



GWJ Update – 25 November 2015



Graduate Women International news

On International Day to Eliminate Violence Against Women (VAW), 25 November 2015 – Graduate Women International (GWI) calls for all relevant legislation to be fully implemented

Gender-based violence exists globally in all strata of society and disproportionately affects women and girls of all ages in many forms - physical, sexual, psychological, and economic. GWI calls for full implementation of existing legislation and the establishment of preventative interventions with the active engagement of men and boys. An environment must exist where reporting of violence attaches no stigma to the victims in order to end impunity and bring criminal justice to those who are guilty of such violations.

The colour orange represents a bright and optimistic future free of violence for women and girls everywhere, hence the [United Nations \(UN\) Secretary General's international campaign](#) call to wear orange on this day, or organise events with an orange theme: #orangetheworld. Read GWI's full press release for the International Day to End Violence against Women [here](#).

GWJ member news

Netherlands member successfully advocates for ratification of Istanbul Convention

The Dutch Association of Graduate Women - Nederlandse Vereniging Van Vrouwen Met Hogere Opleiding (VVAO), along with other women's NGOs in the Netherlands, have been actively lobbying, contacting politicians and organising different types of expert meetings to influence the country's decision on the Istanbul Convention against Violence Against Women. As a result of their efforts, the [Istanbul Convention](#) has finally been ratified by the Netherlands. The purpose of this important European treaty is "to end all forms of violence against women, including domestic violence (of which men can be victims too)." The Netherlands are the 19th country to ratify the convention; this means the Group of Experts on Action against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (GREVIO) of the Council of Europe now has a majority and can start working on the monitoring process of the implementation of the Istanbul Convention.

Advocacy

Argentine men show solidarity with women in an unusual protest against gender violence

Argentina has one of the worst rates of femicide in the world. It is a problem that experts say is intertwined with a culture of "machismo" and misogyny in the country. Some reports indicate that one woman is killed

about every 30 hours in Argentina. Women have started to fight back through a campaign called #NiUnaMenos, which means "not one less." This month, in a show of solidarity with #NiUnaMenos, hundreds of men walked through the streets of Buenos Aires wearing skirts. One of the skirted protesters said that the protest was a way to teach his son about gender equality. "This march was very useful to convey to my son [...] there is no privilege in being a male," he said. He explained that he was wearing a skirt to break "some stereotypes" about what humiliates a man, which is violence, and not wearing something feminine. Read the full article [here](#).

Events

International Human Rights Education Conference, 17 - 19 December 2015, Middelburg, the Netherlands.

The panel on "Advocacy and Accountability for Human Rights Education", moderated by Frank Elbers from the Human Rights Education and Training Centre (HREA) and the Global Coalition for Human Rights Education (HRE 2020), will be held on 18 December 2015. Panelists include Sneh Aurora (HRE 2020/Amnesty International), Morten Kjaerum (Raoul Wallenberg Institute), Kishore Singh (UN Special Rapporteur on the right to education) and Felisa Tibbitts (Education International/HREA). Preceding the conference, HRE 2020 will hold its first in-person member meeting on 17 December 2015 at 14h00 CET in the Raadzaal. For more information on registering, please see [here](#).

Donate to GWI

Education for girls and women is the one human right that underpins social change. Secondary, tertiary and continuing education is the door that leads to social and economic empowerment as well as to the enjoyment of other human rights. Help GWI to continue assisting the leading women of tomorrow. Support women who are striving to build a better future for themselves, their children and their communities. Change lives. [Make a donation](#).

Other information and events

November 25 - Dec 10	Center for Women's Global Leadership 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence 2015 Campaign
November 30 – Dec 01	Feminism and Sustainable Development , Postgraduate University, Mexico
December 1 - 3	The Role of Higher Education Institutions post 2015 Windhoek, Namibia
December 3	Association of Commonwealth Universities AGM, London, UK
June 14 - 17	Missing and Marginalised Conference , University of Waterloo, Canada
June 28 – July 1 (2016)	12th International Conference, ISTR , Stockholm, Sweden
August 21 – 23 (2016)	GWI General Assembly, Cape Town, South Africa (members only)
August 24 – 26 (2016)	GWI Triennial Conference, Cape Town, South Africa (open to the public)

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Empowering women and girls through lifelong education for leadership, decision-making and peace. GWI, formerly IFUW, is in special consultative status with ECOSOC and is an NGO maintaining official relations with UNESCO and ILO.

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