GWI UPDATE – 10 June 2020

Graduate Women International (GWI) continues its 2020 Webinar Cycle “Connecting across Borders for Growth of Knowledge and Friendship” with the “Gender and Art Webinar: Challenges and Satisfactions in a Woman’s Artistic Creation” on Thursday 11 June 2020, 4-5pm CEST (GWI Members Only)

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- Register Today! Exploring GWI Policy Resolution 3: Sexual & Reproductive Health Education – 17 June 2020 10-11am CEST (morning session) 4-5pm CEST (afternoon session)
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— GWI International Advocacy News —

GWI marks World Day Against Child Labour
Launched in 2002 by the International Labour Organisation (ILO), World Day Against Child Labour draws attention to the global problem of child labour and the actions needed to eliminate it. According to ILO, more than 152 million children globally between 5-17 are child labourers, with almost half of them, 73 million, in hazardous child labour. Concerningly, the current COVID-19 health pandemic is exacerbating the root causes of child labour and forced labour, including poverty, social marginalisation, discrimination, the lack of universal quality education, the prevalence of the informal economy and weak social dialogue. Child labour is a cruel atrocity robbing children of their childhoods and an injury to the pursuit of education. GWI calls for global ratification of ILO conventions as a mean to end this blatant violation of children’s fundamental rights. Beginning today, GWI launches a social media campaign of impactful information and advocacy ideas to raise awareness about child labour and the organisation’s pursuit to
end this injustice. Follow GWI’s social media campaign on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and Instagram and 
CLICK HERE to watch ILO 2020 World Day Against Child Labour high level virtual debate on 12 June 2020. 
The debate will start at 4:30pm CET.

— Member News —

GWI Circular 4/2020: Call for Participation in the GWI Ad Hoc Committee on Fundraising
GWI Vice President Fundraising, Dr. Basak Ovacik, is calling for members to brainstorm together to 
formulate a new fundraising strategy for GWI. The Committee’s aim is to set goals and identify funding 
sources for GWI that are especially needed in the new COVID-19 environment. “Establishing an Ad Hoc 
Fundraising Committee will enhance our friendship and solidarity during these unpredictable times as well 
as identifying support resources for GWI”, says, Dr. Ovacik. Under Basak’s leadership, the Committee will 
identify best practices on fundraising for GWI in the post-COVID-19 world. For example, the Committee 
will explore regional sponsors/funders with the help of Regional Leaders. GWI members who have an 
interest in fundraising, who have fundraising experience and who share the common GWI passion are 
welcome and encouraged to become a member of the Ad Hoc Committee Fundraising. The deadline to 
apply is 3 July 2020. Click HERE to access the full circular and more information on how to join the GWI 
Ad Hoc Committee on Fundraising.

Meet the British Federation Women Graduates (BFWG) Management Team!
BFWG is the leading graduate women’s organisation in England and one of GWI’s founding national 
members. In May 2020, BFWG released a video introducing the current BFWG Management team and 
their work that is now enshrined in law and encourages women and girls to fulfil their potential especially 
through education. Click HERE to access the video and HERE to access the BFWG website.

— GWI 2020 Webinar Cycle —

GWI Spring 2020 Webinar Cycle "Connecting across Borders for Growth of Knowledge and Friendship" 
continues:

REGISTER TODAY! (GWI Members Only)
GWI Gender and Art Webinar: Challenges and Satisfactions in a Woman’s Artistic Creation
Thursday, 11 June 2020, 4-5pm CEST

SAVE THE DATE
GRADUATE WOMEN INTERNATIONAL (GWI)
Connecting Across Borders for Growth of Knowledge and Friendship
GENDER AND ART WEBINAR: CHALLENGES AND SATISFACTIONS IN A WOMAN'S ARTISTIC CREATION
THURSDAY, 11 JUNE 2020
4-5PM CEST (GWI Members Only)
CLICK HERE TO REGISTER
Plan to attend future webinars on this GWI programmes, Gender and Art, and more! 
The webinar series kicked off on 8 May and has included three webinars. **Missed the chance to participate? Not a problem!** The recordings of all three webinars are now available for all current GWI Members. To access each of the recordings, please click on the webinar links below. The videos are password protected and accessible freely to GWI members. GWI members can contact info@graduatewomen.org to obtain the necessary password to view share with member networks. Please visit the GWI Member Corner for more information on the previous and upcoming GWI webinars. [Register Here](#) for the upcoming GWI webinars!

