



68TH SESSION OF THE

COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

Accelerating the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls by addressing poverty and strengthening institutions and financing with a gender perspective

11-22 March 2024

CSW68 →



JUSTICE COALITION OF RELIGIOUS



This guide was produced by the [Justice Coalition of Religious](#) (JCoR), a coalition of 23 non-governmental organizations that are accredited to collectively represent over 200 congregations of Roman Catholic women and men Religious at the United Nations (UN). For centuries, congregations of Religious have served people who have been rendered poor, vulnerable, oppressed, and marginalized by existing global systems. Through our membership in JCoR, we have united with our sister and brother organizations to enhance collaboration among our members – at UN Headquarters and around the world – in our common mission: to improve quality of life for people who are living in poverty and to enhance our stewardship of the natural environment.

The primary aim of our collaboration is to strengthen the capacity of Catholic Religious and their partners to address the root causes of human and environmental suffering.

We work toward this goal by coordinating national, regional, and global efforts of Religious to call on political leaders to take action for a just, equitable, and rights-based implementation of the [Sustainable Development Goals](#) (SDGs), the United Nations' Agenda for 2015-2030.

We hope these pages will help empower you join us in this mission!





WHAT IS THE

COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN



The [Commission on the Status of Women](#) (CSW) is the largest global policy-making body exclusively dedicated to the **promotion of gender equality** and the **empowerment of women and girls** in all their diversity. It is instrumental in promoting the rights of women and girls, shaping global standards and policy agendas, and documenting the reality of the lives of women and girls across the globe.

This year, the [68th Session](#) of the Commission on the Status of Women (**CSW68**) will gather governments, civil society, and other stakeholders at UN Headquarters in New York to discuss the progress and challenges of promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls throughout the world. These discussions will focus on a specific topic related to gender equality (priority theme) and evaluate progress on the implementation of agreed conclusions from previous sessions of the Commission (review theme). To learn more about CSW, [click here](#).



PRIORITY THEME

Accelerating the achievement of gender equality by seeking equity among genders in our approaches to: addressing poverty, strengthening public institutions, funding projects for social advancement, and provision of loans and other financial services

REVIEW THEME

Social protection systems, access to public services and sustainable infrastructure for gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls



OUTCOME

Throughout CSW, UN Member States negotiate an outcome document referred to as Agreed Conclusions. Agreed Conclusions contain an analysis of the CSW theme, adopted resolutions, and a set of recommendations for governments, intergovernmental organizations, civil society, and relevant stakeholders, to implement at the international, regional, national, and local levels.



CSW68 DETAILS

When & Where

11-22 March 2024, United Nations Headquarters in New York

Watch

Join online to follow the proceedings of CSW68 at webtv.un.org (streamed in multiple languages)

Official Website

Click on the following link to access the [CSW68 website](#)

Schedule

Click on the following links to view the [proposed schedule](#) of the Annual Session and a list of official [side events](#)

Current draft of Agreed Conclusion

Click on the following link to read the [Zero Draft](#) (first draft) of the CSW68 Agreed Conclusions

NGO CSW Forum

During CSW, the NGO Committee on the Status of Women (NGO CSW/NY) hosts the NGO CSW Forum, a program encompassing numerous events that prioritize civil society engagement. Please see the next page for more information.

The CSW schedule is composed of the following three types of events:



Annual Session

The official gathering of the Commission that convenes high-level government representatives and registered civil society actors to discuss and set policies on gender equality and the rights of women and girls.



Side Events

Side events coincide with the Annual Session. They are official events organized by UN agencies and Member States, in collaboration with civil society, to raise awareness and influence policy dialogues.



Parallel Events

Parallel events take place outside the official United Nations CSW space. They are organized by civil society and provide a space for the public to engage in open dialogues.





NGO CSW FORUM



The [NGO CSW Forum](#) is a civil society gathering that coincides with the official UN Commission on the Status of Women. It is organized by the [NGO Committee on the Status of Women](#) (NGO CSW/NY) and features more than 750 parallel events (in-person and virtual) facilitated by civil society and non-governmental organizations from around the world. These events inform, engage, and inspire grassroots efforts and advocacy to promote the equality and empowerment of women and girls. The NGO CSW Forum is a particularly important space because provides an opportunity for all members of global civil society, even those without special qualifications such as UN accreditation or a UN grounds pass, to engage in the processes and discussions of the CSW.

