



Graduate Women
International (GWI)

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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International Women's Day 2022 theme "Gender equality today for a sustainable tomorrow" bolsters the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325

Geneva, Switzerland, 8 March 2022 – 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. Observing the 2022 theme, "gender equality today for a sustainable tomorrow", Graduate Women International (GWI) reaffirms the significance of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325, Women, Peace, and Security, as an indispensable factor for a sustainable tomorrow.

Resolution 1325 was passed unanimously by the United Nations Security Council on 31 October 2000. Twenty-two years later, the Preamble's recognition of the disparate impact of armed conflict on women and girls is more applicable than ever before. **On International Women's Day, GWI takes the global stage 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 life phases.**

The Resolution underscores that "effective institutional arrangements to guarantee their [women] protection and full participation in the peace process can significantly contribute to the maintenance and promotion of international peace and security". **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.

GWI was founded in 1919 as worldwide organisation uniting university women, fostering friendship and understanding to help prevent another catastrophe such as World War I that had just ended. GWI has been promoting peace between all nations in the world for 103 years.

"We urge Russia to uphold the Resolution 1325 and United Nations Declaration of Human Rights which both Russia and Ukraine 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", says the GWI Board of Officers. **"GWI, therefore, urges the respective parties to end this conflict peacefully and negotiate peace between the two nations", they added.**

Graduate Women International (GWI) is a membership-based international NGO based in Geneva, Switzerland, with a presence in over 50 countries. Founded in 1919, GWI is the leading girls' and women's global organisation advocating for women's rights, equality, and empowerment through access to quality education and training up to the highest levels. GWI has maintained special consultative status with United Nations Economic and Social Council since 1947 and is an NGO maintaining official relations with UNESCO and ILO.

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Contributing to this press release is GWI Intern Sonia Gomez Soria