

## Global Unions Guide to UNCSW69

**This Trade Union Guide** provides guidance and tools to help make the most of your participation in the UNCSW and assists you in navigating through the programme and other related activities.



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### Introduction

**This Trade Union Guide** provides guidance and tools to make the most out of your UNCSW participation and assists you with navigating through the programme and other activities.

💡 Scroll down to see the full guide or select a link from the menu on the left column to go straight to a section. You can also **print or download a pdf** of the file, by clicking on the 'print article' button on the menu on the right.

The [69th session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women](#) takes place on 10 – 21 March in New York. The UNCSW is the biggest annual gathering of women’s rights organisations and activists in the world. It presents the opportunity to lobby governments around key trade union priorities and network with other delegates from trade unions, women’s and feminist groups. Over 100 trade union delegates from all regions will be present at the UNCSW69. Moreover, 2025 coincides with the 30th anniversary of the Beijing Declaration, so that the review of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action is meant to revitalize governments’ commitments on gender equality.

#### **At the UNCSW69 we aim at:**

1. ensuring that the CSW Political Declaration (the UNCSW69 outcome document) is aligned with [trade union priorities](#) by lobbying governments;
2. influencing the negotiations of the Multi-year programme of work for the next 5 years and on CSW revitalization
3. strengthening and building alliances with women/ feminist organisations to support trade union priorities on gender equality in the world of work; and
4. voicing our key priorities during the UNCSW69 official programme, side events and parallel events and in (social) media.

#### **Trade Union Briefings and Gathering**

Mark your agenda for the **UNCSW69 Preparatory meetings for the Trade Union delegation & Information gathering:**

**ONLINE Trade union briefings** – with interpretation in English, Spanish and French

1. Tuesday **4 March** 8.00-9.30 **EST** | 2.00 – 3.30 **CET**
2. Tuesday **11 March** 08.00 – 09.00 **EDT**
3. Tuesday **18 March** 08.00 – 09.00 **EDT**

You will receive the **Zoom link via your delegation** or send an email to [equality@ituc-csi.org](mailto:equality@ituc-csi.org)

#### **IN PERSON trade union briefing:**

- **Sunday 9 March:** Informal gathering of the trade union delegation  
**12.30 -14.30** UN Church Centre, 2nd floor (No official interpretation)

#### **Register and get your UNCSW69 badge**

See the UNCSW69 website for more information on [registration](#) and [Grounds Pass collection](#).

- When you are registered as a delegate for the UNCSW69, you should receive a confirmation. You need this **confirmation email and a valid passport** to register.
- You can collect your ground pass on **UN Pass & ID Office** which is located at **320 East 45thstreet** (between First and Second Avenue), outside of UN premises. **Do not proceed to the main entrance of the United Nations until you have collected your grounds pass.**

- **Opening hours:**

Friday, 7 March: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Saturday, 8 March: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Sunday, 9 March: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Monday, 10 March: 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Tuesday, 11 March: 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Wednesday, 12 March: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Thursday, 13 March: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Friday, 14 March: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Monday, 17 March: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Tuesday, 18 March: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Wednesday, 19 March: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Thursday, 20 March: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Friday, 21 March: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

### **The UNCSW 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 equality.

Each year, the CSW focuses on one **priority theme**. The priority theme of UNCSW69 is:

*review and appraisal of the implementation of the [Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action](#) and the outcomes of the [23rd special session of the General Assembly](#). The review will include an assessment of current challenges that affect the implementation of the Platform for Action and the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of women and its contribution towards the full realization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*

The [UNCSW69 Global Unions Statement](#) includes **our key points** related to the priority theme and is available in English, French and Spanish.

On the [UNCSW69 website](#) you will find documents related to the priority theme.

- **Drafts of the Political Declaration** (not public, check with your delegation for the latest version with our trade union inputs)
- **Report of the UN Secretary-General** on the Review and appraisal of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly ([English](#))
- Check [here](#) to see your government's **national review**
- Check [here](#) for the results of the **regional reviews**



### [CSW69 Global Unions Statement: A New Social Contract rooted in a gender-transformative agenda](#)

#### **Programme, parallel and side events**

At the UNCSW69 there are **three types of programmes** which take place: 1) The Official Programme 2) Side Events (organized by Permanent Missions, intergovernmental organizations, and UN entities) and 3) Parallel events (organized by NGOs). These are outlined in more detail below.

#### **Trade union events**

The agenda contains a list of events either hosted by trade unions or with trade union speakers. You can download or view the agenda here:

- [View the trade union events calendar in full screen.](#)
- [Download the trade union events calendar \(.ics\).](#) Open or import it into your own calendar to view it in your own time zone.

