

Full Length Research

Smart Defence: Women Leadership in the Security Sector

Ulviyya Huseynova

Khazar University Development Coordinator. E-mail: uhuseynli@gmail.com

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The concept of smart defence developed by NATO is a comprehensive tool to create capabilities which are to be used in common by the member states and partners. These concepts and thoughts have newly emerged as innovative solutions for the current issues which NATO is facing in terms of defence and security. The meaning of the concept refers to the 'common security' in all aspects. The core idea of this paper is that the current period and circumstances are favorable to the development of common securitization, which will bring and a series of advantages will be brought to securitization by gender balance and defence planning together.

Key-words: Securitization, women and leadership, smart defence, NATO, crisis, challenges

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INTRODUCTION

In NATO's recently implemented action plan on 'Women, Peace and Security,' the organization relate to the issues pertinent to defence and security. The plan is to be used to cooperate, to share the capabilities of member states in order to contribute to developing new necessary capabilities together. Smart defence is seeking more beneficial defence solutions in the context of financial situations and gender empowerment.

The crisis of 2007 started a series of transformations on the international level with impacts on the global security environment. Thus, in the global world, there are some security risks and threats still impossible to ignore by any state of the international arena. The crisis acknowledged the international actors' or non-actors' weakness and strengths, creating new securitization opportunity, especially from an economic point of view. The new emergence of more powerful strategy with the gender challenge together with the stability in the space of expanding the opportunities available to women

worldwide has potential to end current wars or crises.

In this context, the urgent need for a new approach to defence strategy identifies barriers to women's advancement and leadership on securitization which would benefit from the 21st century security guarantees. For the main contributor to NATO, it became necessary to decrease the security crisis with the balancing defence expenses, to keep the budget steady using women leadership in the field of Peace and Security.

The paper discusses how women can be effective in the field of security. The research paper also analyzes women contribution to the security development sector, gender balance issue- as advantages of women entering to the security sector and new defence plan strategy. The following chapter will shed some light on the current situation of the women contribution to the defence and security, and their advantages on being as leaders in the field by grasping the logic interaction between the reports, approaches and reacts by the other actors. The

later chapter will explain the reason for having women leadership as effective role players in the Security sector. The paper concludes with the author's thoughts and ideas.

Smart Defence as a new concept

Smart Defence is a collective way of acting about establishing the modern defence capabilities, that the Alliance's needs. Allies are encouraged to work together to develop, enhance and maintain military capabilities as an essential core task agreed by NATO's strategic concept.¹ The meaning of the strategic concept is pooling and sharing all possible capabilities and coordination together to make efforts better. As a result, the Alliance's security environment will obtain a new challenge and will effect to decrease the financial crisis. The outcome of newly established concept will decrease the economic crisis risk and manages the financial risks of Europe for a better future. NATO is itself a 'Europe'. According to the Former Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen, to have strong economy is an essential part of security.² We need a new approach: Smart Defence ensuring greater security, for less money by working together with more flexibility.³ So, to get more security with existing resources, it is important to pool and share our capabilities, to work on our priorities and coordinate all our efforts for a better secured future. Pooling and sharing is a very vital issue enhancing the military capacities. It is also a major defence system under cooperation in securitization to maintain crucial capabilities.⁴ And NATO is situated in the best place to connect the beyond nations that have similar desire but limited budget to build collective capability within the region. To develop a common interface helps us to provide new solutions to new a threat and hazardous risks. The defence policy needs to increase new approaches, structures, efforts by all nations, gather advice, and reduce bureaucracy, to work with the products and resources very efficiently.

¹Smart Defence, http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/topics_84268.htm, accessed on 16th July 2014

²NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen, "Building security in an age of austerity", Munich Security Conference, 5 February 2011, http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/opinions_70400.htm

³Ibid.

⁴Pooling & Sharing, European Defence Agency, <http://www.eda.europa.eu/aboutus/whatwedo/pooling-and-sharing>

The Global Economic Crisis

The Smart Defence finds itself reducing economic crisis to become a security crisis in the financial context. A number of political initiatives should rationally address the need for the economic crisis in global community. As a positive example of the concept, smart defence is about coordination number of new projects to the public. NATO needs to bring them together, to work collaboratively in a balanced way, so they can positively and effectively help to enhance Smart Defence projects. By this way, the new coming ideas will have been developed by the Alliance. NATO, in its side, tries to find a gap and to fill that with a major capability. It is hoped that, these potential solutions and new approaches will shape Smart Defence Policy.

