

GWJ United Nation Representative Advocacy Report Vienna 2018

GWJ advocacy goals

1. 100% of United Nations Member States commit to policy, legislation, budget and infrastructure to facilitate transition of girls from primary to secondary school and ensure gender parity and gender equality throughout secondary education by 2030.
 2. By 2030 100% of United Nations low income Member States have increased access to tertiary education for girls and women by 50%.
 3. 100% of United Nations Member States commit to and implement policies for continuing education to empower women throughout the life course, within the formal and informal economies.
 4. Influence the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4.
 5. All 17 SDGs will include girls' education targets.
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Meeting attended: (place, date, time, name of meeting)

UN Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ) – 27th Session

14 -18 May 2018, Vienna International Centre

Subject of meeting

The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ) acts as the principal policymaking body of the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice. It acts as a forum for exchanging expertise, experience and information in order to develop national and international strategies, and to identify priorities for combating crime.

The main theme of the 27th session of the CCPCJ, which ran from 14-18 May 2018, was on criminal justice responses to prevent and counter cybercrime. Also, resolutions were passed on preventing and combating human trafficking, supporting the Sustainable Development Goals and other priorities.

In his keynote speech addressing the Session, **UN Secretary General, Antonio Guterres** said "Cybercrime is an area in which there is much work to do and no time to waste... The online sexual exploitation and abuse of children is proliferating, and women and girls are disproportionately harmed."

Other major speakers included Erna Solberg, the Prime Minister of Norway, Karin Kneissl, the Foreign Minister of Austria, and Yury Fedotov, Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).



The UN Secretary General speaks at the CCPCJ; also from left, Yury Fedotov, the Head of UNODC; Karin Kneissl, Foreign Minister of Austria; Erna Solberg, Prime Minister of Norway.

Many side events were held during the CCPCJ, including an event co-sponsored by GWI – **Make Young People Aware of and Protect Them from the Dangers of Cyberspace** - at which Eileen Focke-Bakker, GWI Vice President, made a speech. That side event is reported separately.

The side events covered many issues - both cybercrime related and other - of importance to women. These included: online child abuse; human trafficking; the protection of vulnerable groups; narcotics trafficking; modern slavery; gender based violence; the challenges of the dark web; femicide; sexual violence; firearms trafficking; violence against children; gender related killing of women and girls; crypto-currencies; cyber-corruption; the linkages between political corruption and organized crime; smuggling of migrants; corruption and wildlife crime; counter terrorism; - as well as themes connected with Criminal Justice systems, many with a gender based approach; sentencing policies, prison conditions, mental health of prisoners, women and HIV in Prison, non custodial sentences,...

The undersigned represented GWI at the Session, attending various of the Plenary sessions, meetings between CCPCJ / UNODC and NGOs, and many side events.



CCPCJ Plenary Meeting

Refers to SDG no #: (please reference) 4, 5

Relevant treaties/conventions/resolutions: Various including the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto, and the United Nations Convention against Corruption and the international instruments to prevent and combat terrorism.

What GWI [resolution\(s\)](#) does your attendance relate to? (i.e. Tolerance of Minority Groups (5), FGM (6), Human Trafficking (7), Child Marriage (8), etc.) All

Intervention by GWI rep: (what you did) Attended various of the Plenary sessions. Participated in meetings between CCPCJ / UNODC and NGOs, and many side events - networking, presenting GWI's advocacy objectives.

Personal observations :

In addition to the GWI co-sponsored side event, I will mention two that were closely related to education and which may be of particular interest to members.

1. Preventing Violent Extremism through Education, organized by UNESCO.

Relevant, inclusive and equitable **quality education is vitally important** in dealing with the increasing threat of violent extremism. In this side event, UNESCO presented the materials they have developed to assist countries to deliver education programmes that build young people's resilience to extremist messaging and foster a positive sense of identity and belonging. 'Education cannot prevent an individual from committing a violent act in the name of a violent extremist ideology but the provision of relevant education of good quality can help create the conditions that make it difficult for violent extremist ideologies and acts to proliferate. More specifically, education policies can ensure that places of learning do not become a breeding ground for violent extremism. The role of education is not to intercept violent extremists or identify individuals who may potentially become violent extremists, but to create the conditions that build the defences, within learners, against violent extremism and strengthen their commitment to non-violence and peace.'

As regards a **gender perspective**, UNESCO recommended that all prevention efforts should integrate a gender perspective when dealing with learners at risk. This can include addressing the gendered dimensions of the drivers of violent extremism. Women's needs, and rights, should be promoted through prevention efforts, as well as through their participation and leadership in such initiatives.

There was also an interesting discussion on the **role of teachers**. They should be viewed 'not as agents of surveillance but as educators.' In direct contact with young people, they can be 'role models, change agents and mediators, nurturing dialogue and modelling mutual respect.' They can serve as a bridge between school, families and the broader community to ensure that all concerned stakeholders are working towards a common goal to support and assist learners at risk. To allow teachers to play this constructive role, they need to be consulted, motivated and equipped with appropriate teaching and learning tools. They should also be given the appropriate psychological and social support to face and overcome the impact of attacks and threats of violent extremist groups that impede their capacity to play a constructive role in prevention.

Unesco's key recommendations can be found at the following links:-

<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0024/002477/247764e.pdf>

<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0024/002446/244676e.pdf>

Refers to SDG No 4 (in particular 4.7)

2. Education Works - Global Civic Education is Crime Prevention, organized by ACUNS (the Academic Council on the United Nations System), Women's Federation for World Peace.

This side event – highlighting a quote from former UN SG Ban Ki-Moon: 'Education is much more than an entry to the job market. It has the power to shape a sustainable future and better world. Education policies should promote peace, mutual respect and environmental care' – was introduced by the Ambassador of Costa Rica.

Amongst other presenters, Gilberto Duarte Santos, UNODC, spoke about UNODC's **Education for Justice (E4J)** initiative in support of the Doha Declaration. This initiative highlights the importance of education as a tool to preventing crime and corruption. Education is fundamental in promoting a culture that supports the rule of law, crime prevention and criminal justice.

E4J has been developed to create and disseminate education materials across the primary, secondary and tertiary education levels. Online tools and academic resources will be made available free of charge, while workshops, conferences and symposia will be organized for teachers and academics to learn and exchange ideas and research.

In a separate side event '**Fighting Corruption through Education**', UNODC also presented its anti-corruption education programmes.

3. Other meetings attended included a meeting of NGOs with CCPCJ senior staff; an information meeting about the next Crime Congress in Kyoto in 2020, organized by the Alliance on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice of NGOs; and a meeting with the new CoNGO Head, Liberato Bautista. He spoke about the role and importance of NGOs.

How this serves GWI members: The CCPCJ covers a large number of issues of great importance to women, including online child abuse: human trafficking; modern slavery; gender based violence; femicide; sexual violence; violence against children; gender related killing of women and girls. It was encouraging that so many speakers recognized the importance of a gender based approach in dealing with international crime. SDGs 4 (quality education) and 5 (gender equality) were emphasised continually.

Next steps:(what needs to be done, who can we contact? Who did you network with?): Continue to follow up on related issues / meetings

Did you take any photographs? If yes, please include captions: Yes

May GWI use this information on its social media? Yes

Please send to the GWI office : sdl@graduatewomen.org and include photos where possible

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