



GWI UPDATE – 8 December 2021



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— Graduate Women International News —

GWI announces 34th Triennial General Assembly and conference dates

GWI is pleased to announce that the 34th Triennial General Assembly and Conference will be held 100% virtually 11-13 November 2022. GWI congratulates and welcomes IFUWA as the host National Federation and Association (NFA). This conference will tackle globally relevant education and funding issues central to GWI’s mission: empowering girls and women through

quality education to the highest levels. Additional focus will be aimed towards the implementation of the UN Sustainable Development Goal 4, Quality Education - Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all. **Please watch for additional information that will be released soon!**

“Your right, your role: Say no to Corruption”

International Anti-Corruption Day is observed annually by the UN to emphasise that corruption undermines social and economic development, and education opportunities at all levels in every society. Marking the day, GWI endorses the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) 2021 “Your right, your role: Say no to Corruption,” campaign declaring that everyone including Government officials, media, the private sector, civil society, academia has the right and responsibility to fight against corruption. As staunch anti-corruption advocates, in March 2021, GWI organised with the UNODC the “Women and Corruption: Root Causes and Impact on Women's Potential” parallel event during the Commission on the Status of Women 66th session. To read more please [click HERE](#).

— GWI Member News —

Sexual Harassment in the Workplace: GWI Membership Marketplace video

As part of the GWI Membership Marketplace initiative, IFUWA and EAUW came together for an NFA-to-NFA project on Sexual Harassment in the Workplace. This endeavour witnessed the development of joint projects aimed to design, execute, and apply established policies to address this vital area. This initiative succeeded in friendship and camaraderie-building between members of the two GWI NFA countries. The webinars addressed the common issues concerning professional women facing sexual harassment in the workplace in both the countries. The project highlighted the effective role of the Judiciary and the role of women centric, non-governmental organisations along with the redressal mechanism to deal with it as well as the role of the government in forming laws for women’s protection. The informative fourth and final webinar for the project can be watched [HERE](#). **GWI congratulates IFUWA and EAUW on this exceptional project.** Should your GWI NFA want to duplicate the project, please contact Dr. Meera Bondre, GWI Membership Convenor and Chair of the NFA-to-NFA Membership Marketplace stream, meera.bondre@gmail.com.

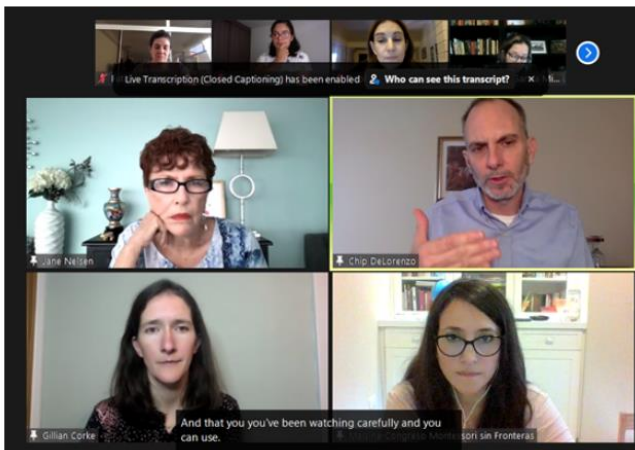
PFGW organises International Conference “Montessori without borders”

Submitted by PFGW President, Malvina Segovia

The International “Montessori Without Borders Conference”, organised by the Paraguayan Federation of Graduate Women was held on the 19th and 20th of November in commemoration of María Montessori’s 150 years. This initiative, aligned with the GWI organisational development plan and its objectives, sought to highlight the figure of an

outstanding woman who managed to transcend physical and temporal spaces working for peace and education.

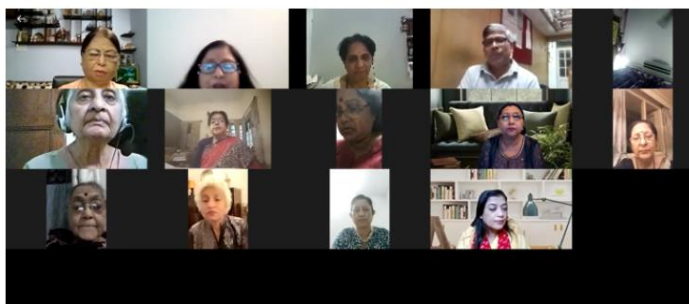
The central themes of the conference were the social value of education as a space for transformation and the Montessori philosophy as support for human development. The conference brought together educators, parents and caregivers from the most varied backgrounds and countries. Speakers from Paraguay, Argentina, México, Colombia, the United States, Spain and Italy united for the cause to make a memorable event. The funds raised as registration fees were sent to three different educational Programs: A School support program in Paraguay for girls aged 9-12 managed by the Asociación Promotora de Iniciativas Sociales (APRIS), the Girls Education for Brighter Futures by GWI and the Educateurs sans Frontières Program by AMI. GWI congratulates PFGW for this exceptional event! Read more about this engaging conference [HERE](#).



