

GLOBAL WEEK OF ACTION AGAINST GUN VIOLENCE

26 JUNE - 2 JULY 2023



Global Week of Action Against Gun Violence 2023

IANSA's theme for the 2023 Global Week of Action was **"Promoting Dialogue and a Culture of Peace: Taking Action to End Gun Proliferation and Violence!"**

IANSA called on its members to redouble their efforts to help end the illicit proliferation and misuse of SALW and for states to fulfill their commitments in the UN Programme of Action on SALW (UNPoA) to promote a Culture of Peace. As defined by the United Nations, a "Culture of Peace" is a "set of values, attitudes, modes of behavior and ways of life that reject violence and prevent conflicts by tackling their root causes to solve problems through dialogue and negotiation among individuals groups and nations."

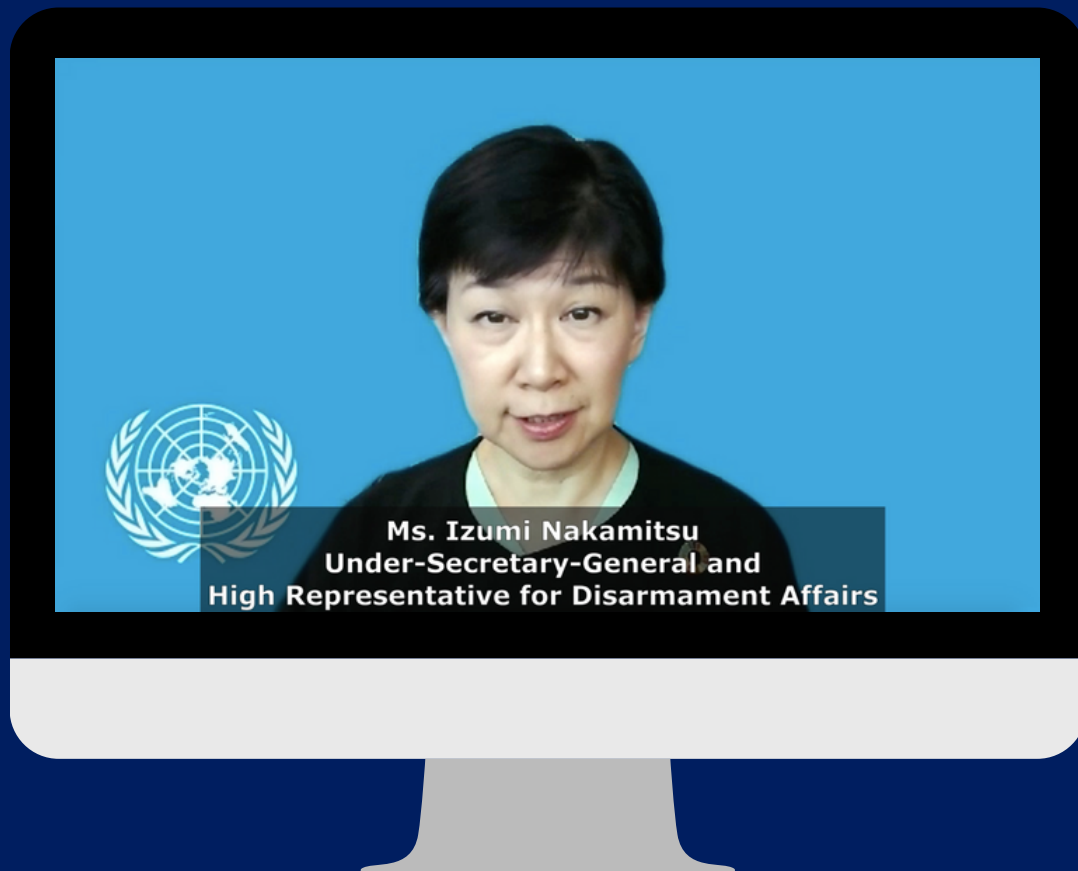
The key advocacy points and actions for the week were:

- Reminding States of their responsibility to enact strict SALW controls and take specific measures to regulate the SALW trade;
- Building public and political support for the UNPoA;
- Transparency in reporting and international cooperation and assistance.

This report highlights campaign activities organised by IANSA members and includes members' engagement with community leaders, authority officials and government officials to gain support for measures to reduce armed violence and implement strict firearms controls.



