



## GWI UPDATE – 18 August 2021



### VOTE FOR GWI!

GWI is a finalist in the GlobalGiving 2021 photo contest.  
To win \$1000 we need your vote!



*This photo depicts the excitement generated in girls who participate in GWI leadership and skills development workshops. Educational workshops are coupled with in-depth mentoring providing students with critical knowledge supported by practical skills that will support them on their journey towards becoming successful and confident young women.*



Vote from 16 to 20 August.

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*Graduate Women International (GWI) was selected as a GlobalGiving Photo contest finalist.  
Voting is open from 16-20 August 2021.*

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## — Graduate Women International News —

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### **GWI is a GlobalGiving Photo contest finalist!**

Out of 400+ entries, GWI was selected as a GlobalGiving Photo Contest finalist! The picture by which we were selected depicts the excitement generated in girls who participate in GWI leadership and skills development workshops. Today, you can help us to win up to \$1,000 in support of Girls Education for Brighter Futures by voting [HERE](#). It will support the Girls Education for Brighter Futures programme that aims to rebuild education post COVID-19. For example, with \$40 GWI can organise workshops encouraging young girls in STEM. Be sure to tell your friends and family: voting is open until 20 August!

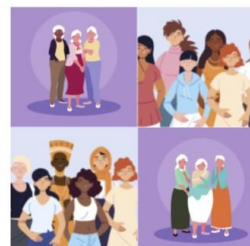
### **Save the date! YMN webinar “International Day of Peace: Celebrations Across Generations”**

To mark International Day of Peace and to conclude its “Connecting Across Generations” webinar series, GWI YMN will hold on Saturday, 18 September 2021, 4-5:30 PM CEST, a webinar “International Day of Peace: Celebrations Across Generations”. All GWI Members are invited to register today by clicking [HERE](#).



**SAVE THE DATE**  
Saturday, 18 September 2021  
CEST 4:00PM – 5:30PM

Young Members Network  
*Connecting Across Generations*  
Fourth Webinar



### ***International Day of Peace: Celebrations Across Generations***

All Members of GWI are welcome.  
Join us for an interactive session creating meaningful intergenerational connections.  
Register Here: <https://graduatewomen.org/register-for-webinar/>

### **GWI Global North-South Dialogue “Women, Leadership and Peace” webinar summary**

*Submitted by Ranjana Banerjee, President of Indian Federation of University Women’s Associations (IFUWA) and UWAsia (University Women of Asia)*

“UWAsia had their first event on Peace and conflict Resolution: A dialogue on 7 August, 2021. Happy to say that UWAsia has been revived ever since its last appearance in 2012. Ninety seven participants attended the programme making it ever so successful and enjoyable. The speakers from India, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka eloquently spoke on experiences related to severe community and personal conflicts and proposed various ways of leadership and conflict management. This was inclusive of the perspective of military impositions and the initiation of different leadership styles dealing with conflicts. This event was in conjunction with the speakers coming from the Pacific regions where discussions were projected on women’s role in peace building activities with a history of their culture attached to it. The discussions culminated in a comprehensive approach to the UWAsia-Pacific concerns and interests in the peace violation areas. The programme witnessed discussions and details on peacekeeping instruments like UNSC 1325, CEDAW, as well as UN

resolutions. It highlighted the role GWI and other NFAs can play as peace activists without laying much stress on a feminist approach. The discussions concluded that there is a need for more development of governance for peace building and conflict management.”

GWI congratulates UWAsia and Pacific Graduate Women’s Network (PGWNet) for this GWI Global North-South Dialogue, initiated by Membership Committee, which has created interactive conversations on topics of concern within the GWI global space. It enhanced the knowledge and friendship connectivity between our six regions as part of the overall GWI Membership Connecting across Borders Program. VP Membership Eileen Focke-Bakker stated: “The webinar participants showed us how GWI has grown in the last years in their global vision and international collaboration. So many different issues were discussed and solutions were formulated. I was profoundly impressed. With great gratitude I thank the UWAsia and Pacific (PGWNet) organizers for making this groundbreaking event happen”. If you missed this event, please do not hesitate to click [HERE](#) to view the recording in the Member corner, or [HERE](#) to view it in Vimeo.

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## — GWI Member News —

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### **IAUW’s successful scholarships**

*Submitted by Ora Sharon, IAUW VP and Coordinator of International Relations (CIR)*

“The AUW, in keeping with one of our main aims of promoting and encouraging the continuing education of girls and women, has been operating a very successful Scholarship Fund for many years. The Jerusalem Branch of IAUW has awarded over 600 scholarships in the last 50 years to doctoral women students at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. These grants have been conferred at an annual awards event. Last year, due to the corona pandemic, we were unable to hold an awards ceremony, but we were able to grant 10 scholarships to doctoral students. This year, on July 6, 2021, at a very gratifying event, we again awarded 9 scholarships of 6,000 NIS each to women doctoral students, and heard very interesting resumes about their research.



