

TWLA UN RELATED ANNOUNCEMENT #1

TURKISH WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF AMERICA
ASSOCIATED WITH THE UNITED NATIONS
DEPARTMENT OF GLOBAL COMMUNICATIONS
CONSORTIUM FOR SUSTAINABLE URBANIZATION (CSU)

CSU
CONSORTIUM FOR
SUSTAINABLE
URBANIZATION

In support of UN World Habitat Day
**WOMEN AND SUSTAINABLE
URBANIZATION**

5 GENDER
EQUALITY

11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES
AND COMMUNITIES

**Urban
OCTOBER**
31 DAYS OF PROMOTING
A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

October 5, 2022
Time: 10:00 - 12:00

Event RSVP UNTIL 4 OCTOBER 2022
Event Address: Turkish House 821 United Nations Plaza NY 10017
Contact us at 516-234-5015 or twlanewyork@gmail.com

ZOOM
Meeting ID: 846 4535 2629
Passcode: 411718

Turkish Women's League of America (TWLA) Associated with United Nations Department of Global Communications in collaboration with Consortium for Sustainable Urbanization (CSU) NGO accredited to ECOSOC, together proudly presents....

In support of UN World Habitat Day and on Occasion of Urban October.

Language: English

RSVP: Until 4 October 2022 <https://forms.gle/s82YP4WWtcNLBmMV6>

Women and Sustainable Urbanization

5 October 2022

New Urban Agenda, adopted at the UN-Habitat III Conference in Quito, Ecuador in October 2016, underlines the importance of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls for readdressing the way cities and human settlements are planned, designed, financed, developed, governed, and managed. It stresses the need for gender responsive urbanization through ensuring women's full and effective participation and equal rights in all fields and in leadership at all levels of decision-making, decent work and equal pay for equal work and prevention and elimination of all forms of discrimination, sexual harassment and gender-based violence against women and girls in private and public spaces through well-designed networks of safe, accessible, green and quality streets and other public spaces that are accessible to all and free from crime and violence.

The COVID-19 pandemic has disproportionately affected women and girls. According to the latest UN-Habitat *World Cities Report 2022*, 90 million women and girls were pushed into poverty in 2020, a figure that is expected to reach 105.3 million by 2030. The United Nations Human Rights Council and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) also emphasized the disproportionate impact the pandemic has had on the human rights of women and girls, in particular those of color, with disabilities, living in conflicts and post conflicts situations, as well as women migrants, indigenous women and care taker women. The Council also underlined that COVID-19 has led to an increase in violence against women and girls, increased the percentage of women subject to hunger, homelessness and exacerbated challenges to access sexual and reproductive health-care services and more generally weakened the implementation of their rights, including the right to education.

This scenario needs to be overturned. We need to push for sustainable, gender-responsive and equitable cities through brave commitments to tackle structural inequalities and create conditions that foster social, economic, and spatial inclusion to ensure that no one is left behind and to strengthen measures for empowerment of women and girls. If appropriate measures are implemented, the response to the current urban crisis can lead to a collective reprioritization of cities across the

world towards gender-responsive measures to ensure shared prosperity, inclusion, productive employment, innovation, environmental sustainability, urban mobility, and cohesive community building.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development represents a framework adopted by all United Nations Member States and is enshrined in human rights and empowerment of women. The Sustainable Development Goal 11 on inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable cities together with the Sustainable Development Goal 5 on gender equality address all the above issues and together with other instruments such as CEDAW can advance a substantive understanding of gender equality that can serve as both a vision and an agenda for action. Substantive equality requires fundamental transformation of economic and social institutions, including the beliefs, norms and attitudes that shape them, at every level of society, from households to labor markets and from communities to local, national, and global governance institutions. Cities as hubs where such actions can be implemented should be provided with capacities and resources to turn current crises into opportunities to create gender responsive societies free of conflict, violence and want and provide safe space where no one is left behind.

The proposed event is an occasion to focus during Urban- and Arch October on women empowerment as indivisible part of sustainable urbanization.

