

Dear Friend,

Each of us has found ourselves in a moment in our lives where we see injustice and think, “I wish I could do something to change this.” For me, being a member of Zonta has empowered me with knowledge, resources, support and possibilities to look at these situations and know that my voice is important and I, with you, can make the change happen.

When Zontians advocate, we take action to make that world a reality. Below are three examples of how our advocacy actions make a difference:

**WE  
PROTECT**

the rights of women and girls with initiatives such as the [Zonta Says NO to Violence Against Women](#) campaign to ensure no woman lives in fear of violence.

**WE  
ELEVATE**

the voices and agency of adolescent girls and work to [end child marriage](#) to stop this crime that robs girls of their childhoods.

**WE  
CHALLENGE**

current mindsets and legislation by taking actions listed in our [statements](#) that show where we stand on issues such as [climate change](#), [trafficking in persons](#) and more.

And Zonta, in turn, empowers every one of us to further our advocacy efforts by providing a wealth of resources like [newsletters](#), [a newly launched mobile app](#), [toolkits](#), [videos](#) and fellow advocates within our clubs and global network.

Thank you for dedicating yourself to the Zonta mission and being a part of the change we want to see. I know together, we can make a difference.

Warm regards,



Sharon Langenbeck, Ph.D.  
President



To read translated text of this email, please [click here](#).



## Trafficking in Persons

9 AM CDT  
Wednesday, 4 May 2022



Trafficking in persons (also known as human trafficking) is commonly defined as the use of violence, deception or coercion to transport, recruit or harbor people in order to exploit them for forced prostitution, forced labor, criminality, marriage or organ removal. Each year, thousands of women, men and children fall into the hands of traffickers in their own countries and abroad. Every country in the world is affected by human trafficking and migrant smuggling, either as a country of origin, transit or destination for victims, depending on diverse economic, cultural and historical factors including, but not limited to, gender discrimination, poverty and lack of education. Perpetrators of human trafficking target the marginalized and the impoverished, entrapping victims, the majority of whom are women and girls, for sexual exploitation, forced labor, domestic service, and other forms of exploitation.

Join Zonta International and special guests for a conversation on trafficking in persons, its causes, consequences, and what we can do to protect women and girls from this heinous crime and abuse of human rights.

**Wednesday, 4 May**

9 AM CDT

Find your time: [Meeting Planner](#)

[Register](#)

To watch past segments of the Zonta Advocacy Series, [click here](#).

## Zontians In Action

Clubs and members have made great strides to empower other women and their community and build each other up. Read the stories below that highlight their fantastic work.

### [Zonta Club of Cebu II calls for the passage of SOGIE Anti-Discriminatory Bill](#)

In celebration of Women's Month, the Zonta Club of Cebu II, Philippines, hosted the SOGIE 101: Understanding Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Expression (SOGIE) webinar to call for an end to gender-based discrimination and uphold the basic human rights of people with diverse sexual orientations, gender identities and expressions.



The club invited attorney Jazz Tamayo to lead a discussion on the Congress of the Philippines Senate Bill 1934, the Anti-Discrimination Based on SOGIE Law. The bill is the longest-running bill under the Senate interpellation period in the Philippines' history,

having been in the Legislative body for more than 20 years. The proposed law would ensure that all people, regardless of their SOGIE, can exercise their rights to life, education, employment and expression without fear of reprisal or discrimination.

Overall, the webinar aimed to increase awareness on the dimensions of human sexuality to prevent acts of discrimination against people based on their sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, reinforcing the message of inclusivity in their communities.

## **Zonta clubs in Italy send a message of inclusivity and empowerment through art and fashion**

Under the patronage of the Women Council of Milan, the Zonta Clubs of Milan Sant'Ambrogio and Torino and the Zonta e-Club of Italy, Italy, collaborated with the Elena Mirò fashion house to launch an inclusive message about women's uniqueness and their strategic role in society.

From 30 March to 18 April, Elena Mirò boutiques in Milan, Turin and Florence hosted a traveling art exhibition featuring the works of the Milanese artist and Zontian Stefania Scarnati. The exhibition, entitled "*Armonie Femminili - Percorsi Inclusivi*," also known as "Feminine Harmonies - Inclusive Paths" in English, promotes a message of inclusion through the silhouettes of women who have become icons in art history.



Within the project, Elena Mirò is committed to developing a training path in the company for two young women, demonstrating that fashion is not just frivolity but also offers opportunities for leadership and professionalism.

**Share Your Story**

## **Add Your Voice Global Membership Campaign**

Zonta's voice becomes stronger when we recruit great individuals to work with us.

During April and May, you are encouraged to invite friends and colleagues to join Zonta as part of the Add Your Voice membership campaign. To learn more, [click here](#).



*Ready to connect?*



Search  
"Zonta International"

 Google Play  App Store

Staying connected with Zonta has never looked this good or been easier! The Zonta Connect app offers our members a new and dynamic experience to get the latest Zonta news in their hands. You can also join conversations on climate change and gender equality, child marriage, women in leadership and violence against women, among other advocacy topics.

With features such as a dedicated newsfeed, discussion forums tailored to your Zonta role and special interests, a member directory with instant private and group chats, a calendar of Zonta events and more, members can connect with other Zontians around the world in a new and exciting way.

To get the app, search for “Zonta International” in your app store or follow these links:

- [Apple App Store Download for iOS devices](#)
- [Google Play Store Download for Android devices](#)

To access our Zonta Connect User Guide, [please click here](#).

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## CELEBRATE

25  
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**Congratulations** to the Zonta Club of Washington D.C., USA, District 3, on celebrating its 100th anniversary this month!

To see which other clubs are celebrating a milestone anniversary in April, please visit [Zonta News](#).

## WATCH



**Watch now on-demand:**  
Meet our next Remarkable Women, Houry Geudelekian. Houry is the Chair at the NGO Commission on the Status of Women, NY (NGO CSW/NY), and the United Nations coordinator of Unchained At Last, an organization working to end child marriage in the United States.

**Watch this recap video** of the NGO CSW66: Women in Ukraine War and UN Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security.

## REGISTER



**Start** your Convention experience early!

All attendees get free access to the Hamburg Convention App. **Connect virtually today and bond with your fellow Zontians.**

The virtual registration price increases on 15 May.

[Register](#)

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[www.zonta.org](http://www.zonta.org)

Keep your network informed on how Zonta International is putting our mission to work by sharing this message to your social feeds.

