



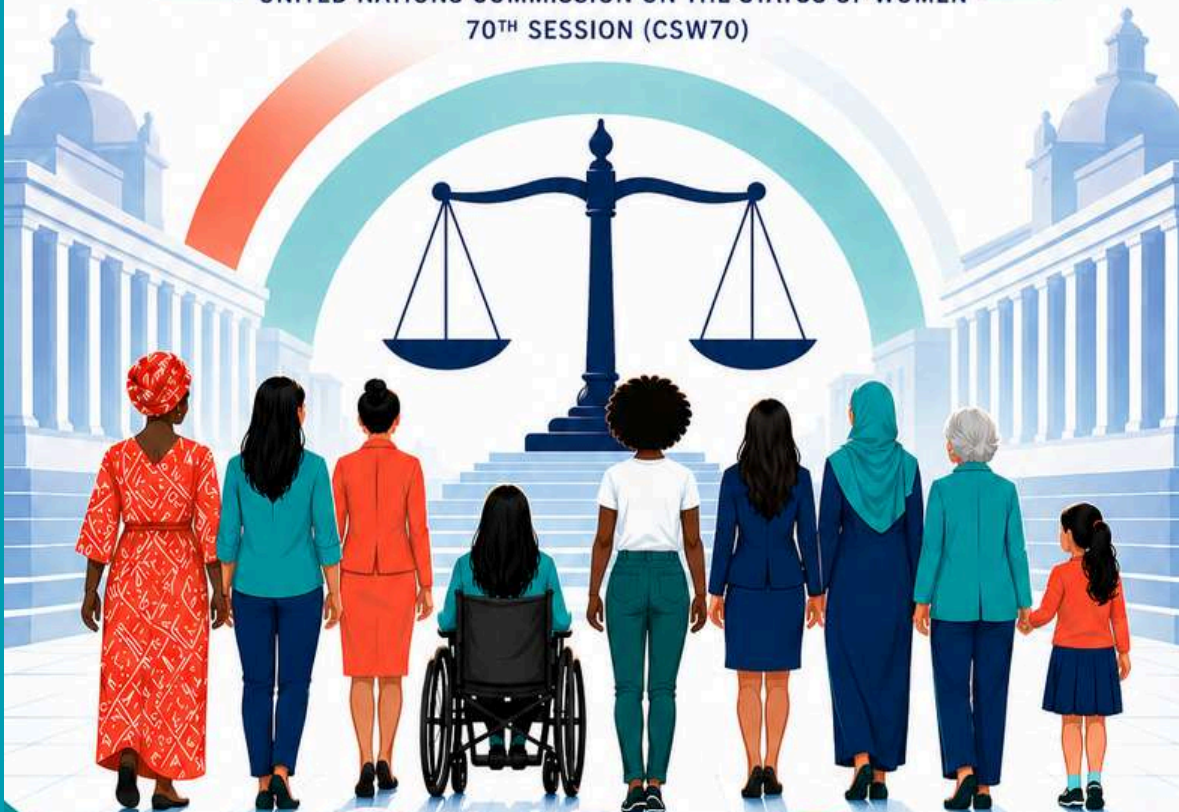
Graduate Women International (GWI)

CSW70

DELEGATE REPORTS SUMMARY

EQUALITY. EMPOWERMENT. JUSTICE FOR ALL WOMEN AND GIRLS.

UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN
70TH SESSION (CSW70)



EDUCATION



JUSTICE



EMPOWERMENT

ADVANCING WOMEN'S RIGHTS THROUGH EDUCATION, JUSTICE AND LEADERSHIP

MARCH 2026



Introduction

The CSW70 Delegate Reports Summary brings together reflections from GWI delegates who represented GWI CSW70 in March 2026. It captures contributions from graduate women and advocates, showing the strength of GWI's global network and the shared commitment of its delegates to advancing women's rights through education, justice, and public participation.

The priority theme of CSW70 was ensuring and strengthening access to justice for women and girls. **Across the reports, delegates returned to a common message: women's rights cannot be separated from education, justice, digital inclusion, political participation, and social protection.**

In summarizing the sessions, delegates highlighted the need for stronger legal systems, access to information, inclusive education, and meaningful action to protect women and girls from violence, discrimination, and exclusion. They underscore that women and girls must be able to understand their rights, access support, participate in decision-making, and engage safely in public and online spaces if justice is to become real.

This summary also reflects the dedication and strong intellect of GWI delegates, whose reports offer insights for advocacy and action across local, national, regional, and international levels.

The following pages contain excerpts from GWI CSW70 delegate reports. A red button can be found at the end of each page each page, that provides access to the comprehensive delegate reports. This feature allows readers to explore the full range of perspectives shared by GWI delegates.

