



**ZONTA**  
INTERNATIONAL

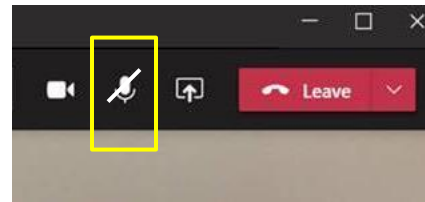
## Zonta International and the United Nations... Perfect Together!

Maria Jose Landeira Oestergaard, Past International President  
District 13 UN & CoE Committee Chair 2020-2022

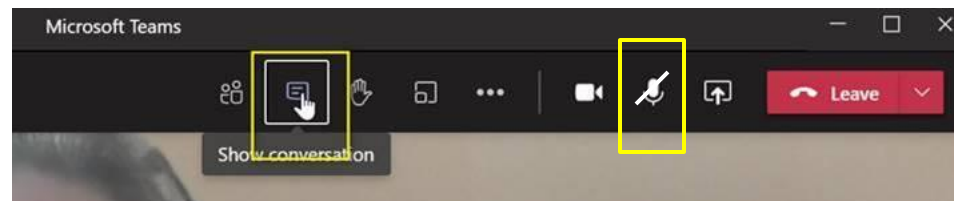


Practical information:

Please mute your microphone during the talk.



Add your questions or comments to the chat so they can be compiled and answered or send to you via e-mail at the end of the webinar.





1

Introduction

2

Overview of UN and its organs

3

International Service Projects

4

Club Involvement

5

Q & A



**ZONTA**  
INTERNATIONAL  
EMPOWERING WOMEN  
THROUGH SERVICE & ADVOCACY



# Vision

Zonta International envisions a world in which women's rights are recognized as human rights and every woman is able to achieve her full potential.

In such a world, women have access to all resources and are represented in decision making positions on an equal basis with men.

In such a world, no woman lives in fear of violence.

# MEET the D13 UN & CoE committee members



**Maria Jose Landeira Oestergaard,**  
**District Committee Chair 2020 – 2022**

Zonta member since 1989. Contributed to the organization of multiple clubs in Denmark and Lithuania. Served in Zonta at all leadership positions up to International President (2014 – 2016). Member of the D13 UN & CoE committee since 2018, chair of this committee in 2020 – 2022.  
[zonta4womensrights@gmail.com](mailto:zonta4womensrights@gmail.com)



**Hanne Friis Olesen**  
**Representative for Area 01 (Denmark)**

Zonta member since 1973. Member of a Nordic committee for organizing new clubs in 1977. Served as AD in 1978 – 80. Member of the UN & CoE committee since 2017, Chair of this committee in 2018–2020.  
[friis161e@gmail.com](mailto:friis161e@gmail.com)



**Ruta Jasioniene**  
**Representative for Area 02 (Lithuania)**

Zonta member since 2009, has served Zonta as D13 Secretary, Club president and currently AREA 2 secretary. Member of the D13 UN & CoE committee since 2018.  
[ruta.jasione@gmail.com](mailto:ruta.jasione@gmail.com)



**Hildur Helga Gisladottir**  
**Representative for Area 03 (Iceland)**

Zonta member since 2003. Served twice as a member of the board, club president since 2020. Member of the D13 UN & CoE committee since 2018.  
[hildurg@centrum.is](mailto:hildurg@centrum.is)



**Maggi Brigham**  
**Representative for Area 04 (Norway)**

Zonta member since 2018. Current member of the club board. Member of the D13 UN & CoE committee since 2020.  
[maggi.Brigham@gmail.com](mailto:maggi.Brigham@gmail.com)





**United  
Nations**

Peace, dignity and equality  
on a healthy planet

## What Is the United Nations?

International organization founded in 1945 after the Second World War by 51 countries.

Comprised currently of 193 Member States committed to

- maintaining international peace and **security**,
- developing friendly relations among nations
- promoting social progress, better living standards and human rights

# Main organs of the United Nations?

## Established already in 1945

- General Assembly – **RECOMMENDS**
  - 193 members, 1 country = 1vote
- Security Council – **DECIDES, responsible for peacekeeping forces**
  - 5 permanent members (allies in and victors of World War II ): China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States. Each one of this countries has the power of veto.
  - 10 other members elected for 2 year terms: Norway since 2021
- UN Secretariat - **IMPLEMENTS**
- Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)
- Trusteeship Council
- International Court of Justice

# The Secretary General

Symbol of the Organization's ideals and a spokesman for the interests of the world's peoples, in particular the poor and vulnerable.

The current Secretary-General of the UN, and the ninth occupant of the post, is Mr. António Guterres of Portugal, who took office on 1 January 2017.





# Status at ECOSOC – pr April 2020

Type of Status	No. of NGOs
All organizations in Consultative Status	5451
General Consultative Status*	138

\* Zonta has this status since 1969

Source: <https://csonet.org/?menu=100>

Consultative arrangements enable the Council

- **secure expert information/advice from organizations ...**
- **and to enable organizations that represent elements of public opinion to express their views”**



