



## GWI UPDATE – 25 March 2020



*The GWI Board, Committees and Office stand in solidarity with our members and friends during these unprecedented times.*

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### — Graduate Women International News —

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Dear Members and Friends,

We are writing to you during these anxious times as the economies of our respective countries react to the daily news, and as we all make adjustments to our deeply entrenched social habits to flatten the curve of the virus. We realize that we are all trying to "hang in there" as the news remains fluid and familiar community institutions are locked down.

As we are all watching our world face an unprecedented public health challenge in the fight against COVID-19, GWI stands in solidarity with all of you and particularly those who are most vulnerable during uncertain circumstances like this. Although the safety and well-being of everyone requires us to physically separate from one another, the GWI Board, Committees, and Office remain committed to our global membership community of graduate women. Through this unprecedented period, GWI will continue doing what it knows best: raising the voice of graduate women around the world and working for the preservation and improvement of women's and girls' fundamental right to education.

GWI knows that in crises, pre-existing social inequalities and injustice are often deepened. We are concerned that girls will be impacted the most by school closings in many countries. They are least likely to return to school and in many areas most vulnerable to drop out. For this reason, GWI is resolutely focused on continuing to pursue its mission as routinely as possible in support of our almost 15,000 members across the world and to remain engaged and energized through this evolving global challenge.

When we come out on the other side of this pandemic, a lot of things will look the same, but, as countries and as a planet, we will be changed forever because we will have been through a profoundly transformative experience.

Dramatically changed conditions can be distracting, but rest assured that GWI remains united and committed to pursuing our mission. Thank you all for your support in these difficult times. Our thoughts are with you in uncertain circumstances like these.

Sincerely,  
GWI Board, Committees and Office



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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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