



Women in International Security Switzerland



Ending Discrimination and Reinforcing Women's Peace and Security in the MENA Region

Informal Dinner Discussion, Restaurant Vieux-Bois, Geneva
Wednesday, 20 June 2012, 18.30 – 22.00

The Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) calls for national action to end discrimination against women. Recent UN Security Council Resolutions have emphasized the peace and security focus of CEDAW, highlighting the important role of women in conflict resolution and peace building. One of the major aims of the meeting will be to discuss the impact of these global efforts on the Middle East and North Africa region and how women have contributed to the political transformations in the MENA Region.

Agenda

18:30 – 18:40 Welcome – **Matthes Buhbe**, Director, FES Geneva

The Human Rights Council and the Arab Spring – recent sessions and resolutions
18:40 – 18:50 – Presentation by **H.E. Laura Dupuy Lasserre**, President of the UN Human Rights Council and Permanent Representative of Uruguay to the United Nations in Geneva

The role of OHCHR in changing the legal situation for women in the MENA region
18:50 – 19:00 – Presentation by **Ms. Mona Rishmawi**, Chief of the Rule of Law, Equality and Non-Discrimination Branch, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

Prospects for capacity building for women in the MENA region
19:00 – 19:10 – Presentation by **Dr. Christina Schori Liang**, Co-Director of the New Issue in Security Course at the Geneva Centre for Security Policy and Vice-President of Women in International Security - Switzerland

19:10 – 19:30 Discussion on the presentations

19:30 – 22:00 Discussion continued during Dinner
