



IFUW Update - 17 January 2012

UN Declaration on Human Rights Education and Training

In December 2011, the UN General Assembly adopted the United Nations Declaration on Human Rights Education and Training (HRET). This Declaration asserts that everyone has the right to know, seek and receive information about their human rights and fundamental freedoms. It is a call to the United Nations, governments, non-governmental organizations and other bodies to intensify their efforts to promote the universal respect and understanding of HRET.

The Declaration defines HRET as comprising “all education, training, information, awareness-raising and learning activities aimed at promoting universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms.” It also states that HRET encompasses:

- Education **about** human rights
- Education **through** human rights
- Education **for** human rights

The Declaration recognizes that HRET is a lifelong process that includes all parts of society, at all levels and should be based on principles of equality.

- [Read the full text of the Declaration](#)
- [Visit the IFUW website for more information on the UN Declaration on HRET](#)



Upcoming Board & Committee Meetings and UN Day

The IFUW Board of Officers, Status of Women and Finance Committees will meet in Geneva from 22 to 28 February 2012. During its meeting, the Board will develop a strategic plan and also a business plan for moving forward. Information on the revised timetable for the meeting will be posted shortly on the website.

The sessions on **Thursday, 23 February (Strategic Planning)** and the **Status of Women Committee session on Saturday, 25 February are open to observers.**

Please note that other sessions are closed and are not open to observers.

A **group dinner in honour of our retired Secretary General, Leigh Bradford Ratteree**, will be held on **Friday, 24 February.**

United Nations Day

There will be a United Nations Day on **Friday, 24 February**, open to IFUW members and their guests, which will start with a tour of the UN Palais des Nations in Geneva and continue with a consultation at the Palais des Nations on the theme “*Strengthening Cooperation between NGOs and the UN System: How we as NGOs can promote and contribute to the work of the United Nations and its Human Rights Agenda*”.

The Programme

[Download the Observers' Programme](#) (includes the programme, as well as information on both the IFUW Meetings and the United Nations Day).

To Attend

To attend any of these events, please fill in the Observer Registration Form and send it back to susan.phillips@ifuw.org by **8 February 2012 at the very latest.**

If you wish to attend the United Nations Day, you **must** also fill in the United Nations Form. Please see the additional information below concerning the United Nations Form.

- [Observer Registration Form](#)
- [United Nations Form](#) (required if attending UN Day, to access the UN Palais de Nations)
- [List of hotel suggestions](#)

VERY IMPORTANT! The United Nations Form is required to access the UN building. Please print the form out, fill it in and **BRING IT WITH YOU, ALONG WITH YOUR PASSPORT**, on the UN Day. Part of the form has already been completed for you. You need to fill in:

- your title, eg. Mrs/Ms
- family name and first name (exactly as written in your passport)
- language preference
- passport details
- occupation
- telephone number
- permanent address and address in Geneva, eg. your hotel

In addition:

- If you bring a guest, you must print a second copy of this form for your guest to fill in and bring with her/him.
- You do **not** need to provide photographs.
- You will be asked for this form and your passport at the UN Pregny Visitors Gate on Friday, 24 February in order to receive your UN badge.

We look forward to seeing you in Geneva!

Legacy from Alice Paquier

Alice Paquier (1925-2011) was Executive Secretary of IFUW from 1974-1988. She made a major contribution to IFUW's work, particularly helping to build and coordinate IFUW's presence at the United Nations. She was a lifelong promoter of women's and girls rights, particularly those of young women, having also served as General Secretary of the YWCA of Switzerland (1957-1965), as a member of the World YWCA Executive Committee (1967-1969) and as a member of the World YWCA staff (1969-1974). Following her retirement from IFUW, Alice was the first President of the Erna Hamburger Foundation, which supports post-graduate study by women in the Canton of Vaud, Switzerland.



Alice left a small legacy to IFUW, which the Board has decided, given Alice's interest in young women, should be used for travel grants to assist Young Members in attending our conferences and colloquia.

More and more women nowadays consider making donations to charity in their wills. IFUW is very pleased to be remembered by our members in their wills, as such legacies enable us to help the Federation and our members in a special way that would otherwise not be possible. According to the wishes and/or intentions of the donor, we try, for example, to help struggling NFAs or NFAs in lower GNI countries, give grants for special activities, or as in the case of the Alice Paquier Legacy, to help Young Members.

We are very grateful to Alice for her generosity to IFUW.