



Notes from the Field...

Human Rights Day

“The profound language and the symbolic significance of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights have made it the world’s most widely translated document. Its adoption marks the first time that countries have ever come together to recognize that all people everywhere share fundamental inalienable rights. The economic, social, cultural, civil and political rights enshrined in this foundational document belong to everyone, regardless of race, color, gender, language, faith or opinion. Over seven decades the Universal Declaration of Human Rights has inspired millions of women and men to demand their rights and contest the forces of oppression, exploitation, discrimination, and injustice”. - António Guterres, UN Secretary General December 2018

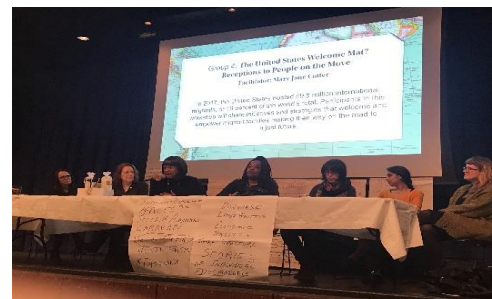
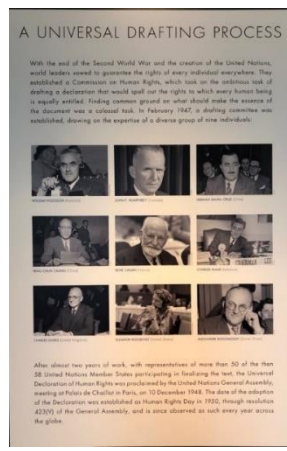
December 10, 2018 marked the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR). In celebration of Human Rights Day and the Declaration, a number of events took place starting mid-November leading up to December 13. The UN High Commission on Human Rights launched the campaign “Shine Your Lights for Human Rights” across the world to spotlight the centrality of rights to the daily lives of people everywhere. The campaign

was accompanied by a social media campaign featuring global and local iconic public figures standing up for human rights. The United Nations in New York City also held an exhibition with artworks that illustrate the thirty articles of the UDHR. António Guterres, UN Secretary General stated that this year the UDHR anniversary is significant because it is taking place on the first day of the Global Compact for Migration (GCM). The GCM “sets out in practical terms how members states can respect, protect and fulfil the human rights of all migrants, in line with the Universal Declaration”.

#StandUp

#STANDUP4HUMANRIGHTS





For more information:

- <https://www.un.org/sg/en/content/sg/statements/2018-12-10/secretary-generals-remarks-high-level-event-commemorate-70th-anniversary-of-universal-declaration-of-human-rights>
- http://www.standup4humanrights.org/en/highlights_47.html

On Saturday, December 1st, Fordham University hosted an event for Human Rights Day (the official day is December 10). Students created posters on different human rights issues and displayed them all throughout the auditorium. We had six discussion groups during the event, all themed around migration, as the meeting on the Global Compact on Migration is coming up soon in Marrakech. Some of the topics presented by students were the right to education, immigration, transgender issues, violence, family separation, and women's rights.



International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women

On November 19th, the UN hosted an event for the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women. Violence against women is one of the most common human rights issues going on in the world today.

In 1993, the UN General Assembly issued the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women, which is “Recognizing the urgent need for the universal application to women of the rights and principles with regard to equality, security, liberty, integrity and dignity of all human beings.”

Every month on the 25th, it is officially “Orange Day”. Participants are encouraged to wear something orange to support this human rights issue.

“Not until the half of our population represented by women and girls can live free from fear, violence and everyday insecurity, can we truly say we live in a fair and equal world.” - UN Secretary-General António Guterres

NGO Committee on Migration

“We cannot change the past, but the future is in our hands”

Civil society’s preparations for the Marrakech meeting to adopt the Global Compact on refugees and migrants was the focus of the Committee on Migration meeting which took place on November 8, 2018. “Our goal goes beyond Marrakech, we want to change the reality for those suffering from migration, Maria Mignatti, the chair of the committee said. On December 10-11, 2018, the Global Compact on Migration will be adopted in Marrakech. The Civil Society elected chair Roula Hamati will be attending the Compact. Hamati stated that the number of the Civil Society members involved in the Compact is very high. The Civil Society members are very proud of this accomplishment since they were the ones who brought the issue of migration to the UN. Hamati added: the current environment is very hostile to migrants, making this achievement a first step towards a better future for migrants across the world. It is also noted that some countries including the United States have pulled out and will not adopt the Global Compact. Ahead of the Global Compact meeting, the UN called for submission of good practices in countering xenophobia and fostering social inclusion. The subcommittee on xenophobia was able to collect ten cases of good practice and they were submitted to the UN.

