

María Villellas Ariño

Gender, peace and security expert and advocate. Conflict analyst.

Personal details	Place and date of birth: Teruel, Spain 09/02/1979
Education	<p>2017- currently: PhD candidate, Doctoral Program in Gender Studies: Culture, Society and Policy. Inter-University Women and Gender Studies Institute</p> <p>2016: PhD Course on Gender, Peace and Security. Research School on Peace and Conflict (University of Oslo, Norwegian University of Science and Technology and PRIO).</p> <p>2007-2009: Official Master in Women, Gender and Citizenship Studies, Interuniversity Institute in Women and Gender Studies. Barcelona</p> <p>2010: Diploma in Mental Health in Situations of Political Violence and Disasters, Grupo de Acción Comunitaria, Universidad Complutense de Madrid</p> <p>2006-2007: Graduate Diploma in Gender and Equality. Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona.</p> <p>2001-2002: Graduate Diploma in Peace Culture, School for a Culture of Peace, Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona.</p> <p>1997-2001: Graduate in Political Science. International Relations specialization. Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona.</p>
Other academic awards	2006: IX Feminist Research Award Concepción Gimeno Flaquer by the Interdisciplinary Seminar on Women Studies, University of Zaragoza, awarded for the research “Finding new words, creating new methods. Women’s participation in peace processes”.
Professional experience	<p>2002 to present: Research fellow at the Conflict and Peacebuilding Program, School for a Culture of Peace, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona. Gender and peace area.</p> <p>Most relevant projects developed by the gender and peace area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ECP led gender research in the WOSCAP project (Whole of Society Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding), led by GPPAC and funded by EU’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 653866. - <i>Gender and Peace</i>: quarterly publication with information and analysis of the WPS agenda and gender impact of armed conflicts and peacebuilding initiatives led by women. - Chapter on Gender and Peacebuilding at <i>Alert! Report on conflicts, human rights and peacebuilding</i> (2004-2016 editions). - Integration of gender component to the ECP Database on Conflict and Peacebuilding, database on armed conflicts, socio-political crises and peace processes that includes in its contents the gender dimension in a comprehensive and exhaustive manner. - Currently developing “Dones, Pau i Seguretat” (Women, Peace and Security) webpage in Catalan to sensitize Catalan society about the WPS agenda. Funded by the Catalan Aid Agency. - Consultancy services regarding WPS (sample): <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Consultant to Kroc Institute in a research project on the integration of gender in the verification and accompaniment mechanisms to the implementation of the peace agreement in Colombia. 2) Participant in the consultation process with civil society for the development of the 2007 Action Plan: Women and Peacebuilding in Spanish Cooperation developed by the Spanish Cooperation Agency, AECID. Currently participation in the civil society consultation process for a new NAP (2016). 3) Preparation of the background documents for two public events led by Spanish civil society organizations for the 10 and 15 years review of the implementation of UNSCR 1325. She elaborated <i>The role of women in peacebuilding: Proposals for the</i>

implementation of 1325 resolution, background paper for the Seminar on *1325 Resolution: The role of women in peace building*, organised by CEIPAZ and the Swiss Embassy in Madrid in February 2010. In 2015 she was tasked by the Catalan International Institute for Peace (ICIP) to elaborate the background report assessing 15 years of UNSCR 1325 implementation for the international seminar that reviewed this implementation in November 2015 in Barcelona.

4) Advisor to the Catalan Aid Agency (ACCD) for the communication campaign in October 2015 regarding the High Level Review of UNSCR 1325, #1325DonaVeu.

- Conference content coordinator: “African women, peacebuilders” (Barcelona 2006) and “Women’s mediations. A peace practice” (2005) organised by the Catalan Aid Agency and the Catalan Institute for Women regarding the role of women during peace talks and that gathered a number of women that had been directly involved in peace talks as well as experts and civil society activists. Women such as Astrid N. Heiberg, Luz Mendez, Thandi Modise, Annie Campbell, Sabine Sabimbona, Sanam Anderlini, Elisabeth Porter or Stasa Zajovic among others, participated in these conferences sharing their experiences and assessed the main challenges women face in peace processes.