[Click HERE for delegate full reports.](#)



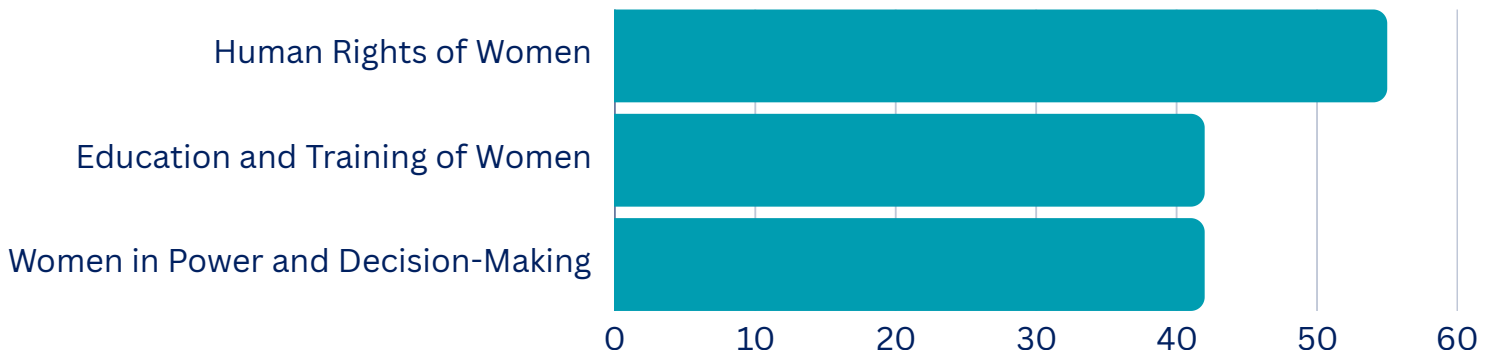
> 4,600 civil society representatives attended the 70th session of the Commission on the Status of Women. (United Nations Commission on the Status of Women)

Top Three Most Covered Beijing Platform for Action Areas in Reports

55% of reports addressed human rights of women, making this the most covered Beijing Platform area at CSW70.

42% of reports focused on education and training of women, showing the strong link between learning, legal literacy, and empowerment.

42% of reports also covered women in power and decision-making, highlighting the importance of leadership, representation, and participation.



SDGs Referenced in the Delegate Reports



100% of the entries referenced SDG 5



88% of the entries referenced SDG 4



58% of the entries referenced SDG 16



52% of the entries referenced SDG 10

GWI co-hosts CSW70 side event: Knowledge Is Power: Education as the First Step to Justice for Women and Girls

On 11 March, GWI, in collaboration with Soroptimist International, convened a **CSW70 side event at the Permanent Mission of Ireland to the United Nations**, with the support of official sponsors including the Permanent Missions of Ireland, Mongolia, and Sierra Leone, as well as UNESCO, the United Nations Digital Library, CreditAccess India, and the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network.

Moderated by H.E. Ambassador of Ireland to the United Nations, Fergal Mythen, welcome remarks were delivered by Renata Trottmann Probst, President of Soroptimist International. The panel included Patrick Paul Walsh, Vice President of Education and Director of the SDG Academy at the United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network; Pia Britto, Global Director of Education and Adolescent Development at UNICEF; and Patricia Patton, President GWI, and Nabila Aguele, Chief Executive, Nigeria at the Malala Fund, with final reflections by Isata Mahoi, Minister of Gender and Children’s Affairs of Sierra Leone.

Discussions emphasized that education is central to ensuring women and girls can understand and exercise their rights, participate in economic life, and engage in decision-making processes. **Speakers highlighted the need for coordinated partnerships across civil society, governments, academia, and the private sector to address barriers such as conflict, financing gaps, and unequal access to digital resources.** The exchange reinforced that sustained investment in education, alongside locally led approaches, remains critical to advancing equitable outcomes for women and girls globally.





Graduate Women International (GWI) Young Member Network (YMN) Parallel Event, "From Barriers to Breakthroughs: Pathways to Access Justice for Women" - 12 March 2026

12 March 2026
3:30PM CET (Central European Time)

Registration Link:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/8MgmIKRT16bM8KRLZdUYA>

“From Barriers to Breakthroughs: Pathways to Access Justice for Women”

PANEL OF SPEAKERS

 Sudha Srivastava (United Kingdom) “Leadership Begins Young: Policy Pathways to Women’s Access to Justice”	 Nana Adwoa Adowaa Nsiah (Ghana) “Digital Exclusion is Injustice: Girls, AI and Right to Participate”	 Tzazil Valencia (Mexico) “Justice Starts in the Classroom: How Education Shapes Women’s Access to Justice in Mexico”	 Nkem Menkiti (Nigeria) “Mentorship: A key Driver for Women’s Access to Justice in Nigeria”
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BREAKOUT SESSION LEADERS

 Cynthia Adinortey (Ghana)	 Carla Pierini (France)	 Alukhanyo Xonti (South Africa)	 Menna Mohamed (New Zealand)
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GWI Young Members Network CSW70 Parallel Event
The event is developed and produced by Sudha Srivastava (President YMN GWI) with YMN Team. The session highlights the need of empowering young women through education, mentoring and training opportunities - providing solution-driven pathways to access justice. The event is highly interactive and the programme is divided into a few engaging sections – diverse panel presentation followed by breakout room discussions led by young women. There will also be further opportunities for audience to participate in opinion polls and interactive Q&A.

The GWI YMN hosted a parallel event at CSW70 titled **“From Barriers to Breakthroughs: Pathways to Access Justice for Women.”** The event brought together speakers and participants from across the world to explore how women’s access to justice is shaped by education, mentoring, leadership, and policy participation. Discussions highlighted that justice begins early in life, when girls are encouraged to find their voice and understand their rights, and that empowering girls and young women is essential to building more equitable systems.

