This screening will be followed by a panel discussion featuring:

**Cécile Vernant**

Cécile Vernant is head of EU advocacy for DSW (Deutsche Stiftung Weltbevoelkerung), an international development and advocacy organisation focused on achieving universal access to sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR). Representing DSW in Brussels, Cécile focuses on global health, SRHR, and youth and women empowerment. Prior to joining DSW, she worked in EU public affairs as well as corporate marketing and crisis communication in her native France and the United States.

**Mary Wanjiku Mwangi**

Mary Wanjiku Mwanga volunteers with DSW, Youth-2Youth, JPHIEGO and UTENA as an advocate for sexual reproductive health and rights (SRHR). She also works as a trainer in SRHR at both grassroots and national levels. She is a family planning champion, lobbying for increased spending on family planning and youth friendly services. Finally, she is a member and the Chair of Jubilated Young Mothers where she coordinates and provides technical support to Youth-2Youth club members on SRHR, economic empowerment and leadership issues.

**Nadine Krysostan**

Nadine Krysostan is a Programme Coordination and Liaison Specialist in the Brussels Office of the United Nations Population Fund. A German national, she has previously worked as a Parliamentary Assistant for a Member of the European Parliament and as a Senior Advocacy Officer at the Brussels-based European Parliamentary Forum on Population and Development (EPF). She holds Master Degrees in Political Science and European Political and Administrative Studies.

**Carlos Jimenez**

Carlos Jimenez is the Desk Officer for Spain and Andorra at the United Nations Regional Information Centre in Brussels. Mr. Jimenez started his career at the United Nations in 1984 and has since worked at UN offices in New York, Madrid and Geneva. He studied journalism at the School of Communications of American University in Washington and was a correspondent at EFE, Spanish News Agency.

Follow the discussion on Twitter and Facebook:

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Canadians recognise how important girls are to our future. Equality starts with clean water, healthy food and a safe place to live. It starts with education, support from the community and freedom from violence. Together, we can create these conditions for girls across the globe. We can show them that gender equality is, not just possible, but necessary.

The Government of Canada, in partnership with Plan International, led the call for an International Day of the Girl Child at the United Nations. Canada, alongside Turkey and Peru and supported by the EU, sponsored a resolution which was formally adopted by the UN General Assembly in 2011. The UN then declared October 11, 2012 as the world’s first International Day of the Girl Child.

Now in its 7th year, the European Week of Action for Girls is organised by a coalition of civil society organisations committed to ensuring all girls around the world are able to realise their rights and potential. It is supported by the European Institutions and UN Agencies. This year’s edition takes place from 9 - 13 October 2017. The European Week of Action 2017 will raise awareness of the daily reality of girls across the world, particularly in the fields of protection from violence, recognition of sexual and reproductive rights, leadership, education and employment. It will highlight the key role girls themselves play as drivers of change and development, and the importance of engaging them in decisions which affect them.

For more information, go to europeanweekofactionforgirls.org

UNFPA is the lead UN agency for delivering a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe and every young person's potential is fulfilled. They work in the areas of sexual and reproductive health, the prevention of child marriages and other harmful practices, such as female genital mutilation.

UNRIC is the communication hub for the United Nations in Europe. Based in Brussels, the Centre covers 22 Western European countries and maintains a website in 13 languages. Visit www.unric.org for more information.