



## Dr. Catherine Bosshart-Pflugger, Candidate for Vice President United Nations

<b>Name and first name</b>	Dr. BOSSHART-PFLUGER, Katharina Alice	
<b>Member of</b>	BPW Switzerland, Club Fribourg	
<b>Nominated by</b>	BPW USA and BPW UK	
<b>Consent of own Affiliate</b>	Elisabeth Bosshart, President of BPW Switzerland	
<b>For position of</b>	Vice President United Nations	
<b>BPW Offices held</b>	BPW International: Chair of the task force Archives	since 2011
	UN Main Representative in Geneva	since 2012
	Executive Secretary of BPW International	since 2015
<b>Positions in other Voluntary Organisations</b>	1981-1988 Treasurer of the Board of the University Kindergarten in Fribourg 1988-1993 Chair of the Board of the University Kindergarten (100 children, 14 employees) 1993-2003 Member of the task force “City Tours for Women” in Fribourg 1999-2010 Board Member of the Swiss Society for Research in Women and Gender History 2001-2013 Board Member of the Swiss Society of History and chair of the task force “Congresses” 2015- Vice Chair of NGO CSW Geneva	
<b>CV</b>	<p><b>Professional Career</b></p> <p>Catherine is a Swiss historian of contemporary and modern history and specialist of gender studies. After studies in Switzerland, Germany and the USA, she received her MA in 1974 and in 1981 her PhD with distinction. After working on different research projects, she has been teaching first as a senior lecturer and then as a professor for contemporary history at the University of Fribourg. For twelve years she was board member of the Swiss Society of History and organized as Head of the section “Congresses” different symposia. For eight years she was member of the board of the doctoral school on gender at the Universities of Berne and Fribourg. Her many publications cover women and gender history, church history, as well as methodology. In 2001 she published together with her student Daniela Deck the History of BPW Switzerland. In 2013, she was nominated an independent expert for the Gender Studies Program by the Conference of Presidents of Swiss Universities. During several years she was involved in the reform of Bachelor and Master Study Programs at the University of Fribourg.</p> <p><b>Other Activities</b></p> <p>From 1981 to 1988, she was board member of the Pre-school and Kindergarten of the University of Fribourg (finance officer) and chair from 1988 to 1993. For several years she successfully advocated</p>	

