

For Immediate Release

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**International experts to discuss human rights achievements and challenges at  
*Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms: 20 Years After Vienna***

*New Brunswick, NJ, October 1, 2013*—On **Thursday, October 3, 2013**, the Center for Women's Global Leadership (CWGL) will host a daylong symposium at Rutgers University to commemorate the Vienna United Nations World Conference on Human Rights held in 1993. Speakers will explore global issues in women's rights, poverty and inequality, democracy, and the right to development. "CWGL is pleased to use this anniversary to bring attention to the ongoing human rights issues that confronts us in the 21<sup>st</sup> century and strategize on how we move forward," stated Dr. Radhika Balakrishnan, CWGL's Executive Director.

Among the people joining the discussion will be: **Anthony Romero**, the executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union which engages in nationwide litigation, lobbying and public education efforts, including initiatives focused on human rights, racial justice, religious freedom, technology and privacy, LGBT rights and criminal law reform; **Bernedette Muthien**, a scholar, poet, and activist. She co-founded and directs Engender, an NGO which works in the intersectional areas of genders, human rights, justice and peace. Muthien holds postgraduate degrees in Political Science from the University of Cape Town; and **Norma Maldonado**, the founder of Asociacion Raxch' och Oxlaju Aj, an organization of Maya Q'eqchi' communities of northern Guatemala. Maldonado is an environmentalist with a specialty in food sovereignty and indigenous territories. She studied at the University of California in Los Angeles. Rutgers University's President **Robert Barchi** will open the symposium.

The symposium will be held at the Rutgers University Student Center, 126 College Avenue, New Brunswick, NJ from 9:30am-5:30pm.

For more information, please visit <http://cwgl.rutgers.edu/vienna20/>.

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