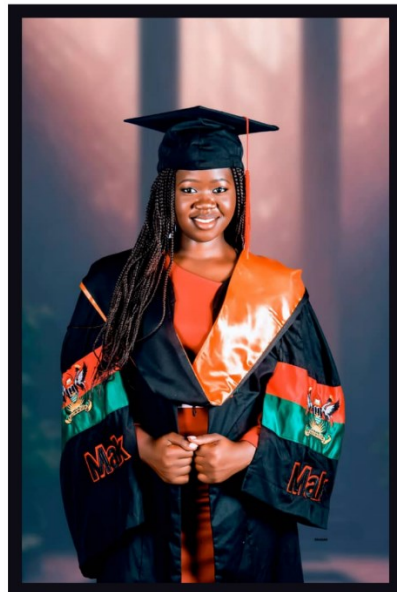




GWI UPDATE – 29 January 2025



Teachers for Rural Futures Graduates

— Graduate Women International (GWI) News —

GWI hosts milestone 35th Triennial General Assembly

GWI 35th Triennial General Assembly and Conference to be held in Lusaka, Zambia, from 11-13 September 2025. This milestone event marks GWI'S 106-year commitment to advancing women and girls worldwide through education. **Registration for this event will open soon and for further information read the press release [HERE](#).**

GWI announces three Commission on the Status of Women 69th session parallel events

From 10–21 March 2025, the 69th session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW69) will convene in New York, uniting thousands virtually and hundreds of GWI members in New York. GWI is proud to contribute to this global conversation by hosting three parallel events that will highlight key challenges, share insights, and examine this year's theme to review the progress of the 1995 Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action. Click [HERE](#) for event details and registration.

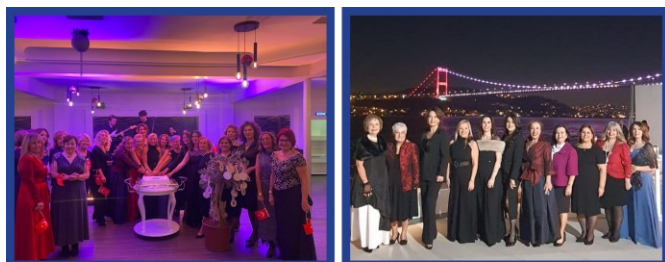
GWI releases infographic to mark International Day of Education

On 24 January, to celebrate the International Day of Education, GWI published an infographic highlighting critical data on the state of education worldwide. Aligned with this year's theme, the infographic explores how AI can help bridge educational gaps and empower women and girls. Click [HERE](#) to view the infographic and [HERE](#) for the Spanish version.

GWI celebrates Teachers for Rural Futures scholars

GWI is excited to announce two more graduates from our Teacher for Rural Futures program. Working and supporting these women has been a privilege for GWI, and we look forward to further supporting them in the future. For more information on this program click [HERE](#). **GWI wishes these women graduates the absolute best in their future endeavors.**

— GWI Member News —



The Turkish Association of University Women (TAUW) celebrates its 75th Anniversary

Submitted by Basak Ovacik, TAUW Coordinator of International Relations and GWI Fellowship Committee Convenor



TAUW celebrated its 75th anniversary at Portaxe Shine in Istanbul with over 100 attendees, including members, sponsors, and the Mayor of Sarıyer, all enjoying the stunning Bosphorus view. Former presidents shared speeches reflecting on projects from their trienniums, while others sent goodwill messages. GWI

Executive Director Stacy Dry Lara sent a video commemorating TAUW's membership in the International Federation University Women (IFUW) since 1955, lighting the friendship light as members applauded. Messages from the GWI President and Board were translated and shared by the Coordinator of International Relations (CIR), and the University Women of Europe (UWE) President praised TAUW's strong membership and impactful projects in her video message. The celebration featured the cutting of a logo-themed cake, music by an orchestra, and the presentation of an olive tree symbolizing friendship and peace, adorned with messages from each branch. The TAUW President announced that the anniversary would be marked with conferences and events throughout the year. **GWI extends its congratulations to TAUW on achieving this remarkable milestone.**

Canadian Federation of University Women E-Club (CFUW E-Club) hosts webinar

On 11 February, to mark the International Day of Women and Girls in Science the CFUW E-Club teams up with the Japanese Association of University Women (JAUW) and the Ghana Association of University Women (GAUW) to host an informational webinar titled, "Global Warming is Here Again: How Do We Know?". The exceptional line up of speakers includes **Pauline Witzke**, Geologist, CFUW Vice President of Education and Advocacy, Belleville Ontario and keynote speaker. **Dr. Kazuko HASE**, Ph.D., Ecologist, JAUW, and teacher at the Center for Northeast Asian Studies, Tohoku University/Graduate School of Life Sciences, Tohoku University. **Genevieve Adukpo**, PhD, GAUW, Lecturer at the Department of Chemistry, School of Physical Sciences,

University of Cape Coast, and **Jeanette Mergens**, CFUW Kelowna, Independent Education Management Professional. Please click [HERE](#) to register and see the informational flyer below.

