



## UN Commission on the Status of Women – Session 60 – Panel

# Global Case Scenarios: Implementation of rights based approaches to enhance effective education of women

### Distinguished Speakers

**Professor Jaya Dantas**, PhD, is Director of Graduate Studies in the Faculty of Health Sciences, Curtin University, Western Australia (WA) Committee Member of Graduate Women, WA, Life Member of the Rwanda Association of University Women (RAUW), Convenor of the International Health SIG, Public Health Association of Australia and Board Member of Ishar (a Multicultural Women's Health Organisation in WA).

**Professor Shirley Randell AO, PhD, Hon.DLitt**, Gender and Education Specialist, an International Consultant on Quality Secondary Teaching in Bangladesh, Founding Director, Centre for Gender Studies, University of Rwanda, Life Member and Convenor for International Relations of RAUW, Honorary International Member of Zonta International, BPW of Australia, Patron of Graduate Women International.



**March 19, 2016**  
**12.30 pm – 2.00 pm**  
**Drew Room,**  
**Church Centre for the**  
**United Nations – CCUN**

*Drawing on UNICEF's Rights based approaches* to education, this interactive presentation will showcase how *Rights based approaches* focus on addressing discrimination and inequality & gives visibility to vulnerable populations, by using the principles of:

- **Universality:** emphasises that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights.
- **Indivisibility:** where every person has dignity and equal rights.
- **Interdependence:** where one right often depends, wholly or in part, on another.
- **Equality and non-discrimination:** emphasises that all individuals are equal as human beings, and by virtue of their inherent dignity.
- **Participation and inclusion:** every person is entitled to active, free and meaningful participation.
- **Empowerment:** where people use their rights and capabilities to grow resilient.

We highlight how *Rights based approaches* promote social cohesion, integration and stability, focus on respect for families and societal values, promotes an understanding of other cultures, and respect for the richness of diversity.

Our case scenarios from Rwanda, Bangladesh, India and Western Australia document that *Rights based approaches* improve gender education and reduce inequality, are more cost-effective and sustainable and produce better outcomes for development. A *Rights based approach* to education is consistent with the broader agenda of the Sustainable Development Goals.



**Women making lives better**