



GWI UPDATE – 15 February 2023



GWI National Federations and Associations outpour support for the victims of the earthquake in Turkey and Syria.

— Graduate Women International (GWI) News —

GWI National Federations and Associations (NFAs) outpouring of support for the victims of the earthquake in Turkey and Syria

GWI and all its NFAs offer the sincerest compassion for our Turkish sisters and Syrian friends and all the victims and their loved ones of this natural disaster that occurred on 6 February 2023. We hope that the international aid to the affected areas will be proportional to the event's gravity and that a maximum of people will be rescued. We also support the local teams and volunteers who are on the front lines and take enormous risks every day in trying to save as many lives as possible. We are mindful that recovery will take time and that the lives of thousands of people have been changed forever. However, the entire GWI community is committed to the future support of our sisters touched by this dramatic event. Do not hesitate to contribute your support via the Turkish Association of University Women. Donation details and a letter from the TAUW Coordinator of International Relations (CIR), Dr. Basak Ovacik, can be found [HERE](#).

GWI to host two virtual parallel events during the 67th session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW67)

Registration is now open for the two virtual parallel events GWI is hosting as part of the CSW67 to be held in New York, NY from 6-17 March 2023. Details and registration are as follows:

Innovative Ideas in Education and Advocacy to Empower Women and Girls

14 March 2023, 4pm Central European Time/11am Eastern Standard Time

Developed by GWI Vice President Education, Shirley Gillett, GWI Vice President, Advocacy, Shaila Rao Mistry, and the GWI Education and Membership Committees, the parallel event will consider new and innovative ways to approach education and advocacy work for women and girls. The question of how we should incorporate technological innovations to help women in girls to attain better education fulfilling SDG 4 will be explored. Several real-life examples, including those due to the COVID-19 working conditions evolutions, are shared in this workshop, and audience participation is valued on the topic. **We invite you to register for this exceptional parallel event [HERE](#).**

Gender Equality in Digital Education: Young Women and Financial Challenges

16 March 2023, 4pm Central European Time/11am Eastern Standard Time

Developed by GWI Treasurer and Young Member Network President, Sudha Srivastava, and the GWI Executive Director, Stacy Dry Lara, with the support from GWI young members, this interactive event will explore gender disparities, due to financial factors, in accessing technological advances in education with examples from rural and urban areas. An expert panel comprised of the GWI YMN will present a comparative analysis based on strong database and research. A range of innovative solutions from various collaborations will be presented including public-private partnerships, development finance, government education budgets and international funding. There will be opportunities for audience interaction via opinion polls and a Q&A session. **We invite you to register for this exceptional parallel event [HERE](#).**

In addition to the two parallel events, GWI will be hosting for its delegates two breakfast briefings and a social dinner during week one of the session. (Details to be announced.) GWI aims to jumpstart the CSW67 participation of its members with a pre-session virtual briefing to be held on 27 February 8pm CET. To register for the pre-session briefing click [HERE](#). The briefing is restricted to GWI members only, thank you. **Additional information about GWI's participation in the CSW67 will be released in an Update CSW67 Special Edition coming soon.**

— GWI Member News —

GWI NFAs to organize CSW67 virtual and on-site events

GWI is also pleased to announce that within the framework of the CSW67, GWI NFAs will organise several parallel and side events. CAMEUS, a GWI Regional Group composed of Canada, Mexico, and the United States, is organising an event entitled, "Digital Education: Lessons Learnt and Innovations Introduced". This event will take place on 15 March 2023 at 3pm Eastern Standard Time (EST). An informational flyer from CAMEUS about this virtual event is coming soon.

The Federación Mexicana de Universitarias (FEMU) and UNESCO Chair of Human Rights of Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM) will host a parallel event entitled, "Latin American CEDAW Network and feminist networks in the face of Shadow Reports". An informational flyer from FEMU about this virtual event is coming soon.

The Japanese Association of University Women (JAUW) will host a side event entitled, "Transforming Innovation and Technology to Empower Women and Girls: Is Establishing New Faculties of Engineering at Women's Universities the Panacea for Gender Equality?" **The side event will be 7 March, 19:00-20:30 EST, online 8 March 9:00-10:30 JST. Please click [HERE](#) to register.**

In addition to the virtual events, GWI affiliates will host several on-site events, including a FEMU parallel event entitled, "Sharing experiences and good practices in innovation, technological change, and education in the digital age to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls". The parallel event will be held 7 March at 10:00am at the Mexican Mission in New York. An informational flyer from FEMU about this virtual event is coming soon.

