



GWI UPDATE – 16 March 2022



– Graduate Women International News –

Graduate Women International (GWI) urges Russia to uphold the United Nations (UN) Declaration of Human Rights

In its open statement released on 4 March, GWI urges Russia to uphold the UN Declaration of Human Rights which both nations have signed to. In particular, Article 28 of the declaration: “Everyone is entitled to a social and international order in which the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration can be fully realized”. No State, group or person have any right to engage in any activity or to perform any act aimed at the destruction of any of the rights and freedoms set forth in this declaration. GWI therefore, urges the respective parties to end this conflict peacefully and negotiate peace between the two nations. Involve women* at the negotiating table as thus far we have mainly seen men at the first attempt of negotiation between the two nations. And promote the active participation of children and women in peace-building and post-conflict reconstruction. The full statement can be read [HERE](#).

International Women’s Day 2022 theme “Gender equality today for a sustainable tomorrow” bolsters the UN Security Council Resolution 1325

On 8 March, International Women’s Day, GWI took the global stage with its press release to remind central international actors that Resolution 1325 emphatically imposes their obligation to promote and protect the rights and dignity of women and children during conflict during every phase of life. GWI reminds all states and international organisations of Resolution 1325 declaration of the importance of international humanitarian and human rights law in the protection of women and their rights and the Resolution's recommendations to ensure greater participation at all levels of women in the prevention and resolve of military conflicts. Since its emergence at the turn of the twentieth century, International Women's Day has evolved into a global rallying point to springboard the advancement of the rights and status of women and girls worldwide and all spheres of society. The full press release can be read [HERE](#).

What Gets Measured, Gets Done: Measuring the Efficacy of Human Trafficking Policies

On 6 April 2021, GWI, Vice President, Advocacy and Education, and Women Graduates-USA (WG-USA) UN representative, Louise McLeod, will participate in an NGO Committee to Stop Trafficking in Persons (NGO CSTIP) event sponsored by the International Labor Organization, International Organisation on Migration, Refinitiv™, Sisters of Charity Federation, ECPAT USA, and WG-USA. The event will offer discussion on how the UN community can expand policies and procedures to bankrupt the business

of human trafficking by establishing global measurement standards including illicit profiteering and number of trafficking victims; incorporating such estimates into results framework of programmes and projects; facilitating collaboration amongst multi-sectors engaged in policy-making, implementation and monitoring of results.

There is global law. There are action plans. There are strategies. There are data gathering mechanisms. Yet, despite all efforts, trafficking crimes continue to proliferate unfettered throughout the world and have been exacerbated during COVID-19. Laudable efforts are ongoing but much more work is needed. NGO CSTIP, a coalition of UN accredited NGOs and individuals, is committed to the prevention and eradication of human trafficking in all its forms through advocacy and education. In partnership they take action against trafficking in person on local and national levels.

GWI congratulates Ms. McLeod and WG-USA for their recent appointment to the NGO CSTIP that considered GWI's international connection and resources as adding value to their international advocacy work to fight against human trafficking. To learn more about NGO CSTIP and the 6 April meeting, please click [HERE](#).

— CSW66 —

GWI co-sponsors six Commission on the Status of Women 66th session statements

As part of its Commission on the Status of Women 66 session (CSW66) participation, GWI accepted invitations from six significant nongovernmental organisations to cosponsor their written statements. These praiseworthy organisations International Alliance of Women, International Council of Women, International Federation of Business and Professional Women, UK Civil Society Women's Alliance, Women's Federation for World Peace International and Zonta International submitted impactful statements covering a wide array of women and girls' challenges and call to action the UN and Member States. GWI affiliates the Canadian Federation of University Women and WG-USA also submitted noteworthy statements call for action. All of the full statements can be found [HERE](#).