*Nine women have received scholarships from the Jerusalem branch.*

Three years ago, when the Tel Aviv-Central Branch of IAUW was reorganized, they also started a scholarship fund. The Branch has adopted a number of institutions for young girls-at-risk, girls who

have been removed from their homes by court order and are living and studying in these institutions. Members of the Branch mentor and help these young women in various ways. For the past three years the Branch has been awarding scholarships to some of these young women for their continued education in institutes of higher learning. This year they awarded 19 scholarships of 6,000 NIS each.



*Out of the 19 scholarships given to the Tel Aviv branch, these seven women have received the scholarship awards from the Tel Aviv branch*

These scholarships are not only financial aid, but as the young women always emphasize, the support and encouragement is of utmost importance to them, and gives them the courage to persevere and attain their goals.”

GWJ thanks Ora Sharon for this important note that recalls that scholarships are key to ensure a better access to education for women.

### **GWJ NFA countries present VNRs to show their commitment for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at HLPF**

As part of its follow-up and review mechanisms, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development encourages member states to provide reviews of how SDGs are being implemented and developed. As VNR, they aim to “facilitate the sharing of experiences, including successes, challenges and lessons learned, with a view to accelerating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda”. Despite the current pandemic crisis, 42 countries presented their VNR during the second week of the 2021 HLPF. Ten NFA countries featured their document: [Bolivia](#), [Cyprus](#), [Denmark](#), [Egypt](#), [Japan](#), [Mexico](#), [Paraguay](#), [Sierra Leone](#), [Spain](#) and [Zimbabwe](#).

GWJ encourages you to click on each country's name to access their 2021 VNR to see how SDGs, especially the SDGs 4 and 5, are being implemented in spite of the global context.

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## — Advocacy —

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### **Child marriage and girls' education: A global perspective and a unified call to action webinar**

On 22 July, Girls Not Bribes organised a side event: Child marriage and girls' education: A global perspective and a unified call to action. As the Global Education (GE) Summit was fast approaching

(28-29 July), GWI joined this important event to reaffirm that the moment is key for the global community to support and ensure quality education for all girls. Thus, this webinar aimed at reviewing the latest Girls Not Bribes [report](#) on child marriage and girls' education, and further emphasized that the GE Summit needs to hold governments accountable for what they pledged. Also, because there is a strong need for a multistakeholder approach, the stress was on the inclusive part of the follow up: organisations have to be part of helping States to deliver on their commitments. Altogether, we can change how education happens, and GWI encourages you to be part of that effort.

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## — GWI at the United Nations —

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### **Elisabeth Francis, UNRep, at the CCPCJ**

The 30th Session of the CCPCJ took place 17-21 May in Vienna, with close to 1,100 participants representing 125 countries. During this special session held in a hybrid format, the focus was on the impact of the global pandemic on crime and on the follow-up to the 14th UN Crime Congress held in March. GWI would like to thank Elisabeth Francis for her participation and exceptional report. We invite you to click [HERE](#) to read it. We also encourage you to read [HERE](#) the statement that we submitted to the Commission, which urges the UN to accelerate the gender perspective of all crime prevention.

### **Louise McLeod, GWI VP Advocacy & Education, at the HLPF 2021**

The meeting of the HLPF was held from Tuesday, 6 July, to Thursday, 15 July 2021. During the last three days, it included ministerial meetings, with the adoption of the Ministerial Declaration as the outcome of its session. The HLPF discussed ways to ensure a sustainable and resilient recovery from COVID-19 that puts us on track to realize the 2030 Agenda. Of the nine SDGs reviewed, the Declaration calls, inter alia, for "gender-responsive national responses to COVID-19" as well as "for the leadership and full, effective and equal participation of women in decision-making" (Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 10). It was also discussed the importance of transformative education (SDG 4.7) during a side event. GWI would like to thank Louise McLeod for her participation in this key event. We encourage you to peruse her informational report [HERE](#).

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## — Give the gift of education —

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**Give the gift of education** to women and girls around the world by contributing to our new [Girls' Education for Brighter Futures Post-COVID-19 Programme](#), which directly supports GWI's advocacy work and microprojects held throughout the world to remove socio-cultural, gender-related and economic barriers girls face towards education endeavours. To contribute to GWI's work towards safe access to quality education and to raise awareness about the gender barriers in education please click [HERE](#).

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## — Did you miss it? —

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Did you miss it? GWI is currently running a Women Pioneers' summer campaign on social media, until 31 August! This campaign showcases eminent members of GWI, pioneers in their field and known for their contribution to society. Stay tuned for posts at 7PM CEST on [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#), and click [HERE](#) to download them all.

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## — Dates and events worth noting —

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8 September	International Literacy Day, Global
14 Sept-2 Oct	Human Rights Council, 48th session, United Nations Office, Geneva
21 September	International Day of Peace, Global
5 October	World Teachers' Day, Global
11 October	International Day of the Girl Child, Global
15 October	International Day of Rural Women, Global
17 October	World Day for Eradication of Poverty, Global
24 October	United Nations Day, Global
17 November	Student's Day, Global
19 November	World Toilet Day, Global

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## 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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