Through the speaker session and breakout discussions, participants identified key barriers to justice, including poverty, cultural norms, financial constraints, lack of legal knowledge, gender-based violence, and digital exclusion. At the same time, they proposed practical solutions such as public awareness, mentorship, community support, financial empowerment, and greater representation of women in leadership and decision-making. The event underscored that achieving justice for women requires not only legal reforms but also long-term social and cultural change, beginning with the belief that every girl’s voice matters. [Click HERE to read the full report](#) by Sudha Srivastava, President of the GWI YMN.



How did this session contribute to ensuring and strengthening access to justice for women and girls, particularly through promoting inclusive and equitable legal systems, eliminating discriminatory laws, policies, or practices, and addressing structural barriers?

“Women constitute 7% of all people imprisoned globally, often along with their children, in overcrowded, unsafe, and unclean conditions. It is good to see this being added after so many years.” **Delegate from Graduate Women New Zealand**

“Be aware of cyberbullying (85% of women and 1/5 girls), only 15% of women file a complaint, 1/3 of victims think it is useless, and need to amend the agreements.” **Delegate from Swiss Association of University Women, *Acces a la justice pour les femmes***



“Access to the law for people living outside large urban centres was an issue. Litigation is expensive and lengthy. Free legal aid is not common, and few lawyers work pro bono. The law is perceived as complex and hard to navigate, and there is little education in the basic principles and rights. [...] Trust must be built up in the authorities across the legal process.” **Delegate from Irish Federation of University Women, *A Simple Suggestion To Improve Access To Justice For All Women And Girls Side Event***

“This session shows how AI exposes discriminatory practices and the importance of developing basic AI Literacy for women.” **Delegate from Graduate Women International Netherlands, *Digital Mirrors: AI, Gender Stereotypes, and Global Inequity***

“approaches to ensure women can participate safely, build digital skills and leadership” **Delegate from Graduate Women International Netherlands, *Women’s Participation in Digital Public Life***



“Ensuring and strengthening access to justice for all women and girls, by promoting inclusive and equitable legal systems, eliminating discriminatory laws, policies, and practices, and addressing structural barriers.” **Delegate from British Federation of Women Graduates, *Opening Session CSW***

“The discussion highlights emerging legal responses, accountability gaps, and good practices for gender-responsive AI governance.” **Delegate from Graduate Women International Netherlands, *Invisible Violence Made Visible: AI, Gender and the Fight for Justice***



“By reading and discussing in a group biographies and autobiographies based on the theme of justice, youth described how literature-based reflections can foster agency, mutual understanding, and sustainable gender justice.” **Delegate from Graduate Women New Zealand, *Bibliotherapy for Youth: Rewriting the Story of Gender Justice***

“Structural, socioeconomic, and cultural barriers, rooted in unequal power relations and discriminatory norms, hinder women’s and, in particular, young women’s participation in public life. This session looks at ways to support and increase participation in public life, leadership roles, and politics.” **Delegate from Graduate Women International Netherlands, *Intergenerational engagement for advancing young women’s leadership***



“New laws, an increase in women in legal positions, and moving from recipients to providers of justice.” **Canadian Federation of University Women, *Enhancing Women's Access to Justice: Scaling Judicial Leadership***

“We urgently need disaggregated data. Age ranges are often so broad that older women’s experiences are hidden within them.” **Graduate Women Scotland, *VAWG across the life-course***

“Strengthening gender equality in all fields and on all levels is crucial to access to justice.” **Delegate from Swiss Association of University Women, *Countering Backlash and Safeguarding Women’s Rights***

“Changes coming to the UN and individual agencies could threaten the gains we have made in gender equality.” **Delegate from Women Graduates-USA, *GWJ Breakfast Meeting***



“It emphasized the role of teaching about rights and legal processes for girls and young women in education settings [...] to confront discrimination, etc., as above, schools need to change. Maybe we don't need schools as we know them currently.” **Delegate from Graduate Women New Zealand, *Knowledge is Power: Education as the First Step to Justice for Women and Girls***

“This session celebrated a decade of achievements under Women Count, including strengthened national capacities, improved data availability, and increased use of gender statistics in policymaking. It showcased country-level success stories that demonstrated the transformative power of gender data. [...] to support the next phase of Women Count.” **Delegate from Women Graduates-USA, *A Decade of Making Women Count***



“Working in the mines has adverse effects on the health of women and girls, with women and girls working for subsistence wages, and at the same time, mining contributes to environmental harm.” **Delegate from Graduate Women New Zealand, *Social Justice for Women and Girls in Mining, Through Transformational Leadership***

“H.E. Mahoi reported that a change in policy making education free brought girls into school at the same level as boys, but warned that violence in and around schools must be addressed everywhere.” **Delegate from Women Graduates-USA, *Knowledge is power: Education is the first step to power***



“A core focus of the session was the need for “Justice with a gender perspective,” particularly in the context of emerging threats like digital violence. [...] Strengthening a woman's economic position is a critical step in removing the structural barriers that often make them vulnerable or unable to navigate the legal system effectively.” **Delegate from Mexican Federation of University Women, *Access to Justice for woemand an Girls in Mexico***

“As federations of university-educated women, the signees use their collective academic and professional influence to identify and address structural barriers that prevent women from fully participating in or being protected by legal systems.” **Delegate from Mexican Federation of University Women, *Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Signing Ceremony***