Field experience in short-term missions (North-East India, April 2009; Nepal, March 2008, Haiti, March 2006 and April 2005; Sri Lanka, November 2005). Research funded by the Spanish Aid Agency (AECI) and the Catalan Cooperation Agency.

As a member of the Conflict and Peacebuilding Program I have served as consultant for the Norwegian Peacebuilding Centre (NOREF). As part of this assignment, reports have been issued on issues related to peacebuilding.

2013 to present: Freelance translator. Co-translator from English to Spanish of:

- Kim Huynh et.al. *Children and Global Conflict*, (Los niños y la conflictividad global, Barcelona: Ediciones Bellaterra, 2017).
- Carol Cohn, *Women & Wars (Las mujeres y las guerras*, Barcelona: Ediciones Bellaterra, 2015).
- Jannie Leatherman, *Sexual Violence and Armed Conflict (Violencia Sexual y Conflictos Armados*, Barcelona: Ediciones Bellaterra, 2014).
- Translator for NOREF
- Volunteer translator for WILPF

2001-2002: Research Grant at the School for a Culture of Peace, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona. “Women’s role in peacebuilding and reconciliation in South Africa”.

Teaching activities

2005-2019: “Gender in conflicts and peacebuilding”, Postgraduate Diploma on Peace Culture, School for a Culture of Peace, Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona.

2018: “Gender in conflicts and peacebuilding”, Gender and Communication, Master Programme, Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona

2004-2015: “Gender in conflicts and peacebuilding”, Course on “Peace culture and conflict Management” Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona.

2014, 2015, 2017: Course on “Women and Conflict. Sexual Violence and International Protection Mechanisms”. Escola de Cultura de Pau and Institut de Drets Humans de Catalunya

2004-2010: Master on International Development, Universidad Politécnica de Catalunya and Setem

2007, 2009: Course on “Women and Peace Culture”, Universidad Rovira i Virgili de Tarragona

2004-2007: Coordinator of the course “Gender dimension in peacebuilding”. Master on-line on Gender Studies: Women, development and cultures. Vic University and UNESCO Chair on Women, development and Cultures.

2003-2004: Master on International Cooperation, Universidad de Barcelona y Món-3

Selected articles and publications

Co-author of *Alerta! Report on conflicts, human rights and peacebuilding*, Icaria editorial, Barcelona (2019 –forthcoming-, 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013, 2012, 2011, 2010, 2009, 2008, 2007, 2006, 2005, 2004 and 2003 editions)

Co-author of *Peace Talks in Focus. Report on trends and scenarios*, Icaria editorial, Barcelona (2019 – forthcoming-, 2018 editions).

No nos morimos, nos matan. La violencia de género contra las mujeres en Ciudades de Paz. Foro Mundial sobre las Violencias Urbanas y Educación para la Convivencia y la Paz, AIPAZ y Ayuntamiento de Madrid 2018.

El activismo político de las mujeres por la paz, AFKAR/Ideas, 2017.

Co-author of *The Role of the EU and Other Third Parties in Promoting Gender, Peace and Security Agenda in Mediation and Dialogue Processes*. WOSCAP 2016.

Procesos de paz con perspectiva de género. Inclusividad y participación. Quaderns de Construcció de Pau 26, Escola de Cultura de Pau. 2016

Co-author of *Violencia sexual en conflictos armados*, Quaderns de Construcció de Pau 27, Escola de Cultura de Pau, 2016.

Mujeres, paz y seguridad: la igualdad de género en las políticas de paz y seguridad, ARI 66/2016. Real Instituto Elcano, 2016.

Co-author of “Despite Setbacks, Colombia Agreement Remains Crucial Advance for Inclusive Peace”, *Global Observatory*, IPI, 2016.

Women, Peace and Security: 15 Years of UN Security Council Resolution 1325. An Assessment Of The Women, Peace And Security Agenda. Reports 12/2016. ICIP

Gender in EU Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding. Policy and Practice. Scoping study for the H2020 WOSCAP Project, co-authored with Pamela Urrutia, Ana Villellas and Vicenç Fisas. December 2015

Enhancing women’s participation in peace processes. Submission to the Global Study on Women, Peace and Security. Escola de Cultura de Pau, April 2015

Cuando la violencia sexual es arma de guerra, Pikara Magazine, June 2015

Prologue to the Spanish Edition of Leatherman, Janie. *Sexual Violence and Armed Conflict*. Polity, 2011/ ICIP-Edicions Bellaterra, 2013.