	<p>for a cantonal law for early childhood institutions.          From 1999 until 2001 she was a board member of the Gosteli Foundation and Archives for the Swiss Women’s Movement.</p> <p><b>BPW Activities</b>          In 1997 she was a founding member of the BPW Club Fribourg. Since 2011 she has been chair of the BPW International Task force “Archives”. In this function she archived the BPW International documents deposited in Amsterdam. Since 2012, she has been the main representative of BPW International at the UN in Geneva. In 2014 she was co-organizer of the Conference Beijing +20 at the UN in Geneva and in 2015 was been elected as Vice Chair of NGO CSW. In 2016 she was co-organizer of the Conference “Economic Empowerment of Women” at the UN in Geneva. In July 2015, she was been nominated as Executive Secretary of BPW International.</p> <p><b>Family</b>          Catherine is married to Louis Bosshart, professor of mass media research at the University of Fribourg and has two sons and one granddaughter</p>
<p><b>Personal Statement</b></p>	<p><b>1) Motivation to stand for UN Vice President</b>          My professional competences in regard of history, society, politics and gender topics helped me already as Main Representative of BPW International at the UN in Geneva and supported very positively my different activities at the UN. Understanding the interrelations of issues results in more focused work.</p> <p>I would like to use the many possibilities of the UN for BPW members. Moreover, I intend to introduce the concerns of the UN and the functioning of this vast institution and its agencies in workshops and presentations to our members. More members should take advantage of cooperation opportunities offered by the UN and visiting interesting UN conferences.</p> <p>I work in an integrative and constructive way. One of my character traits is the sense of justice. It has always been a problem for me to see injustices done and being accepted.</p> <p>My numerous experiences helped me to develop pronounced organizational management skills. My experience in organizing very large congresses showed me the importance of teamwork, networking and common values. I have found these values in the organization of BPW. To work together, to inspire each other, to grow together and to strengthen our self-confidence have been a very valuable experience in BPW.</p> <p>During my professional and private life I have been active and worked with totally different groups on different continents and in different countries. I am used to work in multicultural environments and to adapt very quickly to new situations and contexts. My older son has opened the doors to the Asian culture and the Chinese language. I am fluent in 5 different languages, German, French, English, Italian and Chinese, studied Latin and have some Spanish knowledge.</p> <p>My interest in international women’s issues, my experience on the Executive Board of BPW International and as Main UN Representative, and the work we have to do together to reach the BPW goals are the main motivation for my candidacy.</p> <p><b>2) Action Plan as UN Vice President</b>          The development of our collaboration with the UN and its agencies has progressed over the last years.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- I will establish or reinforce our presence at different UN Offices in our 5 Regions.</li> <li>- I would like to increase the collaboration between the Regions and countries and prepare a common declaration before CSW and other important Conferences and Meetings.</li> <li>- I would like to increase the partnerships with the UN and its agencies as well as find funding (supported by a professional fundraiser) for projects all over the world.</li> <li>- I would like to create webinars which will explain to interested BPW members the UN, its activities and show the possibilities it gives to our members.</li> <li>- We need a greater collaboration among the UN Representatives and increased exchange of information. Under the leadership of the UN Vice President, they should connect regularly and discuss or prepare common BPW International statements, cooperate with other organizations and support common statements or activities together with other organizations.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Supporting statement</b></p>	<p><b>BPW UK Supporting Statement for Catherine Bosshart-Pflugger</b></p> <p>BPW UK supports the nomination of Catherine Bosshart-Pflugger as BPW International Vice President (UN). We believe that in combination with her values and professional skills, her experience and expertise in the work that she has already undertaken as the main BPW UN Representative in Geneva and as Vice Chair of the NGO CSW Geneva well equip her to fulfil this role. We need to have closer collaboration and representation with the United Nations and Catherine has a proven track record in this environment.</p> <p>Catherine is a true global citizen – at home in any country, and able to converse at all levels. With her vast experience of the International Federation, gained whilst being a member of the Board and her extensive knowledge of the workings and agencies at the UN, Catherine is an experienced advocate who will be able to both promote the underlying goals of the International Federation as well as the principles of the UN so that all women around the world - not just members of BPW - but all women will really feel that they have a voice and that changes can be made and the role of civil society can be acknowledged.</p> <p>Hilarie Tucknott April 16<sup>th</sup> 2017</p> <p><b>BPW USA Supporting Statement for Catherine Bosshart-Pflugger</b></p> <p>BPW USA is honored to nominate Catherine Bosshart Pflugger for the position of Vice President United Nations of the International Federation of Business and Professional Women.</p> <p>Catherine is well known to our Federation, starting with her commitment and work on the BPW International Archives in Amsterdam, which she took on with immense enthusiasm and has worked on diligently and expertly ever since. Catherine is a true professional, her work ethic is solid and she is a thoughtful, engaging team player with an optimistic attitude. She continually exhibits great humility and ethical morals with fairness and caring which has underpinned her work and contribution in her position as the appointed BPW International Executive Secretary. Catherine took</p>

on this position in a time of need for our organization to serve with the Executive of this current term.

BPW USA is delighted that Catherine is willing to serve our organization and we are confident that Catherine will support the membership completely and will fulfill her required United Nations mandate with professionalism and excitement while always working hard at improvement for continuity and sustainability.

She will be a grand ambassador for our organization in the United Nations and on the international platform.

Elizabeth Benham,  
EPUSA President,  
April 19, 2017