“Key issues with funding are the need for statistics and data, which can be extremely challenging to capture in developing nations where the internet is not accessible, and the cost of technology is prohibitive. [...] Finances, skills, and resources were pooled to develop tools that could be used by 'on the ground' Aid workers to capture data.” **Delegate from Graduate Women New Zealand, *Session: A Decade of Making Women Count: Powering Gender Equality Through Data***

“Need to get information to women and girls living in rural areas. Reaffirm that all people have the right to live free of violence. Improved data on domestic violence is a must. Keep girls in school as long as possible. [...] shift from reactive to preventive; view education as a form of justice itself; provide sustained investment in education.” **Delegate from Women Graduates-USA, *Education for Justice: Emerging Trends in Women's Access to Justice Through Education***



“In some crisis settings, UNICEF prioritized secondary education to mitigate the severe risk that out-of-school Adolescent Girls face in refugee camps. [...] Member States urged UNICEF not to decrease services in education and social protection and to continue to help Member States develop national statistical offices.” **Delegate from Women Graduates-USA, GWI Breakfast Meeting**

“Speakers explored pathways to promote inclusive and equitable legal systems and to strengthen protection and accountability mechanisms, while supporting community empowerment and the vital role of civil society in advancing justice for all women and girls.” **Delegate from Graduate Women International Netherlands, Voices of Iranian Women: Pathways to Justice and Rights**



“growing female representation in Parliaments across the world fosters international collaboration despite cultural differences.” **Delegate from British Federation of Women Graduates**

“Ils ont souligné la nécessité de systèmes juridiques plus inclusifs et représentatifs pour s'assurer que les lois reflètent les réalités des femmes et des filles.” **Delegate from ASFDU, Meeting Townhall**



“Women lead in many ways, in volunteerism to strengthen their families and communities, in their employment, and in public office at every level of governance. Women in public life are often targeted disproportionately by various forms of harassment and violence - simply because they are women leaders and because the perpetrators wish to drive women and keep girls out of public life.” **Delegate from Graduate Women International Netherlands, International Panel on Antidotes to the Virus of Inequality Driving Women from Public Life**

“This session emphasised that access to justice begins with access to education, information, and legal literacy. [...] inclusive and equitable justice systems must be underpinned by accessible knowledge, strong institutions, and targeted efforts to remove systemic barriers affecting marginalised women and girls.” **Delegate from Irish Federation of University Women, Knowledge Is Power: Education as the First Step to Justice for Women and Girls**



“l'engagement des jeunes et des modèles positifs - a été identifié comme la clé de la prévention de la violence et de la réduction de la discrimination.” **Delegate from ASFDU, Panel on Digital Safety and Gender Based Online Violence**

“Afghan women and girls have been forcibly erased from public life, subjected to horrific violence, barred from school and employment, and denied access to justice.” **Delegate from Graduate Women International Netherlands, Listen to Afghan Women: Gender Apartheid, Its Implications and Resistance**



“Any democracy must defend gender equality and human rights to ensure democratic resilience, social cohesion, trust in institutions, and equal participation. However, what we are seeing globally is a coordinated counter-movement that uses disinformation about issues related to gender equality to actually polarize our societies and undermine our democratic institutions and our international commitments to gender equality and women's rights.” **Delegate from Swiss Association of University Women, Countering Backlash and Safeguarding Women’s Rights**



“Several low-lying Pacific island nations face an existential threat from rising sea levels, with Tuvalu most affected, followed by Kiribati and the Marshall Islands. Rising sea levels threaten. Scientists warn that many of these nations, with land masses often only a few meters above sea level, could become uninhabitable or submerged within decades, displacing thousands of people.” **Delegate from Graduate Women New Zealand, CSW70 Side Events**

“Pacific Island women need access to finance. Due to encroaching seawater onto their land, fresh water access is diminishing, and women are unable to grow important food crops, which not only sustains their family but is also a vital source of income. [...] Not only do these crises have devastating financial impacts, but women and children are also affected by family violence that stems from these events.” **Delegate from Graduate Women New Zealand, CSW70 Side Events**



Photo Source: GWI Delegates Participating in CSW70 Sessions

[Click HERE for delegate full reports.](#)



“This session was led by GWI Young Members to present information from their perspective on accessing justice for women and girls and hold a discussion on how this is accessed in participants' countries and solutions for change.” **Delegate from Canadian Federation of University Women, *From Barriers to Breakthroughs: Pathways to Access Justice for Women***

“Member States called for a more assertive document regarding justice for women and girls, as well as the reaffirmation of BPfA, multilateralism, and diversity, not discrimination.” **Delegate from Women Graduates-USA, *8th Plenary Meeting - CSW70 High Level Meeting on Violence Against Women and Girls***

“The UN 80 Initiative is focused on reforms to be made due to the significant budget challenges the UN is experiencing.[...] Among the UN80 Initiatives being considered are a budget cut of 20%, the loss of 6,900 jobs, agency consolidation (i.e., UN Women & UNFPA), systemic restructuring, and movement of agencies out of NY and Geneva.” **Delegate from Women Graduates-USA, *GWI Breakfast Meeting***

“The contributions made were centred on making sure that justice must go beyond a ‘courtroom moment’ to include economic security, housing, healthcare, and comprehensive community-based support systems. [...] The session urged a move away from sole reliance on traditional criminal justice systems, which often fail victims, toward restorative justice and economic justice initiatives that provide survivors with tools to rebuild their lives.” **Delegate from Ghana Association of University Women, *Justice Beyond the Courtroom: A Whole of Society Approach to Ending Gender-Based Violence***

“The path to gender parity must extend beyond parliament, encompassing trade unions and boardrooms as well.” **Delegate from British Federation of Women Graduates**

“Member States called for a more assertive document regarding justice for women and girls, as well as the reaffirmation of BPfA, multilateralism, and diversity, not discrimination.” **Delegate from Women Graduates-USA, *8th Plenary Meeting - CSW70 High Level Meeting on Violence Against Women and Girls***

“It showed the interdependence of gender-equality, human rights, democratic rights, democratic security, and modern democracy.” **Delegate from Swiss Association of University Women, *Protect Democracy, Defend Gender Equality***



Please indicate how the session relates to the local, national, and/or international advocacy work of your National Federation or Association (NFA).

