

# BLUE BERET

## International Women's Day 2015



### UNFICYP's Police mark International Women's Day

UNPOL in Cyprus boasts over 20% women police officers amongst its ranks, placing it well above average for UN peacekeeping missions. UNFICYP Head of Mission Lisa Buttenheim and Senior Police Adviser Andrii Sachavo were on hand to recognise the important role that women play in peacekeeping operations - as liaison officers with members of the local communities, as role models, as leaders, and as colleagues. UNPOL's Gender Focal Point Aleksandra Rostovceva of Lithuania read the Secretary-General's message.

### SWEDCON'S FIRST GIRLS



### Why International Women's Day Matters

Special Representative of the Secretary-General in Cyprus Lisa Buttenheim writes about the importance of International Women's Day in the Cyprus Mail.

<http://cyprus-mail.com/2015/03/08/why-international-womens-day-matters/>

## Women's Film Week in Cyprus

For International Women's Day this year, UNFICYP supported UNDP Partnership for the Future in Cyprus to organize the second "Women's Film Week" at the Goethe-Institut in Nicosia.

As part of the programme, UNFICYP organized an Open Discussion to talk about "Women Leading Change."

Force Commander Major General Kristin Lund was joined by Inspector Laxmi Madhavi Gullapally from UNFICYP's Police Contingent, Professor Constantia Alexandrou from the Physics Department of the University of Cyprus, and Dr. Jale Refik-Rogers from the Molecular Diagnostics Department of the Burhan Nalbantoglu Hospital in Nicosia - the topics: How can we bring more women into leadership roles? What are the main challenges, especially in non-traditional fields like the military, police and sciences? How long will it take to reach equality? How important are women role models?

The discussion followed the screening of the documentary "The Women in Blue Berets", following the all-female Formed Police Unit from India that served under the UN flag in Liberia during the last elections. If you missed it, watch it here: <http://bit.ly/1KVXB3q>



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