CSW66 Registration

To register for the CSW66 Forum (civil society) click [HERE](#). All registrants must create a user profile in order to register for parallel events. GWI members who would like to participate in the United Nations segment (government) of CSW66 are required to create an Indico account [HERE](#), then register for the CSW66 session. CSW66 began Monday, 14 March and runs through 25 March. More than 800 parallel events are on offer.

GWI CSW66 Parallel Events

Gendered Dimensions of Corruption and Its Impact in Gender Inequality

GWI, in cooperation with Women's United Nations Report Network, will present expert panellists who will address the gendered dimensions of corruption and the unique ways women experience corruption. **To register in advance for this parallel event use this link:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYqdeyurz8uGNUEV9wreiVJzx7j8lg--S>

Climate Crisis and Education: A Woman's Voice Include

To describe the global climate situation as it relates to education, GWI representatives from five diverse regions will tell their country's story regarding the climate crisis and related sustainability concepts. A future perspective will be presented by GWI young women as eco-anxiety is high among young people. Please see the event flyer [HERE](#). **To register in advance for this parallel event use this**

link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMscuCqpjsvHd0hv6TxFCByCGPnfEk9bMti>

Young Women and Climate Action: Educating a Climate Conscience Generation

GWI Young Member Network (YMN) will present a panel of experts to share their views based on research on the role of young women in contributing towards climate action as well as on how education plays a vital role in raising a climate conscious generation. Experts will also provide highlights of actions already taken and recommendations for the future. Please see the event flyer [HERE](#). **To register in advance for this parallel event use this link:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0pc-CtrDoiGdxSbYFZGJJwBilE-HJJsgNx>

"Our Ethical Consciousness and Actions Change the World: Towards the Participation of All People in Environmental Issues"

Japan, The National Women's Committee of the United Nations NGOs, The International Women's Year Liaison Group (IWYLG), JAWW (Japan Women's Watch) would like to invite you to the side event hosted by Permanent Mission of Japan to UN and 3NGOs, to which JAUW belongs, as follows. Climate change has caused many natural disasters in various parts of the world, increasing the gap between the rich and the poor. The way we consume has affected nature in developing countries. In response to these problems, there is a strong need for action to create a sustainable recycling society from an ethical perspective. In this side event, good practices in ethical consumption education and zero-waste initiatives will be introduced from Japan, Sweden, and JICA's Kyrgyz project. We will exchange opinions on actions that people of all ages can take in their daily lives to empower girls and women. The event will be held 15 March at 6am EST. **To register in advance for this parallel event use this link:** https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_G6bDZ3vSTqWHRdTxsGxNQ

Parallel Event Title: Women Leading Innovative Technology, Gender Equity

Shaila Rao Mistry, the founder and president of STEM Institute, hosts a parallel event in the field of science, technology, equity, education and women. Equitable inclusive leadership in technology innovation, financing is critical to climate investing. Technological advances and access to equitable financing are key drivers for solutions. Women technology drivers are essential to accelerate developments to impact health, food security, water and air pollution, carbon emissions, renewable energy etc. This event will be held on 18 March at 2:00 pm EST. Please see the event flyer [HERE](#). **To register in advance for this parallel event use this link:** https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_7Z1yeJD3SYedV7cv39CuQA?_xzm_rtaid=R_nGvObWSmiMQ8UqCG0aMw.1646926265513.148651f01c3c49e841344fd54b912c34&_xzm_rhtaid=668

— GWI Member News —

Pakistan Federation of University Women (PFUW), Horizon newsletter, first edition

"Given that PFUW is a vibrant organisation, there was a need to gather present activities, targets and plans in front of our member's. Horizon aims at periodically highlighting PFUW'S activities from a common front" says Dr Saira Bano, PFUW Convener of International Relations. GWI congratulates the PFUW on the first edition of their bimonthly newsletter, the Horizon, and warmly welcomes Prof.Dr.Syeda Aza Qamar, new PFUW president. GWI invites you to read more in PFUW Horizon Newsletter first edition [HERE](#).