For more information on the Global Compact visit:

<https://www.unglobalcompact.org/engage-locally/mena/morocco>

Committee website:

<https://ngo-migration.org>

CSW November Meeting

In 1995, a major UN conference on women was held in Beijing. It is typical for the UN to follow up periodically on action plans adopted at major global conferences. Therefore, discussions have begun on “Beijing +25”. This was the theme for the November meeting of the NGO Committee on the Status of Women, focusing on the major question: “What do we want after 2020?”

There were great guest speakers at the meeting who talked about their work and preparations for Beijing +25. Aissata Camara, Deputy Commissioner for Operations and Strategic Partnerships in the New York City Mayor's Office for International Affairs spoke about her work with gender equity. New York has created a third gender law, where individuals can choose what they are represented as, whether that be male, female, or another gender. She also spoke about documents they are working on that report on the city’s progress on the SDG’s. There is specific focus on SDG 8, which is related to safer workplaces. To find out more information, go to NYC.gov/international. Soon-Young Yoon, UN representative for the International Alliance of Women discussed what the UN as well as governments should be doing on women’s issues. Some of the points that she touched on were supporting NGO shadow reports, developing strategies to strengthen ties between the UN and critical social movements on equality, sustainable development, and supporting cities for CEDAW. Some priority actions should be having regional shadow reports for CSW 64, more training on the Beijing Platform for Action and CEDAW, more activity on social media, and creating more intergenerational events and ties.

Don't forget to register online for CSW Forum 63! The forum will be from March 10-22, 2019.

IASSW is usually allocated some extra slots for registration for the Commission on the Status of Women, held in New York in March. If you are interested and able to attend, please send a note to Lynne Healy as well as registering (lynne.healy@uconn.edu). Approval of an application to attend will depend on the number of registrants allowed for IASSW.

Register here: <https://www.ngocsw.org/ngo-csw-forum/learn-ngo-csw-forum>
<https://www.ngocsw.org/ngo-csw-forum>

Working Group on Girls

16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM, 16 WAYS MEN CAN HELP. Day 1, Prevent gender-based violence: Participate in campaigns to prevent violence against women, such as the White Ribbon Campaign. Pledge to never commit, condone, or remain silent about gender-based violence. #16DAYS

Starting November 25, 2018 thousands of organizations and individuals around the world have united in support of the campaign 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based violence. The International Day of the Elimination of Violence Against Women is celebrated on November 25 every year, followed by 16 days of action which continues until December 10, the date on which the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was adopted in 1948.

According to Upasana Chauhan, UN representative, ManUp campaign, the 16 days of activism teaches men to stand up for women because the inclusion of men in women's empowerment is crucial.

The Working Group on Girls (WGG) November meeting was inspired by the International Day of the Elimination of violence Against Women. Naheed Asmadi Bahram, program director of Women for Afghan Women (WAW), was invited to speak about her organization's work in combatting violence against women. The WAW was founded in 2001 in the US; their mission is to end gender-based violence through women empowerment. They provide work training, English language classes, naturalization courses, and security for those facing domestic violence. Organizations like WAW need help and support to carry out their mission worldwide. The 16 Days of Action campaign is aiming towards raising awareness about gender-based violence by highlighting good practices like WAW.

For more information:

<https://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/Manuptoendviolenceagainstwomen.aspx>

<https://womenforafghanwomen.org>

<https://promundoglobal.org/2014/12/08/16-days-of-activism-16-ways-men-and-boys-can-prevent-gender-based-violence/>

<https://girlsrights.org>

Social Development

Civil Society Declaration

Addressing inequalities through fiscal, wage, and social protection policies is the priority theme for the fifty-seventh session of the Commission for Social Development (CSocD57) which will take place from 11 to 21 February 2019, at the United Nations Headquarters in New York.