“My NFA runs a public speaking competition for young girls from areas that are not traditionally represented in third-level education.” **Delegate from Irish Federation of University Women, A Simple Suggestion To Improve Access To Justice For All Women And Girls Side Event**

“The intersectionality between education and justice is an issue in New Zealand in relation to access to not only knowledge about the justice system and women and girls’ access to it in the formal education system, but also publicly available information in the wider society more generally.” **Delegate from Graduate Women New Zealand, CSW70**



“Being part of the CSWUK women's alliance there work and advocacy in the UK align with what the speakers at the Canadian mission this event described. This will give me the impetus to encourage members at the British Federation of Women graduates to be more involved with the opportunity to collaborate. The work will support our mission, raise the profile of our NFA, and encourage new members.” **Delegate from British Federation of Women Graduates**

“We will further call for the recognition of the essential role that education plays in helping women and girls attain justice, for it is through education that women and girls become aware of their rights, learn how to navigate the legal system, and participate in civic life.” **Delegate from Women Graduates-USA, 8th Plenary Meeting - CSW70 High Level Meeting on Violence Against Women and Girls**



“GNWZ has been advocating against online bullying. This presentation had a connection with this [...] The book ‘The Search for Meaning’ by Viktor Frankl was one studied.” **Delegate from Graduate Women New Zealand, Bibliotherapy for Youth: Rewriting the Story of Gender Justice**

“challenging stereotypes that still confine girls and boys, through the local competition “Les Olympes de la parole” [...] informing and encouraging women to get informed about their rights,proposing/offering them a free psy-service and/or a mentoring service.” **Delegate from Swiss Association of University Women, Acces a la justice pour les femmes**



“addressing systemic barriers faced by marginalised communities. [...] At a national level, this connects to efforts to improve access to information and services for underrepresented groups, while at an international level, it aligns with GWI’s mission to advance education as a pathway to equality.” **Delegate from Irish Federation of University Women, *Knowledge Is Power: Education as the First Step to Justice for Women and Girls***

“In Switzerland, there has been a slight but noticeable decline in women’s representation in parliaments. Also, the “glass ceiling” phenomenon in positions in the economy is not eliminated, and women mid-level faculty (assistants), particularly as regards women between 40 and 60, are not adequately supported. All these phenomena are interrelated with the topic of the side event.” **Delegate from Swiss Association of University Women, *Protect Democracy, Defend Gender Equality***



“International Advocacy: By holding this ceremony as a parallel event within the framework of CSW70 (the UN Commission on the Status of Women), the NFAs align their national goals with global gender equality agendas. [...] National and Regional Advocacy: The MOU formalizes the CAMEUS (Canada, Mexico, and USA) partnership, creating a unified regional voice. This allows the NFAs to coordinate their national advocacy efforts on shared North American issues, such as education and legal equity, while strengthening their influence with their respective national governments. Local Impact and Visibility: The event was broadcast on the FEMU YouTube channel, making these high-level diplomatic efforts visible to local members and the public.” **Delegate from Mexican Federation of University Women, *Memorandum of Understanding Signing Ceremony***



“Ongoing advocacy on each of these areas; unite women's voices between NFAs and other women's organizations in the NFA countries.” **Delegate from Canadian Federation of University Women, *Enhancing Women's Access to Justice: Scaling Judicial Leadership***

“My NFA advocates for fairness in the school-changing curriculum in NZ. [...] We also advocate against online bullying, which very much relates to access to justice, and again, education is key in this.” **Delegate from Graduate Women New Zealand, *Knowledge Is Power: Education As The First Step To Justice For Women And Girls***



“Every NFA should be aware of the problem and promote more participation of women, and also discuss ways the NFA can put the issues on the table and encourage women in politics to put their own experiences they have concerning issues of harassment on the table, and quotas are not enough.” **Delegate from Graduate Women International Netherlands, International Panel on Antidotes to the Virus of Inequality Driving Women from Public Life**

“The session officially launched the Women Count Decade of Impact campaign to amplify results and mobilize political and financial support for gender data. It showcased country success stories and innovations that demonstrated what works in transforming gender data systems and using gender data for policy impact.” **Delegate from Women Graduates-USA, A Decade of Making Women Count**

“The world should speak out and act to support Iranian Women, however, feminists around the world do not speak out to support them.” **Delegate from Graduate Women International Netherlands, Voices of Iranian Women: Pathways to Justice and Rights**

“At a time when Afghan women warn that their very existence is being erased and their voices rendered invisible on the global stage, the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) has taken an unprecedented step by reviewing Afghanistan’s compliance with its international women’s human rights obligations [...] The Committee will publish its findings, formally known as Concluding Observations, on 7 July 2026.” **Delegate from Graduate Women International Netherlands, Listen to Afghan Women: Gender Apartheid, Its Implications and Resistance**