In today's security environment, NATO selects a gender issue to be a part of a new supporting campaign. The member states do not conduct the military attentively- all those attempts is a core task of the smart defence working with the both genders, to examine and analyze the results. To make all these efforts we need to invest in science and technology, and to create huge coherence with European countries. Smart Defence is not only about imposing on nations; it is also about to work together, to enhance peace and security resources effectively and efficiently together. Together work is a part of common success, which might be gained the advantages. Shortly, smart defence is a vital securitization strategy to build the guarantee of security with fewer resources.

The idea of Smart Defence is supporting the changing international security strategy balancing the relationship between Europe and US.⁵ It is somehow about shifting balance between them. Actions also concerns to security defenders, to 'men' but also concerns potential 'women' in the field. NATO will directly affect women as peacekeepers in the framework by those who wish to lead in the security sector. NATO is the biggest military international organization with special security structure for the Alliance. To keep the sustainability of the concept with the idea of bringing women to the security sector, NATO wants and needs to pick up frozen ideas of the Member States to muster professional, flexible gender balanced security program. So, they will start to analyze the capacities in greater detail in order to specialize the women working advantages.

Women as main role players

Smart defence as a new context reveals multiple factors

⁵Jakob Henius, Jacop Leone McDonald, "Smart Defence: A Critical Appraisal", NATO Defense College (College de Defense de l'OTAN), Rome, March 2012

about the selection of leading women as main role players in the highest levels of leadership. The dimension of smart defense by NATO may have particular implications, especially for women from regions of the world that may approach and describe peace and securitization differently.

Thus NATO is considering efforts to find and identify a smart alternative solution to develop military capabilities and equipment with the support of political ambitions. This is due to the fact that the world community believes that women may not be a part of militaries and diplomatic representatives to lead large-scale civil-military actions.⁶ At the same time, a widespread notion has appeared that women candidates are good at decision-making and are quick solution finders. It is routinely accepted in history that women are less dangerous and less visible than men by nature. We can call the leadership of women self-elimination. According to a simple work interview for women, we can see that women are extremely confident that their experience and qualifications match the position descriptions. The main point is that male candidates do not exhibit the same reservations. The employer may think that female counterparts are safer candidates than men. At the same time, we can emphasize from our daily life that male workers earn higher salaries than women in the same position. Today's leaders are both men and women, not in every position, but almost in all kinds of jobs. However, the male candidates are more 'expensive' than women themselves. Today, world countries which are in a crisis are in need of a guarantee of cheap safety by professionals in the international security environment.

The Smart Defence concept of NATO is trying to find a solution using women to make defence expenses more efficient. It is a newly established way of thinking about creating modern defence capabilities which the Alliance needs for the coming new decade. Senior level women with years of experience in UN peacekeeping operations show that women are intelligent officials who deal with military system easily, acknowledge the requirement of the position quickly, win respect in performing according to their expertise and finally, are extremely positive about their background and the field of work.⁷

In smart defence missions, women can feel more flexible, potential, and free. Women demonstrate willingness and describe immediate approaches to manage divergent interests in conflict resolution situations. The power of women begins from their

characteristic talents or levels. They find creative ways to skip negative biases professionally and gain positive outcomes in dealing with military and intelligent actors. Women, as leaders, demonstrate a very strong commitment to increasing women's participation and hiring other women with enthusiasm. NATO's smart defense solution was launched to improve understanding of required qualifications and skills to lead NATO Security policy and operations and to promote more female actors for peacekeeping mission positions. The tie keeps the gender balance in the mission, and provides expanded opportunities for women leaders in peace and security operations. The necessity of women's participation in the peace operations results in spending of resources efficiently, smart investment to reach the ideal outcome, and educated spending of security-related expenses.

