IPA Justice Contact Update - March 2022

A Time of Tradition and Change

*Lent approaches, and global conflicts arise; Presentation People everywhere are embracing their legacy and shaping the future*
Dear Companions on the Journey,

The tragic scenarios that everyone feared over the past weeks has become a reality in the lives of our brother and sisters in Ukraine. We are indeed “listening into the chaos and feeling the pain of our time” (IPA Directions).
To see beyond the boundaries of race, religion, and nation
To that common humanity that makes us all your children
And brothers and sisters to one another “
(A Christian Prayer for Peace in Our Time).

Lenten Blessings

Ann Marie Quinn
Executive Director – IPA

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A Word from the Programme Action Leader

To the Presentation People:

As I write to you now, I reflect upon both the uncertainty and the continuity of our present moment in time. In many ways, this time of year invites us to settle deeper into our traditions, finding comfort and familiarity in the guidance offered by our past. And yet, in many ways, the current moment in time is rife with questions of a precarious future. The security and survival of our brother and sisters in Ukraine is under grave threat, and we are called now to seriously consider our commitments to peace and what it means to go in peace into a world so torn by violence.

On Wednesday, many Christians around the world will be called to display their devotion through a cross upon the forehead, and enter into a period of reflection and repentance. In this same time, many people around the world will find themselves in a state of scarcity and dire need. Pope Francis thus invites us all, “believers and non-believers alike,” on March 2nd, Ash Wednesday, to fast and pray for peace in Ukraine.

May our actions continue to foster peace,

Christopher D. Zefting
Programme Action Leader

Please follow us on Facebook @InternationalPresentationAssociation and on Twitter @IPA_UN.

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An Update from the UN Representative
Dear friends,

The International Women's Day is celebrated each year on March 8th. International Women's Day is celebrated in many developed and developing countries alike, around the world. It is a day when women are recognized for their achievements without regard to divisions, whether national, ethnic, linguistic, cultural, economic or political. It was officially recognized by the United Nations in 1977.

The theme for this year’s UN International Women’s Day (IWD 2022) is “Gender equality today for a sustainable tomorrow”, recognizing the contribution of women and girls around the world, who are leading the charge on climate change adaptation, mitigation, and response, to build a more sustainable future for all. Advancing gender equality in the context of the climate crisis and disaster risk reduction is one of the greatest global challenges of the 21st century.

The United Nations Observance of International Women’s Day will be marked by a high-level virtual event on Tuesday 8 March 2022, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. EST, broadcasted via UN WebTV at http://webtv.un.org/. The Secretary-General of the United Nations, the President of the General Assembly, the Chair of the Commission on the Status of Women, the Executive Director of UN Women as well as gender equality and climate change activists and celebrities will participate. The event will be followed by a high-level panel discussion and musical performances. Event details will be added to this page when they become available.

The 66th session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women will take place from 14 to 25 March 2022 under the priority theme “Achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls in the context of climate change, environmental and disaster risk reduction policies and programmes”. The UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) is the
Due to the continued impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, CSW66 will take place in a hybrid format. You can watch LIVE the CSW66 through UN WebTV at [http://webtv.un.org/](http://webtv.un.org/) in all six United Nations’ official languages.

The CSW66 proposed organization of work, as of December 9, 2021, can be accessed [here](#).

All side events and parallel events will be fully virtual.

- You can view the schedule of virtual CSW66 side events [here](#). Please check back frequently as they will keep updating the schedule of side events. All times on the schedule are displayed in Eastern US/Canada time zone (UNHQ New York).

- NGO parallel events are coordinated by the NGO Committee on the Status of Women (NGO CSW/NY), which is a group of New York–based women’s NGOs in consultative status with the UN ECOSOC. The NGO CSW organizes the civil society side of the UN Commission on the Status of Women. The NGO CSW Forum runs parallel to the events occurring within the UNHQ. This provides civil society the opportunity to engage in the processes and events of CSW, informing and inspiring grassroots efforts and advocacy needed to empower women and girls. All NGO parallel events will take place virtually on an online civil society networking platform managed by the NGO CSW. For more information on the NGO CSW66 Forum and on NGO parallel events, please visit the website of the NGO CSW [here](#). You can register to attend the parallel events [here](#). Register to attend the NGO CSW66 Virtual Forum to have access to the virtual platform before the start of the Forum on 13 March 2022. Use the platform as an advocacy tool by seeing who else is registered to the platform and networking with them. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions, queries or concerns. It would be greatly appreciated if you share this info with your networks in order to invite others to join our webinar.

The IPA will host an online event (Date: TBD) launching the IPA publication on Gender Stereotypes and Domestic Violence in India, Zimbabwe and the United States. The publication is a result of a 6-month research project that the IPA conducts on how gender stereotypes may influence or generate attitudes and acts of domestic violence against women and children. Additionally, in this project we explore how harmful and damaging these stereotypes can further be to survivors of gender-based violence (GBV), as well as the impact these stereotypes have in societal and service responses and in relevant policy development and implementation. The project has been designed to capture experiences of adult men and women who have been living with an intimate partner before COVID-19 and, preferably but not exclusively, living with an intimate partner during COVID-19 restrictions.

Dr. Despoina Afrodití Milaki
IPA NGO Representative at the UN
Voices from the Grassroots

Justice Contact Meetings

On 21 and 22 February 2022, the IPA Core team as well as the Caplor Horizons team met with the IPA Justice Contacts to begin the process of reviewing the progress of the IPA Education and Action for Justice 2020-2022 Strategy.

Have a story you wish to be included in future Justice Contact Updates? We want to hear from you! Submit your updates through the link HERE!

More Upcoming Dates

- **Zero Discrimination Day** (1 March 2022)
- **World Wildlife Day** (3 March 2022)
- **International Women’s Day** (8 March 2022)
- **UN Commission on the Status of Women** (14 - 25 March 2022)
- **International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination** (21 March 2022)
- **International Day for the Right to the Truth Concerning Gross Human Rights Violations and for the Dignity of Victims** (24 March 2022)
- **International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic
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