The default setting for this calendar is **EST (New York) time.** [Check your local time.](#)



[Trade union calendar CSW69](#)

Sun, Mar 9, 2025

The **UNCSW69 Official programme** includes segments covering the UNCSW69 priority theme, including: the **General discussion**, during which governments make statements (the ITUC or the GUFs might deliver a statement too) and the **Interactive dialogues** (where the ITUC or the GUFs might deliver a statement too).

The meetings provide interpretation in English, Spanish, French, Arabic, Russian and Chinese and some events are livestreamed ((in English only).

**UNCSW69 Side Events** are hosted by governments. Check if your government is hosting or speaking at a side event. It is an excellent opportunity to share – either during or after the event - our trade union priorities and position on the priority theme. Most events will be in English, and some will provide interpretation.

**UNCSW69 parallel events** are hosted by civil society organisations. These are in-person or virtual, or hybrid. Most events will be in English, and some will provide interpretation. Check the **agenda of the parallel events by registering on the NGOCSW Platform**:

- **Agenda:** <https://ngocsw69forum.events.whoova.com/Agenda>
- **Global Unions event:** <https://ngocsw69forum.events.whoova.com/Agenda/4354869>

To participate in any 'in person' event you will have to register **before 21 March** and get your free ticket (as a QR code) – EXCEPT those who are officially registered via their ECOSOC delegation, they do not need the QR code but they need their ground pass.

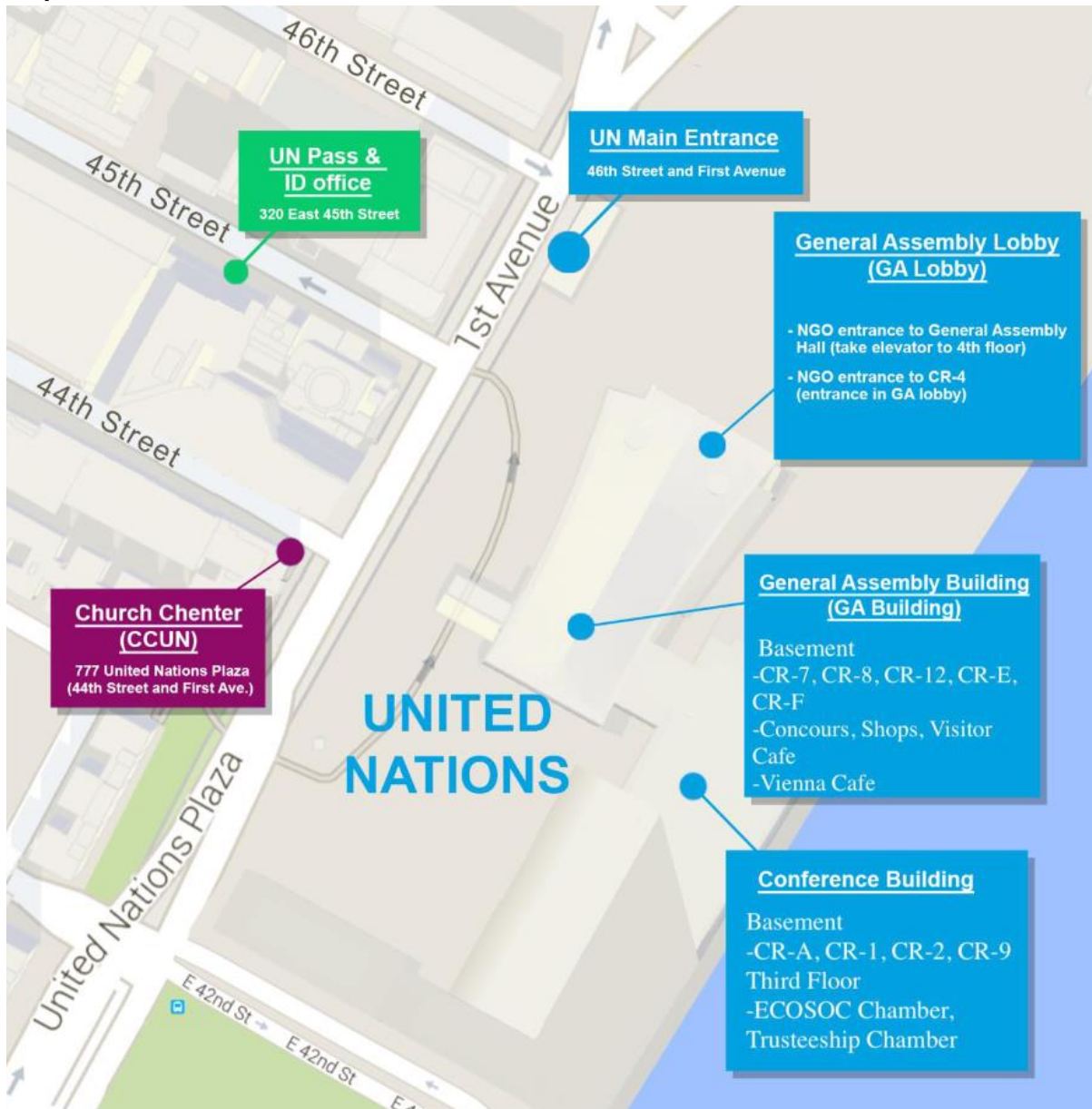
How to get your FREE ticket – register on this link and follow the steps as requested by the WHOVA platform – you can also download it on your mobile phone via the application : <https://ngocsw69forum.events.whoova.com/registration/>