Organized by
**The Consortium for Sustainable Urbanization and Turkish Women's League-
 America 5 OCTOBER 2022**
 as part of Urban- and Arch-October
 Co-sponsored by UN-Habitat New York Office
 TURKISH CENTER
 823 United Nations Plaza, New York

TIME	THEME
10:00 - 10:15	<p>Ms. Sermin Ozcilingir*, Welcome by Turkish Women's League- America Opening by Ms. Aliye Pekin Celik, Ph.D., Chair CSU Board Mr. Christopher Williams, Ph.D., Director, UN-Habitat Office Ms. Maimunah Mohd Sharif, Executive Director, UN-Habitat Ms. Sabine Freizer, Chief of the UN Women Governance and Participation Section, UN Women Moderator Ms Berna Gurdal -TWLA General Secretary</p>
10:15 - 11:05	<p>Roundtable I: Gender-responsive policies, action and measures for cities Moderator Ms. Danei Cesario, Associate, Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM): Ms. Elif Onural, President and Owner of Define USA, Inc. Ms. Joan Blumenfeld, FAIA, FIIDA, LEED ID+C, Principal, Perkins and Will Ms. Ayse Yonder, Ph.D. is a professor emeritus of city planning and former Chair of the Graduate Center for Planning and the Environment at Pratt Institute. Ms. Gizem Karagoz, Project Manager, Smart and Sustainable Cities. New York City Economic Development Corporation, adjunct professor, Graduate School of Architecture, Columbia University</p>
11:05 - 11:55	<p>Roundtable II: International instruments and their implementation for gender empowerment</p> <p>Moderator: Ms. Irena Zubcevic, Senior Advisor, Permanent Mission of Croatia to the UN, CSU Ms. Gulden Türköz-Cosslett, Former Deputy Assistant Administrator and Deputy Director, UNDP Ms. Yakin Ertürk, Ph.D., former United Nations special rapporteur on violence against women Ms. Charlotte Bunch, Founding Director and Senior Scholar, Center for Women's Global Leadership at Douglass College, Rutgers University Ms. Sulan Kolatan, Adjunct Professor, School of Architecture, Pratt University</p>
11.55-12.00	<p>Closing Mr. Lance Jay Brown, FAIA, DPACSA, President CSU *Persons whose names are in red will participate in person.</p>



SPEAKERS



Ms. Sermin Ozcilingir is the President of the Turkish Women's League of America is an organization for Americans of Turkish origin, who are united in an effort to promote equality and justice for women. She has been serving for many years in TWLA which is committed to successful integration of women into the economic and social life in the United States. She has served as the president of TWLA since 2009. During her term as a president, she brought women together by organizing various panels and symposiums by Turkish and American experts in their field related to the issues women encounter and their solutions.



Ms. Aliye Pekin Celik, Ph.D., is the Chair of the Board of the Consortium for Sustainable Urbanization (CSU) and its past President and founder. Ms. Celik was instrumental in establishing innovative participatory mechanisms to build alliances addressing some of the world's most pressing concerns in developing countries as the Chief of Economic, Social and Inter-organizational Cooperation Branch, UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs and she was the Director of UNHabitat NY Office for 6 years. She worked on building technologies, sustainable

urbanization, energy, affordable housing, and gender issues and has written and published extensively on these topics. She has degrees in architecture from Middle East Technical University, Princeton University, and a PhD from Istanbul Technical University. Celik was a Fulbright Scholar and received numerous awards from OECD, Princeton University, AIANY, and Soroptimist International NYC, where she served as President. She was also the representative of United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) to the UN and senior advisor at the UN.



Ms. Maimunah Mohd Sharif (Malaysia) is the Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) since 22 January 2018. Prior to this appointment, Ms. Sharif was the Mayor of the City Council of Penang Island, Malaysia. In 2011, she became the first woman to be appointed President of the Municipal Council of Seberang Perai. She is a champion of Gender-Responsive Participatory Budgeting and Planning, integrating gender perspectives into the governance process. Ms. Sharif holds a Master of Science in Planning Studies from

the Malaysia Science University. She has received several awards, including, "Planner of The Year 2014" by the Malaysian Institute of Planners, the 2016 Global Human Settlements Outstanding Contribution Award during Habitat III in Quito, for her contribution in sustainable planning in Seberang Perai and from the Penang State Government. On 11 January 2018, she received an award from the Malaysia Book of Records recognizing her for being the first Asian woman to be appointed as Executive Director of UN-Habitat.



