



GRAIL LINK TO THE UNITED NATIONS NETWORK

What is the GLUNN? Grail Link to the United Nations Network.

The Grail Link to the United Nations Network of the International Grail is a working group that meets throughout the year to engage with the United Nations and to facilitate engagement of all Grail members/explorers/friends with the initiatives of the UN toward its Global Goals. The International Grail's status as a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) is administered through GLUNN, making it possible for Grail interaction in Commissions such as the Commission on the Status of Women, the Commission on Social Development, Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, Sustainable Development, etc.

GLUNN has been active as a Grail network for 20 years working as an advocate for women's, girl's and indigenous people's rights and empowerment. Through this work, GLUNN provides opportunities for international experience and Grail formation both to Grail members and young women associated with the Grail. This is done by facilitating access to the CSW official sessions and organizing parallel events.

The Commission on Status of Women (CSW) is a global policy-making body of the United Nations that is dedicated exclusively to the promotion of gender equality and the advancement of women (and girls). Every year the Grail in New York receives 10 to 15 women and girls for 2 weeks for the CSW Session. The CSW-63 is scheduled for 11 to 22 March 2019. We are looking for interns who can help with the preparation of this event. (read more below)



What does it mean: The first time that non-governmental organizations (NGOs) took a role in formal UN deliberations was through the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) in 1946. Article 71 of the UN Charter opened the door for suitable arrangements for consultation with NGOs. International, regional and national NGOs, non-profit public or voluntary organizations are eligible to obtain consultative status. There are three categories of status: General, special and roster consultative status. There are currently 5,083 (NGOs) in active consultative status with (ECOSOC). The Grail and UFER have special consultative status with ECOSOC.

The Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), is holding consultations with organizations in consultative status with ECOSOC to discuss questions of interest to the Committee or to the organizations relating to the relationship between the NGOs and the United Nations. These ground-breaking consultations will take the form of written submissions and an interactive hearing which will be held at the United Nations Headquarters in New York on 22 June 2018. Some Grail members will attend.

What is UFER?

A reminder about the aim of UFER: The International Movement for Fraternal Union among Races and Peoples (UFER), begun in 1951, is a federation of organizations and persons involved in the promotion of understanding, dialogue and cooperation among races, peoples, cultural and ethnical groups, in the spirit of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. (It was formed by 17 lay missionary organizations. The Grail was one of the founding organizations and continues to be involved. Currently Grail members Monica Maher and Patricia Camisao are on the Board. UFER gained UNESCO status in 1952 and ECOSOC status in 1953.)

UFER/HUMAN RIGHTS: An exciting plan that is brewing, headed by Patricia Camisao in Belgium and the Dutch Grail: Grow the group of Grail members interested in the UN sessions in Europe around Human Rights. They will especially reach out to young women. We will hear more from Patricia in the future so stay tuned!



The United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

Seventeenth Session was 16 – 27 April 2018

Special Theme: “Indigenous peoples’ collective rights to lands, territories and resources”

From Sharon Joslyn:

Since Indigenous Peoples are not considered as a member state, discussion has been ongoing to look at Indigenous People's participation in United Nations sessions. The General Assembly has not established a new category of participation for Indigenous Peoples. However, there is an ongoing consultation process to enhance the participation of Indigenous Peoples at the UN. The resolution outlining the process can be read under A/RES.71/321.

The PFII is urging the Secretary-General to convene with regional Indigenous in the seven regions before the 18th session of the PFII to discuss modalities for their participation. The Forum also advocates for the inclusion of Indigenous representatives to other important UN hearings and events since they can contribute greatly to a range of issues on the International agenda.

On a positive note, the Forum affirmed Guatemala, El Salvador and Paraguay for their efforts to develop National Action Plans in consultation with Indigenous Peoples. Other member States to do the same.

This is a photo of presenters at a session attended by Lillian Wall, Mary Kay Louchart and Sharon Joslyn. Joy Garland also attended the Forum and will be a speaker at the June monthly meeting of the Indigenous committee.



Some highlights of that session from Mary Kay

Augustina(Peru): We are not ‘poor ones’ but warriors in the fight for our land and for the well-being of all of our people. For us ‘life’ is most important; for the government: money. This space (today) in ‘Gringolandia’ our voices are being heard.

Elvia(Ecuador): I am here representing the sufferings of my people. Our rivers flowed, flora was abundant. Who made them disappear! The government wants to be rid of us but as warriors through communication, we use this Forum.

Tilo from Yucatan, Mexico: We believe we are descended from the corn...how can our government let Monsanto try to control our seeds? What is our future without our seeds? Our land once flourished with trees, flowers—the bees. But now?

Leila from Guarani of Brasil: I am involved with trying to reclaim the land from which 50,000 of my people were exiled. We used to fish and grow food. Our rivers are polluted. Now we must import food. I am here to ask you gathered at the UN: help protect my people.

