INVITATION TO CSW61 SIDE EVENT

Indigenous Peoples’ Cultural Heritage-
Indigenous Peoples’ Participation and the Role of Indigenous Women in Promoting Cultural Heritage

Thursday, 16 March 2017, 1:15 – 2:45 PM
The Permanent Mission of Finland to the UN, 866 United Nations Plaza, Suite 222

Moderator | **Ms. Eva Biaudet**, Member of Parliament of Finland, Former member of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

Welcoming remarks | **Ms. Pirkko Mattila**, Minister of Social Affairs and Health of Finland

Panelists | **Ms. Lakshmi Puri**, Assistant Secretary General, Deputy Executive Director of UN-Women

**Dr. Sanna Valkonen**, Associate Professor, University of Lapland/Postdoctoral researcher, Academy of Finland

**Ms. Anne Nuorgam**, Member of Sámi Parliament in Finland, Member of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, Member of the Board of Trustees of the UN Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Peoples

**Ms. Rachelle Venne**, CEO of the Institute for the Advancement of Aboriginal Women, Canada

A light lunch will be served before the event.

This side event provides an opportunity to discuss experiences of promoting cultural heritage. The focus of the event will be indigenous peoples’ participation and, in particular, the role of women in preserving cultural heritage. It also provides an opportunity to get an insight into recent research on cultural heritage and to follow-up on the study and advice by the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. What good practices are there to promote and protect the rights of Indigenous Peoples with respect to their cultural heritage? What are the remaining challenges and how can the international community support to overcome them?

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland is pleased to support research on this topic by the University of Lapland. "Indigenous Peoples’ Cultural Heritage: Rights, Debates, Challenges” edited by Alexandra Xanthaki, Sanna Valkonen, Leena Heinämäki and Piia Nuorgam is to be published by Brill publishing house. The publication is based on the themes discussed at the UN Expert Seminar on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples with Respect to their Cultural Heritage organized jointly by the Office of the UN High Commissioner of Human Rights and the University of Lapland in 2015.

RSVP by March 15 at [https://www.lyyti.in/Indigenous_Peoples_Cultural_Heritage](https://www.lyyti.in/Indigenous_Peoples_Cultural_Heritage)