Specialization – the Women Leaders

The smart defence concept may have been an advantage in the international arena of the historical period. This period implies financial participation and resources in order to obtain military capabilities. The advantage is mutual cooperation and coordination in crisis and emergency situations. Women always acknowledge that working in the field of peace and security is not easy. Qualified women always understand the major realities of the field but not forever. Those qualified women, especially with more experience, want to work. Understanding the nature of the work is not a crucial problem for female peacekeepers more than for men. Men workers are eager to continue their work in this sphere, and sometimes, they cannot easily come to a compromise. Women can bring the problem to the community or the stakeholders immediately with special sensitive behavior. Strong, qualified and experienced women who are willing to go to the field of security are in high demand by organizations and society itself. According to the related historical facts, there were few women leaders in that permanent position. Women are positive about their background and experiences to contribute to the field operations. It is absolutely clear that women can have a positive impact and come up with resolution alternatives on the missions in terms of securitization and defense. Besides, they do not stop at the experience they have achieved or what they have learned; rather they are ready to gain and practice new opportunities from the colleagues and networks. Taking women's rights and gender equality balance into the peace and security arena is an important step.

The new defence policy is a huge reality in every society where females are affected by armed conflict in

⁶Authors: Camille Pampell Conaway and Jolynn Shoemaker, Editors: Jolynn Shoemaker, Allison Adams-Alwine, and Jennifer Park, "Women in United Nations Peace Operations: Increasing the Leadership Opportunities, with the support of the Compton Foundation, Women in International Security, Georgetown University, July 2008

⁷Ibid.,p.10

the peace process.⁸This attempt will support women so they can escape from the deepest of the violence and sexual abuse and different circumstances to make progress in addressing peace and security. From a gender perspective, women will have permanent access to implicate gender and disarmament, and the central effect of securitization of international societies.

According to the standards, women always are judged more harshly than men if they are not doing a great job, according to UN peace resolution.⁹ But a man can easily change his position, or switch from situation to another, without thinking about the benefits and costs. Female leaders like to keep the same position, to continue with a new success on their mission and to permanently lead from the same place. The claim has been made that women shine brightly in leadership positions. An ineffective woman can fail professionally and can do more attempts to be effective in the field. Failing women damage the advancement in leadership very rapidly. But men are not afraid of hurting their advancement. The term of gender equality is created because of lack of women participation in voting, leading positions and military bias. That is why if women fail, it means gender equality fails.¹⁰ Female leaders who regularly work with men find immediate creative ways to be acquainted with them which dispel existing any potential problems. Women in high-level positions believe that they are more free and flexible to make an impact on field missions. The valuable asset of women within the Security Sector missions base is shown by very positive experience concerning their performance. They always can execute the possible frameworks that the situation allows them to do. If NATO wants to bring women into international security issues, it shows that the situation for men in leading positions will undergo unusual challenges. Those challenge help the willing female workers find the terms and conditions suitable for them. Many senior women can change the culture, nature and system with their roles and efforts in peace missions. This supposes not only that the international organizations' working structure at national levels should be modified, but also that they should create the opportunity to avoid the negative effects even on the financial policy of the defense industry. At the same time, international and regional organizations with competences in securitization and defense policy maintain the skills and capacities to act respectively in the mission. The concept of smart defence

would be able to provide comprehensive capabilities to achieve purposes and challenges coordinated by Member States. Women leaders respectively act and perform in those joint projects carried out by NATO. The main idea is that each leader should act independently and free of the others.¹¹

Those defence challenges influences efficiently to the national level also. Besides the economic, military and security acknowledgements by NATO's smart defence policy, there is another side to the prior methodology.

According to current speeches by NATO professionals and the information written on NATO's official web page, it must consist of other types of activities. Thus, the summaries of activity types are evaluation of the national capabilities with NATO, concentration of investment in the area of the securitization industry, and cooperation, respectively.¹² If we are look through the concepts and priorities, we can observe specific difficulties. At the same time, all these types of priorities are genuine challenges in certain areas of the defence industry that are necessary to guarantee national security. Thus, the term explains that with the smart challenge policy, the role players are able to concentrate on the area in which they will cease to invest. The experts should compare and plan the maximal method for smart investment. Mostly, smart defence policy tries to find economic solutions to manage the financial crisis as it affects the military defence and economic budgets. As a result, smart defence is an intelligent way to seek capabilities to invest with the cooperation and coordination which is necessary to guarantee security, safer lives, and development. Simultaneously, NATO is willing to take a real challenge and make efforts to manage the financial crisis existing in Europe and beyond. Maybe NATO will encounter dozens of problems justifying it in the short term. In the long term, the smart defence policy has gained popularity in the global community for some period, bringing some new advantages in international relations. Choosing women as heroes of the smart defence policy demonstrates a willingness to follow difficult and sometimes impossible issues to find professional solutions in the sphere of international security, which does not recognize borders.