# Zonta with General Consultative Status

Is allowed to speak at the General Assembly

Advocates to empower women

Raises Public Awareness

Provides expertise through written/oral statements

Organizes side events on issues

Has access to UN - networking & UN staff & member states

Attends International conferences/events

Monitors & implements International Agreements

Disseminates info about the UN, its goals & decisions

# Pamela Morgan, Chair

Amina Figarova, Mary Lou Shippe, Mary Ann Tarantula

**Ingeborg Geyer**  
Claudia Exenberger  
Gertraud Ribitsch

New York

Mathy Sommer  
Eileen von Goldacker  
Marinett Kellenberger

Vienna

Geneva

  
**5 Zonta UN  
Teams**

Ursula Bouchard  
Lydia Chaillou  
Elke Farny

Paris

**Orayaporn "Gib"  
Karnchanachari**

Bangkok

**Core Team Members**





# The UN celebrations in 2020

- 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the United Nations
- 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of UN Women
  - merging of UNIFEM, the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of **Women** (INSTRAW), Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues (OSAGI), and Division for the Advancement of **Women** (DAW)
- 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Beijing Platform for Action (**Beijing +25**)
- 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the 2030 Agenda (SDGs)
- 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security
- 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on the Convention on the Rights of the Child

# Sustainable Development Goals



Achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls

# Zonta and the UN



Mrs. Margaret K. Bruce (left), Chief of the Status of Women Section, Division of Human Rights; conversing with Mrs. Helvi L. Sipilä (Finland), Chair of the Commission on the Status of Women, United Nations, New York, 23 February 1967

Helvi Sipilä, Zonta Past International President (1960-1970), was the first woman appointed Assistant Secretary-General of UN (1972), at a time where 97% of UN senior management was male.

She headed the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs until 1980 and used her leadership position in the UN effectively to advocate for gender equality and the empowerment of women.

She also served as Secretary-General for the First World Conference on Women held in Mexico City in 1975.

# The UN and Women

- 4 World Conferences on Women
  - Mexico City in 1975, Copenhagen in 1980, Nairobi in 1985 and Beijing in 1995
  - Beijing Platform For Action (B +25 +1)
- UN Women
- Commission on the Status of Women (CSW). Met first time February 1947. CSW65 Forum (2021) to be virtual and free of cost for all.
- Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). Entered into force on 3 September 1981



# The UN and Women

- Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women (DEVAW). 20 December 1993
- Security Council Resolution 1325 on women and peace and security, 31 October 2000.
- ILO Convention 190 Eliminating Violence and Harassment in the World of Work, 2019
- Convention on the Rights of the Child, 2<sup>nd</sup> September 1990







# Beijing Platform For Action

## 12 Critical Areas

- Women and poverty
- Education and training of women
- Women and health
- Violence against women
- Women and armed conflict
- Women and the economy
- Women in power and decision-making
- Institutional mechanism for the advancement of women
- Human rights of women
- Women and the media
- Women and the environment
- The girl-child

# 4 International Service Projects

Adolescent  
Girls' Health  
and Protection  
in Peru

UNICEF  
\$1million  
Benefiting girls in  
South America

Strengthening  
Response to GBV  
Survivors in Papua  
New Guinea and  
Timor-Leste

UNFPA  
\$1million  
Benefiting women  
and girls in Australia

UNICEF  
\$500,000  
Benefiting girls in  
Africa

Let Us Learn  
Madagascar

UNICEF and  
UNFPA  
\$1.5million  
Benefiting girls in  
Asia and Africa

Ending Child  
Marriage

# Club Involvement 1

- Participate in the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence – 25 November to 10 December every year.

Join the challenge: Why do the 16 days of activism start on November 25? Which year did the campaign start? (Hint: search for the Mirabal sisters)

- Follow Recommendations in Secretary-General's UNiTE Campaign Concept Note  
**UNiTE by 2030 to End Violence against Women**





## Club Involvement 2

- Forge relationship with local, regional and federal elected officials.
- Track the implementation of CEDAW in your city, state and country.
- Follow [Generation Equality Forum](#).
- Share information with your community regarding the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly SDG 5

# Club Involvement 3



- Participate for free in the virtual Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), 15 – 26<sup>th</sup> of March 2021

## Priority theme

Women's full and effective participation and decision-making in public life, as well as the elimination of violence, for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls.

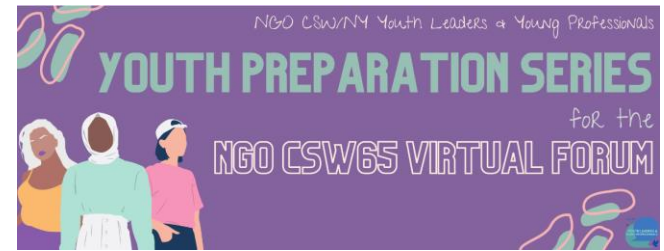
## Review theme

Women's empowerment and the link to sustainable development ([agreed conclusions on the 60<sup>th</sup> session](#)).

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- Zonta International's statement: [LINK](#)
  - Information: [LINK](#)
  - Calendar with all events: [LINK](#)
  - Free registration: [LINK](#)
  - Schedule: [LINK](#)
  - Education: [NGOCSW meetings](#), 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month
- 



# Club Involvement 4



- Join the Youth Ngo CSE, a growing network of young people working for gender equality, get to know one another, learn what is happening around the world and how to navigate the UN system.

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## Youth Preparation Series Schedule

### Youth Activist Space: Effective Advocacy in International Fora

4 February, 8-9PM EST - [Register](#)

### Presentation Skills Workshop

11 February, 3-5PM EST - [Register](#)

### UN Advocacy Training

18 February, 12-2PM EST - [Register](#)

### Youth Activist Space

25 February, Time TBD

### BIPOC & Intersectionality Training

4 March, Time TBD

### Youth Activist Space: International Women's Day

11 March, Time TBD

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# Questions?

Please send your questions to  
[zonta4womensrights@gmail.com](mailto:zonta4womensrights@gmail.com)



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*Thank You*