Mr. Christopher Williams, Ph.D. is Director, UN Habitat in New York since March 2018. Prior to this appointment, Mr Former Williams was Executive Director at the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council in Geneva, Switzerland. He represents UN-Habitat in inter-governmental and inter-agency processes, and facilitate cooperation with partners based in North America.



Ms. Sabine Freizer is chief of the UN Women Governance and participation.



Ms. Danei Cesario, AIA, RIBA, NCARB, NOMA is the 333rd Black woman in American history to earn her architectural license. She is an internationally licensed architect, project manager, and public speaker. She is currently an Associate at SOM, leading dynamic mixed use development, healthcare, and wellness projects. Her passion for architecture and advocacy have led her to becoming a champion for design professionals and a sought-after speaker. Her experience working in diverse, global environments has yielded speaking engagements at numerous conferences and private sector events, including the United Nations, SXSW, Royal Institute of British Architects, AIA National Conference and the New York Building Congress. She served as Chair of AIA New York's Diversity & Inclusion Committee for over five years. She currently serves on the AIA New York State Board and as a contributor/ ambassador to national and international organizations such as the United Nations, the Beverly Willis Architecture Foundation, Parlor, Stephen Lawrence Charitable Trust and nycobaNOMA Executive Board and is CSU Board Member.



Ms. Elif Onural

Elif is a versatile person who has many talents under her belt. By training, she is an architect with a bachelor's degree in architecture from Yildiz Technical University of Istanbul, Turkey. By trade, she is an award-winning general contractor who owns Define USA, Inc. construction company since 1998. Her renovation work got published in some leading magazines such as Elle Décor and Interior Design. In fact, one of her works got published as "Best of Best" in New York magazine in 2012. Despite her achievements, Elif's life doesn't revolve around construction business and design only. Elif divides her time between her guest house in Brooklyn with her hospitality business, accommodating tango dancers, instructors, and musicians and in Hamden, NY working on building a community for artists, reconnecting people with arts, nature and leisure. Elif recently received her Permaculture and Advanced Social Studies license. She plans to extend her hospitality business from Brooklyn to Hamden for all New Yorkers who want a touch of peace and nature in their lives.



Ms. Joan Blumenfeld, FAIA, FIIDA, LEED ID+C is Principal at Perkins and Will. Her decades-long commitment to excellence, advocacy, and wellness have left a lasting impression on the industry. After graduating from Harvard GSD with a Master's degree in architecture, Joan was determined to channel her energy into the conception of impactful,

beautiful, humane spaces and buildings. Her concentration on interior design gave her a clear and direct path to improving people's lives directly through their environmental experiences at work and school, and eventually led to her contributing to the development and rollout of Fitwel, a health and wellness rating system for spaces. She has been the design advisor for the NYC Department of Health, the Centers for Disease Control, and the GSA on various initiatives and standards, and has spoken and written extensively on how physical design can contribute to the health of the planet and its inhabitants. Through her work with the Beverly Willis Architecture Foundation, she has used her voice to speak up for equity and diversity in the construction and design industries. Ms. Blumenfeld was named Contract Magazine's Design Legend in 2018.



Ms. Ayşe Yönder, Ph.D. Ayşe Yönder is a professor emeritus of city planning and former Chair of the Graduate Center for Planning and the Environment at Pratt Institute. She has worked for over 20 years with the Huarrio Commission, an international coalition of grassroots women’s organizations. She is a founding member of the Collective for Community, Culture and the Environment LLC, an all-women-owned consulting business and interdisciplinary professional network in NYC. Her work and publications focus on community development, disaster and resiliency planning, informal settlement regularization, and recently, the care economy. She holds an architecture degree from Istanbul Technical University, MCP from University of Pennsylvania, and PhD in City and Regional Planning from University of California, Berkeley.



Ms. Gizem Karagoz is a Project Manager, Smart and Sustainable Cities at New York City Economic Development Corporation and adjunct professor at Columbia University Graduate School of Architecture, Planning & Preservation. She is a Board Member of the Consortium for Sustainable Urbanization and holds a master’s degree from Columbia University Graduate School of Architecture, Planning & Preservation.