Presentation of recognition award to Jane Nelsen

IFUWA holds “Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens: Legal Implications and Moral Obligations” webinar

The IFUWA held an interactive Zoom webinar on “Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens: Legal Implications and Moral Obligations” on 27 November with Advocate Rabin Majumder of the Supreme Court of India. It dealt extensively in areas of Senior Citizens rights and provisions of laws for dignified, happy, and respectable living as Senior Citizens.



IFUWA group picture with Advocate Rabin Majumder

Topics covered by Advocate Majumder included the Senior Citizens Act, Food Security Act, and Domestic Violence Act. He also touched upon torturous acts, the Indian Penal Code for offences like torture, physical hurt, etc., and the remedies thereof. Advocate Majumder explained that the Government has various laws for the protection of Senior Citizens. However, there is a lack of awareness of the existence of such laws

among the citizens. As a result, many senior citizens are living compromised lives with many apprehensions, such as their children turning hostile if they start exercising their rights. To conclude the webinar, he covered the provisions of the Senior Citizens Act, which provides for maintenance of the Senior parents and relations and the responsibilities towards them. In situations where there are no children or blood relatives, then the State Government has powers to assist the Senior Citizen in his/her daily necessities. **Thank you to IFUWA for hosting such an informative event!**

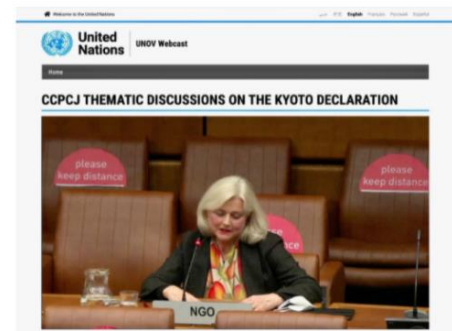
— International Advocacy and GWI at the United Nations —

Save the Date! Join the GWI International Day of Education Focus Groups!

As a result of COVID-19, 743 million girls around the world were pushed out of school. Solutions are needed. In its capacity as official partner of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation's (UNESCO), on International Day of Education, 24 January 2022, GWI will host three focus groups inspired by UNESCO's Futures of Education Focus Group Guidelines. The focus groups will contribute to a global dialogue and help to raise awareness and find solutions to the current problems facing girls' education some of which include poverty, early marriage and pregnancy, gender-based violence, the digital gender divide, and gender norms. The focus group information gathered will be summarised and disseminated to UNESCO and other UN agencies as a means to build capacity for their programmes. The sessions will run for the duration of one hour, with discussions lasting about 15 minutes per topic. Participants will receive key materials in advance and should be prepared to contribute actively in the discussions. Participation in this focus group is limited to a maximum of 15 participants through a call for participation. The deadline to answer the call is Friday, 14 January 2022. The selection process will be based on a first come first served basis. Please keep a look out for the invitation to participate coming soon!

GWI statement at CCPCJ Intersessional

On 11 November, GWI participated in the CCPCJ with an oral statement made by GWI UN Representative, Elisabeth Francis. This meeting took place from 10-12 November and focused on Pillar 1 of the Kyoto Declaration: Advancing crime prevention. GWI thanks Ms Francis for her continued exceptional work as a GWI UN Representative in Vienna and for making intervention during Thematic session 2: Addressing the economic dimension of crime. Read GWI's oral statement [HERE](#), which urges UN member states to implement effective measures to address corruption in education.



Elisabeth Francis delivering the GWI intervention

— Give the gift of education —

Girls Education for Brighter Futures Post COVID-19 Programme Update Report

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 projects held throughout



Education is a Powerful Path to Gender Equality

By Stacy Dry Lara and Alexa Grace - Executive Director and Intern

Dear Graduate Women International Donors,

Around the world, 743 million girls were pushed out of school as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. School closures due to COVID-19 have exacerbated gender inequalities, especially for the poorest women and girls. Since the beginning of the crisis, GWI has expressed concerns about the probable and



the world to remove socio-cultural, gender-related and economic barriers girls face towards education endeavours. GWI recently published a programme update report on GlobalGiving titled “**Education is a Powerful Path to Gender Equality**”. [To read the full programme update report click HERE](#). 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](#).

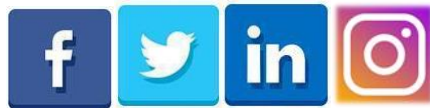
— Did you know? —

Did you know that GWI disseminates important information to all members via the National Federation and Association (NFA) President and Coordinator of International Relations (CIR)? The President and CIR contact details are critical to connecting with other NFA’s from around the globe who share the passion to work towards the advancement of women and girls equality and education opportunities. [Click HERE](#) to access the GWI NFA contact details.

— Dates and events worth noting —

25 Nov-10 Dec	16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence, Global
10 December	Human Rights Day, Global
18 December	Migrants Day, Global
20 December	Human Solidarity Day, Global
24 January	International Day of Education, Global
6 February	International Day of Zero Tolerance of Female Genital Mutilation, Global

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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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