“Lobby for gender equality as parity has not yet been achieved” **Delegate from Graduate Women International Netherlands, Achieving fifty-fifty parity in power, how can this gap be tackled concretely?**

“It is important that in politics and other spheres, there is an equal representation of all ages. It is encouraging for young members to be involved in politics. NFAs should support their young members in this respect.” **Delegate from Graduate Women International Netherlands, Intergenerational Engagement for Advancing Young Women’s Leadership**

“It is important to analyze the impact of AI on (the rights of) women and for women to take part in the development of AI.” **Delegate from Graduate Women International Netherlands, Digital Mirrors: AI, Gender Stereotypes, and Global Inequity**



“1. National Advocacy: Diagnostic and Structural Reform. The session was titled "Diagnostic of the Mexican Federation of University Women," representing the culmination of national research and advocacy.

2. International Advocacy: Global Platforms and Diplomacy. By hosting this as a Parallel Event within the framework of CSW70 in New York, FEMU elevates local issues to a global stage.

3. Specialized Advocacy: STEM and Digital Rights. The session addressed specific modern frontiers of justice that are core to FEMU’s mission” **Delegate from Mexican Federation of University Women, *Access to Justice for Women and Girls in Mexico***

“WG-USA has two major priorities - SDG4 and SDG5” **Delegate from Women Graduates-USA, *WG USA: Education for Justice: Emerging Trends in Women's Access to Justice Through Education***

“We recently engaged with the women's budget group around financial matters - another form of elder abuse - and will continue this engagement.” **Delegate from Graduate Women Scotland, *VAWG Across the Life-Course***

“Istanbul Convention. False claims suggest it threatens families or sovereignty. In reality, it exists to prevent violence against women, which still affects one in three women in Europe. We engage in campaigns against violence against women and support women in ensuring the reconcilability of family and career.” **Delegate from Swiss Association of University Women, *Countering Backlash and Safeguarding Women’s Rights***

“It is important to explore the effects of AI and develop a mechanism to cope with the effects.” **Delegate from Graduate Women International Netherlands, *Invisible Violence Made Visible: AI, Gender and the Fight for Justice***

“We know what is needed; we must figure out how to do it.” **Delegate from Women Graduates-USA, *Knowledge is power: Education is the first step to power***

“Perhaps we can think of things differently; we could consider funding technology instead of travel awards. Thereby empowering a woman, her family, and her community. Perhaps that is something we can all think about.” **Delegate from Graduate Women New Zealand, *A Decade of Making Women Count: Powering Gender Equality Through Data***

“It is clear that localised advocacy is at work, but this is not enough to bring about change. [...] Women need to have land ownership rights to raise their position in society and improve their financial status. This will require a collaborative effort.” **Delegate from Graduate Women New Zealand, *CSW70 Side Event***



“It encourages the participation of women in the digital age, which is essential.” **Delegate from Graduate Women International Netherlands, Women’s Participation in Digital Public Life: From commitments to systems that deliver**

“Girls’ and young women’s rights to education were one of the key areas raised.” **Delegate from British Federation of Women Graduates, Opening Session CSW**



“This session aligns with GAUW advocacy work. Our work with CEGRAD and other women’s organisations focuses on strengthening community-led initiatives. GAUW will advocate for local solutions [...] Overall, this session provides a framework for NFAs to move from solely calling for legal penalties to promoting comprehensive, preventative, and survivor-empowering strategies across all levels of society.” **Delegate from Ghana Association for University Women, Justice Beyond the Courtroom: A Whole of Society Approach to Ending Gender-Based Violence**



Photo Source: GWI Delegates Participating in CSW70 Sessions



“At the local and national levels, the session highlighted the value of using individual-level, gender-sensitive poverty measures in New Zealand to capture the gendered and intersectional experiences of poverty. It is also related to the promotion of women’s economic empowerment” **Delegate from Graduate Women New Zealand Poverty: Impacts on Women’s Access to Justice and Violence**

“Our NFA via Graduate Women Otago has supported GW Fiji via travel funding, and our current advocacy initiative to promote a conference in Fiji is underway. I have to say that I would encourage our advocacy initiatives to address key issues, which are around poverty and the need for financial support for children to attend school, as opposed to hosting an event that promotes education.” **Delegate from Graduate Women New Zealand, CSW70**

[Click HERE for delegate full reports.](#)



Delegate Session Summary

“Significant changes will be coming to the UN as well as agencies within it, such as UN Women and UNICEF. Our attention and our voices are needed now more than ever.” **Delegate from Women Graduates-USA, GWI Breakfast Meeting**

“Girls and women will not have access to justice unless they know their rights, are taught how to work within the justice system, and learn how to fight discrimination and injustice. Education is the foundation on which these skills are built.” **Delegate from Women Graduates-USA, Education for Justice**



“The first generation to grow up with AI. Especially young girls are already involved. They are building AI. AI has huge ethical dilemmas. It builds on old data, which reflects gender bias. AI definitely democratized knowledge. Young people in rural areas now also have access. It is also young people who have to create solutions. [...] it is necessary to reduce risk, build trust, and ensure safety. Google is there to protect, she says. We need to learn how to regulate.” **Delegate from Graduate Women International Netherlands, Invisible Violence Made Visible: AI, Gender and the Fight for Justice**