- GWI Twinning Programme Webinar was held 8 May 2020, [access the full recording of the webinar HERE](#).
- Gender and Media Webinar: “Empowering or threatening?” was held 15 May 2020, [access the full webinar recording HERE](#).
- GWI International Advocacy Webinar was held 21 May 2020, [access the full webinar recording HERE](#).
- GWI Exploring GWI POLICY resolutions 5 & 6: Gender and Migration/ASYLUM webinar was held 3 June 2020 and featured two different expert speakers, access the full [morning webinar recording HERE](#) and the full [afternoon webinar recording HERE](#).

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**GWI at the United Nations**

**GWI written statement to the 44th session of the Human Rights Council (HRC44)**

GWI’s written statement addressing HRC44 on the shadow pandemic of Gender-Based Violence (GBV) has been accepted by the United Nations (UN) Geneva and is now available on the [UN website](#). Co-signed by the Canadian Federations of University Women (CFUW) and Women Graduates-USA (WG-USA), the statement calls on governments worldwide to urgently combat domestic violence in the context of COVID-19 with practical and innovative measures to ensure adequate reporting of the phenomenon and assistance for GBV victims. As does COVID-19, GBV knows no nationality, culture, race, sexual orientation
or religious boundaries. The statement makes strong recommendations about putting women and girls at the forefront of response agenda and policies and mobilising all stakeholders to ensure that incidents of violence against women and girls are given high priority with no impunity for perpetrators. We invite you to read and our statement HERE. Whilst information on the format and confirmed dates of HRC44 are forthcoming, GWI remains ready to participate in the session in accordance with the UN’s guidelines.

**GWI UN Representative participates in UNESCO webinar on women leaders and COVID-19**

On 14 May 2020, Dominique Ciavatti, GWI UNESCO Representative in Paris, participated in a webinar titled “The Changemakers at the Forefront of COVID-19 Responses” and hosted by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO). This online event is part of the fifth UNESCO webinar series, which aims to exchange experiences and expertise on the measures to address the COVID-19 crisis at the global and local levels. The presentation focused on the testimonies of four women leaders from Norway, Turkey, India and Sierra Leone whose cities are members of the International Coalition of Inclusive and Sustainable Cities (ICCAR) and discussed the initiatives implemented by women leaders at urban level to address the consequences of the COVID-19 crisis. Click HERE to read Ciavatti’s full report.

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**Call for applications**

**Amelia Earhart Fellowship**
The goal of the Amelia Earhart Fellowship is to assist the future of women in the fields of aerospace related sciences or aerospace-related engineering. Each year, 35 talented women, pursing Ph.D degrees in aerospace related sciences around the globe have the chance to receive the $10,000 Fellowship from Zonta International. The application for the 2021 cycle will be available mid-July 2020. To find out more information please click HERE.

**U.S. Department of Education - Federal Pell Grant Program**
The Federal Pell Grant Program provides need-based grants to low-income undergraduate and certain postbaccalaureate students to promote access to postsecondary education. Students may use their grants at any one of approximately 5,400 participating postsecondary institutions. Grant amounts are dependent on the student's expected family contribution (EFC); the cost of attendance (as determined by the institution); the student's enrolment status (full-time or part-time); and whether the student attends for a full academic year or less. For the 2020–21 year, you can apply until 30 June 2021. To find out more about the program click HERE.

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**Give the gift of membership**

Graduation season is upon us: with the turn of a tassel, a new generation of female leaders and changemakers emerges, carrying with them an incomparable sense of pride, accomplishment and hope for what’s yet to come. Celebrate the accomplishments and limitless potential of the graduate women in your life, give the gift of membership! GWI membership allows graduate women 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 provide new graduate women with the opportunity to raise their voice at the global level by becoming a part of a community of some 16’000 members in 56 countries, either as a GWI independent member or national member of one of our National Federations and Associations (NFAs).
Eager to know more about GWI’s history and the inspiring women who have marked the first 100 years of our international graduate women’s organisation? In honour of the GWI Centenary in 2019, and with the collaboration of the GWI NFAs, Anne Holden Rønning edited a list of portraits of some of the many inspiring women who have made and are still making GWI the unique and vibrant network of graduate women that it is. We encourage you to take a thorough look at this fascinating Cavalcade of Women.

Other information and events

12 June World Day Against Child Labour, Global
15 June – 19 June 43rd session of the Human Rights Council, Geneva (resumed)
15 June – 3 July 44th session of the Human Rights Council, Geneva (to be confirmed)
19 June International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict, Global
20 June World Refugee Day, Global
23 June International Widows Day, Global
15 July World Youth Skills Day, Global
30 July World Day Against Trafficking in Persons, Global
31 July Pan-African Women’s Day, Global
9 August International Day of the World’s Indigenous Peoples, Global
12 August International Youth Day, Global
8 September International Literacy Day, Global
18-20 September Centenary of the French Association of University Women (AFFDU)
21 September International Day of Peace, Global

Follow us on social media!

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.

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