When

10-22 March 2024

Where

In-person (various locations) and online (via the NGO CSW Forum [virtual portal](#))

Official Website

Click on the following link to access the [NGO CSW Forum website](#)

Registration

Registration for the Forum is free for all participants. Please click [here to register](#).

Tutorial

View a recording of the [NGO CSW Forum Participant Training](#). This webinar details:

- Step-by-step instructions on how to register
- Tips on how to utilize the virtual event portal
- Key information about how to actively engage in the Forum



10 - 22 MARCH 2024



EVENTS

The schedule for the NGO CSW Forum is composed of more than 750 events, and this multitude of options can seem overwhelming. To navigate the calendar and select events that best fit your interests and expertise, it is helpful to begin with an understanding of the main types of events offered throughout the Forum:



Civil society briefings: UN Women and NGO CSW/NY convene Member States, UN agencies, and civil society to provide updates on the negotiations of the CSW outcome document



Conversation circles: Facilitated discussion spaces pertaining to pre-determined topics related to gender equality. The circles promote the sharing of emerging issues and exchange of ideas among participants



Parallel events: In-person and virtual panels and spaces for dialogue that are organized by civil society and address the themes of CSW



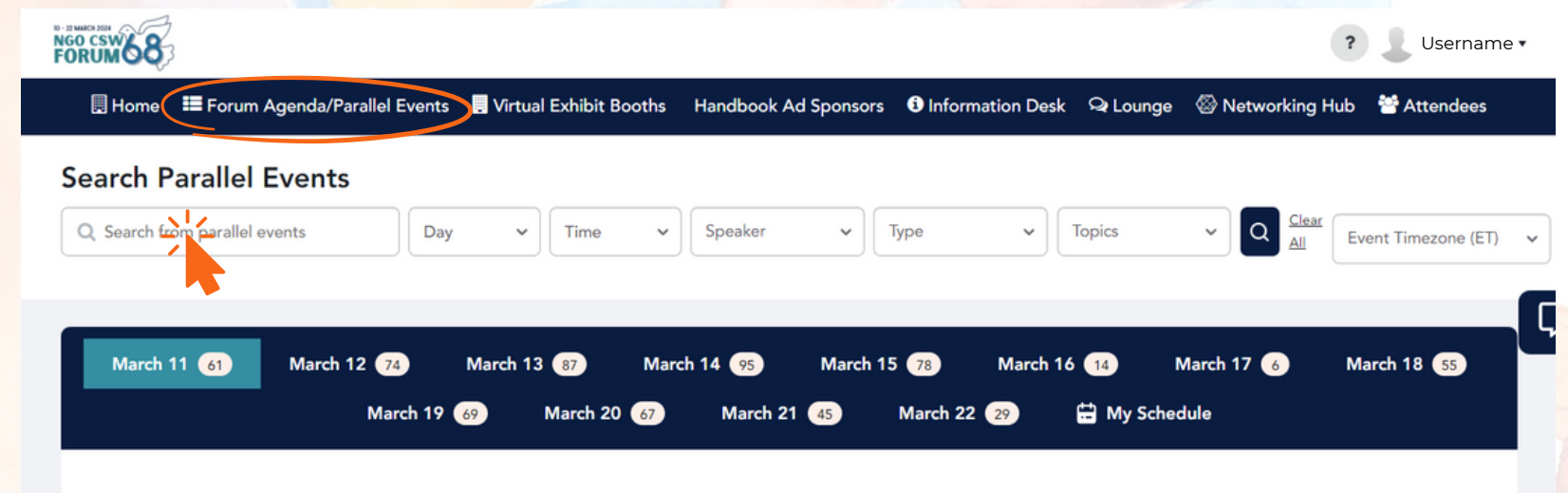
Regional caucuses: Informal, loosely moderated spaces for participants to discuss and reflect upon regional issues and advocacy

Click [here](#) to view the full calendar of NGO CSW/NY events.

The [advocacy toolkit](#) is a guide, designed by NGO CSW/NY, to help participants build their capacity to advocate at the Commission on the Status of Women and beyond. Explore the toolkit to learn more about women’s human rights and gender equality at the United Nations, the CSW68 negotiation process, the NGO CSW Forum, and how to advocate in-person and digitally throughout CSW.




To navigate the sizable CSW Forum calendar and discern parallel events of interest, log into the virtual portal and select the “Forum Agenda/Parallel Events” tab. Then, click the search box and enter keywords to filter the event calendar to fit your specific areas of focus.