“visuals that reveal inequities often hidden within social, economic, and political structures. [...] The focus is on how AI can help to support women. AI can reveal patterns in learning systems. There are 5 mirror checks when you use AI: who is your audience, who do they represent, are there any cultural cues you are missing, watch out for stereotypes, and look at safety and consent issues. It is important for women to develop AI literacy so that informed decisions can be made.” **Delegate from Graduate Women International Netherlands, Digital Mirrors: AI, Gender Stereotypes, and Global Inequity**



“Very interesting session informing about the reality of cyber harassment and self-censorship of women themselves (in %)” **Delegate from Swiss Association of University Women, Opening Session**

“An excellent, thought-provoking session. It was well presented and very balanced.” **Ireland, A Simple Suggestion to Improve Access to Justice for all Women and Girls**



“Technology drives our lives; those girls and women without access to technology are unfairly disadvantaged. [...] they are unable to access funding, [...] online educational programs, and they will remain disadvantaged until this is addressed.” **Delegate from Graduate Women New Zealand, *A Decade of Making Women Count***

“Women in Iran are legally half the worth of men. One of the speakers lost sight in one eye when in 2022 she was shot during a protest of women. [...] Mental health issues are a big problem, and the mentality and legal rights towards women and girls will not change overnight.” **Delegate from Graduate Women International Netherlands, *Voices of Iranian Women: Pathways to Justice and Rights***



“Access, skills, and leadership are important [...] Promoting STEM, for instance, by the organisation of digital bootcamps, is important. Gender Based Violence is a major threat. Women and girls need to be in a position where they can participate without fear. [...] A (global) framework on AI ethics and a human rights-based approach are essential.” **Delegate from Graduate Women International Netherlands, *Women’s Participation in Digital Public Life: From commitments to systems that deliver***

“Sarah Hendriks [...] says that young women are only at the margins of political spaces and that there is a severe underrepresentation in parliament. It is important to have role models in politics to engage young women. The principle should be to involve young people: nothing about them without them.” **Delegate from Graduate Women International Netherlands, *Intergenerational engagement for advancing young women’s leadership***



“Women in public life are increasingly targeted with intimidation, abuse, and threats. Many are leaving politics, journalism, and public roles because the personal cost is too high. What unites these cases is not ideology, but misogyny. [...] Those who speak out, especially on violence against women, are met with waves of abuse, including severe threats.” **Delegate from Swiss Association of University Women, *Countering Backlash and Safeguarding Women’s Rights***

“This session [...] brought together international partners to explore how education, knowledge, and institutional access empower women to claim their rights and participate fully in society. The discussion emphasised the importance of removing structural barriers and strengthening systems that support inclusive and equitable access to justice.” **Delegate from Irish Federation of University Women, *Knowledge is Power: Education as the First Step to Justice for Women and Girls***



“Systemic Responses Panel: The delegation participated in a panel at the Mexican Cultural Institute focused on justice system responses to emergent violence [...] In summary, this session allowed FEMU to act as a bridge, bringing national evidence regarding the lack of justice in Mexico to the international arena of the UN, while simultaneously engaging in high-level diplomacy to advocate for systemic change.” **Delegate from Mexican Federation of University Women, *Access to Justice for Women and Girls in Mexico***

“PARITY NOW, a new campaign calling for the institutionalisation of fifty-fifty parity between women and men in all spheres of decision-making at national, European, and international levels. Women and girls represent half of the population, yet they remain systematically underrepresented in political, economic, social, and sporting decision-making bodies.” **Delegate from Graduate Women International Netherlands, *Achieving fifty-fifty parity in power***

“Without inclusive, equal, accessible education, girls and women will continue to find their political, economic, and social rights undermined.” **Delegate from Women Graduates-USA, *Knowledge is Power: Education is the first step to power***

“Une approche coordonnée est essentielle pour construire des sociétés plus justes, inclusives et sécurisées, répondant aux besoins des femmes et des jeunes.” **Delegate from Association sénégalaise des femmes diplômées des universités, *Panel on Digital Safety and Gender Based Online Violence***

“The session highlighted how poverty is gendered, despite often being treated as gender-neutral in research and policy. Women's poverty is often closely linked to patriarchal structures, especially through unpaid and invisible care responsibilities that limit workforce participation and economic independence. Limited financial support for childcare, inadequate housing access, and family-based welfare systems can make it very difficult for women to leave violent relationships.” **Delegate from Graduate Women New Zealand, *Gendered Poverty: Impacts on Women's Access to Justice and Violence***

“The messaging from the panel was clear:

1. Stigma remains a powerful silencer. Older women experiencing abuse often face deep social stigma, particularly around sexual violence. Harmful assumptions such as “who would target older women?” make it even harder for survivors to come forward, and easier for communities to look away.
2. Community inclusion is essential. [...] Meaningful support must start with believing older survivors and ensuring their stories are heard and respected.” **Delegate from Graduate Women Scotland, *VAWG across the life-course***



“While an Agreed Conclusions Document was reached, how it is implemented or even if it is implemented remains a question in some countries. Nevertheless, the undermining of UN norms appeared to be rejected by the majority of Member States.” **Delegate from Women Graduates-USA, High Level Meeting on Violence Against Women and Girls**