The Commission will review relevant United Nations plans and programs of action pertaining to the situation of social groups:

Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities, World Program of Action for Youth, Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002, Family issues, policies, and programs. The November meeting of the Committee on Social Development, focused on the preparation for the CSocD57. During the meeting the group discussed the Civil Society declaration which will be announced during the commission and the Civil Society Forum. The group has been working on a letter to be sent to members states to advocate for the importance of CSocD57. IASSW interns Zozan Antar and Kristen Kimmel have been working with the Civil Society Forum sub-committee to prepare for the event which will be held on Friday, February 15th. 2019.

The IASSW representatives are currently involved with the Grassroots task force of the Social Development Committee. This group has been working on the issue of poverty and social protection. A survey on social protection has been created in English, French, Japanese, Portuguese and Spanish, and it will be sent out on the first week of December, 2018. A second research project will explore the impact of inequalities on the ground.

For more information on the 57th commission for Social Development, go to:

<https://www.un.org/development/desa/dspd/united-nations-commission-for-social-development-csocd-social-policy-and-development-division/csocd57.html>

<https://ngosocdev.org>

IASSW UN New York Team Presents at the CSWE Annual Conference

Social protection is a main theme for social work advocacy at the United Nations. In November, five members of the IASSW Team of Representatives to the UN presented a panel at the annual program meeting of the Council on Social Work Education in Orlando, Florida. Titled “The United Nations Mandate for Social Protection: A Challenge for Social Work Education,” the presentation called attention to recent UN efforts to promote social protection and identified roles for social work. Although social protection is not a new theme, attention to it has intensified since the International Labour Organization issued Resolution 202 on social protection in 2012. The UN’s 2030 Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals include considerable commitments to social protection. Notably, Target 1.3 calls for countries to “implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all.”

The session was organized by Martha Bragin of Hunter College. Lynne Healy emphasized the inclusion of social protection in 5 of the Sustainable Development Goals, an indication of avenues for work at the national and global levels; she also noted special challenges ahead in covering workers in the informal sector, migrants, and those unable to find work. M.C. “Terry” Hokenstad called attention to 2018 as the 70th anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. He spoke about articles 22 and 25 of the UDHR as setting forth a human rights-based demand for social protection. Rebecca Davis presented on UNICEF’s focus on integrated social services and social protection. She drew examples from Romania, Bulgaria, and Albania. Rebecca

Thomas, our representative to the NGO Committee on Migration, spoke of the special challenges of migrants and social protection. Migrants are often completely left out of coverage for social protection, even when they move legally from one country to another. This will be an important challenge for the expansion of social protection coverage. Dr. Bragin concluded the session by tying social protection into social work practice, education and research with suggestions for ways forward.

IASSW co-sponsored a side event on social protection at last year's Commission for Social Development meeting and has plans to again focus on this topic in a session with the International Council on Social Welfare. Members who want more information on social protection should consult the comprehensive report issued by the ILO in 2017:

ILO (2017). *World Social Protection Report: Universal Social Protection to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals*. Geneva: ILO. Access at: www.ilo.org

We will also attempt to put the power point from the Orlando session on the IASSW website.

New York IASSW Team Gathers at Conference in Florida

The members of the IASSW team of representatives at the UN gathered for a meeting at the annual conference of the Council on Social Work Education, held in Florida in the U.S. Pictured here left to right are: Sharon Milligan (Case Western Reserve University), Martha Bragin (Hunter College), M.C. "Terry" Hokenstad (Case Western Reserve University), Rebecca Davis (Rutgers University), Lynne Healy (University of Connecticut), Rebecca Thomas (University of

Connecticut), Shirley Gatenio-Gabel (Fordham University)



Dr. M.C. "Terry" Hokenstad Retires from the UN Team

After decades of service to the IASSW as a member of the UN Team of Representatives, M.C. "Terry" Hokenstad is stepping away from his role as a full-time member of the team. Terry has been representing IASSW at the UN since 1996. Since then, he has been our member on the NGO Committee on Ageing and has often also been a member of the planning group for Social Work Day at the UN. Now Distinguished University Professor Emeritus, Terry was Ralph S. and Dorothy P. Schmitt Professor and Professor of Global Health at the Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences, Case Western Reserve University.

