



Syracuse London Symposium

## Women in Diplomacy

‘Diplomacy’ refers to the management of foreign affairs. Formal diplomats are officially named by governments: they’re people like ambassadors, and are the traditional focus of international political scholars. But more recently, theorists have begun thinking about the *informal* ways that everyday people interact...and how those more local interactions help to shape international relations. ‘Tracks’ of diplomacy refer to different levels and sectors through which global issues are impacted. Whatever sector you’re interested in, that field has an effect on international relations — and so do gender issues within it. *Choose your track to explore more.*

# Track Pass:

# JOURNALISM

# ***Journalism and Media Diplomacy***

Journalism has a major impact on foreign affairs. By shaping public opinion, the media can influence international relations and policy. For example:

- the US communicated with the terrorists behind the 1979-1981 Iran hostage crisis almost exclusively through the press;
- media coverage can anger or calm the public in times of war, stress, and conflict;
- groups like WikiLeaks can undermine (or support) national and human security.

Journalists often receive access to spaces where formal diplomacy happens, and thus have a special responsibility and power in diplomacy.

## ***Spotlight: Women in Diplomacy***



Lindsey Hilsum is the International Editor for *Channel 4 News*. Before becoming a journalist, she was an aid worker in Africa

and Latin America. Hilsum was the only English-speaking foreign correspondent in Rwanda when the genocide began. Since, she's covered conflicts in Kosovo, Israel, Palestine, Bahrain, and more.

# Media Track Diplomacy Quiz

Try to answer without Googling!

Hint: there might be some trick questions. 😊

Which politician started off in journalism?

- a. Hillary Rodham Clinton
- b. Sarah Palin
- c. Condoleezza Rice
- d. Elizabeth Warren

Of the 488 journalists incarcerated around the world in 2021, how many were women?

- a. 0
- b. 60
- c. 207

What % of Japan's top editors are women?

- a. 0
- b. 4
- c. 17
- d. 42

Male editors outnumber female editors, even in countries with relatively more female journalists.

- a. True
- b. False

# International Careers Panellists

**Becca Farnum** is an environmental peacebuilding specialist. Past projects have involved drafting legal articles with Ambassador Marie Jacobsson for the International Law Commission; running a training program on behalf of the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and serving a stint in the Obama White House.

**Alison Hook** is the co-founder of Hook Tangaza, a consultancy on global business infrastructure. Alison has previously served as Director of International at the Law Society of England and Wales; before that, she worked in multiple countries for the European Commission and the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

**Carol M. Graham** has a long career in international education. Carol was the first woman, first American, and first ethnic minority Executive Director of UK Fulbright Commission. She was later appointed by the Foreign Office to the Marshall Scholarships Commission, where she served for six years.

**Shiva Marvasti** is an Economic Officer at the US Embassy in London covering British fiscal and monetary policy issues. She has previously focused on Mexico, Ecuador, and Turkey. Prior to joining the Foreign Service, Shiva worked in corporate finance for General Electric. She speaks fluent Farsi and Spanish.

**Brainstorm a question** for our panel about their experiences in international careers and/or gendered issues in global affairs.

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