

On the 27th November, Cine-ONU screened ‘ [City of Joy](#) ’ at Cinema Galeries in Brussels, in partnership with [UN Women](#)

,  
[UNFPA](#)  
and the  
[European Commission](#)  
to mark the  
[International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women.](#)



‘City of Joy’ follows the first class of students at a leadership center in the Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo, a region often referred to as "the worst place in the world to be a woman." These students had been through unspeakable violence spurred on by a 20 year war driven by colonialism and greed. In the film, they band together with the three founders of the center: Dr. Denis Mukwege, 2018 Nobel Peace Prize winner; radical playwright and activist Eve Ensler; and human rights activist, Christine Schuler-Deschryver, to create a safe haven in the middle of violence-torn Eastern DRC, a space they call ‘City of Joy’.

The screening was followed by a powerful panel discussion with Christine Schuler Deschryver, Co-founder and Director of V-day Congo and [‘City of Joy’ project](#), Jean-Louis De Brouwer, Director for Europe, Eastern Neighbourhood and Middle East (

[ECHO](#)  
) , and Sietske Steneker, Director of the UNFPA Brussels office. Petra Hongell ( [UNRIC](#) ) moderated.



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