



Your Trade Union Guide to the UNCSW67 6-17 March 2023

This Guide is [also available online](#)

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Introduction

The [67th session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women \(UNCSW67\)](#) is the biggest annual gathering of women's rights organisations and activists in the world. It is a great opportunity to lobby governments around our key trade union priorities and network with other trade union delegates and women's and feminist movements. Over 100 trade union delegates from all regions will be present at the UNCSW67. **At the UNCSW67 we aim at:** 1) ensuring that the Agreed Conclusions (the UNCSW67 outcomes) are aligned with trade union priorities by lobbying governments; 2) strengthening and building alliances with women/ feminist organisations to support trade union priorities gender equality in the world of work; and 3) coverage of our key priorities during UNCSW67 meetings and events and in (social) media.

This trade union guide provides guidance and tools to navigate through the UNCSW67 programme and activities. It is available too on the [Global Unions UNCSW blog](#)

COVID-19 regulations:

Please make sure before you leave that you have proof of COVID-19 vaccination – this proof is required when entering the UN premises in New York, including UNCSW67 events outside the UN building.

Also note that (and as indicated in your UNCSW67 letter, confirming your registration) that:

- Representatives entering the UNHQ confirm they have not had symptoms consistent with COVID-19 in the last 5 days or a positive COVID test result in the last 5 days
- Persons experiencing COVID-19 symptoms or symptoms of an upper respiratory tract infection such as seasonal flu are required to stay at home.

1. Trade Union Briefings and Gathering

Mark your agenda for the:

- **UNCSW67 VIRTUAL trade union briefings – with interpretation in English, Spanish and French:**

1. Thursday 2 March, 08.00 - 09.00 EST
2. Tuesday 7 March, 08.00 - 09.00 EST
3. Thursday 9 March, 08.00 - 09.00 EST

You will receive the **zoom link via your delegation** or send an email to equality@ituc-csi.org

- **UNCSW67 In person Informal gathering: Sunday 5 March: 16.00 – 18.00 EST at:**
IATSE Local One training centre - 320 West 46 Street

2. Where to get your UNCSW67 badge

- When you are registered as a delegate for the UNCSW67, you should have received a confirmation of your registration via this email: noreply@un.org
- You need this confirmation email and a valid passport to register.

You can register and collect your grounds pass on 3,4,5 March 2023, and 6-10 March and 13-17 March at the UN Pass & ID Office which is located at 320 East 45th street (between First and Second Avenue), outside of UN premises.

Opening hours:

Prior to the session

Friday, 3 March: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Saturday, 4 March: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Sunday, 5 March: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.



First week

Monday, 6 March: 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Tuesday, 7 March: 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Wednesday, 8 March: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Thursday, 9 March: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Friday, 10 March: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Second week

Monday, 13 March: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Tuesday, 14 March: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Wednesday, 15 March: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Thursday, 16 March: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Friday, 17 March: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

3. The UNCSW67 at a glance

The UNCSW is a global policy-making body of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). It promotes gender equality and women's rights, documents the reality of women's lives throughout the world, and shapes global standards on gender equality and the empowerment of women. The work of the UNCSW is grounded in the [Beijing Declaration and Platform of Action](#), the blueprint for achieving gender equality¹.

Each year, the CSW focuses on one **priority theme**. Member states negotiate '**Agreed Conclusions**', which are the key outcome of the UNCSW67. The priority theme of UNCSW67 is "*Innovation and technological change, and education in the digital age for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls*". The **UNCSW67 Global Unions Statement** includes **our priorities** related to the priority theme and is available here in [English](#), [Spanish](#) and [French](#).

On the **UNCSW67 website** you will find documents related to the priority theme:

- [0 Draft Agreed Conclusions](#) (check with your delegation for the latest version with our trade union inputs)
- [Report of the UN Secretary-General on the priority theme](#) (English) and [check here](#) for other language versions
- Documents of the [UNCSW67 Expert Group meeting](#) including: The **ILO expert paper**: "*Preparing Future Generations of Women for New Job Demands: Skilling, Re-Skilling, Digitalization and Automation*", available here in [English](#)

4. Programme, parallel and side events

At the UNCSW67 there are **3 types of programmes** which takes place in parallel and are described below.