Museo de la Mujer agenda for the beginning of 2025

Museo de la Mujer announced its agenda of cultural and educational activities for the beginning of 2025. Focusing on reflection, learning and dialogue issues related to women's human rights. The founding president of the cultural space, Dr. Patricia Galeana Herrera, said that the program “reflects our commitment to education, culture and the promotion of women's human rights”. The workshops, conference and activities aim to create space for “reflection and dialogue on the history, challenges and progress in the struggle for gender equality.” The museum will hold events on key topics related to history, art, justice and women’ rights, an endeavor to make women's historical work visible. Click [HERE](#) to see the full events and further details.

— GWI at the United Nations —

Marking 25 Years of Action: Progress and Challenges in Eliminating Violence Against Women

The 25th anniversary of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women highlighted significant progress and persistent challenges in combating gender-based violence. The event honored the legacy of the Mirabal sisters and emphasized key milestones, including the Beijing Declaration and the United Nations Spotlight Initiative, which has strengthened 550 laws and policies and provided essential services to millions of women. Despite progress, the pervasive nature of violence—affecting 1 in 3 women globally—remains alarming, with vulnerable groups facing compounded risks, especially in conflict zones and the digital realm. The United Nations and civil society leaders called for stronger legal frameworks, increased investments in prevention, and the inclusion of men and boys as allies. **GWI continues its international advocacy towards influence for a future free of violence, fear, and discrimination, urging education as the tool to achieve this goal.** Click [HERE](#) to access the full report.

Reflections and participation at the Beijing+30 Review

“Participating in the Beijing +30 Review in October 2024 was a profoundly transformative experience. This event brought together 56 countries to evaluate progress since adopting the Beijing Platform for Action in 1995. This gathering of experts, civil society advocates, and leaders from the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) region was filled with energy and hope as we collectively assessed gender equality across the 12 action areas. It was not just a period of reflection but A CALL TO ACTION. An opportunity to shape the global gender policy agenda leading into the CSW 69 in March 2025 and defining time to set the course for decades to come. Click [HERE](#) to access the full report.” *Shaila Rao Mistry, GWI Vice President Advocacy.*
GWI thanks Shaila for her report and time spent at Beijing+30.

GWI attends NGO Committee on Aging Geneva membership meeting

On 21 January, GWI representatives attended the NGO Committee on Aging’s membership meeting, which focused on advancing global initiatives related to aging and human rights. Key discussions included plans for a UNECE policy brief on challenges and opportunities in an aging workforce, alongside upcoming dialogues addressing media narratives about aging and the establishment of older people’s councils. The launch of an aging policy database was also announced to support advocacy and resources. **GWI reaffirms its dedication to advancing global efforts that uphold the rights and dignity of older persons.**

— Give the Gift of Education —

In celebration of our recent graduates, GWI thanks all for their support towards Teachers for Rural Futures. Your donations make a tangible difference that enables the training of skilled female teachers in rural areas, improving educational access for girls. To donate click [HERE](#) and thank you for making such a difference for girls in Uganda.

— Did you know? —

GWI welcomes the new intern Grace Wanebo



My name is Grace Wanebo, and I am a recent graduate of New York University, where I earned a degree in Journalism and Global Studies. I am absolutely thrilled to be interning at GWI and contributing to its vital mission of empowering women through education and leadership development. Throughout my academic and professional journey, I have honed my skills as a political journalist across radio, print, and broadcast platforms. I had the incredible opportunity to intern with *The Rachel Maddow Show* on MSNBC, where I covered pivotal stories such as the overturning of *Roe v. Wade*, the January 6 hearings, and the 2022 midterm elections. My thesis, *Worked Identities: Sexual Harassment at an Intersection*, explored the intersectional impacts of gender-based violence during the Me Too movement, further solidifying my commitment to advocating for women’s rights and gender equity. This background has shaped my passion for advancing women’s voices in public life and dismantling barriers to their full participation in society. Interning at GWI is a unique opportunity to apply my storytelling skills and dedication to gender equality in a global context. I am excited to turn my passion into action, learning from and collaborating with graduate women from around the world. **GWI warmly welcomes Grace to our team, and we wish her much success in this exciting new chapter!**

— Dates and Events —

6 February	International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation
11 February	CFUW E-Club webinar
11 February	International Day of Women and Girls in Science
8 March	International Women's Day
10-21 March	CSW 69
21 March	International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination
11-13 September	GWI 35th Triennial General Assembly, Zambia

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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

7-9, Chemin de Balexert, CH-1291, Châtelaine, Geneva, Switzerland

E-mail: gwi@graduatewomen.org Website: www.graduatewomen.org





Graduate Women International
Empowering women & girls through lifelong education

Global Warming is Here Again: How Do We Know?
Tuesday, February 11, 2025, 11 am ET, 5 pm CET

Join us for a GWI Peer-to-Peer Conversation
sponsored by CFUW E-Club



Keynote Speaker
Pauline Witzke



Dr Kazuko Hase
JAUW



Dr Genevieve Adukpo
GAUW



Jeanette Mergens
CFUW Kelowna

[Register](#)

