

NIWEP NEWS

Northern Ireland Women's European Platform

September 2017 Edition 1

Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

Concluding Observations

In its concluding observations published in August 2017 the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities recommendations includes its concern that the rights of women and girls with

close consultation with organisations of women and girls with disabilities, mainstream the rights of women and girls with disabilities into disability and gender-equality policies. It

“The rights of disabled women and girls have not been systematically mainstreamed in the UK. The UN is obviously recognising this. The proper collection of disaggregated data has been repeatedly called for by UN rapporteurs. Gaps in data mask the multiple discrimination faced by disabled women. We welcome the Committee’s recommendation that the State allocates resources to support representative organisations for disabled women and girls and secure our strategic involvement and contributions in legislation.”

Michelle Daley, a Director of Sisters of Frida

disabilities have not been systematically mainstreamed into both the gender equality and disability agenda. The Committee is also concerned at the lack of measures and available data concerning the impact of multiple and intersectional discrimination of women and girls with disabilities.

The Committee recommends that the State party (UK), in

also recommends that the State party, in line with the Committee’s general comment No. 3 (2016) and targets 5.1, 5.2 and 5.5 of the Sustainable Development Goals, adopt inclusive and targeted measures, including disaggregated data, to prevent multiple and intersectional discrimination of women and girls with disabilities, in particular those

Westminster All-Party Parliamentary Group on Domestic Violence

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The inaugural meeting of the All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on Domestic Violence at Westminster was held on 19th July. The Group was re-established to provide a forum for discussion on policy and legislation on domestic violence, with Jess Phillips MP elected as the Group's Chair and Maria Miller MP as Vice-Chair. The discussion focused on priorities for the forthcoming Domestic Violence and Abuse Act.

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UN Women’s Strategic Plan 2018-2021

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UN Women’s Strategic Plan 2018-2021 outlines the Entity’s strategic direction, objectives to support efforts to achieve gender equality and empowerment to all women and girls by 2030.

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with intellectual and/or psychosocial disabilities, in education, employment, poverty, health, violence and access to justice.

Other specific recommendations made in relation to disability in Northern Ireland included:

9. The Committee recommends that the State party collect information and adopt a strategic and measurable plan of action for improving the living conditions of all persons with disabilities

17(b) to ensure that the Northern Ireland Executive reform on disability rights law reflects the recommendations made by the Equality Commission for Northern Ireland.

37(d) prohibit any practices of non-consensual electro-convulsive therapy on the basis of any form of impairment, particularly in Northern Ireland.

59. Ensure sufficient budget allocation for local authorities to accomplish their responsibilities regarding assistance for persons with disabilities, and extend support packages to mitigate negative impacts of the social security reform in Northern Ireland. [Full Observations... ..](#)

NIWEP & CEDAW 2019

The UK Government is due to submit its report to the CEDAW Committee by 31 October 2017. The pre-sessional working group meeting will take place in July 2018 and the examination of the UK Government by the CEDAW Committee schedule for February / March 2019.

NIWEP will be embarking on a series of activities and events to help us develop our input to the pre-sessional working group, our shadow report to the CEDAW Committee and our lobbying work on CEDAW.

In 2008 and 2013 examinations NIWEP was able to make significant impact on the Committee's Concluding Observations through providing evidence based analysis to the Committee through the shadow report and lobbying efforts during the examination. The quality of information provided to the Committee through shadow reports is an important factor in the examination process and was only possible due to working in partnership with colleagues in the NGO sector and in business and academia.

NIWEP have been monitoring the response to the CEDAW Committee's Concluding Observations and the next step includes a serious of consultation event to discuss what people see as the key issues for the shadow report and to make sure we capture new and emerging issues.

More information can soon be found on the [website](#)