

GWU United Nation Representative

Advocacy Report

2025

GWU advocacy goals

- 100% of United Nations Member States commit to policy, legislation, budget and infrastructure to facilitate transition of girls from primary to secondary school and ensure gender parity and gender equality throughout secondary education by 2030.
- By 2030 100% of United Nations low-income Member States have increased access to tertiary education for girls and women by 50%.
- 100% of United Nations Member States commit to and implement policies for continuing education to empower women throughout the life course, within the formal and informal economies.
- Influence the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4.
- All 17 SDGs will include girls' education targets.

Please bear in mind these five overarching, long-term goals during any United Nations intervention that you make on behalf of GWU. Any intervention should push these five goals further.

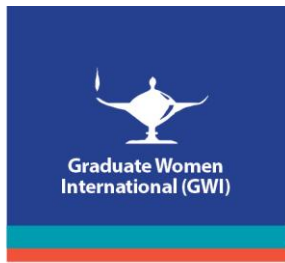
NB: *Although these goals represent GWU's mission, UN Reps are also invited to promote GWU key messages on areas where especially relevant e.g., women in STEM, securing investment in women teachers, addressing barriers to girls' education such as child marriage.*

UN Women & Civil Society's 6th Meeting on Beijing+30 Confirmation

10/27/25

Lopa Banerjee, Chief of the Civil Society Section at UN Women, opened the session by reiterating UN Women's and Member States' commitment to Beijing + 30. In terms of CSW70, UN Women reported that *there will be a strong focus on digital violence against women and girls, as well as an emphasis on access to justice across the life cycle, especially for young girls and older women*. In addition, there has been a tentative decision to focus on Poverty at CSW71 and on Women's Leadership and Decision-Making at CSW72. In addition, something new has been added; going forward there will be an interactive multi-stakeholder hearing ahead of each CSW consisting of UN Women, the CSW Bureau, Member States, NHRIs, NGOs with ECOSOC consultative status, academic institutions, and the private sector to inform deliberations and expand Civil Society's influence. Further, Ministerial Round Table discussions will be dedicated to an emerging issue decided by the Bureau in consultation with Member States. Finally, there will be a rotation of the location of the five yearly review sessions of CSW but all outcome negotiations will remain in New York.

Kalliopi Mingeirou, Chief of the Ending Violence Against Women Section at UN Women, spoke on UNiTE - UN Women's 16 Days of Activism to end gender-based violence. To date, the adoption and/or amendment of relevant laws was the measure most frequently adopted by Member States. This year, during the 16 Days of Activism, from



November 25th to December 10th, UNiTE is drawing attention to the alarming escalation of violence against women under the theme: “*End digital violence against all women and girls*”. UNiTE will call on **Governments** to pass and enforce laws that criminalize digital violence, protect personal information, and strengthen tech sector accountability, on **Tech companies** to ensure platform safety, remove harmful content, enforce codes of conduct, and publish transparent reports, on **Donors** to invest in feminist organizations working to end violence against women and digital rights advocates, and on **Individuals** to speak out, support survivors, and challenge harmful online norms.

Shoko Ishikawa, Deputy Director, Policy, Program, and Intergovernmental Support at UN Women, spoke on the Beijing +30 Action Agenda. 110 member states committed to actions in the following areas: Digital Reform (11), Freedom from Poverty (50), Violence Against Women (63), Inclusive Decision-making (39), Peace & Security (24), and Climate Justice (6). 73% of the commitments were made by African and Asian countries. To view the commitment(s) made by individual Member States, go on <https://beijing30.unwomen.org/>. Although it is not an interactive site, it does allow for the monitoring of government commitment(s).

Caterina Carvalho, Chief of Intergovernmental Support Section of UN Women’s Revitalization, reported that an ECOSOC Resolution was passed (9/25) that reaffirmed the need to advance gender equality within the reform framework. To date, key achievements of CSW Revitalization include **strengthened accountability** (consented to evaluate progress of Agreed Conclusions from previous CSW, have a more efficient working group on communications), **more inclusivity** (informal interactive stakeholder hearing, rotation of location of review sessions, involvement of NHRIs, CSOs, and other relevant stakeholders in preparation, follow-up, and implementation process), **strengthen relevance** (HLM on critical issues, ministerial table related to emerging issue), and **more synergies** (strengthen coordination between commission and other intergovernmental processes, enhance coherence with Human Rights mechanisms).

Concerns raised by participants were:

- What are best practices in terms of ending gender-based violence, especially digitally based violence?
- How do we get western tech companies and governments to address digitally-based violence against women and girls?
- How can countries get government to work with country offices?
- Will the drastic reforms being carried out at the UN affect the capacity of UN Women to carry out its mission?

Submitted by:

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