



IFUW Update – 13 August 2014



Navi Pillay, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights
[Picture](#): US Mission Geneva (Creative Commons license)

International Federation of University Women news

IFUW published in World Pulse

IFUW staff member Lorraine Mangwiro has published an article in the online forum **World Pulse**, detailing IFUW's vision for the [post-2015 education goals](#). The article highlights the plight of over 500 million girls and women in the world who are illiterate, despite the progress made in the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) towards achieving universal primary education. IFUW calls for the bar to be raised in the post-2015 [Sustainable Development Goals](#) (SDGs) to expand access to education to all levels, including prioritising the transition between primary and secondary education for girls and women, as well as increasing their access to higher education. Read the article in full [here](#).

National Federation and Association (NFA) news

Canada

Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) Participates in Financial Literacy Consultation

The Financial Consumer Agency of Canada (FCAC) recently appointed a Financial Literacy Leader charged with developing a Financial Literacy Strategy for Canada. To develop the strategy, the FCAC is undertaking a series of consultations, the first of which focused on strengthening the financial literacy of senior citizens. In response, CFUW submitted comments highlighting the financial literacy needs of senior women and urging for the application of Gender-Based analysis throughout. You can read the submission [here](#).

Advocacy

Address by UN High Commission for Human Rights Navi Pillay

The outgoing High Commissioner for Human Rights Navi Pillay gave a farewell address for civil society actors at the headquarters of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in Geneva, Switzerland, on 5 August 2014. Ms. Pillay will be stepping down at the end of the month, to be replaced Jordan's [Prince Zeid Ra'ad Zeid al-Husseini](#). During the Questions & Answers segment of the address,

IFUW's UN Representative Nina Joyce asked the High Commissioner for her thoughts on what the future held for girls' and women's access to secondary and tertiary education. Ms. Pillay recognised that the situation still posed a challenge, especially where governments had, until now, focused national budgets on primary level education. She further highlighted that the right to education also included a substantive element in terms of quality. The High Commissioner remarked that the OHCHR should work more on the issue with UNESCO. She concluded her answer by also highlighting the important role for women in university education.

Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence

On 1 August 2014, the Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence came into force, having so far been ratified by [14](#) Council of Europe (CoE) member states: Albania, Andorra, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Denmark, France, Italy, Malta, Montenegro, Portugal, Serbia, Spain, Sweden and Turkey. This new landmark CoE treaty opens the path for creating a legal framework at pan-European level to protect women against all forms of violence, and prevent, prosecute and eliminate violence against women and domestic violence. The Convention also establishes a specific monitoring mechanism in order to ensure effective implementation of its provisions by the parties. Read the Convention in [full](#).

Proposals & Workshops

Margaret McNamara Memorial Fund for Developing Country Women to Study in Latin America

Eligible applicants are women from developing countries who are enrolled at the following universities: Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, Universidad de los Andes, Universidad Nacional de Colombia in Colombia; Universidad Austral in Argentina; Universidad Iberoamericana in Mexico; and Pontificia Universidad Catolica del Peru in Peru. See further eligibility criteria [here](#).

Deadline: 31 August 2014

Civil Society Innovation Programme

Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) and **USAID** announce a request for proposals to participate in the co-creation of a civil society innovation programme. Sida and USAID are seeking to work with civil society organisations (CSOs) and other partners who want to contribute to poverty alleviation and democratic development, through innovative initiatives that aim to strengthen civil society. The programme will be designed in conjunction with a wide range of stakeholders and is now open for expressions of interest until **17 August 2014**. More information [here](#).

Did you know...?

IFUW has launched a monthly international news round-up, providing a summary of relevant stories from around the world regarding women and girls in education and decision-making. The news round-up will be published at the end of each month, looking at news items from all continents.

Other information and events

August 17 - 22	Women's World Congress , Hyderabad
August 31 - Sep 6	Women in Leadership (Rwanda): An Experiential Learning and Friendship Tour
September 4 - 7	University Women Europe AGM, Bucharest
September 5-7	UNITAR-Yale Conference
September 12 - 14	Women Graduates USA AGM , Salt Lake City
September 17 - 19	Organization for Women in Science for the Developing World (OWSD) Fifth International Conference , Mexico

September 19 - 20
September 26

[IFUW workshop on “Building membership & visibility”](#), Mexico
[Pacific Graduate Women’s Network](#) (PGWNet) Council Meeting

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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.

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