



Ms. Sharon Gouveia Feist
Director for Women, Peace & Security
Command Gender Advisor
U.S. Indo-Pacific Command

Sharon Feist is the first Gender Advisor (GENAD) to the Commander, United States Indo-Pacific Command (USINDOPACOM), serving as the Director for Women, Peace and Security (WPS) and principal U.S. military WPS advisor within the Indo-Pacific. Established by Congressional funding in 2019, this position resides within the USINDOPACOM J5 Strategic Planning & Policy Directorate and J56 Strategy and Posture Division.

In line with the U.S. Women, Peace, and Security Act, Strategy & National Action Plan, and Defense Strategic Framework and Implementation Plan, Sharon directs USINDOPACOM WPS policy and strategy; designs and delivers tailored WPS programming to support national security objectives; and oversees Command-wide WPS institutionalization and operationalization, to include USINDOPACOM Component, Sub-Unified Commands, and Direct Reporting Units. She leads an innovative team at the cutting-edge of defense WPS implementation, actively working with over 25 partner nations within the Indo-Pacific to develop human-centered security strategies that advance stability and peace.

Sharon has served within U.S. Indo-Pacific Command since 2007, formerly with the Office of Strategic Partnerships (J92), Office of the Foreign Policy Advisor (J005), and the Center for Excellence in Disaster Management & Humanitarian Assistance. In addition to supporting WPS initiatives over the last 15 years, she has led programs on Combating Trafficking in Persons (CTIP), with prior experience working with human trafficking survivors, particularly women and girls, in Hawai'i and Southeast Asia.

Sharon attended Hawai'i Pacific University and earned a Bachelor's in English and attended American University for a Master's of Fine Arts in Creative Writing. She is also an alumna of the University of Oxford's Saïd Business School *Women's Leadership Development Programme*. She is married and has an active preschooler.