The recognition of women's participation in decision making also affects the decisions that are made. The result reflects the small challenges which played a role in

⁸Women, peace and security, NATO, UNSCR 1325 and related Resolutions, accessed on 18th September 2014, http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/topics_91091.htm

⁹Camille Pampell Conaway and Jolynn Shoemaker, "Women in United Nations Peace Operations", Georgetown University, July 2008

¹⁰Ibid., p.37

¹¹Jolynn Shoemaker, Marie-Laure Poire, "Women In Peace and Security Careers", U.S. Congressional Staffs, Women In International Security (WIIS), February 2014

¹²Cristina Bogzeanu, "NATO-EU Relation From the Perspective of the Implications of 'Smart Defence' and 'Pooling and Sharing' Concepts", Central and Eastern European Online Library, Source: Strategic Impact (Impact Strategic), issue: 3/2012, pages: 33-40, on <http://www.cceol.com>

the decision-making process. Some female leaders play a proactive role in taking different approaches immediately. Another effective point of women being a outstanding leaders is that they can help the same gender in all spheres and in peace operations with enthusiasm. They do not skip the possibilities of an incomplete situation if it might be useful and vital for the mission. Increasing the gender balance in peacekeeping will be a long procedure, because of women's limited participation on a national level in many countries. First, they should be recruited nationally to develop gender balance, then they can affect the international level. The community should require that equal participation of genders be maintained within society. Due to the existing problems, smart defence is not willing to maintain this idea because of some problems on national levels. However, it first calls to evaluate the needs nationally. The need for female talent will affect three aspects of the situation: cheap defense solution, which will help to reduce the economic crisis in Europe and countries beyond; increasing gender balance equality, which will bring women into leading positions even in the military and institutions supporting peace and security in the world; and defending human rights, which is a crucial problem especially for women, to recognize their rights and fight for it. Here, the both sides will benefit the situation and outcomes on national and international levels.

Currently, international organizations are seeking talented actors who centralize the field missions. Beyond that, these new structures and functions are changes in culture, behavior, and policy in the related field. There is no concrete reason that male players cannot take the same action. One can argue that women players will continue to have an impact in the field missions. This creates the opportunity to have different female workers in peacekeeping positions. The valuable access of women in smart defence is a demonstration of newly changed securitization policy with the smartest ways. Women inside the NATO's peace military missions will concentrate on a number of solutions in the management levels. Women in leadership positions serve as active role players in the mission, and a symbol of the participation of females in the host country.¹³ The smart defence policy is not a new idea; it is one which has brought economic and military benefits. Obviously, women's advancement is a valuable asset to the security sector and a new addition to the policy to show that a crisis situation doesn't always create negative results.

It is for sure that, all research has a limited point of view. This may include the answer to the question of the paper with different approaches. The topic needs more different views in order to find out how the women can

contribute and how their contribution may affect affirmative to the related problems. To address research limitations in their research can be suggestions for the future authors who are interested in security and defence sector.

Conclusion

In my conclusion, I would like to emphasize that the smart defence policy exists as an economic and gender-related solution to manage the financial crisis with leading female participation. The idea of smart defence relates the development of capacities in common and the acceptance of the concept by member states. Three major points will develop in this long-term security policy. First, inexpensive securitization policy will emerge; second, female qualities in the leading positions will develop and cooperation will occur on effective capacities of the member and partner countries. One of the goals of the concept is to improve understanding, breaking down barriers that exist between women and society in light of the new perspective on mission contributions in peacekeeping. The notion of smart defence will create an outstanding chance for women in the high levels of leadership in the peace and security field. Future women's participation in peace operations will generate new projects for women in decision-making, peaceful resolutions and securitization. All these happenings will show that the financial crisis did not only generate negative results; on the contrary, it has opened paths to new challenges with respected common ideas. When managing the financial and economic crisis by creating valuable solutions for the implementation of the smart defence concept, the situation of security integration and defense matters may be much improved with the special development of smart defence.

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¹³Ibid., p.38

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