



GWI United Nation Representative

Advocacy Report

2026

GWI 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 GWI. Any intervention should push these five goals further.

NB: *Although these goals represent GWI's mission, UN Reps are also invited to promote GWI 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.*

UN80 INITIATIVE UPDATE

On May 26, 2026 The Secretary-General warned that the status quo is unacceptable in terms of the UN80 Initiative and that strong member state engagement was needed to move the process forward. The reforms needed will strengthen the UN's impact and reduce fragmentation and duplication across the UN system. The choice, he stated, was between planned reform led by Member States or externally imposed, crisis-driven change.

The General Assembly has adopted resolution 80/251, which strengthens how UN mandates are created, implemented, and reviewed. Among the changes envisioned are the following:

- * 21% reduction in staff positions
- * Relocation of 230 posts to lower-cost locations
- * Integration of supply chains
- * Adoption of a Peace Operations Toolbox and a more flexible peace operations structure



- * Establishment of a Human Rights Group to coordinate human rights work more efficiently across the UN system
- * Strengthening of shared services, technology, and data systems through a new Unified Services Roadmap, a UN System Data Commons, and a Technology Accelerator Platform

The Secretary-General urged governments to provide clear direction on country and regional reform, support shared services, technology, and data, assess structural changes on their merits, and align funding practices with coherent delivery. Finally, he warned, inaction would be a mistake and a failure of responsibility; the time to act is now.

Submitted by:

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Empowering women and girls through lifelong, quality education and training. GWI, formerly International Federation of University Women (IFUW), in special consultative status with ECOSOC since 1947 and an NGO maintaining official relations with UNESCO and ILO.