Movimientos de mujeres por la paz, un siglo haciendo impensable la guerra Blogs Paz: en construcción, El País, May 2014

Las mujeres sirias, las grandes ausentes de Ginebra II Blogs Paz: en construcción, El País, February 2014 co-authored with Pamela Urrutia

“Liberal Peace in Question: Politics of State and Market Reform in Sri Lanka”. Book Review. Norwegian Peacebuilding Resource Centre (NOREF), 7 September 2011.

“Las mujeres y los procesos de paz”. *E-mujeres*, 16 November 2011.

Co-author of *Hanoi is closer than Delhi. Conflict analysis and peacebuilding dilemmas in North East India and South East Asia from a comparative perspective*. Cuadernos de Construcción de Paz nº 13. Bellaterra: Escola de Cultura de Pau. 2010.

Co-author of “Cinco claves para comprender la conflictividad en el nordeste de la India” *Revista CIDOB d’Afers Internacionals* núm. 89-90. Asia en desarrollo: escenarios de riesgos y oportunidades. Barcelona: CIDOB. 2010.

Background paper *The role of women in peacebuilding: Proposals for the implementation of 1325 resolution*. Seminar on 1325 Resolution: The role of women in peace building. Madrid, CEIPAZ and

Swiss Embassy, February 2010.

The participation of Women in Peace Processes. The Other Tables. ICIP Working Papers 2010/05. Barcelona: ICIP. 2010.

La violencia sexual como arma de guerra. Cuadernos de Construcción de Paz nº 15. Bellaterra: Escola de Cultura de Pau. 2010.

“Astrid N. Heiberg”, in Mesa, Manuela (dir.) y Alonso, Laura (coord.) *1325 mujeres tejiendo la paz*, Barcelona, CEIPAZ-Fundación Cultura de Paz, Icaria, pp. 38-41. 2009.

“Sri Lanka: Claves del Conflicto y Perspectivas de Futuro” en *Sri Lanka*, Serie Conflictos Olvidados, Barcelona: Institut de Drets Humans de Catalunya.

Nepal: a gender view of the armed conflict and the peace process. Quadern de Construcció de Pau no. 4, School for a Culture of Peace, June 2008

‘Bajo el burka: experiencia, supervivencia y resistencia de las mujeres afganas durante el conflicto armado’ in *Mujeres en sociedades musulmanas, mitos y realidades*, Fundeso 2007

Co-author of *La confluencia entre nacionalismo, género y feminismo: ¿un análisis relevante para los conflictos y la construcción de paz?* Mujeres en Red, April 2007

Finding new words, creating new methods. Women’s participation in peace processes. CIP-FUHEM, 2006

Selected Conferences

2018: Women’s participation in Asia peace processes, II Congreso de Construcción de Paz con Perspectiva de Género, November 2018, Universidad Iberoamericana de México

2017: Discussion facilitator, “Civil society engagement in design and implementation of NAPs”, 1st Meeting of the Women, Peace and Security Focal Points Network. Spanish Foreign Affairs Ministry and UN Women.

2016: “UNSCR 1325 and Women, Peace and Security international agenda.” I Women, Peace and Security Seminar. Comissió de Justícia Penal Internacional i Col·legi d’Advocats Penal Internacional, Barcelona.

2016: “UNSCR 1325 as a protection tool for women in armed conflicts”. International Seminar: Weaving networks for the protection of women human rights defenders in conflict areas. Organized by Brigadas de Paz, Calala Fondo de Mujeres, Front Line Defenders, JASS Mesoamérica and IM-Defensoras.

2016: “Women’s participation in peace processes”. Seminar “Applying UNSCR 1325: Women’s leadership essential to achieving peace”. Real Instituto Elcano/Swedish Embassy. Madrid

2016: “Women’s participation in peace processes”. Sabadell City Council and Lliga dels Drets dels Pobles.

2016: “WILPF. International network of women peacebuilders”. Dialogue Forum: Women, Peace and Security with peacebuilders from Colombia, DRC and Daguestan. Escola de Cultura de Pau and Lliga dels Drets dels Pobles.