For security reasons, without a QR code or your ground pass you will not be able to enter the building.

The **NGO Consultation Day is virtual** and takes place on 9 March from 10.00 to 13.00 EST. if you want to register: <https://ngocsw.org/event/consultation-day-2/>

Other NGO consultations, regional caucuses are shortlisted.

Or check with your delegation where to find the event you are looking for.

**Map of venues:****Political Declaration & lobbying governments**


The Political Declaration to be adopted by the UNCSW69 is negotiated between Member States. Negotiations started in January and will close on 10 March with the adoption of the Declaration. 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 Political Declaration.

To prepare for lobbying your government:

- Please check with the focal point of your delegation for the latest version of the Political Declaration and the amendments and views prepared by the **Trade union drafting group**.
- The drafting group is composed of ITUC and Global Unions focal points on a voluntary basis.

- 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 4, 11 and 18 March), 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 Political Declaration 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 help influence outcomes.
- Compile a list of policies your government has already adopted related to the priority theme. That way you can hold them to account if they are back-pedaling 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 UNCSW69. Find out who is making statements like 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 UNCSW69](#). Find out which of your country's government departments has the lead on preparing for the UNCSW69.
- 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 NGO’s are highly organised and connected and found allies in the Holy See (the Vatican) and a number of Members 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.

### Networking and alliance building

 The UNCSW offers a great opportunity for transnational networking and alliance building with like-minded organisations/NGOs.

There are several ways to connect:

1. Register as an advocate on the [NGOCSW69 Forum](#) to join and connect with other delegates from across the world and when participating in meetings and events.
2. Participate in meetings and events which offer opportunities to connect with participants.
3. Identify allies in your own country and/or region e.g. unions, women's organisations, NGOs, either via the list of UNCSW69 attendees on the UNCSW/NGO virtual platform, the regional caucuses or the parallel and side events.
4. **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.
5. You can check if their statement is listed on the [UNCSW69 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: 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) - HRW (Human Rights Watch) - FEMNET (The African Women's Development and Communication Network) - Global Alliance for Tax Justice Campaign (GATJ) - Solidarity Centre - Women in Migration Network (WIMN) - Women's Environment and Development Organisation (WEDO).

### Social media guide

**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 UNCSW69.

**Let's hear your voice!** 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:

- **General:** #CSW69 #UNCSW69 #GlobalUnions #WomenPowerUnions
- **GBVH:** #RatifyC190 #RatificarC190 #RatifiezC190
- **Care:** #InvestInCare #MakeCarePublic #HumanRightToCare #DefendCareAsAPublicGood #CareForThoseWhoCareForYou
- **Equal pay:** #EqualPay, #EqualPayForWorkOfEqualValue, #EPIC2030



💡 Check out the [social media guide](#) for the trade union delegation for all tips and recommendations on how to report on sessions and events and contribute to the Trade Union blog.



## Contacts

- **International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC):**
  - Paola Simonetti [paola.simonetti@ituc-csi.org](mailto:paola.simonetti@ituc-csi.org)
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- **Education International (EI):**
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- **Public Services International (PSI):**
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  - Hazel Ripoll [hazel.ripoll@world-psi.org](mailto:hazel.ripoll@world-psi.org)
- **International Domestic Workers Federation (IDWF):**
  - Adriana Paz: [adriana.paz@idwfed.org](mailto:adriana.paz@idwfed.org)

## Appendix 1: Glossary

Acronym	Full name
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

#### Appendix 2: Shortlist of useful links

- **The Global Unions Blog:** <https://unioncsw.world-psi.org/>
- The online calendar of [trade union related events](#) also available for [download](#) (.ics).
- **Trade Union statement** to the UNCSW69 (PDF): [English - Français - Español](#)
- UNCSW69 [official website](#)
- **CSW69 agenda**