

The Other Side

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What Other Side?

No, I'm not talking about the other side, after life on this planet, even though, that topic really does interest and preoccupy me a lot these days. No, I want to tell you what else I do when I am not walking barefoot in my [garden](#).

Weekly MasterMind

Every Tuesday morning at seven-thirty I host a MasterMind meeting which inspires me time and time again. This week as I addressed my recent [blog](#) post as one of my "wins" for the week, a victory, an accomplishment, I mentioned how I felt so inhibited doing too much of this type of posting, for fear of appearing too ... well, what's the word I'm looking for here now? Domesticated? Homely? House-bound? Boring? I am so consumed by the gratitude of my current life situation, that I just can't stop taking photos every day of our beautiful developing garden.

So, what else?

Well, this week, we, the [Women's Federation](#), hosted an event during the [CCPCJ](#), the Crime Commission at the UN in Vienna. So, I'd have to look this up, but since we've been engaging in such activities, I have happily supported the technical implementation of such meetings. Now, even six years, or no, nearly seven years since retiring from the [IAEA](#), I still enjoy coming back to this international campus, my stomping ground for over two decades.

Beginnings

You see, and maybe you already know, I began at the UN as a volunteer, and today, I'd love to encourage fellow retirees, people who have lived a demanding professional life, to continue to serve the world with their expertise.

I see my role as a mentor and role-model for young ones and an encouragement and peer support, for people who may also be challenged in this phase and time of life.

Data Assistant

As a data expert I continue to passionately sort and archive material, now particularly video and film material. I can't shake off my conviction that some day, somebody will find value in all my archived material and it will serve posterity.

Wake Up!

The big challenge is to make the material available NOW in a format manageable and palatable for public purposes. As I process the conference materials my perfectionism snaps in and I wish I could have had control over the roving eye of the owl conference room camera. It was so wonderful to have an able, eager technician at my side, to make the presentations. Simultaneously, I lamented the limitations of the challenging situation. I usually have no problem showing PDFs and JPG formats on a zoom meeting. This was different. PPT is the best format, I was told. Something learned. Remember for next time.



Old Friends

Then when further conference staff members appeared and joyfully encouraged me to continue coming in, even just twice a year, I was again grateful for this precious opportunity to cooperate.

The conference reporting is still falling short, I fear, as I need time to process the film material.

Forgiveness

And did you notice how I twice used the word fear, but also gratitude in this post? I am the one who warns that fear is not a worthy guide or master. I am posting now and again, stressing the power of gratitude, forgiveness and positive thinking. Yes, to even forgive myself. That's the hardest part. I want to encourage. I want to promote sharing and visibility. And yes, I am challenged by my parallel desire to do it all at once. Well, I've accepted that I can't. And I don't let that stop me.