

ANGLICAN/ EPISCOPAL PRESENCE AT UNCSW 67

“Innovation and technological change, and education in the digital age for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls”

March 6th – 17th, 2023



Fact Sheet

The [67th session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women \(CSW67\)](#) will be held from Monday, 3/6 to Friday, 3/17/2023. Since 1946, UNCSW has convened annually to promote women’s rights in political, economic, civil, social and educational fields, and to make recommendations on urgent problems facing women and girls. It reached a turning point in 1995 at the [Fourth World Conference on Women](#) with the adoption of the [Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action](#), a global policy framework for gender equality and the empowerment of women that set out 12 Critical Areas of Concern. UNCSW 67’s priority theme will be “Innovation and technological change, and education in the digital age for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls”.

Anglicans and Episcopalians at UNCSW67

Anglican and Episcopal women have participated in UNCSW since at least 2000. In 2023, the traditionally strong Anglican and Episcopal presence continues with participants representing multiple regions and countries across the Anglican Communion:

- The Anglican Communion will be represented virtually by Ms. Mandy Marshall, Anglican Communion Director of Gender Justice, Ms. Amal Sarah, Church of Pakistan and Mr. Glen Ruffle, Anglican Communion staff.
- The Episcopal Church welcomes 9 delegates, nominated by Presiding Bishop Michael Bruce Curry. They hail from provinces across The Episcopal Church and the Dioceses of Chicago, Colombia, Connecticut, Long Island, Vermont, Virginia and West Tennessee. They are guided and accompanied by members of the Presiding Bishop’s staff and other leadership volunteers serving as fellow delegates. Delegates will observe the official UNCSW meetings, represent the Presiding Bishop and the Church’s written statement submitted to UNCSW, network and meet with UN officials and representatives of member states, advocate alongside ecumenical and interfaith partners, attend side and parallel events and reflect during UNCSW on how to take their experiences back home to their communities and train up new leaders. Biographies for the Presiding Bishop’s delegation can be found on the [Episcopal Church UNCSW webpage](#).

Besides the accredited delegations, many Episcopalians and Anglicans will participate in UNCSW in groups or individually. They include participants from Episcopal Relief & Development, Mother’s Union, and other pan-Anglican groups.

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Shared program of worship and events

CSW67 will return to an in-person civil society presence for the first time since 2020, when the UN closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This will be the first ever hybrid UNCSW, with livestreaming of the UN plenaries as well as side and parallel events. Considering the need for abundance of caution in a world impacted by COVID-19, the ongoing program of hospitality and fellowship at the Episcopal Church Center that has gathered Anglicans and Episcopalians for decades will continue in a very limited capacity, with proof of vaccination required. Register via the [Episcopal Church UNCSW webpage](#):

- 2/27, 4 – 5:30 pm Eastern (virtual): “Welcome to CSW67: Meet the Presiding Bishop’s Delegation”, a meet and greet, question and answer session for Episcopalians.
- 3/6, 12:10 – 1 pm Eastern (hybrid): “UNCSW67 Opening Eucharist” for all participants, hosted by the Presiding Bishop’s delegation.
- 3/17, 12:10 – 1 pm Eastern (hybrid): “UNCSW 67 Closing Eucharist” for all participants, hosted by the Presiding Bishop’s delegation.
- 3/23, 4 – 5:30 pm Eastern (virtual): “Taking It Back Home: Report Back from the Presiding Bishop’s Delegation”, a question-and-answer session for Episcopalians and all who are interested.

For more information and registration, see the [NGO CSW Forum schedule of parallel events](#), the [Episcopal Church UNCSW webpage](#) and the [Episcopal News Service Events page](#).

Episcopalians also are invited to join the Presiding Bishop’s delegation, other Episcopalians and Anglicans and the wider interfaith community in praying, at noon in their own time zone, the Beijing Noonday Prayer co-written by Episcopalians and other people of faith and prayed at noon every day in Beijing in 1995. The prayer can be found on the [Episcopal Church UNCSW webpage](#).

Episcopalians and Anglicans also will participate in orientation, ecumenical worship and events hosted by [Ecumenical Women](#), the [NGO Committee on the Status of Women \(NGO CSW\)](#), and by civil society, UN entities and member states.

Anglican Communion and Episcopal Church advocacy at UNCSW 67

The Anglican Communion signed on to a CSW67 joint written statement with Ecumenical Women.

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Presiding Bishop & Primate Michael Bruce Curry submitted a written statement to UNCSW’s 67th session on behalf of The Episcopal Church, which is based on General Convention resolutions, and can be found here: [E/CN.6/2023/NGO/15](https://www.unwomen.org/en/cs/women/2023/03/innovation-and-technological-change-education-in-the-digital-age). It highlights three priorities to accelerate gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in all their diversity around the priority theme:

- Extend accessibility to all and prioritize marginalized women and girls
- Ensure human rights protections, safety and security
- Accelerate gender equality education for all

The Episcopal Church also signed on to a joint written statement with Ecumenical Women.

The Presiding Bishop’s delegation will participate actively in advocacy at the UN based on the Presiding Bishop’s statement, including training, advocacy and communication with member states, and continuing advocacy back home with their local communities. The statement serves as a foundation by which delegates may share their own stories, reflections, and concerns.

Communications at UNCSW 67

All UNCSW participants are encouraged to share their experiences with the wider community from their own unique perspectives. Feedback might include stories and information via news reports, blogs, social media and posted pictures. Participants are encouraged to share their stories using the communication tools below.

Key resources

UNCSW 67th session page: <https://www.unwomen.org/en/cs/women/2023/03/innovation-and-technological-change-education-in-the-digital-age>

UN Women: www.unwomen.org

The Episcopal Church: <http://www.episcopalchurch.org/>

The Episcopal Church UNCSW webpage: <https://www.episcopalchurch.org/ministries/global-partnerships/episcopal-church-united-nations/uncsw/>

The Episcopal Church and the United Nations webpage: <https://www.episcopalchurch.org/ministries/global-partnerships/episcopal-church-united-nations/>

The Episcopal Church and the United Nations Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/episcopalun/>

The Episcopal Church and the United Nations Twitter: <https://twitter.com/EpiscopalUN>

Episcopal Relief & Development: <https://www.episcopalrelief.org/> #EpiscopalReliefCSW, #EpiscopalRelief

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Anglican Communion Representation at the United Nations: <http://www.aco.org/mission/at-the-un.aspx>

Anglican Communion UN Twitter: @AnglicanUN and @AnglicansEndGBV

Hashtags: #CSW67, #GenerationEquality (official UN hashtags), #EpiscopalCSW and #EpiscopalUN (all things Episcopal Church and the UN), #AnglicansatCSW (Anglican Communion at CSW)

For more information:

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February 15th, 2023