¹ The crucial role of trade unions in the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action (ITUC). <https://www.ituc-csi.org/the-crucial-role-of-trade-unions>



Here is a **list of events hosted by trade unions or events with trade union speakers**:

- **Flyer with trade union related events**
- **Via the trade union online calendar**

- **UNCSW67 Official Programme** : The programme includes segments covering the UNCSW67 priority theme, including: the **General discussion**, during which governments make statements (and the ITUC or the GUFs might deliver a statement too). The **Ministerial round tables**. The meetings provide interpretation in English, Spanish, French, Arabic, Russian and Chinese and some events are livestreamed ((in English only).
- **UNCSW67 Side Events** : are hosted by governments. Check out if your government is hosting or speaking at a side event. It is an excellent opportunity to share – either during the event or after the event - our trade union position on the priority theme. Most events will be in English, and some will provide interpretation.
- **UNCSW67 Parallel events**: Parallel events are hosted by civil society organisations. There are events which are in person or virtual, or hybrid. Check the **agenda of the parallel events by registering on the NGOCSW Platform**: https://whova.com/portal/registration/ngocs1_202303/
 - Choose your ticket type based on how you will be attending: in-person, virtually, or both.
 - Continue filling out your information and
 - Submit your registration!

After you register, you will receive a link to join the Portal. Set up a profile on the Portal via registering, you will be able to access the Portal by ngocsw67forum.events.whova.com/ or using the mobile app.

The **NGO Consultation Day is virtual** and takes place on Sunday 5 March from 10.00 to 13.00 EST. Other NGO consultations, regional caucuses are shortlisted in this [agenda](#).

5. Agreed Conclusions and lobbying governments

The ‘Agreed Conclusions’, prepared by the UNCSW67, are negotiated between Member States. Negotiations started in February and will close during the UNCSW67. The negotiations are open for Member States only. This is an opportunity to lobby our own governments, other governments, like-minded NGOs, regional caucuses, and others to influence the outcome of the negotiations of the Agreed Conclusions. The **0 Draft of the UNCSW67 Agreed Conclusions** is available in English [here](#).

To be prepared for lobbying your government:

- Please check with the focal point of your delegation for the latest version of the Agreed Conclusions and the amendments and views prepared by the **Global Unions drafting group**.
- The Global Unions drafting group is composed of Global Union focal points. It also cooperates closely with the Women’s Rights Caucus, a grouping of feminist movements from across the world.



- If you have updates to share about your government position, please inform the drafting group or focal point of your delegation.
- **Updates on the negotiation process will be provided via the Trade Union Briefings sessions** (on 2, 7 and 9 March – see page 1 of this Guide), and via the focal point of your delegation and via email.

Tips to lobby your governments Our strength is our diversity: the fact that we have trade union delegates from around the world on the same team!

- Lobby your government: check your focal point for the latest version of the Agreed Conclusions with the trade union amendments, priorities and views.
- Share information with the trade union delegation about your government position.
- Find out who our allies are, who our opponents are, and what types of hurdles are developing. Share ideas about lobbying strategies and develop alliances to influence the outcomes.
- Compile a list of policies your government has already adopted that are related to the priority theme. That way you can hold them to account if and when they appear to be back-peddalling on positions they have already adopted in the past.
- Every Member State gets to make a statement during the '[General Discussion](#)' on their progress on the priority theme of the UNCSW67. Find out who is making statements similar to ours, monitor what they say, and get a copy of their statement.
- Many government delegations offer briefings to NGOs on the status of negotiations. Find out about them and plan to attend, and report back on what you hear! Check if your government is in the list of [Member States at the UNCSW67](#) Find out which government department in your country has the lead on preparing for the UNCSW67.
- Share your findings with your trade union delegation.

What we are up against....

Regressive governments and organisations are often pro-active at the UNCSW. They tend to influence the negotiations **against** the term 'gender', reproductive rights and protection against gender-based violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity. Conservative NGOs are highly organised and connected and found allies in the Holy See (the Vatican) and a number of Member States across the world. Try to find out which organisations or individuals from your part of the world fit this profile and what positions they are bringing forward and who their allies are.

6. Networking and alliance building

The UNCSW offers a great opportunity for **transnational networking** and **alliance building** with like-minded organisations/NGOs. There are various ways to connect:

1. Register [here](#) as an advocate on the [NGOCSW67 Forum](#) to join and connect with other delegates from across the world and when participating in meetings and events.
2. Identify your allies in your own country and/or region, e.g., unions, women's organisations, NGOs, via the list of UNCSW67 attendees on the UNCSW/NGO virtual platform, the regional caucuses or the parallel and side events.