A Message from the United Nations High Representative for Disarmament Affairs



The United Nations High Representative for Disarmament Affairs Ms. Izumi Nakamitsu delivered a statement to kick off IANSA's Global Week of Action Against Gun Violence. She emphasizes how small arms and light weapons continue to hinder sustainable development and how it is important to focus on the supply and demand of SALW, localizing global efforts, and implementing national strategies. Building cultures of peace can address some of the root causes of armed violence.

Ms. Nakamitsu also highlights how the Fourth Review Conference on the UNPoA (RevCon4) will be a key opportunity to take stock of the progress made so far on states' implementation of the UNPoA. RevCon4 is set to take place 17-28 June 2024.

View the video message [here](#).

Funded Organisations

As part of IANSA's project with the UNODA through contributions received from the European Union: **"From the Bottom Up: Civil Society Engagement and Support for the UN Programme of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons"**, small stipends were given to IANSA members to undertake activities during the Global Week of Action. This is a summary of their activities.

Burundi

Réveil Communautaire d'Assistance aux Victimes (RECOVI)

RECOVI held an event in the Maramvya zone in Burundi bringing together over 50 participants including community leaders, police and government officials and young people to discuss gender-mainstreaming in small arms and light weapons control. This workshop aimed to raise awareness of the impact of gender-based armed violence in the community. A video highlight of the event is available [here](#).



REFEADES held an event in Makobola, DRC, uniting hundreds of people from 15 different local community villages in the Fizi rural territory. The objective was to raise awareness of gun violence, especially how it affects women and children. The event highlighted the current efforts being made by the DRC government to control SALW and discussed how to move forward towards a safer future.



FOSDA united nine civil society organisations working in the area of peace, security, women's rights and the National Commission on Small Arms (NACSA) by organizing a meeting to promote gender-mainstreaming in SALW control. Following the discussions, recommendations for NACSA, governments and CSO's were outlined, such as working together, implementing education programs and amending the Ammunition and Arms Act 1972 (NRCD 9), the NACSA Act and all other relevant laws to improve arms control in Ghana.



The Iraqi Organization for Rehabilitation of Society and Environment in Karbala supported the GWOA by holding a community meeting and sports festival to raise community awareness of the dangers of armed violence. This activity worked to engage and educate local youth who are at risk and negatively impacted by SALW violence.



The Rural Development Foundation organised an event uniting many women and girls, local government representatives, and civil society activists to engage in a discussion on the harmful effects of SALW and gender-based violence in Jamshoro, Pakistan. During the dialogue, community women shared personal stories and experiences, making their voices heard.



SRIC held several mobilizing activities for the GWOA. The activities included awareness raising campaigns through road shows across different areas within the Isiolo County, a press brief shared with local radio station – Baliti Radio, a social media campaign, a youth and police dialogue forum and a ceremonial football match. The efforts were geared towards lobbying both state and non-state actors to prioritize actions that address the proliferation of illicit firearms and promote strengthening controls of the legally held firearms. With participation from Focal Points, the National Police Service, local government representatives and many CSOs.



WINAD organised a Women's Conversation series titled "Come Leh We Talk Nuh." This was a series undertaken in collaboration with the Institute for Gender and Development Studies at the University of the West Indies. This session was designed exclusively for women between the ages of 19 and 30 to speak to various issues specific to peace and security. The conversation aimed to recognize the ways in which gun violence shapes how women and girls experience and understand security in Trinidad & Tobago.



Additional Activities

In addition to groups that received funding, other IANSA members from around the world participated in the Global Week of Action.

Burundi

Femmes Unies pour la Paix dans la Region des Grands Lacs (FUP/GL)

FUP/GL organized field trips to sensitize local women's groups to the dangers of the proliferation of small arms and light weapons. They also hosted sessions to share a collection of women's experiences and considerations on ways and means of controlling weapons through the promotion of dialogue and a culture of peace.



El Salvador

Fundación Red de Sobrevivientes y Personas con Discapacidad

La Fundación Red de Sobrevivientes y Personas con Discapacidad (with the support of IM Sweden in the framework of the Humanium Metal Project in El Salvador) created a podcast episode on their "inVISIBLE SV Podcast" focusing on the Global Week of Action and discussing the theme of "Prevention of violence and culture of peace" with special guest Carlos San Martín, Executive Director of SSPAS (Servicio Social Pasionista). Watch and listen to the full podcast episode [here](#).



