

In addition, Canada helped to strengthen the capacities of national security institutions in fragile and conflict-affected states. Global Affairs Canada, in partnership with the Department of National Defence, supported the Ukrainian military in defending and securing its citizens through the provision of training assistance and non-lethal equipment. In partnership with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, Global Affairs Canada deployed police officers and funded projects to provide training, advice and equipment to help reform Ukraine's Patrol Police.

In 2015-2016, IDRC and the philanthropic organization Carlos Slim Foundation partnered to develop the Youth Citizen Security Platform. This platform supports policies and strategies that empower youth in Mexico, El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras, where lack of employment opportunities and deep social inequalities can lead to organized crime and other forms of violence. The platform will be launched in 2017 and is expected to harness expertise from across government and civil society and enable face-to-face and virtual training on citizen security and youth violence prevention. Participants will jointly create an agenda to influence public policy that focuses on youth economic inclusion and a reduction of violence in the region.

Conflict prevention and resolution often require political solutions and other forms of assistance beyond ODA, such as non-lethal security assistance for a foreign government. In the Middle East, Canada supported international peace negotiations for the ongoing conflict in Syria. Specifically, Global Affairs Canada helped build the negotiating capacity of the Syrian opposition delegation to engage in the Geneva peace talks via assistance from the Public International Law & Policy Group, an international NGO. Canada also sought to broaden political dialogue in Syria on the principles for a future transition with different Syrian community leaders and constituencies.

## OPERATION PROTEUS

Operation PROTEUS, also known as Task Force Jerusalem, is Canada's contribution to the Office of the United States Security Coordinator in Jerusalem. In 2015-2016, Canadian Armed Forces provided \$4.23 million to the office and provided personnel to help the Palestinian Authority ensure a safe and secure environment for its citizens and promote peace in the region.

The members of Task Force Jerusalem also provide the Palestinian Authority Security Forces with training advice and support, develop logistics capabilities, and construct security infrastructure. They also facilitate co-operation between the Palestinian Authority and the Government of Canada on issues that are not usually of military interest, such as borders and crossings, movement and access.

## NON-ODA SECURITY ASSISTANCE

In 2015-2016, Canada provided non-lethal security assistance to security forces in Jordan, Niger and Belize to help them build their capacity to counter instability and extremism. This included the provision of funding, training, vehicles or equipment to security forces. In addition, Global Affairs Canada's Global Partnership Program, which seeks to reduce the threat posed by weapons and materials of mass destruction, supported international efforts to destroy Syria's stockpile of chemical weapons.

While these security efforts are not defined as ODA, they contribute to an integrated Canadian approach to improving peace around the world and helping those most affected by armed conflict.

## PROTECTING THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF WOMEN AND GIRLS

Canada recognizes that conflicts and crises affect women, men, girls and boys differently. Canada's efforts to promote security and stability around the world help foreign governments, international organizations, and civil society promote and protect the human rights of women and girls. For example, Global Affairs Canada's Peace and Stabilization Operations Program (formerly known as the Stabilization and Reconstruction Task Force, or START) incorporates gender analysis in its programming. This analysis helps us understand women's and men's access to resources. It helps challenge systemic gender inequalities and power imbalances (most often faced by women).

In 2015-2016, Canada supported the implementation of the UN Security Council's Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security, which recognizes that women are routinely excluded from efforts to prevent and resolve conflict. The annual progress report on the implementation of Canada's Action Plan for the Implementation of Resolution 1325 was tabled in Parliament in June 2015, emphasizing that active and meaningful participation of women and girls improves program and project effectiveness and sustainability at the local, national and international levels.

Canada reinforced efforts to strengthen legal frameworks and judicial capacity to confront sexual and gender-based violence and child, early and forced marriage in several countries, including Afghanistan, Bosnia, Myanmar, Chad, Ethiopia, Ghana, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Niger, Somalia, Tanzania, and Togo. Global Affairs Canada deployed civilian experts to investigate sexual and gender-based violence and address impunity for grave violations of human rights. For example, through its engagement with Justice Rapid Response, Canada supported the work of the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia. Canada also helped