

38th Session of the HRC
Geneva, 22 June 2018
Annul-Full Day Discussion on the
Human Rights Of Women
Speaker: Giuditta GUALANDI

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**Annul-Full Day Discussion on the
HUMAN RIGHTS of WOMEN**
Oral statement submitted by
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Thank you Mr. President,

IIMA wishes to thank all the panelists for their interventions on the gender digital divide.

Although there is a huge debate over the effect of technology on gender equality¹, we agree that there is a critical window of opportunity to ensure that technological innovation do not replicate or exacerbate existing patterns of discrimination against women.

We must advance in a human-based approach. That means we need to reclaim the importance of persons and relations before innovation. Technology should be only a support tool for human progress, to respect and protect the human rights of all.

In this view, we would like to stress the role of education in preventing gender digital divide. Education means developing creativity in problem-solving, having a critical vision of technologies, and knowing how to use them effectively. In fact, knowledge, awareness, and women's digital inclusion are important elements which can lead us to face the gender challenges of the digital age.

Therefore, IIMA underlines with urgency the need to train teachers and personnel, firstly, to increase ICT literacy skills, and secondly, to ensure the responsible and equal access to technology by girls and boys.

We would like to invite you to our side event on **Girls With No Name. The price of being girls on the streets: Best practices for the reintegration of girls in street situations, today at 13.30 in Room XXIII.**

Thank you to all the panelists
and thank you Mr. President

¹ <http://theconversation.com/automation-has-the-potential-to-improve-gender-equality-at-work-96807>