



GWU UPDATE – 24 June 2020



GRADUATE WOMEN INTERNATIONAL (GWI)

Connecting Across Borders for Growth of Knowledge and Friendship

INTERGENERATIONAL MEMBERSHIP WEBINAR

Thursday, 25 June 2020

10-11am (first session) 4-5pm (second session) CEST

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

(GWI Members Only)

Graduate Women International (GWI) will close its 2020 Spring Webinar Cycle "Connecting across Borders for Growth of Knowledge and Friendship" with the "Intergenerational Membership Webinar" on Thursday, 25 June 2020, 10-11am Central European Summer Time (CEST) (first session) and 4-5pm CEST (second session).

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— GWU International Advocacy News —

International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict

Friday, 19 June 2020 marked the sixth annual International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict. This United Nations (UN) observance day raises awareness of the urgent need to put an end to conflict-related sexual violence, a brutal crime mainly perpetrated against women and girls. Sexual violence represents a significant threat to international peace and security and a blatant and cruel violation of women's and girls' rights. In areas of conflict, survivors confront greater challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic, lacking the necessary resources to report sexual violence and facing closed shelters and clinics. GWU joins UN [Secretary-General Antonio Guterres](#) in calling for a global ceasefire and urging governments and local authorities to ensure that perpetrators are held accountable to prevent and end these crimes. GWU ran a social media campaign from 17 to 19 June providing substantial information and advocacy ideas for organisations to address the issue and help combat conflict-related sexual violence. Campaign materials can be viewed on the GWU social media platforms: [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [Instagram](#).

World Refugee Day: Every Action Counts

Nowadays, out of 70.8 million forcibly displaced people worldwide, 25.6 million fall under refugee status, among which 50 percent are women and girls, according to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). Every year on 20 June, GWI joins the international community in observing World Refugee Day as a means of raising awareness of the ongoing issue of refugees around the world through the different elements related to the importance of education in the lives of women and girls. The COVID-19 crisis has affected refugee populations markedly and, this year, GWI calls for coordinated global actions for the protection of refugee women's and girls' fundamental rights, including their right to education. The GWI 2020 World Refugee Day social media campaign, held from 18 to 20 June, can be viewed and shared on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [Instagram](#).

— GWI Member News —

GWI Circular 4: 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 COVID-19 and post COVID-19 strategy for funding. The Committee's aim is to set goals and identify funding sources and support for GWI. Establishing an Ad Hoc Fundraising Committee will enhance our friendship and solidarity during these unpredictable times. 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 new Board of the Japanese Association of University Women (JAUW)

On 24 May 2020, JAUW members gathered online for their Annual General Meeting and elected their new Board of Directors. Ms. Takayo Kano, former Vice President of JAUW was elected President, replacing former Board leader Ms. Yaeko Sumi. On this occasion, GWI thanks Ms. Chizuko Suzuki, JAUW CIR, for submitting new JAUW Board introduction: [click HERE to read this interesting write up](#). GWI appreciates Ms. Yaeko Sumi and former JAUW Board members for their work and commitment towards the empowerment of women and girls through education. Congratulations to Ms. Takayo Kano and the new JAUW Board: we wish you a very successful mandate and look forward to continued collaboration with our members in Japan.



JAUW new Board members. Center, President Ms. Takayo Kano (Front row, third from the right, with a black jacket), standing in front of the JAUW office after a Board meeting.

— GWI 2020 Webinar Cycle —

The GWI Spring 2020 Webinar Cycle “Connecting across Borders for Growth of Knowledge and Friendship” is drawing to a close! Do not miss the chance to participate in the last webinar of the series, TOMORROW, Thursday 25 June:



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[REGISTER TODAY! \(GWI Members Only\)](#)
GWI Intergenerational Membership Webinar
Thursday 25 June 2020, 10-11am CEST (first session) and 4-5pm CEST (second session)

The webinar series kicked off on 8 May and has included seven webinars.

Missed the chance to participate? Not a problem! The recordings of all previous webinars are now available for 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, access the full [morning webinar recording HERE](#) and the [full afternoon webinar recording HERE](#).
- GWI Gender and Art: Challenges and satisfactions in a woman’s artistic creation webinar was held 11 June 2020, access the full webinar recording [HERE](#).
- GWI Exploring GWI Policy Resolution 3: was held 17 June 2020, access the [full morning webinar HERE](#) and the [full afternoon webinar recording HERE](#).

— Call for applications —

Call for nomination – UNESCO International Literacy Prizes 2020

Since 1967, the UNESCO International Literacy Prizes have rewarded excellence and innovation in the field of literacy. Through these prestigious Prizes, UNESCO seeks to support support effective literacy practices and encourages the promotion of dynamic literate societies. This year’s focus is on “Teaching and learning literacy: The role of educators and changing pedagogies”. The nomination process is taking place via an [online platform](#) and the deadline for applications is **28 June 2020**. Governments, NGOs and individuals who promote literacy through projects and programmes are welcome to apply. For more information on the Prizes and how to apply, please click [HERE](#).

Margaret McNamara Education Grants

The Margaret McNamara Education Grants offer scholarships for women from developing countries aged 25 or over who are studying in selected universities in South Africa and Latin America. Applications are accepted between **15 May and 14 September** for the South Africa programme and **between 1 June and 30 September** for the Latin American Programme. Further details on eligibility criteria and application checklists can be found [here](#).

— Give the gift of empowerment —

The Bina Roy Partners in Development Programme (BRPID) is a grants mechanism of GWI that needs your financial support! BRPID began in 1978 and was later named in honour of Dr. Bina Roy, educator and former GWI President from India. To date, over half of the GWI NFAs have participated in BRPID, either as project sponsors or donor partners. For the 2020 round of funding, applications were received from Egypt, Ghana, Haiti, Nepal, Rwanda and Senegal. The BRPID programme supports projects that empower girls and women through education and leadership development. **The Bina Roy projects are supported by donations from impact investors, personal contributions and our own member affiliates around the world.** *GWI needs support for this years’ upcoming BRPID projects. Please consider [contributing](#) or recommending an organisation or institution that would consider [funding](#) a project.*

— Did you know? —

Did you know that GWI is close to celebrating its 101st anniversary? GWI, formerly known as the International Federation of University Women (IFUW), was founded in London on 11 July 1919 by university women from the United States, Great Britain and Canada. Our founding mothers, Dean Virginia Gildersleeve, Professor Caroline Spurgeon and Rose Sidgwick were convinced that by fostering friendship and understanding, women graduates could help prevent another catastrophe such as the World War that had just ended. A hundred years later, thousands of women graduate throughout the world share the same principles and visions. Last year, more than 400 participants from over 48 countries gathered in the heart of International Geneva to celebrate the GWI/IFUW centenary and launch GWI’s second century of support for women and girl’s education. Learn more about the GWI 33rd Triennial General Assembly, Peace Through Education Conference and Centenary Celebration [HERE](#).

— Other information and events —

15 June-3 July	Human Rights Council, 44 th session, Geneva (to be confirmed)
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
14 Sept-2 Oct	Human Rights Council, 45 th session, United Nations Office, Geneva
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.

Graduate Women International

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