CAMEUS will be hosting an on-site parallel event entitled, "Signing of a Collaboration Agreement and some actions to be undertaken and goals to be achieved in the following years will be presented, adhering to the mission of the GWI, the CFUW, the FEMU, and the WG-USA, as well as the 17 Goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development approved by all UN Member States". The event will be held at the Mexican Mission in New York at 11:30am. An informational flyer from CAMEUS about this virtual event is coming soon.

GWI congratulates its affiliates for organising these events. The links to access these events will be published when made available.

GWI Young Member Network (YMN) president submits first monthly newsletter of 2023

In her first monthly letter of 2023, GWI YMN President, Sudha Srivastava, warmly welcomes one new member to the YMN in January 2023, Naa Adjeley Suta Alakija Sekyi from Ghana Association of University Women. Additionally, as a continuation of the YMN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) workshop at the GWI Triennial Conference held in November 2022, she provides further details about the four specific SDG target groups that were created at the workshop where facilitators were assigned for the future work of the target groups. Members of the YMN are welcome to join any of the target groups relevant to their work/studies that encompass SDG targets 4.5, 4.7, 4.b, or 4.c. Additional details about these targets can be found in the full newsletter, which can be accessed [HERE](#). Feel welcome to connect one to one with me should you have any queries. GWI NFA members (in their 40s and under) are welcome to join YMN for free. If you know any friend/young member in your NFA who is interested, please share this online sign-up link [HERE](#).

GWI President, Patrice Wellesley-Cole, visits the Egyptian Association of University Women



Perine Wagdi, EAUW CIR, (left) and Patrice Wellesley-Cole (right), GWI President.

During a recent trip to Cairo, GWI President Patrice Wellesley-Cole (pictured right) hosted for lunch the CIR of GWI's Egyptian Association of University Women (EAUW), Perine Wagdi (pictured left). As part of their meeting, there was a discussion about the anti-harassment at work project EAUW created with the Indian Federation of University Women's Associations as part of the GWI Membership Marketplace. The NFAs are considering another similar project, possibly with the British Federation of Women Graduates.

— GWI at the United Nations —

GWI submits written statement for the 52nd session of the Human Rights Council (HRC52)

Ahead of the HRC52 to be held from 27 February to 4 April 2023 at the United Nations in Geneva, GWI submitted a written statement on promoting gender equality through equitable access to lifelong learning opportunities. In the statement, GWI reminds States that education and gender equality are recognised at the highest international levels as crucial to progress towards the achievement of the United Nations 17 SDGs, with GWI calling particular attention to SDG 4 on ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education and promoting lifelong learning opportunities for all and further recalling the importance of education to achieving each of the 17 SDGs. GWI recommends specifically that the Council fund education to cover significant progress towards gender parity in countries and areas where women are insufficiently represented in the teaching profession, integrate a gender perspective into early-stage programs by actively promoting science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM), ensuring safe access to education for all girls and women, including persons with disabilities, refugees and vulnerable groups, and provide sufficient funding for infrastructure, WIFI access, and hardware. We invite you to read the full statement [HERE](#).

— Give the gift of education —

Teachers for Rural Futures (TFRF) Programme Update Report

Give the gift of education to young women by contributing to our TFRF programme, which directly supports young women from rural Uganda to obtain their teaching degree. This GWI programme aims, no matter the challenges, to increase the number of female teachers in rural Uganda. These new teachers will be mentors and positive influencers for school-aged girls to remain in school. GWI recently published a programme update report that can be found [HERE](#). To educate 50 women teachers to educate 1000s click [HERE](#).

— Did you know? —

Did you know that GWI has a new intern? Meet Paloma Martial



Paloma Martial, GWI Intern

Originally from Bordeaux (France), I started my studies with a law degree, a university certificate in psycho-criminology and a six-month mission within the Ministry of Justice to strengthen the rights of detained persons. Concerned about giving an international dimension to my career, I then undertook a master's degree in comparative law, partly at the University of Galatasaray in Istanbul (Turkey), during which I specialized in international relations, human rights issues, and protection of minorities. As part of this journey, I am happy and proud to have started my internship with GWI in February. This opportunity will allow me to familiarize myself with the functioning of a large NGO and its links with international organizations such as the UN, improve my skills and integrate a network of graduate women from around the world with interesting and varied careers struggling every day to empower

women through access to education. Passionate and engaged student, I am delighted to be part of GWI's family, and I look forward to be able to work with you all!

— Dates and events worth noting —

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| 27 Feb-31 March | Human Rights Council 52 nd session, Geneva |
| 6-17 March | Commission on the Status of Women 67 th session, New York |
| 8 March | International Women's Day, Global |
| 22 March | International Water Day, Global |
| 25 March | Orange Day (monthly end violence against women), 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.

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