

2023 ISSUE COMMITTEES' ROUNDUP WORK ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND HIGHLIGHTS FROM WILPF US RECENT NATIONAL WORK

On this 75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, read how our Issue Committees further human rights work through their passionate action.



You can find more information about each of these Issue Committees, their work, their meeting times and how to get involved at www.WILPFus.org/our-work. Or scan this QR Code.



We thank George Friday for taking the lead as the new Program Chair, following the work of former chair, Jennifer Bailey.

THE CUBA AND BOLIVARIAN ALLIANCE COMMITTEE

works by empowering and educating diverse US women to struggle toward our ultimate goal: the end of the US blockade of Cuba, the end of sanctions on other countries in Latin America and elsewhere, and a US foreign policy based on respect for self-determination and the right to national sovereignty. We work together with US Women and Cuba Coalition and in coordination with other member organizations of the National Network on Cuba.

A current campaign is “**OFF the List**” — removal of Cuba from the US list of State Sponsors of Terrorism.

This requires defeat of the FORCE Act in Congress — HR 314 and S 538, which attempts to prevent any president from removing Cuba from this list. For more information on this campaign go to <https://acere.org>.

THE EARTH DEMOCRACY COMMITTEE

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights guides Earth Democracy's **Human Right to Water and Safe Food, and our new Militarism, Climate Emergency and Renewable Energy project**. We also are guided by the Precautionary Principle and Guardianship of Future Generations. Allied with other issue committees and International WILPF's Environmental Working Group, together we engage in education and actions essential to achieving the vision of human rights for all people and for the Rights of Nature to ensure thriving ecosystems on which our life depends. Join us on World Water Day, Earth Day and to “Expose the Pentagon: Hidden Polluter of Water” with our www.militarypoisons.org campaign. Contact us at EarthDemocracy@wilpfus.org

THE ADVANCING HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE

works to enhance respect and actions for human rights at the federal, state and local levels working with ally organizations and through subcommittees which address Border and Migrations Justice, Ending Mass Incarceration and the Death Penalty, United Nations for Women, and United Nations International Decade for People of African Descent/Reparations. Subcommittees meet separately and virtually. **All of our work in this committee directly involves protection of human rights as set out in the Universal Declaration on Human Rights.**

THE DISARM COMMITTEE'S ultimate goal is a nonviolent world without war. Following on from the UN Charter is the 1966 International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights which is a human rights treaty that declares that every human being has the inherent right to life, which shall be protected by law, and no one shall be arbitrarily deprived of their life. The United Nations Human Rights Committee concludes that the threat or use of nuclear weapons violates the Right to Life, which drives the work of our committee against nuclear weapons.

THE DOMESTIC PRISONERS OF WAR (DPOW) COMMITTEE

strives to raise awareness of the economic and social costs of domestic violence in USA society, and of misguided laws that often impoverish survivors by inflicting on them legal disabilities and in turn impoverish society at large by raising barriers to their realizing their potential and making their full contributions to society. Domestic violence is a human rights abuse, so our work supports the Universal Declaration on Human Rights. Contact us at nomoreDPoWs@wilpfus.org

THE MIDDLE EAST PEACE AND JUSTICE ACTION COMMITTEE

supports human rights with its work advocating for Palestinians. WILPF-US has pledged in partnership with over 153 other organizations to be an Apartheid-Free Community, focusing attention on the apartheid endured by Palestinians and drawing parallels to inequality in the US and elsewhere.

Take our Pledge:

<https://tinyurl.com/TakeApartheidPLEDGEPLEDGE>

Contact us: MEPJAction@wilpfus.org

THE WOMEN, MONEY & DEMOCRACY COMMITTEE

addresses economic justice as human rights as it applies to women and families, and corporate power issues including predatory banking, denying women equal pay, and ensuring an economy that works for everyone, not just the wealthy. Solutions we promote include public banking, cooperative worker owned businesses, care-giver wages, women's voices in their own financial future, housing solutions, and analysis of our monetary system as an oppressive debt-burden borne by the poor and middle class.

We meet every third Tuesday of each month at 8pm eastern. Contact us at wmad@wilpfus.org

HIGHLIGHTS FROM WILPF US RECENT NATIONAL WORK ON HUMAN RIGHTS

Cindy Piester of the Jane Addams branch and an Earth Democracy Committee activist attended COP 27, the global climate change talks, in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt in November 2022. The COP (Conference of the Parties) is the decision-making body of 197 participating nations and territories. Human rights were a major issue at the COP 27.

Poor People's Campaign (PPC) Updates -- WILPF US partners with PPC to shift our nation's focus to poverty and increase policy initiatives to address economic inequality – a critical human rights issue. WILPF US liaison to PPC, Rev. Rowan Fairgrove, joined hundreds of PPC leaders from over 30 states on Capitol Hill on June 19-21. Please follow eNews and eAlerts for information about upcoming actions.

PROFILED BRANCHES FROM AUGUST 17TH WILPF US GATHERING

Burlington Branch – Robin Lloyd heralded Marguerite Adelman's efforts with PFAS (Per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances) policy in the Vermont legislature given concerns over human health. An August retreat was held at Wing Farm where Robin featured CODE PINK's founder, Medea Benjamin, and her current anti-war efforts in Ukraine. Robin encouraged other branches to invite Medea to speak.

Des Moines Branch – Joanne Muldoon related that Des Moines has joined other groups to petition and lobby to advance a CAFO (concentrated animal feeding operations) Moratorium Bill, given environmental concerns as a human rights focus. CAFOs release vast amounts of untreated sewage - equivalent to 134 million people. They have also advocated for "NO MOW MAY" -to save pollinators and food supply - receiving grants and favorable media coverage in the Des Moines Register with two front page editorials.

Jane Addams Branch – Dianne Blais leads the only virtual branch for members who do not have a branch in their area. They recently received a mini-grant to do an oral histories project on WILPF women – to advance knowledge of our peace and human rights legacy.

Greater Phoenix Branch – Barbara Taft leads this branch which is open to members from 24 cities surrounding Phoenix. They do an annual Hiroshima Memorial event. Given that many of their members are artists, they are planning an upcoming art event – advocating for peace and human rights at a local theater.

