UNITED NATIONS: DEFINITIONS AND TERMS

**Organizations:**
- **AIWA:** Armenian International Women's Association ([www.aiwa-net.org](http://www.aiwa-net.org))
- **AOA:** American Orthopsychiatric Association ([www.aoatoday.com](http://www.aoatoday.com))
- **APA:** American Psychological Association ([www.apa.org](http://www.apa.org))
- **AWP:** Association for Women in Psychology ([www.awpsych.org](http://www.awpsych.org))
- **IAAP:** International Association of Applied Psychology ([www.iaapsy.org](http://www.iaapsy.org))
- **ICP:** International Council of Psychologists ([www.icpweb.org](http://www.icpweb.org))
- **IFTA:** International Family Therapy Association ([www.ifta-familytherapy.org](http://www.ifta-familytherapy.org))
- **IOA:** International Ontopsychology Association ([www.ontopsicologia.org](http://www.ontopsicologia.org))
- **IPA:** International Psychoanalytic Association ([www.ipa.org.uk](http://www.ipa.org.uk))
- **ISPA:** International School Psychology Association ([www.ispaweb.org](http://www.ispaweb.org))
- **ISTSS:** International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies ([www.istss.org](http://www.istss.org))
- **IUPsyS:** International Union for Psychological Science ([www.iupsys.net](http://www.iupsys.net))
- **SPSSI:** Society for Psychological Study of Social Issues ([www.spssi.org](http://www.spssi.org))
- **WFMH:** World Federation for Mental Health ([www.wfmh.org](http://www.wfmh.org))

**Definitions from [http://outreach.un.org/ngorelations](http://outreach.un.org/ngorelations):**

**DPI:** Department of Public Information, United Nations
**NGO:** Non-Governmental Organization

A non-governmental organization (NGO) is a non-for-profit, voluntary citizens' group, which is organized on a local, national or international level to address issues in support of the public good. About 1,500 NGOs with strong information programmes on issues of concern to the UN are associated with the Department of Public Information (DPI). Many NGOs (about 2,700) active in the field of economic and social development have qualified for consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

**CoNGO:** The Conference on Non-Governmental Organizations in consultative status with ECOSOC serves as a representative voice of NGOs.

**Other useful terms, information and links:**

**Convention:** International agreement, typically dealing with a specific subject
**CSW:** Commission on the Status of Women ([www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/csw](http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/csw))
**IASC:** Inter-Agency Standing Committee ([www.humanitarianinfo.org/iasc](http://www.humanitarianinfo.org/iasc))
**MDGs:** Millennium Development Goals ([www.un.org/millenniumgoals](http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals))
**UNFPA:** United Nations Population Fund ([www.unfpa.org](http://www.unfpa.org))
**UNHCR:** United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees ([www.unhcr.org](http://www.unhcr.org))
**UNICEF:** United Nations Children's Fund ([www.unicef.org](http://www.unicef.org))
**UN Women:** UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women ([www.unwomen.org](http://www.unwomen.org))
**World Mental Health Day** ([www.wfmh.org/00WorldMentalHealthDay.htm](http://www.wfmh.org/00WorldMentalHealthDay.htm))

Prepared by Ricki E. Kantrowitz, PhD
NGO Representative, WFMH