



## IFUW Update – 16 April 2014



### International Federation of University Women news

#### Discussion networks

IFUW Discussion Networks, exclusive to IFUW members, offer the opportunity to connect with fellow members around the world to discuss issues, share information and ask questions. Discussions take place via email, with one message sent to all members subscribed to that network. [Read more](#)

#### Conclusions from the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW)

More needs to be done to meet the education and gender equality targets set by the [Millennium Development Goals](#) for 2015. In the [Agreed Conclusions](#) (advanced unedited version) of the [58th Commission on the Status of Women](#) (CSW), CSW noted persistent gender gaps in secondary and tertiary education enrolments as well as the need to improve the quality of education and learning outcomes. If girls continue to leave school unable to read, write and do basic numeracy, sustained economic growth will be extremely limited. [Read statement](#) from UN Women on the CSW outcomes.

Now is the time to prepare for [CSW59 in 2015](#)! The IFUW office can facilitate your NFA's preparations in order for you to get maximum benefit. Please [email Nina Joyce](#) for more information.

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### National Federations and Affiliations news

#### Canada

The Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) Truro Club participated in UNiTE Orange Day where activists wore orange to put an end to violence against women. Let's hope that all our voices travel with strength and determination to end violence against women around the world! [Read more](#)

#### Finland

The Finnish Federation of University Women (FFUW), won a World NGO Day Initiative project competition of non-governmental organisations! FFUW's winning project is the "Let's Read Together Network". Let's Read Together Network helps immigrant women to integrate into life in Finland. Volunteers provide tutoring to immigrant women in literacy and the Finnish language. They currently work with over 70 study groups in locations all over Finland. FFUW is responsible for the Network in partnership with Zonta International District 20. Login to IFUW's website to read FFUW's best practice case [here](#).

## New Zealand

New Zealand Federation of Graduate Women (NZFGW) is sad to announce that Dame Dorothy Winstone passed away on Thursday 3 April 2014. Dame Winstone had a remarkable life of contribution to NZFGW, National Council of Women New Zealand, University of Auckland, her church and her wide circle of friends locally, nationally and internationally. She was a wonderful woman who supported IFUW, NZFGW, local branches, and VGIF over many decades. She will be missed for her wise advice and strong commitment to our organisations and many others in Auckland and New Zealand.

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## Advocacy

### New Deadlines for Submission of Stakeholders Reports to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights for Universal Periodic Reviews 21 and 22

NFAs have several opportunities to input on the situation of human rights in their countries at different stages in the review cycle. One of these opportunities is the stakeholder review. The following table shows countries in which IFUW NFAs are present that are to undergo a Universal Periodic Review at Sessions 21 and 22 and new deadlines for submission of Stakeholders Reports.

UPR Session	UPR Session dates	Deadline Stakeholders Report	Country
21	January/February 2015	15 June 2014	Spain, Kenya, Armenia, Sweden, Turkey
22	April/May 2015	15 September 2014	Panama, Bulgaria, USA, Croatia

Stakeholders' submissions should be sent using the new 'On-line UPR submissions system':

<https://uprdoc.ohchr.org/Account/Login.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2f>

The online system will be available to receive contributions for each session 15 days before the announced deadline.

### Global Action Week on Education for All, 4-10 May 2014

The Global Action Week on Education for All is an annual awareness-raising campaign, organised by the Global Campaign for Education and supported by UNESCO, with which IFUW maintains official relations. IFUW is proud to join this campaign which will focus on "Education and Disability" and which highlight the profound challenges faced by persons with disabilities in achieving an education. [Read more](#). [Join our discussion on LinkedIn](#).

### Make 2016 the European Year to End Violence against Women and Girls!

The European Union has no binding legislation on violence against women. This is important because violence against women affects approximately 45 per cent of women across Europe. IFUW's regional group, University Women of Europe (UWE), has signed a petition by the [European Women's Lobby](#) for a European year of violence against women. UWE lobbies in the European Parliament and is a member of the executive board of the European Women's Lobby. We encourage you to [read more and sign the petition](#)

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## Call for nominations

### Special procedure mandate holders - Human Rights Council

The Human Rights Council invites applications for five vacancies of special procedures mandate holders, to be appointed by the Human Rights Council at its twenty-sixth session (10-27 June 2014). The deadline for applications is 23 April. [Read more](#)

### Václav Havel Human Rights Prize

The Václav Havel Human Rights Prize rewards outstanding civil society action in the defence of human rights in Europe and beyond. The prize includes an award of €60 000 and it is open to nominations from

any individual, non-governmental organisation or institution working to defend human rights. The deadline for nominations is 30 April 2014. [Read more](#)

### **UNESCO-Madanjeet Singh Prize**

UNESCO invites proposals for candidates for the 2014 UNESCO-Madanjeet Singh Prize for the Promotion of Tolerance and Non-Violence. The prize is awarded every two years to individuals, institutions or non-governmental organisations that have made exceptional contributions and demonstrated leadership in the promotion of tolerance and non-violence. The closing date for submissions is 2 June 2014. [Read more](#)

## **Other information and events**

April 24	<a href="#">Girls in ICT Day</a>
April 28-30	<a href="#">Pan-African Conference on Tackling Inequalities</a> , Accra
May 4-10	<a href="#">Global Action Week on Education for All</a> , UNESCO, Paris
May 9-11	<a href="#">Meet and Greet the University Women of Europe, Amsterdam</a>
May 23-24	<a href="#">South African Association of Women Graduates</a> national conference
May 25-29	<a href="#">Women Advancement Forum</a> , Gambia
May 28-30	<a href="#">Intl Conference on ICT for Development, Education &amp; Training</a> , Kampala
June 1	<a href="#">IFUW Day</a> (IFUW member login required)
June 5-7	<a href="#">Global Summit of Women</a> , Paris
August 17-22	<a href="#">Women's World Congress</a> , Hyderabad
September 5-7	<a href="#">UNITAR-Yale Conference</a>

### **Did you know?**

IFUW's first ever annual report will be published in May! 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.

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