KCI has been supporting the Global Week of Action for many years and this year they organised a community gathering that included a briefing on gun violence in Nigeria and a football match to unite and engage youth.



WAANSA and the Forum of Foreign Correspondents of Nigeria in partnership with the Directorate of Parks and Recreation organised a meeting to celebrate the UN International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking and to kick off the Global Week of Action Against Gun Violence.



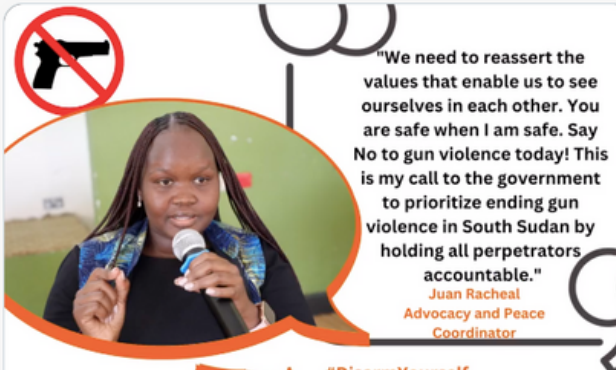
South Sudan

South Sudan Council of Churches (SSCC)

South Sudan Council of Churches held an online campaign and hosted a conversation on the misuse of small arms and light weapons and gun violence on a local radio station "Bakitha Radio." The session was open for public contributions and discussions.

SSCC @SSCChurches · Jun 26
 "You are safe when I am safe." - Advocacy and Peace Cord. [#JuanRacheal](#) on the Global Week of Action Against Gun Violence.

[#GlobalWeekOfAction #GWOA2023](#)
[#CultureOfPeace #PromotePeace](#)
[#LetsWorkTogether](#)
[#GunControlNow #EndGunViolence](#)
[#TowardsRevCon4 #SSOT @IANSAnetwork @FECCLAHA](#)



"We need to reassert the values that enable us to see ourselves in each other. You are safe when I am safe. Say No to gun violence today! This is my call to the government to prioritize ending gun violence in South Sudan by holding all perpetrators accountable."
Juan Racheal
 Advocacy and Peace Coordinator

[#DisarmYourself](#)
[#DisarmTheNation](#)
[#TakeActionNow](#)
[#GunViolenceAwarenessWeek](#)

26th June - 2nd July 2023

SSCC @SSCChurches · Jun 27
 How best can we dialogue in the communities & disarm the locals to promote a culture of peace?

Join our team [@CapitalFM](#) as they share more on the [#GlobalWeek of Action Against #GunViolence](#).

[@animuathiei](#) [@najua](#) [@arekfrancis](#) [#EndGunViolence](#) [#ssot](#) [#GWOA](#) [@FECCLAHA](#) [@IANSAnetwork](#)



Sierra Leone

Sierra Leone Action Network on Small Arms

LOCAL NEWS **SLANSA celebrates 2023 Global Week of Action, reveals findings on June 24 elections**
 By Ibrahim Kabba Turay

The Sierra Leone Action Network on Small Arms (SLANSA) has celebrated the 2023 Global Week of Action against the proliferation of small arms and light weapons and also revealed findings on the June 24th Presidential, Parliamentary and Local Council elections, which conduct the organization observed.

SLANSA was able to deploy ten observers in different polling stations within the assured centers around the country in Kono, Kailahun, Makeni, Kambia, Pujehun, and Western Area Urban.

According to the organization, some level of violence between party agents and staff of the Electoral Commission for Sierra Leone (ECSL) were noted in some of the polling stations they were deployed.

They observed that voter turnout during polling day was very encouraging, and that women and the physically challenged came out in very huge numbers with preference given to pregnant women, lactating mothers and the aged to vote.

The organization stated that majority of the polling centers visited by their observers didn't open on time with few majority of the centers calm and peaceful.

The SLANSA recommended that the Electoral Commission for Sierra Leone should ensure training of polling agent staff months before the elections, to ensure effectiveness & efficiency, and that structure for polling stations should be inspected for safety and security purpose especially for ECSL staff.

They called on ECSL to ensure that the master register should be produced to have surnames of all registered voters in all polling stations to avoid movement of voters from place to place searching for their surnames.

