

*The Permanent Missions of Austria and Liechtenstein to the United Nations in New York  
have the pleasure of co-hosting a*

**CSW67 High Level Side Event on  
WOMEN IN DIGITAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGE  
AND THE IMPLICATIONS FOR GENDER EQUALITY**

**Tuesday 7 March 2023, 1:15pm-2:30pm, Room CR-1**

*Co-sponsored by the Permanent Missions of Luxembourg and Switzerland to the United  
Nations, UN WOMEN and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU)*



GRAND DUCHY OF LUXEMBOURG  
Permanent Mission to the United Nations



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the United Nations



Digital and technological transformations bear an enormous potential to contribute to the empowerment of women and girls worldwide, providing access, information, and new opportunities for employment and participation. To ensure that women and girls equally benefit from these opportunities – rather than just bearing the weight of new risks and heightened inequalities – we have to break down existing barriers and avoid creating new ones.

To date, we find gender gaps in overall digital literacy and usage, in STEM and ICT education and professions, in research and innovation, as well as in leadership positions in those sectors. As stated in the [report](#) of the UN Secretary General before the CSW67, “only 28 per cent of engineering graduates and 22 per cent of artificial intelligence workers globally are women, while girls do as well as boys in science in most countries”. In this context, we observe the phenomenon of the so-called leaky-pipeline, the effect of women “disappearing” as they advance in their career paths. Various initiatives illustrate the power of inspiring mentors and role models, an improved work-life balance, inclusive organizational cultures, and the breaking of gender stereotypes in tackling this phenomenon.

A balanced representation of women in these sectors also contributes to gender-sensitive innovation and digital- and tech-driven solutions. Diversity and inclusion are essential to ensure that technological and digital innovations, such as e.g. artificial intelligence, are free from biases. Therefore, we need to strengthen the full, equal, meaningful and effective participation of women in shaping technologies – from research and development to design and application. Against this backdrop, this high-level side event will explore the following guiding questions:

- How can we effectively shape digital and technological change in a way that contributes to the achievement of gender equality?
- How can we create an enabling environment to promote women in R&I, STEM, ICT? What does this enabling environment look like?

## PROGRAMME:

---

### 1. Opening:

- **H.E. Susanne Raab**, Federal Minister for Women, Family, Integration and Media (Austria)
- **H.E. Manuel Frick**, Minister of Social Affairs and Culture (Liechtenstein)

### 2. Panel Discussion:

*Moderated by H.E. Alexander Marschik, Permanent Representative of Austria to the UN*

#### Panelists:

- Maruša Gortnar, Head of Research and Policy Support Unit with the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE)
- Brooke Grindlinger, Chief Scientific Officer der New York Academy of Sciences (1000 Girls 1000 Futures)
- Diana (Nyamekye) Wilson, Founder & CEO “Black Sisters in STEM”
- Samrah Kazmi, CEO of Women in Sustainable Innovation
- Kate Brodock, General Partner/ W Fund

### 3. Q&A

### 4. Closing remarks:

- **H.E. Sima Sami Bahous**, UN Women Executive Director
- **H.E. Doreen Bogdan-Martin**, Secretary-General, International Telecommunication Union (ITU)