



GW I UPDATE – 14 October 2020



International Advocacy Webinar Series

**PUTTING THE PIECES TOGETHER AND
RAISING WOMEN'S VOICES
THROUGH STRATEGIC ADVOCACY
IN A CHANGING WORLD**



GRADUATE WOMEN INTERNATIONAL (GWI)

This 4-part webinar series will explain GWI international advocacy and demonstrate how GWI members can create strategic advocacy plans of their own. *The series begins 22 October 2020 and continues with weekly webinars through 12 November 2020.* *For more webinar series information [click here](#).*

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(GWI Members Only)

Graduate Women International (GWI) is excited to announce the international Advocacy Webinar Series: "Raising women's voices through strategic advocacy in a changing world" beginning on 22 October 2020.

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— Graduate Women International News —

Register Today! Raising women's voices through strategic advocacy planning in a changing world" webinar series

GW I is excited to announce the international advocacy webinar series "**Raising women's voices through strategic advocacy planning in a changing world of advocacy**" beginning on 22 October 2020. Organised by GWI Vice-President, Advocacy and Education, Louise McLeod, and GWI Executive Director, Stacy Dry Lara, this four-part webinar series will inform members about GWI's international advocacy strategy and demonstrate how members can develop strategic advocacy plans for their National Federation and Association (NFA). We invite all GWI members to attend what promises to be an informative webinar series. [Click here to register](#) or click on the webinar banner below.




GRADUATE WOMEN INTERNATIONAL (GWI)
International Advocacy Webinar Series
**GWI ADVOCACY 101
AND THE UNITED NATIONS**
Thursday, 22 October 2020
10-11am (first session) and 4-5pm (second session) CET
[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)
(GWI Members Only)

GWI Advocacy 101 and the United Nations
22 October 2020, 10-11am CEST and 4-5pm CEST




GRADUATE WOMEN INTERNATIONAL (GWI)
International Advocacy Webinar Series
**HOW TO BECOME A
PRACTICING GWI ADVOCATE**
Thursday, 29 October 2020
10-11am (first session) and 4-5pm (second session) CET
(please note that the time has changed from CEST to CET)
[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)
(GWI Members Only)

How to Become a Practicing GWI Advocate
29 October 2020, 10-11am CET and 4-5pm CET




GRADUATE WOMEN INTERNATIONAL (GWI)
International Advocacy Webinar Series
**ADVOCACY IN ACTION:
HOW TO CREATE A STRATEGIC ADVOCACY PLAN
FOR TODAY'S DISTANCE LEARNING CHALLENGES**
Thursday, 5 November 2020
10-11am (first session) and 4-5pm (second session) CET
[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)
(GWI Members Only)

Advocacy in Action: How to create a Strategic
Advocacy Plan for Today's Distance Learning
Challenges
5 November 2020, 10-11am CET and 4-5pm CET




GRADUATE WOMEN INTERNATIONAL (GWI)
International Advocacy Webinar Series
**ADVOCACY IN ACTION:
HOW TO CREATE A STRATEGIC ADVOCACY
PLAN FOR GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE**
Thursday, 12 November 2020
10-11am (first session) and 4-5pm (second session) CET
[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)
(GWI Members Only)

Advocacy in Action: How to create a Strategic
Advocacy Plan for Gender-Based Violence
12 November 2020, 10-11am CET and
4-5pm CET

GWI Membership Marketplace

The Membership Marketplace offers two streams: Peer-to-Peer and NFA-to-NFA.

Register today for Peer-to-Peer Membership Marketplace activities lead by GWI experts:

- Spanish language lessons.
- ICT Literacy for beginners that includes definition, tools, and skills needed for that.
- Positive Discipline Parenting.
- Discussions on the role and challenges of female scientists in academia.
- Equal Enjoyment of Older People: A Reading Club.

Click [HERE](#) to learn more and join an activity. For more details on the Peer-to-Peer, contact Nezihe Bilhan at nezihebilhan549@gmail.com.

NFA-to-NFA Membership Marketplace The other option to participate in the Membership Marketplace is via the NFA-to-NFA, formerly Twinning, stream. To participate and learn more about this particular stream of projects, please fill in the form on the GWI website [HERE](#). If your NFA needs help in identifying

an NFA partner, GWI is pleased to help. Please contact Dr. Meera Bondre, Indian Federation of Women's Associations, at meera.bondre@gmail.com .

GWI Young Member Town hall recording

On Saturday 3 October 2020, the GWI Young Member Network (YMN) convened a virtual town hall meeting to present ideas and goals of GWI YMN formed at the GWI conference in 2019. This town hall provided discussion space for young members to examine their GWI targets for the remainder of this triennial, with a keen focus on how global communities are fighting to emerge from the current COVID-19 crisis. Did you miss the chance to participate in this meaningful discussion? The recording of the town hall is available freely to all GWI members on the GWI member corner [HERE](#). The videos recording is password protected. GWI members can contact info@graduatewomen.org to obtain the necessary password to view and share the recording with their national 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 Member News —

The Icelandic Federation of University Women celebrates 92 years

The Icelandic Federation of University Women, Felag Islenskra Haskolakvenna (FIH), celebrates its 92nd anniversary this fall. FIH, founded in 1928, joined GWI in 1929. To mark this milestone anniversary, FIH released a remarkable report on its past and present activities and the advances they have made towards gender equality in Iceland. Please click [HERE](#) to read this noteworthy GWI NFA report. GWI congratulates FIH on their continued commitment to the empowerment of women and girls through education at the highest level in Iceland and at the international level.



In February 2020, FIH honored Dr. Gudrun Petursdottir for her immense contribution to the Icelandic science community through her work in the field of biophysics and neurobiology.

