

EPISCOPAL PRESENCE AT UNCSW 68

“Accelerating the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls by addressing poverty and strengthening institutions and financing with a gender perspective”

March 11th – 22nd, 2024



Fact Sheet

The [68th session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women \(CSW68\)](#) will be held from Monday, 3/11 to Friday, 3/22/2024. 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 68’s priority theme will be “Accelerating the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls by addressing poverty and strengthening institutions and financing with a gender perspective”.

Anglicans and Episcopalians at UNCSW68

Anglicans and Episcopalians have participated in UNCSW since at least 2000. In 2024, the historically strong Anglican and Episcopal presence continues with participants representing multiple regions and countries:

- The Anglican Communion will be represented by Mathilde Nkwirikiye, Provincial President of the Mothers’ Union in Burundi, Anglican Province of Burundi; Alice Garrick, Director of the Women’s Desk Anglican Church of Pakistan, International Anglican Women’s Network Steering Group; The Reverend Lizzi Green, Vice Chair of the International Anglican Women’s Network, Church of England; The Reverend Helen Van Koevering, the Episcopal Church and Mozambique link, International Anglican Women’s Network Steering Group; The Reverend Laura Marie Piotrowicz, Ecumenical Women worship coordinator, Anglican Church of Canada; Amal Sarah, Advocacy Coordinator Anglican Communion Youth Network (online); and Lay Canon Lulama Ntuta, Anglican Youth of Southern Africa (online)
- The Episcopal Church welcomes 10 delegates, nominated by The Reverend Canon Dr. Chuck Robertson, Canon for Ministry Beyond the Episcopal Church, on behalf of Presiding Bishop Michael Bruce Curry. They hail from provinces across The Episcopal Church and the Dioceses of California, Chicago, Colombia, Long Island, Los Angeles, New York, Ohio, Tennessee, Venezuela, and Western New York. They are guided and accompanied by members of the Presiding Bishop’s staff and other leadership volunteers. 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](#).

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Additional Anglican and Episcopal accredited delegates include participants from Episcopal Relief & Development and Mothers' Union.

Shared program of worship and events

With the emergence of hybrid UN participation thanks to the post-pandemic world, the ongoing program of hospitality and fellowship at the Episcopal Church Center that has gathered Anglicans and Episcopalians for decades will continue in a limited capacity. All are welcome to attend these public events - register via the [Episcopal Church UNCSW webpage](#):

- 3/4, 4 – 5:30 pm Eastern (virtual): “Welcome to CSW68: Meet the Presiding Bishop’s Delegation”, a meet and greet, question and answer session for Episcopalians.
- 3/11, 12:10 – 1 pm Eastern (hybrid): “UNCSW68 Opening Eucharist” for all participants, hosted by the Presiding Bishop’s delegation.
- 3/22, 12:10 – 1 pm Eastern (hybrid): “UNCSW 68 Closing Eucharist” for all participants, hosted by the Presiding Bishop’s delegation.
- 4/6, 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 during the Fourth World Conference on Women 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.

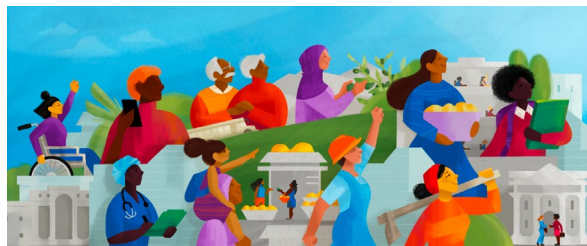
Anglican Communion and Episcopal Church advocacy at UNCSW 68

The Anglican Communion signed on to two CSW68 joint written statements, with the Mothers' Union and with Ecumenical Women.

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Presiding Bishop & Primate Michael Bruce Curry submitted a written statement to UNCSW's 68th session on behalf of The Episcopal Church, which is based on General Convention resolutions, and can be found here: [E/CN.6/2024/NGO/53](https://www.unwomen.org/en/cs/w/csw68-2024/E/CN.6/2024/NGO/53). It highlights three priorities to accelerate gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in all their diversity around the priority theme:

- Eradicate poverty
- Strengthen institutions
- Strengthen financing

The Episcopal Church also signed on to a joint written statement with Ecumenical Women: [E/CN.6/2024/NGO/143](https://www.unwomen.org/en/cs/w/csw68-2024/E/CN.6/2024/NGO/143).

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 68

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 68th session page: <https://www.unwomen.org/en/cs/w/csw68-2024>

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

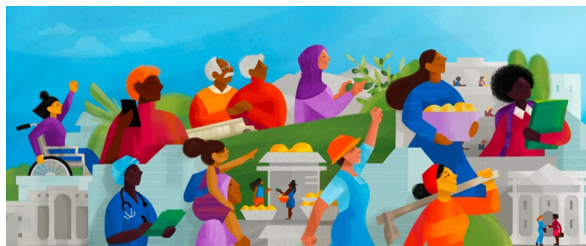
Anglican Communion Representation at the United Nations: <http://www.aco.org/mission/at-the-un.aspx>

Anglican Communion UN Twitter: @AnglicanUN and @AnglicansEndGBV

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Hashtags: #CSW68, #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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