



IFUW Update – 05 March 2014



International Federation of University Women news

58th Commission on the Status of Women (CSW58)

IFUW is gearing up for CSW58 in New York! As of this weekend, over 20 IFUW members will be present at CSW58 to advocate for the need for secondary, tertiary, continuing and human rights education of girls and women worldwide. More specifically, IFUW will be looking at how to ensure that girls' and women's secondary education is included in the post-2015 development agenda. IFUW delegates will actively represent IFUW, its mission and its messages, in order to make IFUW visible and successful in its endeavours, as well as to support individual NFAs in what they want to achieve. Three IFUW national affiliates will host panels: Women Graduates USA (WG-USA), the Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) and the Finnish Federation of University Women (FFUW). Read IFUW's [written statement](#) Read IFUW's [oral statement](#)

Beijing+20

Beijing+20 refers to the 20th anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women, which took place in Beijing in 1995. The [Beijing Platform for Action](#) (BPfA) was the outcome of this conference where governments and NGOs took the historic step of setting a global agenda for achieving gender equality and women's human rights. (Some may remember [Hillary Clinton's speech](#) from this occasion). The twenty-year review of the BPfA will take place at CSW59 in 2015. For background information on regional and national consultations, please refer to the UN Women website: (<http://www.unwomen.org/en/csw/csw59-2015/preparations>)

Please don't hesitate to [email IFUW](#) should you have any questions.

National Federations and Affiliations news

Mexico

The Mexican Association of University Women (FEMU) runs a weekly radio programme which discusses the condition of girls and women in Mexico today. IFUW past Vice President, Dr Patricia Galeana Herrera, and Lourdes Enriquez coordinate the programme. You can follow it on [Twitter @mujeresatribuna](#). [Read more](#) FEMU news.

Advocacy

Afghan president rejects law to protect abusers of women

Afghanistan's president Hamid Karzai rejected a new law, passed by both houses of the Afghan parliament on 19 January, which would prevent judicial authorities from questioning the relatives of a criminal defendant in a case involving violence against women or girls. With most violence against women in Afghanistan occurring within the family, the proposed law would deny effective protection and reparation to victims by silencing those who witness their abuse and by making prosecutions highly difficult. This victory is a testament to the strength of the global movement for women's equality and protection.

Human rights defenders in Afghanistan

Women human rights defenders in Afghanistan risk their lives in order to defend the rights of others, including the right of Afghan girls to go to school. Watch a two-part video about the threat of violence that stalks them every day. [Read more](#)

Opportunities

Three postdoctoral scholarships are being offered in association with the European Access Network (EAN) World Congress in Malaysia in October 2015. EAN is concerned with access to higher education for underrepresented groups, including women, and the scholarships, which include the opportunity to present at the Congress, are for academic staff from developing countries. Application deadline is 30 April 2014. [Read more](#)

Other information and events

Mar 3-28	Human Rights Council, Geneva
Mar 6-7	High-level event on the contributions of women, the young and civil society to the post-2015 development agenda
Mar 8	International Women's Day
Mar 10-26	Committee on the Status of Women (#CSW58), New York
May 5-9	Conference of the International Association of Women Judges, Tanzania
Jun 1	IFUW Day

Did you know?

Sheila Buemi-Moore, assistant treasurer of IFUW, will climb to the rooftop of Africa - Mount Kilimanjaro! - to raise funds for girls' secondary education. The group with which she is climbing will reach the summit on March 8, International Women's Day. Please support Sheila. Send her a message of encouragement on [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#). You can also sponsor her climb by [donating to girls' education](#).

Tell us something we don't know about IFUW - [email us!](#)



Empowering women and girls through lifelong education for leadership, decision-making and peace. IFUW is in special consultative status with ECOSOC and is an NGO maintaining official relations with UNESCO.

International Federation of University Women, Fédération Internationale des Femmes Diplômées des Universités

10, rue du Lac, CH-1207 Geneva, Switzerland; Tel: (+41 22) 731 23 80; Fax: (+41 22) 738 04 40

E-mail: ifuw@ifuw.org Website: <http://www.ifuw.org>