



United Nations Activity Report

“Empowering Women and Girls Through Access to Health” was part of the [Commission on the Status of Women](#).

The 62nd session of the Commission on the Status of Women took place at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, New York, United States, from 12 to 23 March 2018.

Report Submitted by Marnie Colborne, Sigma United Nations Youth Representative

Three key areas were addressed during this panel discussion:

- 1) Access to quality health services
- 2) Women’s right to work is realized and they have the environment
- 3) Develop financially empowered and independent women

Women often suffer in silence; their efforts remain unseen with zero compensation or appreciation. Financial independence and social status are intertwined.

Panelists: [Petra De Sutter](#), Ms. [Genoveva Tisheva](#), Ambassador Akinzshanov, Mary Papadopoulos

Hospital healthcare needs to be less romanticized. We need to look at all determinants of health with a special focus on food, healthcare, nutrition, environment, and behavior.

Technology in healthcare needs to be better utilized. We need to create more technology for women in rural areas so they are able to be competitive in the marketplace — as well as give more opportunities for women to work from home. It was also discussed that there needs to be more research done on women and entrepreneurship.

It was mentioned a few times that maternal and child health needs to be a focus. Women are also disproportionately affected by malnutrition (more than men). Good maternal health begins with access to contraception because it will lower the rate of unsafe abortions, which also lead to more maternal deaths and child fatality upon second pregnancy.