3. **Once connected**, check what their lobby/advocacy plans are and in which lobby platforms they operate. Share our trade union priorities and invite them to our trade-union-related events. You can check if their statement is listed on the [UNCSW67 official documents](#) section and scroll down for the NGO statements.

Check out the **progressive/feminist organisations** with a strong presence at past UNCSW meetings. They include the following: ActionAid International; Asia Pacific Forum on Women Law and Development (APWLD); Association for Women's Rights in Development (AWID); Centre for Global Women's Leadership (CWGL); Centre for Reproductive Rights; European Women's Lobby (EWL); FEMNET (The African Women's Development and Communication Network); Global Alliance for Tax Justice Campaign (GATJ); Solidarity Centre; Women in Migration Network (WIMN); and Women's Environment and Development Organisation (WEDO).

7. The social media guide - #CSW67

Let's raise our trade union voice! Write, tweet, photograph or video your messages for the Global Unions UNCSW blog and across social media! The online trade union [social media guide](#) provides you with a compilation of tips and tools to help amplify the voice of women workers at the UNCSW67.

During the two weeks, parallel and side events are sources of rich and poignant stories about women who have championed their rights in their respective countries. Their stories need to be shared to a wider audience – and union delegates can play a valuable role in making that happen.

The [Global Unions UNCSW blog](#), created by Public Services International (PSI), is our central information point. It houses articles, photos, videos and social media shareables related to the UNCSW. You can also follow updates on the UNCSW Global Unions '[Women Power Unions](#)' Facebook page.

Hashtags you can use:

- #CSW67 #UNCSW67 #GlobalUnions
- **GBV**: #RatifyC190 #RatificarC190 #RatifiezC190
- **Care**: #InvestInCare #MakeCarePublic #HumanRightToCare #DefendCareAsAPublicGood #CareForThoseWhoCareForYou
- **DigitalNewDeal** - #GenderTransformative

8. Contact information

The Global Unions delegation at the UNCSW67 and their focal points:

- **International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC):**
 - Paola Simonetti paola.simonetti@ituc-csi.org
 - Marieke Koning marieke.koning@ituc-csi.org



➤ Equality@ituc-csi.org



- **Education International (EI):**

- Jennifer Ulrick Jennifer.Ulrick@ei-ie.org
- Rocio Nieto (Rocio.nieto@ei-ie.org)

- **Public Services International (PSI):**

- Verónica Montúfar veronica.montufar@world-psi.org ,
- Hazel Ripoll hazel.ripoll@world-psi.org

- **International Domestic Workers Federation (IDWF):**

- Roula Seghaier roula.seghaier@idwfed.org

A glossary of some abbreviations for the UNCSW

CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (1979)
BPfA	Beijing Platform for Action (2000)
CSW	Commission on the Status of Women
DAW	Division for the Advancement of Women (at UN Women)
EI	Education International
EU	European Union
FGM	Female genital mutilation
FTT	Financial Transactions Tax
GUF	Global Union Federation



IFI	International financial institution
IFJ	International Federation of Journalists
ITF	International Transport Workers' Federation
IUF	International Union of Food, Agricultural, Hotel, Restaurant, Catering, Tobacco and Allied Workers' Associations
IMF	International Monetary Fund
ILO	International Labour Organization and International Labour Office (Geneva)
ILO Convention 87	Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise (1948)
ILO Convention 98	Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining (1949)
ILO Convention 100	Equal Remuneration (1951)
ILO Convention 102	Social Security (Minimum Standards) (1952)
ILO Convention 111	Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) (1958)
ILO Convention 128	Invalidity, Old-Age and Survivors' Benefits (1967)
ILO Convention 151	Labour Relations (Public Sector) 1978
ILO Convention 182	Worst Forms of Child Labour (1999)
ILO Convention 189	Domestic Workers (2011)
ILO Convention 190	Violence and Harassment Convention (2019)
ITUC	International Trade Union Confederation
LGBT	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
NGOs	Non-governmental organisations
ODA	Overseas development assistance
OECD	Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development
OHCHR	Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
PSI	Public Services International
QPS	Quality public services
SC 1325	Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000) on women, peace and security
TUAC	Trade Union Advisory Committee (at the OECD)
UNCSW	United Nations Commission on the Status of Women
UNI	UNI Global Union
UN Women	United Nations entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
VAW	Violence against women
WHO	World Health Organization