Terry notes that a highlight of his years at the UN was serving as a member of the official U.S. delegation to the 2nd World Assembly on Ageing. As he recounted, early in 2002 he received a letter from Tommy Thompson, the Secretary of Health and Human Services in the Bush Administration inviting him to be



a member of the U. S. delegation to the 2nd World Assembly on Ageing to be held in Madrid in April of that year. There were about 15 members in the delegation, many with political connections, others heading national aging organizations in the U.S. He is certain that his appointment related to his role as one of ten "experts" on the "Technical Committee" that worked with the UN Secretariat in drafting the International Plan of Action which was debated and acted upon at the World Assembly. The other experts were from other countries and there were also several U.N. Staff on the Committee.

The Technical Committee met several times in different countries during 2000 and 2001. Membership on the Technical Committee certainly was the result of work on the NGO Committee on Ageing during the 1990's as well as Terry's visibility as Co-Chair of the U.S. Steering Committee for the International Year for Older People in 1999. At the Madrid meeting, he also presented at a NGO Committee on Aging side session on Active Ageing in Madrid. Later on, he presented on the Madrid Plan at the NGO Committee on Aging as well as other U.N. events. This one highlight is just a snapshot of Terry's many contributions to IASSW's work at the UN.

Terry also served IASSW in other important roles, serving as Secretary from 1996-2000, as President of the North American and Caribbean Association, and as a board member for multiple terms, serving 16 years on the Board in various positions. For these roles, for his numerous other service contributions, including as President of the Council on Social Work Education, and his many scholarly contributions to international

social work, he received the IASSW Katherine A. Kendall Award for outstanding contributions to international social work in 2004.

Distinguished University Professor Emeritus
Ralph S. and Dorothy P. Schmitt Professor
and Professor of Global Health Emeritus
Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences
Case Western Reserve University

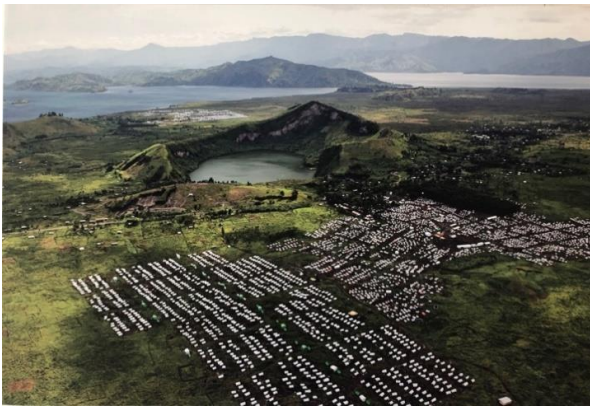
Social Work Day

We have officially started planning for Social Work Day at the United Nations 2019. The tentative date is Monday, April 1st and will focus on human relationships and social protection. We are also planning to have a student conference the Sunday before at Fordham University. More details will be coming soon!

Facebook Page: Social Work Day at the UN

UN New York Headquarters Exhibit: People on the Move

In line with the Global Compact for Migration in Marrakesh, Morocco, the UN Department of Public Information with the support of the International Photographic Council and Lifetouch display the People on the Move art exhibit that captures moments in time of the millions of people who have become on the move.



Camps for the internally displaced persons in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, April 2008.
Photographer: Marie Frechon



Children attend a School at the Za'atari Refugee Camp, March 2016.
Photographer: Mark Garten



A boy walks through a house in Cap Haïtien in the wake of flooding that left thousands homeless, November 2014.
Photographer: Logan Abassi



www.iassw-aiets.org

International Association of Schools of Social Work
Association Internationale des Ecoles de Travail Social
Asociación Internacional de Escuelas de Trabajo Social
国際社会工教育联盟
国際ソーシャルワーク学校連盟

Respectfully,

Zozan Antar

MSW Candidate 2020

IASW Intern Representative to the United Nations

University of Connecticut School of Social Work

Email: zozan.antar@uconn.edu

Kristen Kimmel

MSW Candidate 2019

IASW Intern Representative to the United Nations

Fordham University Graduate School of Social Work

Email: kkimmel@fordham.edu