A team of SLANSA election observers

6 accused jailed for robbing High Court judge
 By Mohamed J Kargbo

John Bangura and 5 others made their first appearance before Hennessey whisky valued (Le2,000.00), one Intel phone valued (1,000.00), one Tenco cammon 19

SLANSA took part in the Presidential, Parliamentary and Local council elections by observing polling stations and advocating for peaceful elections. An article was published in a local newspaper "Concord Times," available to read [here](#).

Overview of Social Media Participation in the Global Week of Action Against Gun Violence 2023



appargentina @appargentina1 · Jun 28

En la semana de #GWOA2023, en La Plata, #Argentina hubo un doble femicidio: un policía mató a su expareja y a la hermana de ella.

¡Por más control de armas!

@IANSAnetwork @ParlForumSalw @controlarms @Sdg16Gensac @amassuru

Nota completa ➡



lanacion.com.ar

Doble femicidio en La Plata: un policía mató a su ex...
El hecho ocurrió a última hora de ayer en la localidad de Arturo Seguí; el uniformado, que pres...



Center for Peace Education - Miriam College @CPE_MC · Jun 29

As armed conflict & violence continue to rise, let us focus our efforts on sustainable peace. Let's remember that the most powerful ammunition are not weapons but in our unwavering resolve for peace.

#GWAAgainstGunViolence
#GlobalWeekofActionAgainstGunViolence
@IANSAnetwork



Global Week of Action
Against Gun Violence
26 June - 01 July



CAMYOSFOP @camyosfop · Jun 28

#GwoA2023 Civil society organizations in Cameroon have an important role to play in promoting national #UNPoA priorities. Let's build dialogues with our government to ensure that implementation is effective and supported by all stakeholders. @UN_Disarmament @recsasec @odaunrec



IANSA @IANSAnetwork · Jun 27

State governments should #WorkTogether with local and national #CivilSociety organizations to develop #NationalTargets for effective implementation of the #UNPoA! #GwoA2023
Check out IANSA's infographic with examples from our National Dialogues Project: iansa.org/infographics-u...



FESPAD @FESPAD_sv · Jun 27

#Comunicado

En el marco del la Semana Mundial de Acción contra la Violencia Armada, hacemos un llamado al Estado para que asuma su responsabilidad de aplicar controles estrictos sobre la portación y el uso de armas pequeñas y ligeras.

@prensagrafica @elsalvadorcom @EFE_ACENTRAL



FESPAD @FESPAD_sv · Jun 27

Replying to @FESPAD_sv

La presentación de la campaña se dió en el marco del inicio de la Semana Mundial de Acción contra la Violencia Armada, organizada año con año por @IANSAnetwork.



Overview of Social Media Participation in the Global Week of Action Against Gun Violence 2023

FESPAD @FESPAD_sv · Jun 26 ...
#EnDesarrollo
 @FESPAD_sv y @CoincidirSV, con el apoyo de @IMsweden, informan sobre la Semana Mundial de Acción contra la Violencia Armada y lanzan la campaña "¡Súmate al llamado, por un El Salvador desarmado!".

● Vea la conferencia aquí: fb.watch/lppDjpkPTw/?mi...



Center for Peace Education - Miriam College @CPE_MC · Jun 26 ...
 @CPE_MC, @paxchristiph, and @MCPaxChristi strongly supports the control of arms proliferation in the Philippines on the occasion of the Global Week of Action against Gun Violence led by the @IANSAnetwork. Please read & share our Statement.
[#GWAAgainstGunViolence](#)

violence in the Philippines, making it one of the deadliest places in Asia in terms of firearm homicides. In 2019 alone, there were over 1,200 intentional killings involving firearms, killing one in every 100,000 people in the country. This places the Philippines among the countries with the highest rates of gun-related deaths in Asia (Time Magazine, June 15, 2022). Just last year and in the recent months, there were several reports of killings involving government officials and civilians, including a student and a teacher in separate incidents in Cotabato.

Gun deaths in the Philippines are often a result of targeted killings associated with violent political rivalries, interpersonal and clan conflicts, and organized crime. The high number of men being perpetrators and victims of gun violence further suggests that gun violence is gendered. Gender socialization has driven men to repress emotions, from peaceful conflict resolution, and display aggression to prove their manliness. They are also socialized to see themselves as protectors. Hence, men are more likely to own and use guns, consistent with gender norms, and die from gun violence.

