



Women & Information Society

MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 28, 2016

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ARMENIA CELEBRATES THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF GIRLS IN ICT

YEREVAN, ARMENIA – On April 28, Armenia will celebrate International ‘Girls in ICT’ day.

In celebration of the day, the “Internet of Everything” forum will be held at the American University of Armenia (AUA) to encourage Armenian girls to choose a career in information and communication technologies (ICT).

International Girls in ICT Day is celebrated on the 4th Thursday in April every year since 2012.

Girls in ICT Day events make girls and young women aware of the vast possibilities ICTs offer, clarifying misconceptions about the sector and inviting them to envision their future as ICT creators.

After the forum, it is foreseen to present to school girls the undergraduate program in Computational Sciences at AUA, in addition to the admissions criteria, ways of financing education at AUA and touring facilities known as much for their architectural design as for their cutting edge classrooms.

Today, we are at the beginning of a Fourth Industrial Revolution. Developments in previously disconnected fields such as artificial intelligence and machine learning, robotics, nanotechnology, 3D printing and genetics and biotechnology are all building on and amplifying one another. In many industries and countries, the most in-demand occupations or specialties did not exist ten or even five years ago, and the pace of change is accelerating. By one estimate, 65% of children entering primary school today will ultimately end up working in completely new job types that don’t currently exist.

Higher education at AUA encourages students to continually rethink disciplinary assumptions, and that student learning outcomes match employers’ expectations – not for the job market of today, but the job market four years from now when these students plan to graduate.

International Girls in ICT Day, an initiative backed by all International Telecommunication Union Member States in ITU Plenipotentiary Resolution 70 (Rev. Busan, 2014), aims to create a global environment that empowers and encourages girls and young women to consider careers in the growing field of ICTs, enabling both girls and technology companies to reap the benefits of greater female participation in the ICT sector. The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) is the body of the United Nations in charge of information and communication technologies (ICT).

The forum is organized by the ‘Women and Information Society’ NGO and the American University of Armenia, with information support from the International Telecommunication Union (ITU).



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WHO: Rubina Danilova, College of Science & Engineering Coordinator at AUA

Narine Abazyan, 'Women and Information Society' NGO President

School girls and college students, female representatives

WHAT: "Internet of Everything" **forum** in celebration of the international 'Girls in ICT' day

WHERE: **308E/PAB**, American University of Armenia, 40 Baghramyan Avenue, Yerevan

WHEN: April 28, 2016, 16:30 (registration starts at 16:00)

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The American University of Armenia (AUA)

The American University of Armenia (AUA) is a private institution of higher learning, offering a global education in Armenia.

AUA is affiliated with the University of California and accredited by the WASC Senior College and University Commission, 985 Atlantic Avenue, #100, Alameda, CA 94501, 510.748.9001.

Founded in 1991, AUA provides a high-quality, graduate and undergraduate education that encourages civic engagement and promotes democratic values, fostering scholarship in a setting that values and develops academic excellence, free inquiry, integrity, scholarship, leadership, and service to society.

The "Women and Information Society" NGO was established in September 2011 with the mission to contribute to the integration of women and girls in the information society of Armenia. The organization is based on the partnership of many stakeholders, including the private sector, the government, the academia and the non-profit sector, with the goal to leverage resources and research, build awareness, and promote programmes, which will remove the barriers that restrict girls and women to use information and communication technologies (ICT). Hence NGO activities are aimed at increasing the participation of women in education, entrepreneurship, and leadership in ICT and related sectors.