“When the Taliban took power in 2021, schools for girls were closed, as well as public baths. Women are not allowed to work outside their home, only in the health sector, but accompanied by a man.” **Delegate from Graduate Women International Netherlands, Listen to Afghan Women: Gender Apartheid, Its Implications and Resistance**



“This event explored the relationship between education and access to justice, looking at CEDAW as a leading and exposing barriers and obstacles to attaining equal justice with men and others. This included a wide scope for education, such as vocational training, skills-based training, and formal and post-school education. It also looked at policies that could be implemented to help with this, suggesting collaboration with governments, civil societies, and private spheres.” **Delegate from Graduate Women New Zealand, Knowledge is Power: Education is the first step to power**



“Tuvalu is Drowning,’ and the discriminatory policies prohibiting Pacific Island women from attending CSW70 need to be addressed. [...] ‘Pacific Island women are the forefront of these crises,’ and while structural and political barriers exist, drinking water continues to be contaminated, the health of Pacific Island people continues to deteriorate, and the physical and psychological effects of Climate Change endure. Now is the time for action.” **Delegate from Graduate Women New Zealand, CSW70 Side Event**

“Event Overview on March 11, 2026, a formal Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Signing Ceremony [...] The ceremony concluded with the official signing of the MOU, creating a unified trilateral voice for advocacy in North America. To ensure broad access and engagement, the session was broadcast live on the FEMU YouTube channel, allowing members and the public to witness this historic commitment to gender equality and legal equity”. **Delegate from Mexican Federation of University Women, Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Signing Ceremony**



“This side event [...] served to highlight how Women Count has transformed gender data across all levels and has charted a path to accelerate action on gender quality globally.”

Delegate from Women Graduates-USA, A Decade of Making Women Count

“Violence against women and girls is lifelong. Older women’s experiences remain some of the least heard, least understood, and least resourced. [...] their voices are frequently dismissed or absent from policy discussions, research, and justice processes.” **Delegate from Graduate Women Scotland, VAWG across the life-course**

“The speakers advocated for expanding justice to include economic aspects and addressing the interconnected nature of GBV with health, housing, climate change, and education, highlighting the crucial role of civil society in devising solutions. Key points from the discussions included the necessity of a comprehensive strategy that integrates economic, social, and environmental dimensions alongside traditional justice systems.” **Delegate from Ghana Association of University Women, Justice Beyond the Courtroom**

“collective reading, storytelling, and dialogue can serve as transformative tools for gender equality, psychosocial healing, and youth empowerment. It brought together young participants (ages 16–23), educators, and gender experts to reflect on themes of discrimination, resilience, and solidarity through the lens of literature.” **Delegate from Graduate Women New Zealand, Bibliotherapy for Youth: Rewriting the Story of Gender Justice**

“This session was highly informative and engaging [...] With financial resources, more children will be able to attend school, because 'food will be on the table.' This is not a situation of 'not wanting to attend school', it is about meeting basic human needs, housing, food, clean water, safety, and security” **Delegate from Graduate Women New Zealand, Social Justice for Women and Girls in Mining**

“Several recommendations to advance political parity. These included the adoption of quotas for women, accompanied by sanctions for non-compliance; measures to reduce sexual harassment; the need to lead by example; and the establishment of clearly defined spaces in parliament for women across all parties.” **Delegate from British Federation of Graduate Women**



Delegate Recommendations for Future Action

- Strengthen regional and cross-border collaboration among GWI, NFAs, and partner organizations to share strategies and coordinate advocacy.
- Translate CSW outcomes into national action plans, policy engagement, and community-level interventions.
- Expand legal literacy, civic education, and access-to-justice initiatives for women, girls, and young people.
- Support girls' education, women's participation in STEM, and lifelong learning as foundations for equality and autonomy.
- Address emerging challenges such as cyber violence, AI governance, and digital inequality through stronger laws, partnerships, and informed advocacy.
- Increase use of gender-disaggregated data, research, and evidence-based reporting to guide decision-making and measure progress.

→ Taken together, the reports show that the next phase of work is about **moving from reflection to implementation**. The strongest way forward is through sustained collaboration, shared learning, and determined advocacy that brings CSW commitments back into communities, institutions, and policy spaces.



Wrap Up!

The delegate reports show a **clear shared direction: strengthen advocacy, build partnerships, and turn CSW learning into practical action at local, national, and regional levels**. Across the reports, a common message emerges that progress depends on coordinated follow-up, stronger collaboration between GWI and NFAs, and continued engagement with governments, civil society, universities, and other women's organizations.

A major priority is to make advocacy more strategic and grounded in national realities. Several delegates emphasized the importance of reviewing the Agreed Conclusions, identifying relevant action points, and using the CSW70 outcomes to inform advocacy with policymakers, ministries, and local institutions. This includes advancing civic and legal literacy, improving access to justice, supporting girls' and women's education, and addressing discrimination, violence, and digital harms through policy and community-based responses.

The reports also highlight the value of education as a pathway to justice and equality. **Delegates repeatedly called for legal literacy, rights education, STEM access, digital skills, and curricula that include civics and justice-related knowledge**. In many contributions, education is a practical tool for empowerment, helping women and girls understand their rights, participate in decision-making, and challenge structural barriers.

This shared approach highlights the implementation, with delegates emphasizing that the impact of CSW70 can ultimately be measured by tangible changes in policies, programs, and lived experiences of women and girls.



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Photo Source: GWI Delegates Participating in CSW70 Sessions

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