One significant contributing factor to the prevalence of gun violence in the Philippines is the availability of illegal firearms. Approximately

Jasmin Nario-Galace @jasminpeacenik · Jun 26 ...
 Statistics indicate that 80-90% of those who die from gunshots are men. We can break the link between men, masculinity, and gun violence through education & gender socialization. You don't need a gun to be a man!
[#GWA2023](#) @IANSAnetwork



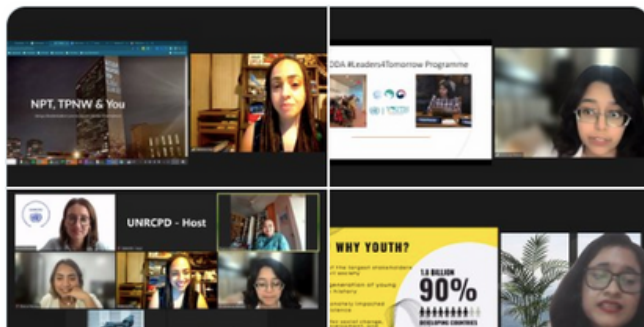
FUNPADEM @FUNPADEM · Jun 23 ...
 1 de 2: [#FUNPADEMPresente](#)

Reafirmamos la importancia de luchar contra la violencia armada entendiendo que el diálogo es el primer paso para la concientización y mejora. [#GWA2023](#)
 Semana mundial de acción contra la violencia armada: 26 de junio - 2 de julio, 2023
[@IANSAnetwork](#)



FUNPADEM @FUNPADEM · Jun 20 ...
 1 de 2: Desde [#FUNPADEM](#) nos unimos a la "Semana mundial de acción contra la violencia armada: 26 de junio - 2 de julio de 2023" organizada por [@IANSAnetwork](#).

UNRCPD @UNRCPD · Jun 30 ...
 Wonderful discussion on [#PeaceEducation](#), [#CivicEngagement](#), [#Leaders2Future](#), [#Youth4Disarmament](#), [#CrossCultural](#) communication and [#CulturalAwareness](#) at the [#DisarmamentToolkit](#) during the Global Week of Action Against Gun Violence [#GWA2023](#)



Overview of Social Media Participation in the Global Week of Action Against Gun Violence 2023

unlrec_oficial

Mujeres en Acción: En los últimos 12 meses, más de 600 mujeres participaron en las actividades de @unlrec_oficial

MUJERES EN ACCIÓN



En los últimos 12 MESES más de 600 MUJERES participaron en las actividades de UNLIREC

@UNLIREC @iansa_network

unlrec_oficial

REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN ACTION



Awareness-raising meetings with CENTRAL AMERICAN STATES on the Roadmap to Prevent the Illicit Trafficking and Proliferation of Arms and Ammunition — were held between March and May 2023 —

@UNLIREC

Regional Organizations in Action: Under the leadership of the OAS, meetings with Central American countries began work on developing the Central American Roadmap to Prevent Illicit Arms Trafficking and Proliferation.

@iansa_network @oca_oficial

unlrec_oficial

NATIONAL AUTHORITIES IN ACTION



Since JUNE 2022 more than 1,400 NATIONAL OFFICIALS participated in UNLIREC's courses

@UNLIREC @unitednations_oda @iansa_network

Parliamentary Forum on Small Arms & Light... @ParlForu... · Jun 26 ...

Welcome to join the Global Week of Action Against Gun Violence #GWA2023 campaign, initiated by @IANSAnetwork, in which @ParlForumSalv collaborates. Learn more on how to engage MPs in preventing #SALW violence here: iansa.org/wp-content/upl... #EndGunViolence

PROMOTING DIALOGUE AND A CULTURE OF PEACE:

TAKING ACTION TO END GUN PROLIFERATION AND VIOLENCE!

26 June – 2 July 2023




humaniumsv

Únete a nuestro Live en Instagram

Hablemos sobre ¿Cómo afecta la violencia armada?

Sábado 1 de julio de 2023 7:30 p.m.

Busca la cuenta de @HumaniumSV, síguenos y únete a la transmisión.



humaniumsv ¡Acompáñanos esta noche!





@IANSAnetwork



@iansa_network



@IANSAnetwork



International Action Network on Small Arms



For more information and resources visit iansa.org



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