deployments as required by the United Nations Standards Operations Procedures (SOP).²⁰

Training, Education, and Exercises

GENADs facilitate consistent education on gender awareness and WPS as part of entry-level training for both military and police personnel. Similarly, WPS principles for military and police forces are introduced and integrated into the education and training of personnel at the mid-grade and senior level. Personnel are also trained in the prevention of, and in response to, sexual violence, sexual exploitation, and abuse. The training is focused both internally (within the organization) and externally (civilian populations outside the organization).²¹

Further, the military pre-deployment training course, provided by the Argentine Joint Peacekeeping Training Center (certified by the United Nations), is responsible for the delivery of mandatory pre-deployment training, which includes the following areas: the importance of the protection, rights and needs of women, men, girls, and boys; information on how to engage with, and increase, the participation of local women as well as how to exchange information with women; cultural awareness training based on an analysis of gender relations in the area of operations; information on how integrating a gender perspective can serve as a force enabler and increase operational effectiveness of the mission; and creating an understanding of measures with respect to international law regarding the rights and protection of women and girls, especially civilians during armed conflict.

¹⁷ Ibid Ministry of Defense, *Resolución 198/2008*.

¹⁸ See Chapter III, Article 11, subsection 7. Congress of Argentina *Ley 26485* (Argentina, April 1, 2009), at: <http://servicios.infoleg.gob.ar/infolegInternet/anexos/150000-154999/152155/texact.htm>; Congress of Argentina, *Ley 26394*, (August 6, 2008) at: <http://servicios.infoleg.gob.ar/infolegInternet/anexos/140000-144999/143873/norma.htm> and Ministry of Defense *Resolución 112/2009*.

¹⁹ General Audit of the Armed Forces, *Circular N° 19/2009*, (Argentina, December 9, 2009), at: https://www.argentina.gob.ar/sites/default/files/circular_09.pdf

²⁰ Ministry of Defense, *Resolución 213/2007*, (Argentina, February 16, 2007), at: https://www.argentina.gob.ar/sites/default/files/res_21307.pdf

²¹ Ministry of Defense, *Resolución 28/10*, (Argentina, January 20, 2010) https://www.argentina.gob.ar/sites/default/files/resolucion_28_10.pdf; Ministry of Homeland Security *Resolución 1019/2011*, (Argentina, October 12, 2011), at: <http://servicios.infoleg.gob.ar/infolegInternet/anexos/185000-189999/188315/texact.htm>

Monitoring/Reporting and Evaluation:

Military: Argentina has specific monitoring and evaluation requirements for the implementation of UNSCR 1325 and WPS principles in the military. It is overseen by the MoD's Observatory Office, which was created within the National Directorate of Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law. The Observatory Office is tasked with monitoring and evaluating the full inclusion of women in the military. Sex-disaggregated data and lessons learned are collected and analyzed within the MoD for use in military operations to improve security outcomes for women, men, girls, and boys. Additionally, while formal involvement of several civil society organizations and groups in the WPS/NAP review exists, only the military and police forces can make data publicly available.²²

Police: Despite explicit mention in the NAP of the importance of gathering sex-disaggregated data, data for the national police forces are lacking.

Although Argentina expresses public commitment to the principles of WPS, monitoring and assessments are only carried out for the military, not the police.

Recommendations:

The new NAP must fully include all police forces in the country. Resources and monitoring and evaluation for implementation in the police must be clearly outlined. Specifically, the police must be required to collect and publish sex-disaggregated data on women in their areas of operations and within the force.

Report Contributors:

Ana Florencia Talamoni.

María Belén Canto, Ministry of Defense, Advisor.

Lic. Silvana Lorena Barrios, Ministry of Defense, Advisor

Dr. Cristina A.Rodriguez-Acosta, Florida International University

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²² The National Action Plan 2020-2022 against gender-based violence has federal scope, including commitments from the provinces and municipalities. It is transversal at the level of the National Administration, Axis 4: "Integrated information management, transparency and monitoring."