

Upcoming business of interest and opportunities to raise Global Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR)

UPCOMING PARLIAMENTARY BUSINESS

Please note that the schedule and locations of events are subject to change. See the parliamentary <u>calendar</u> for up-to-date information.

House of Commons Monday 2 December

Main chamber, sitting at 2:30pm

Adjournment: Medical Aid During Conflict - Dr Zubir Ahmed MP

Wednesday 4 December

Westminster Hall, sitting at 2:30pm

Debate: Sexual and gender-based violence against Palestinians – Abtisam Mohamed MP

Thursday 5 December

Westminster Hall, sitting at 1:30pm

General Debate: Pelvic Mesh and the Cumberlege Review - Chris Vince MP

House of Lords

Monday 2 December

Main chamber, sitting at 2:30pm

Legislation: Women, Peace & Security Bill - committee stage - Baroness Hodgson of Abingdon

INVITATIONS TO APPG ON GLOBAL SRHR EVENTS

11 December: 1:00-2:15pm. Room N, Portcullis House. 'Growing Activism Against Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights' roundtable luncheon meeting with Neil Datta, Executive Director, European Parliamentary Forum for Sexual and Reproductive Rights and author of the reports 'Restoring the Natural Order', 'The Next Wave' and 'Tip of the Iceberg' and Dr Rupa Huq MP. RSVP to francislawtonm@parliament.uk if not already done so.

INVITATIONS TO OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS

3 December: 4:30pm. Committee Room 3A. Lord McConnell and Jess Toale MP, Co-Chairs of the APPG for the UN Global Goals, host a **private cross-party consultation on the Development Review**, which was launched by the Foreign Secretary on 9 September 2024 to enhance the UK's global impact, support growth, and maximise the diplomatic and development expertise in international development. If you would like to attend the consultation, please RSVP to mcconnellj@parliament.uk

3 December: 5:00-6:00pm. USC Institute on Inequalities in Global Health presents 'The Health Impacts of the 2024 U.S. Election on Power, Partnerships, and Rights in the United States and Around the Globe' Many people are concerned that the outcome of the 2024 U.S. presidential election will exacerbate inequalities in the U.S. and have grave effects on the realities of health around the world. The one-hour virtual panel event, grounded in this complicated moment of political instability, rights regression and anti-gender movements, will explore how these issues are relevant to health and well-being, and where there is the potential for shared reflection and action. Register here.

4 December: 12:30pm. The APPG for Human Rights is hosting an International Human Rights Day Parliamentary drop-in reception: **'Celebrating Human Rights Successes'**, co-hosted with Amnesty International UK. Please join us to celebrate the human rights successes of Parliamentarians and civil society, and to explore how to take this impressive legacy forward, to further justice and democracy, and to support human rights defenders, in the UK and around the world. Short speeches at 1 pm TBC. Seasonal refreshments served, and photo opportunities. Contact: pichen@parliament.uk

10 December: 4:30-6:00pm. Sexual and Reproductive Health Matters (SRHM) presents '**The continuing fight for abortion rights: Taking stock of the evidence'.** Join The Institute of Global Health, The Global Studies Institute and the Institute of Demography and Socioeconomics (IDESO) at the University of Geneva and Sexual and Reproductive Health Matters (SRHM) for an engaging event on Human Rights Day, which serves as the launch of a Special Collection of the SRHM Journal on Abortion and where we will hear from esteemed human rights experts about the state of abortion rights globally and what evidence is needed for action to ensure access to safe abortion globally in this critical political moment. Register here.

11 December: 1:00pm. Knowledge SUCCESS with Breakthrough ACTION and FP2030 presents **'Integrating Knowledge Management into Costed Implementation Plans'.** Costed Implementation Plans (CIPs) are roadmaps that reflect a government's priority activities to achieve family planning and reproductive health outcomes. Integrating knowledge management (KM) interventions into CIPs and other national strategies is crucial to avoid inefficiencies in programs, better coordinate resources across stakeholders and institutions, and ensure programs are learning as they are doing. Register here.

22 January: 6:30-8:30pm. Doctors For Choice UK present 'Are we reinventing the wheel? Learning from older abortion rights activists'. As with any movement for social change, the successes of the reproductive rights movement would have been impossible without the sheer determination and persistence of previous generations of activists. And yet, it can sometimes feel like the lessons and insights from more experienced activists have not been fully learnt from. Join DfC for an evening of discussion and reflection with three pioneering campaigners: Marge Berer, Diane Munday, and Wendy Savage. Registration here.

27-31 January 2025: EPF Study Trip to the Philippines. Please email <u>kjaerbym@parliament.uk</u> to express your interest, if not already done so.

10-16 February 2025: National HIV Testing Week

10-25 March 2025: New York. <u>Commission on the Status of Women</u> (CSW). Please email <u>kjaerbym@parliament.uk</u> to express your interest, if not already done so.

23-25 June 2025: London. Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RCOG) <u>World Congress</u> 2025

5-9 October 2025: Cape Town, South Africa. <u>2025 FIGO World Congress of Gynaecology and Obstetrics</u> - email kjaerbym@parliament.uk to express your interest, if not already done so.

3-6 November 2025: 2025 International Conference on Family Planning - Bogata, Columbia – email <u>kjaerbym@parliament.uk</u> to express your interest, if not already done so.

NEWS

UK – This week new measures designed to tackle online violence against women and girls were announced at the start of this year's 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence. The Government project, called Safe Online: Preventing Technology-Facilitated Gender-Based Violence (TFGBV) and to be backed by more than £27m of UK-government funding, will help to support survivors of online violence and abuse, gather data to strengthen our understanding of this emerging threat, and minimise women's exposure to harmful content by working with national regulators. Read press release here.

The Ministry of Justice commissioned the National Centre for Social Research (NatCen) to conduct a rapid evidence assessment (REA) to provide insights into the similarities and differences between perpetrators of adult stranger rape and intimate partner rape, with a particular focus on perpetrator characteristics. Read the resulting report here.

The Office for National Statistics has published their 'Domestic Abuse in England and Wales Overview' for November 2024. Read the report here.

Sexual and Reproductive Health Research specialists at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) have published an <u>initial summary</u> of public responses submitted through the Women's Reproductive Health Survey 2023. The survey, which ran between 7 September and 19 October 2023, was the largest of its kind to be undertaken in England to date and received over 59,000 responses.

Nigeria – A paper featuring data from the RCOG's Global Stigma Study was recently published in <u>Global Health Action</u>. The authors have been nominated for a Best Researcher Award for this work, which is part of the RCOG Making Abortion Safe programme and explores healthcare professionals' experiences of abortion stigma in Nigeria.

Nigeria also features in a BBC <u>documentary</u> 'Nigeria's Miracle Baby Scammers', an undercover investigation of fertility scammers claiming that they can help infertile women with special treatment that is in fact a front for a black market trade in newborns. News story <u>here</u>.

Mozambique – <u>The Telegraph</u> reported that half of all girls aged between 18 and 24 in Mozambique were married before they were 18. The problem is particularly acute in rural areas of the country, despite the fact that it has been illegal since 2019 under so-called Law 19. Mozambique has one of the highest rates of child marriage in the world.

USA – There has been a huge increase of enquiries about IUD's, the morning-after pill and vasectomies since Donald Trump's election victory. <u>CBS News</u> and <u>Pink News</u> claim that appointments to have the IUD fitted rose by 760 per cent, while appointments for the contraceptive implant increased by 350 per cent. However, appointment bookings for a vasectomy saw an "unprecedented" increase of 1200 per cent.