



GWI UPDATE – 08 March 2017



Dr. Rosette Adera speaking at the 34th session of the Human Rights Council

— Graduate Women International news —

GWI Addresses the 34th session of the Human Rights Council

On the occasion of the 34th session of the Human Rights Council held at the United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland, Graduate Women International (GWI) was proud to sponsor civil society speaker, Dr. Rosette Adera, Coordinator of International Relations, Women Graduates-USA (WG-USA). In her statement during the High-Level segment of the Council, Dr. Adera shared her personal story as a refugee and the importance of girl's education in refugee communities. Her full statement can be seen [here](#).

On International Women's Day, GWI underscores that gender equality remains a significant human rights challenge

GWI wishes all its members and Update readers a happy [International Women's Day \(IWD\)](#) 2017. IWD invites us to celebrate the achievements of women in all spheres of life but also to remind us that gender equality remains a significant human rights challenge for girls and women in today's world. On this day, GWI calls for states, policy makers and communities to recognise the under representation of women in government and to take steps toward increasing representation by advancing political participation and developing leadership opportunities. GWI continues to advocate for the right to quality and safe, lifelong education for girls and women worldwide. Safe access to, and the completion of education is critical to providing girls and young women with the tools necessary to progress further in society. Join GWI today in championing education. Read our voice [here](#).

— GWI member news —

Graduate Women Scotland holds seminar on the impact of conflict on women and girls



Left to right: Dr Monish Batia, Jenny Marra MSP, Dr Fiona Sutherland President of GWS, Zainab Hussaini (From Afghanistan, a Ph.D student at Chester University, sponsored by The British Federation), Dr Ian Bannon, University of Dundee and Professor Cynthia Burek, Chester University, Helen Patrick from the One World Centre in Dundee.

[Graduate Women Scotland \(GWS\)](#) held their parliamentary seminar entitled “The Impact of Conflict on Women and Girls” at the Scottish Parliament in Edinburgh. The event was sponsored by Member of the Scottish Parliament, Jenny Marra, and speakers addressed the experiences of women affected by conflict; the effect of grief on children in conflict zones and refugees; and the impact of official policies and procedures on women seeking sanctuary in Scotland and the UK. Attendees enjoyed the variety of speakers, a lively discussion, and the event concluded with a talk by Zainab on the history of education for girls in Afghanistan.

University Women Europe Conference

The [University Women Europe \(UWE\)](#) and the [Austrian Federation of University Women \(VAÖ\)](#) invite you to their next Annual General Meeting (AGM) to be held on 24-27 August 2017, in Graz, Austria. The AGM will be combined with a two-day conference, bringing together graduate women from all over Europe. The Conference theme is “Changing Cultures”. Please visit [UWE’s website](#) for more information, including the programme and conference fee.

— Advocacy —

Girls in Information and Communications Technology Day is 27 April

Each year, GWI joins the international community in celebrating [Girls in ICT Day](#) on the fourth Thursday of April. ICTs are crucial for pursuing the Sustainable Development Goals adopted in September 2015. Supported by all [International Telecommunications Union \(ITU\)](#) Member States in ITU Plenipotentiary Resolution 70, Girls in ICT Day encourages girls and young women to consider fields in ICT, therefore creating a symbiotic relationship; women enjoy greater gender equality in the workplace and technology companies benefit from a more diverse staff. As a male-dominated field, having more women in ICT will also serve to give women a greater voice, both in the office and through the services provided by technology companies.

— Call for applications —

Fulbright Foreign Student Program

The Fulbright Foreign Student Program operates in more than 155 countries and services approximately 4,000 non-US students each year. The program offers graduate students the opportunity to conduct research and study in the United States. Eligibility and selection vary by country. Deadline for applications: **varies based on country**. For more information on the process in your home country, please click [here](#).

OWSA-Elsevier Foundation Awards for Early-Career Women Scientists

The Foundation Awards, launched in 2012 by The Elsevier Foundation, The World Academy of Sciences (TWAS) and Organization for Women in Science for the Developing World (OWSD), is open for nominations. Five Awards are given annually to reward and encourage early-career women scientists, one for each of the five developing regions in the world: Latin America and the Caribbean; East and South-East Asia and the Pacific; the Arab region; Central and South Asia; and Sub-Saharan Africa. This year, Awards will be given in the Physical Sciences (Chemistry, Maths and Physics). Nominees must be within 10 years of graduating with a PhD degree. Deadline for nominations: **1 September 2017**. For more information, please click [here](#).

— Give the gift of membership —

Do you know a graduate woman who would like to join the leading women's international organisation that works to empower girls and women through access to lifelong, quality education and training? [Give the gift of membership](#) to join a global community of some 20,000 members in 60 countries, either as a GWI independent member or national member of one of our National Federations and Associations (NFAs).

— Other information and events —

Feb 27–March 24	Human Rights Council 34th Session , Geneva, Switzerland
March 8	International Women's Day , Global
March 13– 24	Commission on the Status of Women , UN Headquarters, New York, USA
April 27	International Girls in Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) Day , Global
May 11-13	2017 Global Summit of Women , Tokyo, Japan
June 5-17	106th Session of the International Labour Conference , Geneva, Switzerland
July 14–16	The IAFOR International Conference on Global Studies 2017 , Barcelona, Spain
August 24-27	Annual General Meeting of the University Women Europe , Graz, Austria
Sept 29–Oct 1	Lithuanian University Women's Association Conference , Kaunas, Lithuania

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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 since 1947 and is an NGO maintaining official relations with UNESCO and ILO.

Graduate Women International

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