Ms. Irena Zubcevic works as a Senior Advisor at the Croatian Permanent Mission to the UN in New York. Prior to this position, she worked as the head of the Intergovernmental Policy and Review Branch at the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs and supported adoption of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). She has worked in the area of sustainable development for over twenty years. She has authored a number of articles in this area and most recently wrote a chapter on SDGs in the book published in June 2022, “Heroes of Environmental Diplomacy”. She earned her master’s degree in humanities from the University of Zagreb, Croatia. She received numerous awards for her work including Albert Nelson Marquis Lifetime Achievement Award (2018), Humanitarian of the Year (2021) and Woman of the Year (2021) by the International Association of Top Professionals. She has been included in the Who’s Who in America, in the World and in Professional Women.



Ms. Gülden Türköz-Cosslett was former UNDP Deputy Assistant Administrator and UN Women Director of Programmers, Bureau for External Relations and Advocacy (BERA), and responsible for partnership development, resource mobilization, advocacy and communications. As the Director of Programmers at UN Women, she was responsible for the results of UN Women programmers in 90 countries around the world, helping advance gender equality and women's empowerment. She played a key role in the establishment and operationalization of UN Women, first as Advisor to the UN Deputy Secretary General, then to the first Under Secretary General and Executive Director of UN Women, Michelle Bachelet, leading her Transition Team. Prior to joining UN Women, she served as the United Nations Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative in Albania from 2005 to 2010 where she coordinated a unified UN approach in the country across all UN agencies and divisions. She holds a master's degree in International Affairs with a concentration on development economics from Columbia University in New York.



Ms. Yakin Ertürk, Ph.D. is a professor emeritus of sociology. She served as a faculty member at Middle East Technical University, as well as other academic institutions. Aside from academia, her professional experiences include international consultancies on rural development projects; director of UNDAW (Division for the Advancement of Women) and INSTRAW (Institute for Research and Training on AW); international and regional human rights monitoring mandates, such as, Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women, member of European Committee on the Prevention of Torture, Commissioner - UN Commission of Inquiry on Syria. Recent publications include (2019) M. Afkami, Y. Ertürk, A.E. Mayer (Eds.). *Feminist Advocacy, Family Law and Violence against Women: International Perspectives*. New York: Routledge; (2020) Political Economy of Peace Processes and the Women, Peace and Security Agenda, *Conflict, Security & Development*, 20:4, 419-439.



Ms. Charlotte Anne Bunch, Ph.D. is a Founding Director and Senior Scholar at the Center for Women's Global Leadership at Douglass College, Rutgers University where she serves as a leader of national and international networking, advocacy, and training, to advance women's well-being around the world. She is a pioneering strategist and organizer and is one of the foremost advocates of international attention to women's issues, and the inclusion of gender and sexual orientation on global human rights agenda. A graduate of Duke University, Bunch became active on the national scene as a writer, lesbian activist, and lecturer, particularly in movements for women's liberation and women's rights. She created and edited *Quest: A Feminist Journal* (1974), one of the first and the leading journals to promote analysis and policy making to improve women's status in society. Expanding her activities into the international arena, Bunch built an international network of women, united by common concerns, and prepared by education and training for effective action. Through her speeches and organizing at international conferences, she served as a critical catalyst for action on women's issues.



Ms.Şulan Kolatan is a Professor of Architecture at Pratt Institute School of Architecture, Graduate Architecture and Urban Design (GAUD). She is the principal and a co-founder of KOL/MAC Architecture + Design. Her transdisciplinary research focuses on how advanced digital design together with new materials and fabrication can enhance socio-ecological resilience. Her work is in the permanent collections of numerous institutions, most notably, the MoMA New York (USA); the Canadian Centre for Architecture Montreal (Canada); and the Centre Georges Pompidou Paris (France). She has received numerous awards and honors and continues to be involved in international projects. She holds a Dipl.-Ing. Arch.Degree from the Rheinisch -Westfälische Technische Hochschule Aachen, and a Master of Science degree in Architecture and Building Design from Columbia University Graduate School of Architecture. She continues to be a lecturer at the University of Pennsylvania and has taught at many prominent schools of architecture as a Visiting Professor or Visiting Chair.



