



## WOMEN'S LABOUR RIGHTS, SOCIAL JUSTICE AND DEMOCRACY

TRADE UNIONS PARALLEL EVENT AT CSW69

14 MARCH, 2025 – 12:30PM EST, CHURCH CENTRE, 11<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR  
777 UNITED NATIONS PLAZA, NEW YORK

### CONCEPT NOTE

#### OVERVIEW OF THE EVENT

The impact of the current multiple crises on gender equality is dramatic, leading to a global backlash against human and labour rights. This event will propose policy and financing priorities from the global trade union movement to revitalize the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, in alignment with the 2030 Agenda, focusing on social justice and democracy for women at the workplace and in society, labour rights, decent jobs creation, equal pay and the eradication of gender-based violence and harassment.

#### REGISTRATION

*To participate in any 'in person' event at CSW69, participants will have to register and get their free ticket (as a QR code) – except in case they hold a UN ground pass. Registration is for free at: <https://ngocsw69forum.events.whova.com/registration/>*

### BACKGROUND

This 30th anniversary of the adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action comes amid multiple crises. From the devastating impacts of neoliberal policies and austerity to the existential threats posed by climate change and technological disruption, the challenges working women face are both varied and interconnected. Their impact on gender equality is dramatic, leading to a global backlash against human and labour rights, as well as an increase in racism, xenophobia, violence, discrimination and exploitation.

Given this framework, the global trade union movement urges United Nations Member States to seize the opportunity presented by the 69th session of the United Nations Commission of the Status of Women (CSW69/Beijing+30) to drastically change course.

The Parallel Event will reinforce the relevance of international labour standards and will focus on the 5 [key demands of the global trade union movement for the Beijing+30 Declaration](#) to deliver on:

1. **Gender Equality as an essential component of Social Justice, Democracy, and Peace**, in order to build a world free of all forms of discrimination including intersecting forms of discrimination, extremism, violence and intolerance, as well as to ensure democracy for women at work and in society.
2. **The recognition of women's labour rights as human rights**, by upholding the ILO's fundamental principles and rights at work for all women, establishing universal access to gender-responsive social protection and quality public services.
3. Ensuring **decent work for women**, through adequate investments in national employment policies and worker-led formalization. This must include the implementation of care systems based on the recognition of care as a human right and public good, as well as the regulation of the digital transition through social dialogue to tackle the impacts of automation and work reorganization on women.
4. Systemic and structural approaches to close the **gender pay gap**, including through minimum living wages, pay equity, pay transparency and anti-discrimination legislation, as well as campaigns addressing gender-based discrimination and stereotypes at work and in society.
5. Eliminating **gender-based violence and harassment in the workplace**, through the ratification and effective implementation of ILO Convention 190 and Recommendation 206, specific workplace and anti-violence public services, gender-transformative education and awareness raising programmes.

## **OBJECTIVES**

- Present the 5 [key demands of the global trade union movement at CSW69](#)
- Showcase examples and testimonies of trade union work in areas and its contribution to the implementation of Beijing Platform for Action.
- Put forwards policy recommendations on the follow up of CSW69 and the revitalization process of the Beijing PfA.



**PROGRAMME:**

TIME	SESSION	SPEAKERS
12.30 - 12:40	<b>Opening</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Siobhán Vipond, Vice-Chair of the ITUC Women's Committee (moderator)</i></li> <li>- <i>Emanuela Pozzan, Senior Gender Equality and Non-Discrimination Specialist at the International Labour Organization (ILO)</i></li> </ul>
12.40-12:50	<b>Key-note speech: Gender Equality as an essential component of Social Justice, Democracy, and Peace</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Asma Ahmadi - National Union of Afghanistan Workers and Employees</i></li> <li>- <i>Laura Gutierrez, Global Worker Rights Coordinator, AFL-CIO</i></li> </ul>
12.50-13:20	<b>Session 1: labour rights and decent work for women (including care, equal pay, social protection and public services)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Josefina Streeter, advisor for the Third Committee, Chilean Mission to the United Nations</i></li> <li>- <i>Mary Ann Abunda - President of the Sandigan Kuwait Domestic Workers Association (SKDWA) and Executive Committee member of the International Domestic Workers' Federation (IDWF).</i></li> <li>- <i>Gloria Mills, Chair of the World Women's Committee, Public Services International</i></li> </ul> <p>Inputs in plenary</p>
13:20-13:50	<b>Session 2: gender-based violence and harassment in the world of work</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Lord Collins of Highbury, UK Government spokesperson for Equalities and Parliamentary Under Secretary of State in the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office</i></li> <li>- <i>Nadine Molloy, Executive Board Member, Education International</i></li> <li>- <i>Jessica Isbister, Vice President of the International Longshore and Warehouse Union Canada and member of the Women Transport Workers' Committee of the International Transport Workers' Federation</i></li> </ul> <p>Inputs in plenary</p>
13.50-14	<b>Closing remarks</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Jemimah Njuki, Chief, Economic Empowerment, UN Women</i></li> <li>- <i>Emanuela Pozzan, ILO</i></li> <li>- <i>Siobhán Vipond, ITUC</i></li> </ul>