



Advocacy Report 2021

GWI advocacy goals

- 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.
- By 2030 100% of United Nations low income Member States have increased access to tertiary education for girls and women by 50%.
- 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.
- Influence the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4.
- All 17 SDGs will include girls' education targets.

Please bear in mind these five overarching, long-term goals during any United Nations intervention that you make on behalf of GWI. Any intervention should push these five goals further.

NB: *Although these goals represent GWI's mission, UN Reps are also invited to promote GWI key messages on areas where especially relevant e.g. women in STEM, securing investment in women teachers, addressing barriers to girls' education such as child marriage.*

Submitted by GWI Fall 2021 intern, Alex Taylor, Colgate University

UNGA 76 General Debate Warm-Up Meeting- Online meeting September 14, 2021, 4:00pm-5:00pm CEST

At the 76th United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) General Debate warm-up meeting hosted by the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) on September 14th, Lynn Wagner, Javier Surasky, and María Fernanda Espinosa spoke about what to expect and look out for at the upcoming 76th Regular Session of the UNGA.



The main discussion was broken down into three key topics that the panel advised those listening to pay attention to in the future:

- Climate Change
- The Covid-19 pandemic
- Governance and Multilateralism.

Due to the high number of world leaders that will be attending the 76th UNGA, Espinosa stated that she believed the upcoming assembly could prove to be “a breakout or breakthrough,” especially in regards to these issues. According to the panelists, the key to future change will be acting together and working towards a common agenda.

World leaders need to recommit themselves to their Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), namely the 17 SDGs adopted by all UN member states at the UN Sustainable Development Summit in 2015. GWI is especially concerned with goals four and five, which aim for increased access to quality education and empowerment of women and girls, respectfully. At the summit, countries resolved to work together to create a better path forward, leaving no one behind, but the panelists in the warm-up meeting point out that issues of inequality have only risen since 2019. The Covid-19 Pandemic has created problems such as unequal access to vaccines while also worsening existing issues like poverty and extreme poverty. The speakers believe that by working as a global collective, states can work to solve these problems. María Fernanda Espinosa stated that in order for this meeting to be successful, leaders must “mend the broken trust of institutions within the multilateral system.” With the UNGA General Debate commencing on September 21, 2021, it will be interesting to watch as these topics are discussed on the global stage.

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