JCoR's CSW68 JOINT STATEMENT

United Nations E/CN.6/2024/NGO/167




 **Economic and Social Council** Distr.: General
20 December 2023
Original: English

Commission on the Status of Women
Sixty-eighth session
11-22 March 2024
Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century"

Statement submitted by Casa Generalizia della Societa' del Sacro Cuore, Company of the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul, Congregation of the Mission, Congregations of St. Joseph, Dominican Leadership Conference, Edmund Rice International Limited, Fondazione Proclade Internazionale – Onlus, Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary – Loreto Generalate, International Presentation Association, Loretto Community (Sisters of Loretto), Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers, Passionists International, Religious of the Sacred Heart of Mary, Salesian Missions, Inc., School Sisters of Notre Dame, Sisters of Charity Federation, Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur, Society of Catholic Medical Missionaries, UNANIMA International, and VIVAT International, non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council*

The Secretary-General has received the following statement, which is being circulated in accordance with paragraphs 36 and 37 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

* The present statement is issued without formal editing.

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JCoR's member organizations submitted a joint statement for CSW68, **identifying important issues** related to the priority theme for CSW and **providing recommendations** for inclusion in the outcome document. We encourage you to read our statement and incorporate its messaging into your advocacy efforts throughout CSW.

Click on the following link to access [JCoR's joint statement](#).

JCoR would like to express our gratitude to all of our network members who contributed their ideas and experiences to the composition of this statement, including:

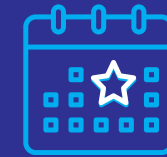
- Rachel Tembo, Dominican Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus
- Jean Quinn, DW, UNANIMA International
- Despoina Afroditi Milaki, International Presentation Association
- Margaret Mwarili, RSCJ, Society of the Sacred Heart

Visit [JCoR's website](#) to access a list of additional CSW statements submitted by our member organizations.





RECOMMENDED EVENTS



Please visit [JCoR's CSW webpage](#) to access a curated list of CSW68 side events and NGO CSW Forum parallel events that are recommended by JCoR and our Religious community at the United Nations in New York.





SOCIAL MEDIA WHO TO FOLLOW AND TAG

Justice Coalition of Religious

Twitter: [@JCoR2030](#) Facebook: [@JCoR2030](#)

JCoR Members

Click [here](#) to access a Twitter list of JCoR members

NGO Commission on the Status of Women (NGO CSW/NY)

Twitter: [@NGO_CSW_NY](#) Facebook: [@NGOCSWNY](#)

Instagram: [@ngo_csw_ny](#) LinkedIn: [ngocswny](#)

United Nations Commission on the Status of Women

Twitter: [@UN_CSW](#) Facebook: [@UNCSW](#)

United Nations Women

Twitter: [@UN_Women](#) Facebook: [@unwomen](#)

Instagram: [@unwomen](#) LinkedIn: [un-women](#) TikTok: [@unwomen](#)

Your Congregation's NGO at the United Nations

Need help? Find many congregations' NGO's social media details [here](#)

Your government's Permanent Mission to the United Nations

Click [here](#) to access a Twitter list of Permanent Missions to the UN



JCoR would like to help spread the word.

[@JCoR2030](#)

Tag us so we can share your social media posts and increase the reach of your advocacy messaging!

RECOMMENDED #HASHTAGS

[#CSW68](#)

[#NGOCSW68](#)

[#InvestInWomen](#)

For additional social media resources, including graphics and sample messaging, visit the official [Trello page](#) for CSW68



JOIN US IN

PRAYER

FOR GENDER EQUALITY

Loving God, we gather in prayer with hearts full of hope and ambition.

We pray for a world where all genders are treated with respect. Guide us in the cultivation of a global community that will recognize how all people are created perfectly and equally in Your image.

We pray for the wisdom and strength to construct more just societies, where gender does not serve as a basis for discrimination, violence, or oppression but is honored as an expression of human diversity that enriches our human development and enhances our appreciation for the image of God. May the day come when every person, regardless of their gender, enjoys the same opportunities, rights, and dignity.

Guide us in our efforts to create a future where gender equality is not just a dream but a reality. Imbue us with the perseverance and persuasion to influence policymakers to take urgent action for gender justice.

May love, compassion, and understanding prevail. May we all work together, throughout CSW and beyond, for a more just and equal world.

In Your name we pray. Amen.