2015: “15 years of UNSCR 1325”. Public Conference “One hundred years of WILPF. From historical action to current intervention” Organised by WILPF Spain. Zaragoza.

2015: Colloquium moderator. “Women’s power to Stop War. 100 years of feminist pacifism”. With Adilia Caravaca, Former WILPF International president. Organised by International Catalan Institute for Peace. Barcelona.

2015: Round Table “Women and violence in forgotten crisis” Organised by MSF, Madrid.

2014: “Gender and peace”. Keynote speaker, International Conference on Creativity and Conflict organized by Corporación Otra Escuela, CREART and Fokus. Bogotá, Colombia.

2014: Dialogue with Caddy Adzuba “Challenges to overcome sexual violence in DRC”, Universidad Aut3noma de Barcelona

2013: Conductor of the round table: “Women’s body: disputed territory and landscape of memory. Women as a military target. Violence against women” during the workshop “The hope for another future: Colombian women memory and truth” organized by ICIP and Ruta Pacífica de las Mujeres. Barcelona, December.

2012: “The gender perspective in armed conflict research”. Second Research Conference, Instituto Interuniversitario de Estudios de Mujeres y G3nero (IIEDG), Universidad Aut3noma de Barcelona, November de 2012.

2011: “Tres guinees, de Virginia Woolf”. Presentation of the Catalan edition of Three Guineas by Virginia Woolf published by ICIP and Angle Editorial, Llibreria Pr3leg, Barcelona.

2011: “Progress and challenges in the role of women as peace builders”. Public forum: Women in Peace Processes. Exchange of Experiences with Colombia and the Philippines. Conciliation Resources, Cooperacci3 and Escola de Cultura de Pau. Barcelona.

2011: Co-organiser with Conciliation Resources and Cooperacci3 of the International Working Meeting on “New prospects for peace in Colombia. Proposals from women”, Barcelona.

2010: “Women for Peace. Women’s Resistance Experiences” IV Social Education Conference: Women and Society. UNED. Teruel.

2010: “Les dones, els conflictes armats i la construcci3 de la pau”. CIRD and Departament de Cooperaci3 de Santa Coloma de Gramenet. Santa Coloma de Gramenet,

2009: “The contributions of feminism to peace culture”, I Seminar on International Cooperation at the UC, globalization, women and development. Universidad de Cantabria. Santander.

2009: “Armed conflicts in northeast India”, XXIV Summer Course at the Universitat Internacional de la Pau de Sant Cugat. “Asia and the new world equilibrium”.

2009: “Challenges for peace-building in Afghanistan”, Conferences on Forgotten Conflicts. C3ritas, Universidad de Alicante and Universidad de Valencia.

2008: Paper presentation “Peace processes, gendered processes. Obstacles, implications and modalities from a gender perspective’. International Peace Research Association (IPRA) 2008 Global Conference, University of Leuven, Belgium.

2008: Oral presentation “When bodies do not matter. A feminist analysis of armed conflicts impact on civilians”. Women’s World Congress, Universidad Complutense de Madrid.

2007: Speaker at the round table “La contribuci3n de las mujeres a la paz”, Bilbao, organised by Unesco Etxea, with the participation of Ahotsak

2006: “Los desaf3os para la construcci3n de la paz: el caso de Hait3” at the Interntional Seminar “La construcci3n de la paz y prevenci3n de conflictos: un reto para la cooperaci3n espa3ola”. Organized by CIP-FUHEM y North-South Institute

Languages

Spanish: Native

English: Proficiency Level. Certificate of Proficiency in English. University of Cambridge. December 1998. Certificate in Advanced English. University of Cambridge. June 1997

French: Intermediate level.

Catalan: Proficiency Level.

Additional Information

Founding member and member of the board Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom Spanish section. International Board alternate representing Spain.

Expert at the Catalan Council for the Promotion of Peace (Consell Catal3 de Foment de la Pau).

References

Dr. Carmen Magallón. WILPF Spain President, Fundación Seminario de Investigación para la Paz Director. carmenmagallon@gmail.com

Dr. Manuela Mesa. WILPF Spain Vicepresident, CEIPAZ Director, mmesa@ceipaz.org

Dr. Encarna Bodelón. Law Lecturer, Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona, encarna.bodelon@uab.cat