Sachem from the Schaghticoke (in the USA): our land has been taken by the government. An elite school and electricity plant are on our land. The river was flooded and bodies from our graves floated up—they buried our ancestors in a big hole. This Forum is good but two weeks every year bringing forth the issues isn't enough. We know the issues: what are we now going to do.

High-Level Political Forum 2018 (HLPF 2018) <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf/2018>

The meeting of the high-level political forum on sustainable development (HLPF) in 2018 convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council, will be held from Monday, 9 July, to Wednesday, 18 July 2018; including the three-day ministerial meeting of the forum from Monday, 16 July, to Wednesday, 18 July 2018.

The theme will be "Transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies". The set of goals to be reviewed in depth will be the following, including Goal 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the **Global Partnership for Sustainable Development, that will be considered each year:**

Goal 6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

Goal 7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

Goal 11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

Goal 12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

Goal 15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE GIRL

The past few years Grail members have sponsored wonderful events for girls on or around October 11th.



The International Day of the Girl Child is celebrated annually on 11th October. The main aims of the day are to promote girl's empowerment and fulfilment of their human rights while also highlighting the challenges that girls all over the world face. Each year's International Day of the Girl has its own theme, past themes have included EmPower Girls: Before, During and After Crisis (2017) and Girls Progress = Goals Progress: What Counts For Girls (2016). International Day of the Girl Child...Día Internacional de la Niña...של הבינלאומי היום...

International Day of the Girl Child...Día Internacional de la Niña...של הבינלאומי היום... והילדה הילד



Last year 'our girl' from South Africa, Thandoletu Hlubi, was one of the presenters

GLOBAL GIRLS SUMMIT TO LAUNCH ON IDG

The first-of-its-kind Summit will be powered by Girls Who Code. On October 11, 2018, Girls Who Code will

release its Global Girls Summit. The Summit, launching on International Day of the Girl, will be the first of its kind: an entirely digital initiative meant to inspire, educate, and empower young women to be change-makers in their communities.

"When I first started Girls Who Code, I knew that girls would be the ones to completely and totally transform our workforce and our world," said Reshma Saujani, CEO and Founder of Girls Who Code. "And now, with young people across the

country calling for change, I've never felt more confident about what lies ahead.

The Global Girls Summit will take place in partnership with brand and media sponsors and feature content from diverse women writers, artists, activists, scientists, and more.

"Girls – their voices, ideas, and stories – will be the driving force behind this Summit," said Saujani. "Stay tuned. It'll be like nothing you've ever seen before in this space."

<http://www.girl-summit.com/>

CSW: COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN 2019: CSW-63

The Priority theme: Social protection systems, access to public services and sustainable infrastructure for gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls. Review theme: Women's empowerment and the link to sustainable development, from the 60th session of the CSW. Start thinking and planning now if you want to attend this session. Write to Mary Kay at Grail-IPT@juno.com if you are interested in attending. Even if not certain at the moment, let her know so she can send you any relevant information that may help in your decision. Also, visas are getting more and more difficult to obtain, so we need to start the process early.

Internship Details / Description

The internship will be for a period of 3 months (January-March 2019). The main responsibility of the intern is to assist the GLUNN/CSW team for the upcoming CSW session. Full-time availability is expected. The intern will be doing administrative work and carry out many other tasks to support the work of the GLUNN/CSW team. The internship is unpaid but the Grail will provide accommodation, food and public transport passes.

Requirements / Skills

- Is a Grail member or has been in Grail formation for three years
- Is between 22 and 32 years old
- Can prioritize and organize multiple assignments from a variety of participants
- Has worked with girls especially in relation to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- Has a strong interest in and commitment to advocating for Women and Girls
- Has some knowledge of UN processes
- Has knowledge at least from her own country about the CSW 63 theme
- Has experience working in a team but able to function on her own—is flexible
- Ability to prioritize and meet tight deadlines
- Can take responsibility
- Can speak, understand, read and write in English—enough to be able to take a leadership role
- Has writing skills and can pay attention to detail in order to prepare clear and organized narrative reports and other documents
- Has good communication, planning and facilitating skills
- Good working knowledge of Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Publisher, email and web searches and social media.

Responsibilities

- Support the GLUNN /CSW team work
- Assist with planning and coordination of the activities
- Communicate regularly with the participants on the preparation to attend CSW-63
- Participate in the Working Group on Girls (WGG) and its various task forces especially the Girls Participation Task Force and Advocacy
- Facilitate the building of community among the girls
- Prepare materials for meetings with local girls' groups or high schools
- Complete administrative tasks such as preparing materials, monitoring supplies, tidying rooms
- Assist the girls prepare their panel presentations
- Manage the Grail/CSW facebook page and social media
- Oversee the preparation and completion of an evaluation at the end of CSW
- Prepare/write 2 articles, one before and one after CSW 63, for the Grail International Newsletter
- Help to write the CSW 63 Grail Report, make a report for CROSSROADS and her home country
- Prepare Database of the participants of CSW 63, format for arrival/departure schedules, etc.

If you would like an application or more information, write to Mary Kay at Grail-ipt@juno.com by August 1, 2018.