



Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Graduate Women International brings together global and local experts for the Peace through Education conference

Geneva, Switzerland, 17 July 2019 - Graduate Women International (GWI) is proud to announce its 33rd Triennial General Assembly and Centenary Conference, 25-28 July 2019, in Geneva, Switzerland. Under the theme, 'Peace through Education', the organisation will celebrate 100 years and the founder's vision for world peace and friendship through education. GWI will host a programme of world leaders in the fields of peace, education and human rights who will speak in support of the conference theme.

GWI President, Geeta Desai, will open the General Assembly followed by remarks from Doris Boscardin, President of the Swiss Association of University Women and Chair of the Local Arrangement Committee; and Lisa Mazzone, member of the Swiss National Council. Madame Saniye Gulser Corat, Director, Division for Gender Equality, UNESCO will deliver the first day keynote address on "Linkages between Education and Peace" with Brigitte Mantilleri, Director Gender Equality, University of Geneva, speaking on "Education: A Tool Against Misogyny". On Saturday, 27 July, Zamaswazi Dlamini Mandela, granddaughter of Nelson Mandela will present her views on Peace through Education.

Professional and independent experts will present during this 4-day event on the main theme as well as five subthemes that respond to how education advances the status of women and girls towards preventing conflict; how curricula evolve to support human rights and deconstruct patriarchal paradigms; what it means to live in a connected world; how young professionals can be empowered to understand connections between education, gender equality, and cultural and environmental issues. The aim is that delegates will increase their knowledge about what graduate women do to influence global society, working at the intersection of education, peace, advocacy and action on local, national and global policies.

Desai said, "Conference delegates should leave the conference informed, enthused and committed to look beyond short-term goals and become involved in policy and legislative agenda concerning education and peace; and eager to promote actions that support the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals, in particular SDGs 4 and 5 which relate specifically to Quality Education and Gender Equality. These integrate and balance the three dimensions of sustainable development economically, socially and environmentally".

Graduate Women International (GWI) is a membership-based international NGO based in Geneva, Switzerland, with presence in over 60 countries. Founded in 1919, GWI is the leading girls' and women's global organisation advocating for women's rights, equality and empowerment through access to quality education and training up to the highest levels. GWI is in special consultative status with ECOSOC and is an NGO maintaining official relations with UNESCO and ILO.

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Contributing to this press release is GWI Intern Valerie Nam from Boston University, United States