



Kayla Kramer

CSW: Welcome Letter

YUNMUN XXXVI

Dear Delegates of CSW,

Welcome to YUNMUN XXXVI! My name is Kayla Kramer, and it is an honor to serve as your chair for this year's conference.

Some information about me: I am from Teaneck, NJ. I attended Frisch for high school, followed by a gap year to learn in Israel at Midreshet Harova. I am currently a senior in Stern, studying journalism and women's studies. In addition to participating in YUNMUN, I also serve as the Managing Editor for YU's literary magazine, *The Maccabee Review*, I am Editor-In-Chief for YU's *Undergraduate Law Review (YUULR)*, and I am the Junior Editor of *The Commentator's* Arts and Culture section. I also serve as the Beren President of the Jacob Hecht Pre-Law Society. Other than school, I have spent my summers in Moshava IO, both as a camper, counselor, and division head. Last year, as chair of CSW, I enjoyed my experience immensely. I am thrilled to be returning as this committee's chair. I am eager to meet you, the delegates, and I am confident that I will be impressed this coming February.

The Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) stands as the global intergovernmental body dedicated to ensuring women's equality and promoting women's rights. Their establishment began in 1946, when CSW was declared a functional commission under the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). Their goal following their establishment was to reform discriminatory legislation and to create a global awareness of women's issues. Specifically, they focused on equality in all places of the world, documenting a country-by-country guide of the legal and political status of women.

They were quick to action, hosting many conferences and events during the World Conferences that followed their establishment. To celebrate their 25th anniversary, CSW declared

1975 International Women's Year, aiming to raise awareness of the discrimination against women that was deeply rooted in international cultural and legal beliefs. They continued to bring these issues to the following World Conferences; they expanded to topics such as violence against women and women's health. In 1995, CSW was assigned by ECOSOC to oversee the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, which led to advancing gender equality and women's rights worldwide. Most importantly, in 2011, the United Nations decided to consolidate four parts of its system to form UN Women, which now serves as the Secretariat for CSW. Today, CSW continues to monitor the Beijing Declaration and Platform Act, and meets annually to discuss how to continue to progress and monitor gender equality and women's rights.¹

In this year's conference, we will be discussing two topics. Specifically, **women in leadership roles** and **domestic violence against women**. Each of these topics is immensely important, and I have faith in you, delegates, that you will each come to a resolution to solve these issues. This will require thorough research based on your country's position, which will help you craft your position papers and properly participate in discussions.

Please be mindful in your usage of outside sources, and remember to cite where you have found your information; there will be no tolerance for plagiarism. We will also be putting all submitted documents through AI detection devices, given our zero-tolerance policy for AI usage.

I look forward to meeting you all and delving into these important topics! I invite all of you to reach out to me at kkramer1@mail.yu.edu if you have any questions, comments, concerns, or simply want to introduce yourself. Counting down to February already!

Wishing you all the best,

Kayla Kramer

Chair, Commission on the Status of Women

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