

## INVITATION

***Violence Against Older Women  
Time for Global Action to address the Last Taboo  
World Elder Abuse Awareness Day 2019***

**Human Rights Council 41st session**

**Side Event: Friday 28 June 2019 13:00-14:30  
Conference Room VIII, Palais des Nations**

Violence against older women remains largely a taboo subject as the gender aspects of elder abuse and violence against older persons are too often obscured. Violence, particularly sexual violence of older women, physical attacks stemming from accusations of witchcraft and other deep-rooted cultural bias, discrimination and greed, too often remain hidden. Older women survivors of all types of violence encounter multiple barriers in the access to Justice and to legal, health, social and financial services.

Effective frameworks to respond to such human rights violations, i.e. access to justice and legal remedies, as well as adequate research, prevention and adequate services are few to be found.

This side event will unveil some data on the violence and barriers that older women encounter across settings, regions and cultures and will also present some progress in research and interventions.

Welcome words: Susan Somers, President, International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse

Opening words:

- H.E. **Alejandra Costa**, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Permanent Mission of Uruguay
- H.E. Ambassador **Milorad Šćepanović**, Permanent Representative of Montenegro (TBC)
- Message from **Rosa Kornfeld-Matte**, Independent Expert on the rights of older persons

Panelists

**Ida Mukuka Nambeya**, Senior Advisor, Stephan Lewis Foundation, Zambia: *Violence and discrimination against grandmothers*

**José Ferreira-Alves**: Universidade do Minho, Portugal: *Meanings of abuse from the older women's perspective*

**Ruthy Lowenstein-Lazar**, Head of the Center for Clinical Education ("Matters") and Lecturer at the Haim Striks School of Law, Israel: *A lens on Sexual Assault Prosecutions*

**Lale Say**, Coordinator Adolescents and At-risk Populations, RHR, WHO: *Reporting on the Violence Against Women SDG indicators*

Moderator: **Monica Ferro**, Director UNFPA Geneva

Interventions from the floor and an interactive debate will follow the panel  
Captioning and live webcast will be available

*This event is co-sponsored by the Group of Friends of the Rights of Older Persons*