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## Members Update, issue 19

Welcome! Do you have any suggestions of what to share with members? Email us at: [info@wide-network.org](mailto:info@wide-network.org)

## Outcomes of the WIDE+ General Assembly, 15 October

The WIDE+ General Assembly was successfully concluded on 15 October past week. Around 20 members were present or represented to review the reports of previous years, hold elections and vote on different proposals.

Members agreed to include articles into the internal regulations to create a pool of deputy board members. The original proposal suggested to change the statutes in relation to the mandate of the board, but this didn't have a two third majority from the members. With the introduction of a deputy pool, deputy members join the board without having the full responsibility of a board member. In this way the member might be better prepared to join as board members in a later stage, and very importantly, the board members have additional members to fall back on in case one of the board members cannot take part in meetings.

The members also (re-)elected board members, caucus members and welcomed one member association to the network.

The current board members are: Edmé Dominguez (elected last year), Kinga Lohmann (elected last year), Evgenia Ivanova (re-elected), Martha Salazar (elected) and Mirela Aqimandriti (elected), with as deputy members: Stanimira Hadjimitova and Nancy Contreras.

The current caucus members are: Daniela Fontaine López, Cristina Reyna, Ulla Björnberg, Janice G. Foerde, Jelena Lenggenhager, Gea MEIJERS, Patricia Muñoz Cabrera, Janvière Ntamazeze, Annemarie Sancar, Silke Steinhilber, Claudia Thallmayer, Janine Wurzer, Christa Wichterich, Mette Host Mikkelsen, Ana Alcalde and

all (deputy) board members.

The newly approved member association is Creación Positiva in Spain. The current part time staff is: Hidayah Hassan and Gea Meijers.

[Click here](#) for the WIDE+ Annual Report 2019.



## COVID-19 Resources from Members

**"Hold the line, COVID-19 and the pushbacks on gains made on gender equality and women's rights"**. Under this title, WO=MEN the Dutch Gender Platform, has published its "Quick Scan" of the response to COVID-19 on a) Sustainable Support for Gender Equality and Women's Rights, b) Gender, Peace and Security, and c) and a Sustainable Economy.

This paper summarizes main trends on the impacts of the COVID-19 crisis in different countries around the globe; significant policy responses from international

organisations, national governments and business; the needs and key responses of civil society actors and; recommendations for policymakers and the Dutch government.

<https://wo-men.nl/kb-bestanden/1600264826.pdf>

### **Short documentary with stories on the impact of COVID-19 and advocacy in Spain**

Afroza, Edith, Becha and Marita, are the names of the protagonists of the documentary "**Madrid, women, migrants**" that collects the different initiatives that their associations have organized to face this context of pandemic where migrants are one of the groups with a higher risk of social exclusion. This documentary is published by Alianza por Solidaridad and is in Spanish with auto-translate in other languages.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c4C7ZBh-WAI&t=165s>

### **Corona, Krise und Care-Arbeit, Discussion paper**

With the publication of [Corona, Krise und Care-Arbeit](#) (in German) WIDE Switzerland has contributed to a feminist response to the COVID-19 pandemic, highlighting how investments in care work are needed. While the proposals are tailored to the Swiss government, many of the proposals are relevant for other countries. The network, together with many others in Switzerland have promoted the inclusion of women into advisory and decision making spaces around corona (which are predominately male in many places!). They have proposed a national task force on the care responsibilities and COVID-19.

### **WIDE+ page on COVID-19 and feminist resources has been updated.**

In the past weeks we have had several launched databases, such as on Women, Peace and Security, or Violence against Women: <https://wp.me/p2KSLS-1pQ>. The collective website developed by feminists around the world has also been updated and transformed: [feministcovidresponse.com](https://feministcovidresponse.com)



## Sign this open letter to keep this Peace Statue remembering sexual slavery in Berlin

Member Christa Wichterich invites other WIDE+ members to undersign this open letter: <https://trostfrauen.de/offener-brief-friedensstatue/>.

End of September 2020, the Korea Association in Germany (Korea Verband) in a broad alliance with other organisations, put up a statue of peace in Berlin to commemorate the sexual violence in war and the 'comfort women' who were forced into sexual slavery by the Japanese Imperial Army. A number of UN resolutions explicitly condemned sexual violence in military conflicts. The 'comfort women' are internationally recognised as courageous protagonists for the condemnation of rape in war.

Bending to the diplomatic pressure from the Japanese Foreign Ministry, this statue is now to be removed although the alliance had received a permission by the Berlin authorities. The alliance considers the announced removal of the statue of peace as a massive restriction of the freedom of art and the work of remembrance of sexual and colonial violence. The Korea Association and its supporters have written an open letter the authorities in Berlin and the foreign ministry, which one can support.

## Grandmothers without borders invitation to send letter to your ambassador on conflict Armenia and Azerbaijan.

Member Jennifer Ramme suggests to continue and contribute to this initiative to raise a strong voice from Europe to stop the violence in Nagorno Karabakh (click here for a [video report](#)). A non-formal transnational women's initiative 'Grandmother without

borders' has prepared a letter to send around to other embassies, which one can download here: <https://wideplus.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/letter-to-ministers-Nagorno-Karabakh.docx>.



**Leveraging Country Systems for  
Advancing Gender Equality in IFIs, especially in NDB: Possibilities and Pitfalls**

**Webinar**

**Tuesday October 20, 6 PM Indian Standard Time (IST) and 2:30 PM CEST**

PWESCR on behalf of BRICS Feminist Watch and in partnership with the South Centre, IWRAP Asia Pacific, the Inequality Movement and Gen Dev Centre for Research and Innovation invites you to an Online Seminar:

**International Financial Institutions and Using Country Systems: Implications for Gender Equality, Tuesday 20 October, 2.30 PM CET**

The seminar will be pitched at the level of those who are interested in IFIs but may not have much familiarity with the processes and architecture. Panel-lists are:

**Ella Hopkins**, Bretton Woods Project, United Kingdom

**Mariama Williams**, South Centre, Jamaica and Switzerland

**Sibulele Poswayo**, Inequality Movement/ BRICS Feminist Watch, South Africa

**Priti Darooka**, PWESCR/BRICS Feminist Watch, India

**Manuel (Butch) Montes**, Society for International Development, Philippines/ USA  
(TBC)

To Register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/leveraging-country-systems-for-advancing-gender-equality-in-ifis-tickets-124611062041>

WWG on FfD Webinar:  
[“What the Social Contract Means in the Age of Data – Feminist Visions and Perspectives”](#) 7 Oct: video online.



[Follow the Euro for women and girls, addressing the needs of migrant women and girls in asylum migration and integration fund \(AMIF\)](#), new publication from European Network of Migrant Women.

The [Women and Gender Constituency](#) is hosting a three-part webinar series on digital tools, with webinars on storytelling (29 Oct) and media advocacy (22 Oct). Also available, a guide on data detox in [English](#) and [Spanish](#).

IWRAW Asia Pacific is will host this year’s ONLINE Global South Women’s Forum on Sustainable Development on [Disrupting Macroeconomics](#), from 14-18 December. Feminist from the Global South are invited to lead and develop sessions, especially [representing marginalised groups or advocating for underrepresented issues](#).




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