Mr. Lance Jay Brown, FAIA, DPACSA is the President of the Consortium for Sustainable Urbanization and Topaz Laureate and ACSA Distinguished Professor Emeritus, SSA, CCNY, CUNY as well as past president of the AIA, New York Chapter. He is an architect, urban designer, educator, author, founding Co-Chair of the AIANY Design for Risk and Reconstruction Committee and Senior Fellow at Global Urban Development. His 2014 American Institute of Architects NY Chapter Presidential theme: Civic Vision, Civic Spirit expressed his lifelong commitment to civic health and the importance of the public realm. His professional practice includes roles advising the Lower Manhattan Development Corporation's World Trade Center Site 9/11 International Memorial Design Competition and Boston's 9/11 Memorial Competition. He holds a Master of Architecture and Master of Architecture in Urban Design degrees from Harvard's Graduate School of Design and was a Fulbright Fellow in Paris. His publications include *Beyond Zuccotti Park: Freedom of Assembly and the Occupation of Public Space*; *The Legacy Project: New Housing New York: Best Practices in Affordable, Sustainable, Replicable Housing Design*; and he co-authored *Urban Design for an Urban Century: Shaping More Livable Equitable, and Resilient Cities*.



Ms. Berna Gurdal -Moderator: Graduated from Hacettepe University Faculty of Nutrition and Dietetics in 1997 and worked as corporate dietitian at Panorama food company between 1997-1999. Between 1998-2005 she worked as clinical dietitian at the international medicine Department of Uludağ University and made presentation at various congresses. She has serving on the board of TWLA. Since 2019 she has General Secretary in TWLA.



TURKISH WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF AMERICA

Established on September 17, 1958 as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization in New York, Turkish Women's League of America (TWLA) aims to preserve and teach Turkish language and culture to the future generations. The organization is one of the oldest active Turkish-American organizations in the USA and is the sole supporter of the NY Atatürk School which has been a pride since 1971. The Turkish Women's League of America's Board of Directors is comprised entirely of volunteer members. The organization and its members adhere to the principles of modern Turkey's founder Mustafa Kemal Atatürk and the values of the Republic and adopt the national, moral, human, spiritual and cultural values of the Turkish Nation. Our Mission is to unite the Turkish women living in America under one roof, to provide solidarity and strength among them. We organize cultural and recreational activities to foster a better understanding between the people of Turkey and the United States. With this awareness, Turkish Women's League of America works devotedly with institutions and nongovernmental organization to achieve and preserve the deserved respected place of women in the society.

The Turkish Women's League of America is proud to announce our association with the United Nations Department of Global Communications as of December 10, 2021.

www.atkb.org



CONSORTIUM FOR SUSTAINABLE URBANIZATION

The CSU is a New York-based, not-for-profit organization formed to promote a better understanding of the role of sustainable urbanization and resilient design in the planning of our cities. We connect global thought leaders concerned with urbanization to exchange ideas. CSU focus is on replicable ideas and concepts, best practices, and speculative proposals. CSU has consultative status with ECOSOC and work closely with UN-Habitat to advance the Sustainable Development Goals and advocate for responsible design and planning, increasing awareness about emerging issues and facilitating knowledge transfer between policymakers, urbanists, architects, academics, and activists by catalyzing cooperation and collaboration to promote the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, with particular emphasis on SDG 11, to “make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.” CSU helps promulgate the New Urban Agenda, adopted five years ago at the UN Habitat III meeting in Quito, with its commitment to improve connectivity and support innovative and green initiatives.

Apart from Green Cities monthly lectures and annual gala at The Century Association, CSU has organized numerous flagship events, like this one, that bring together architects, planners, urban designers, and public officials to address best practices and lessons learned. Our goal in so doing is to influence the crafting of public policy and the reshaping of our built environment.

(See <https://consortiumforsustainableurbanization.org>).

Please join us on Wednesday 5 October 2022 time:10:00 am-12:00 pm (EST)

Online attending:

[Zoom ID: 846-4535-2629 Passcode:411718](#)

In person attending:

RSVP Until 4 October 2022 register :

<https://forms.gle/quKnWRWmSEq7F9Ty6> Address: Turkish House 821 United

Nations Plaza NY 10017