

Dear sections of WILPF,

This letter is a call for nominations to WILPF's International Board (IB) for 2018-2021.

My name is Lina Hjærtström, I am the IB member representing WILPF Sweden and also Co-Convenor for the Nominations Committee together with Noriko Tada from WILPF Japan. In just six months we will meet in Ghana for our International Congress. It will be an opportunity to meet and get to know each other within our organisation and learn from each other in the work we do for peace and freedom – and to choose our new board!

This year's process leading up to Congress is different from previous years since we have been presented with a new governance structure and will very soon be presented with a suggestion for a revised constitution. The International Board meeting of 2017 decided to give the changes a green light and we are now working towards Congress in line with the new and improved form for WILPF governance. The changes means that the new international board will take over the functions that are currently held by the Executive Committee (ExCom). The new IB will be smaller than the current IB but bigger than ExCom, to be able to work efficiently together to achieve our common goals and maintain and develop WILPF as the fantastic organisation that we are today.

The new board has a President, two Vice-Presidents and a Treasurer that are elected at Congress. It also has one representative and one alternate from each region that is elected directly by the region that they represent. After Congress the board members elect the last member, the Secretary-General.

As sections you have two tasks:

1. Nominate candidates to the positions of President, Vice-President and Treasurer

Members wishing to apply for any of these the positions shall submit a personal profile, with a letter of motivation outlining their suitability to serve on the IB including their WILPF and other relevant political experience.

Nominations should be supported by the nominee's Section and forwarded to the Nominations Committee four months before Congress at the latest (April 19th).

2. Elect a regional representative and alternate for your region

The Nominations Committee writes to Sections advising the process for nomination of regional representatives. Sections are to meet as a region (either face-to-face or by electronic means) to nominate two representatives - one (1) to serve on the IB as the regional representative and the other (1) as the alternative representative for each region. Those nominated should be from different Sections.

Members accepting their region's nomination shall then submit a personal profile, with a letter of motivation outlining their suitability to serve on the IB including their WILPF and other relevant regional political experience.

Nominations should be forwarded to the Nominations Committee four months before Congress at the latest (April 19th).

It is the hope of us in the Nominations Committee that you will all find competent and inspired members to take on the roles of the board. To help you and any potential candidates know what is required by a board member, these are the criteria:

Criteria for becoming a member of the International Board (IB)

A skilled and well-functioning IB is essential for WILPF's effectiveness. Members must possess the skills and experience for specified board function areas and responsibilities. Each board member will have clearly specified tasks and functions within either management or political work. In addition to a demonstrated commitment to WILPF's mission, principles and values ideally officers elected to the IB shall have been active and paid up members of WILPF with relevant experience at the Section or international level (e.g. a delegate to Congress or IB meeting) for at least three years. Currently elected officers serve in a voluntary capacity thus commitment of time is also essential.

The Nominating Committee's role is to assess candidates against the sets of criteria and recommend an election slate. In developing its recommended slate, the Nominating Committee will aim to ensure that the full Board election will include:

- *WILPF governance model and rules of procedure;*
- *An appropriate balance of board and political experiences/and or knowledge on an international level and /or international institutions is of importance;*
- *A significant proportion of new members to ensure fresh perspectives, and*
- *Sufficient continuity to ensure that the collective memory of the Board is not lost.*

In addition, where existing Board members are standing for re-election, the Nominating Committee will take account of their record to date on the Board – e.g. their attendance record, contributions in meetings, and leadership of initiatives.

Nominations should be sent to nomination@wilpf.org.

We will be happy to receive any questions that you have or that you encounter along the way to that same email address, and we will send you additional information along the process.

As IB members you will need to distribute this message and the information about the nomination process to your sections' boards and members to enable all possible candidates to take part in this process and become nominated.

Looking very much forward to meeting you and your nominees at Congress in six months!

Peaceful wishes,

On behalf of the Nominations Committee,

Lina Hjærtström and Noriko Tada