Spanish Culture Bridge NFA-to-NFA project

On 8 March 2022, International Women's Day, the Spanish-Speaking Cultural Bridge held a panel entitled "Motivating Girls for Science and Technology Education". Guest panellists, recognised specialists in their fields at national and international levels, shared valuable experiences. GWI NFA members Cristina Torres from Argentina; Mary Esther Parada from Bolivia; Cristina Urdiales from Spain; Martha Takane from Mexico; Oris Sanjur from Panama and Romina Da Re from Paraguay presented their points of view from their professional perspective and agreed that the motivation of girls for education in scientific and technological disciplines must begin in the first years of their school journey, from their homes, offering them role models, with a language of inclusion, free of stereotypes for the achievement of equity and the representative balance required by the societies of the XXI century. The clarity of the presentations and the richness of the discussions aims motivate GWI NFA's to engage more and more in the task of making science and technology topics of interest and obvious choice among girls and no longer perceived by them as boys do. **GWI congratulates these Spanish-speaking NFAs for this ongoing Membership Marketplace project.**

— GWI at the United Nations —

Smashing stereotypes: Challenging gender bias in and through education

On 8 March, GWI participated in the "Smashing stereotypes: Challenging gender bias in and through education" webinar produced by UNESCO, UNGEI and Transform Education, with the support of the OECD. This interactive webinar offered discussion on how gender stereotypes and bias affect all students, their well-being, educational and career pathways, and how these norms can be challenged through education. Participants included young people who share personal experiences, education and gender policymakers, researchers and practitioners. The webinar-built evidence on this topic from different contexts, learners' and teachers' experience, and identified good practice. Specific attention was paid to highlight efforts aimed at increasing girls' participation in traditionally male-dominated domains of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) and in getting boys to take study paths related to teaching and caring. To hear the expert insights and youth opinion about tackling gender stereotyping and bias in teaching and learning, and creating a better future for all, click [HERE](#).

Transforming Education Summit report by UN Rep Maryella Hannum, New York

On 18 February, GWI UN Representative, Maryella Hannum, attended an update with the UN Deputy Secretary General on preparations for the Transforming Education Summit to be held September 2022. As the world emerges from COVID-19 crisis, the summit aims to mobilise greater political ambition, commitment, and action to reverse the slide on SDG4, reimagine education, and accelerate progress on education and the 2030 Agenda more broadly for the remainder of the Decade of Action. "The first Informal Briefing to Member States on the upcoming summit was informational and impactful", says Hannum. The "Our Common Agenda" theme is part of the focus on better representing young people and future generations. Preparations for the summit will build on the UNESCO report Futures for Education. GWI invites you to read this informative report [HERE](#).

— Give the gift of education —

Give the gift of education to women and girls around the world by contributing to our [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 the safe access to quality education and to raise awareness about the gender barriers in education please click [HERE](#).

— Did you know? —

Every Woman and Every Girl Written by Emily Lawson

Did you know that GWI has an official song? This song honours the inspirational work of GWI done in the past 103 years through their initiatives to ensure opportunities and education for all women and girls around the world. “The lyrics are inspired by the illuminating power of women in all walks of academic, community, family and career life. This also refers to the women and girls around the world who are strong, powerful leaders in all aspects of life who continue to advocate for themselves and others”, wrote Emily. GWI invites you to listen to the song [HERE](#).

— Dates and events worth noting —

1 st Saturday Monthly	GWI YMN Conversation Series
28 Feb- 1 April	49th Session of the United Nations Human Rights Council
14-25 March	CSW66
18 March	Parallel event-Gendered Dimensions of Corruption and Its Impact in Gender Inequality
21 March	International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination
22 March	World Water Day
22 March	Climate Crisis and Education: A Woman's Voice Include
	Young Women and Climate Action: Educating a Climate Conscience Generation
24 March	Generation
24 April	World Book & Copyright Day

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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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