Congratulations to member emerita Dalma Jacobs, Australian Graduate Women (AGW)

In June 2020, Dalma Jacobs, longstanding member of AGW and immediate past AGW Coordinator of International Relations (CIR) was nominated as member in the general division of the Order of Australia (OAM) for service to women in tertiary education, in the Queen's Birthday Honours. GWI congratulates Ms. Jacobs for this outstanding recognition of her exemplary commitment and contribution to the empowerment of women through education at the highest level. More about Ms. Jacobs can be found in the citation published in the AGW Newsletter, the Catalyst, [HERE](#).

— Advocacy —

GWI celebrates the limitless potential and resilience of rural women

Did you know that rural women represent a quarter of the world's population? Celebrated annually on 15 October, International Day of Rural Women aims to strengthen rural women and girls' voices. This year's theme "*Building rural women's resilience in the wake of COVID-19*" brings attention to these women's struggles, their needs, and their critical role in our global society. Rural women already faced specific previous struggles in their daily lives. Now, since COVID-19 and, because of their unique health needs in remote areas, they are less likely to have access to quality health services, essential medicines, and vaccines. Restrictive social norms and gender stereotypes can also limit rural women's ability to access health services. Additionally, rural woman also suffer from few education opportunities and training and a lack of access to critical technologies to improve their work and personal life. GWI encourages you to Follow, Like and Share GWI's social media campaign on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [Instagram](#) and join us in galvanizing action by all stakeholders to support rural women and girls to not only rebuild their lives after COVID-19 but increase their resilience in the face of future crises.

GWI voices alarm about the World Bank predictions for world poverty

Observed every year on 17 October, the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty is a reminder that in a world characterized by an unprecedented level of economic development, technological means and financial resources, millions of persons continue to live in extreme poverty. GWI notes this year's theme, "act together to achieve social and environmental justice for all". However, GWI redirects attention to the recent World Bank (8 June 2020) predictions indicating that the COVID19 pandemic is likely to push between 88 and 115 million people onto extreme poverty in 2020, setting back poverty reduction goals by at least three years. Given that education and poverty are inversely related, GWI is alarmed by this new prediction. Click [HERE](#) to read the full press release on International Day for the Eradication of Poverty and follow, like and share GWI's social media campaign on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#).

— Call for applications —

Stephen Bufton Memorial Education Fund

The Stephen Bufton Memorial Educational Fund exists to provide educational grants and scholarships to women pursuing post-secondary educational goals as well as ongoing professional development in order to support their career advancement and to help them become the role models, mentors and leaders of the future. **Available scholarships for the year 2021-2022 will be announced on 15 October 2020** [HERE](#).

Australia Awards Scholarships for African Students with 3rd Class

Australia Awards, a cornerstone of the Australian Government's development assistance program for Africa, provide access to postgraduate education, training, and professional development opportunities for suitably qualified Africans from eligible countries. On their return to the workplace, Australia Awards Alumni are expected to contribute actively to development in their home countries. The Scholarship is offered annually and the deadline for the scholarship is **December and March of the academic year**. For further information about requirements and the application process, please click [HERE](#).

— GWI at the United Nations —

45th session of the Human Rights Council (HRC45)

HRC45 took place at the Palais des Nations in Geneva from 14 September to 7 October 2020. Addressing the Council on the opening day of the session, Michelle Bachelet, United Nations (UN) High Commissioner to Human Rights appealed for global solidarity to confront COVID-19. Bachelet brought particular attention to the fact that women are being severely impacted by the crisis. A September 2020 study by UNWOMEN and UNDP estimated that by 2021, around 435 million women and girls will be living on less than US\$1.90 a day — including 47 million who have been pushed into poverty by COVID-19. According to the report, differences in vulnerability to the socio-economic consequences of the pandemic could mean that next year, there will be 118 women in poverty for every 100 men. The very sharp rise in domestic violence which has been reported across every region is also profoundly alarming. More information on HRC45 sessions and reports is available [HERE](#).

Submit your story for the online book commemorating the UN 75th anniversary!

As we commemorate the 75th anniversary of the UN, we invite you to contribute your stories, messages, and good wishes for the future success of the UN in the online book, Thank You, United Nations. Let us recognize the many, wonderful contributions the UN has made to the betterment of our world community. Let us work together as global citizens for equality, sustainable development and peace. Contributing is free, easy and can be uploaded in any language. This site is open for submission and the final book will be presented to the high-level members during UN General Assembly. As graduate women and members of GWI, the leading organisation working for the empowerment of all women and girls through education at the highest level, your contribution is valuable. Share your story, photos and wishes to UN Women and join the celebration today by clicking [HERE](#).

— Give the gift of education —

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. Please consider [contributing](#) or recommending an organization or institution that would consider [funding](#) a project.

— Did you know? —

On 11 October 2020, GWI has issued a [toolkit](#) for the [International Day of the Girl](#), as featured by the Women's UN Report Network (WUNRN). WUNRN, based on a UN study, is considered one of the best, most respected, comprehensive global resources on women's and girls' issues. WUNRN provides research, documentation, programs, reports - TOOLS - to move forward advocacy and activism, local to global, on the human rights, oppression, and empowerment of women and girls all over the world. We are always pleased for the WUNRN coverage. If you are not yet receiving their information, you can sign up [HERE](#).

— Other information and events —

15 October	International Day of Rural Women, Global
17 October	International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, Global
24 October	United Nations Day, Global
17 November	International Students Day, Global
19 November	World Toilet Day, Global
20 November	Universal Children's Day, Global
25 November	International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, Global
25 Nov-10 Dec	16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence, Global
9 December	Anti-Corruption Day, Global
10 December	Human Rights Day, Global
18 December	International Migrants Day, Global
20 December	International Human Solidarity Day, 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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