Members Update, issue 24

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

WIDE+ Video message for International Day of the Elimination of Violence Against Women, 25 November 2020

WIDE+’s Migration Working Group put together a short video, highlighting messages of resistance and solidarity, strongly calling for the end of violence against migrant women. Across Europe and globally, migrant women have been at the forefront of the COVID-19 crisis, as healthcare workers, as lowly-paid informal workers, and at the same time, providing unpaid labour.

The working group continues to advocate for the rights of migrant women, especially in this moment of crisis. To view the video, click here: click here.
Une analyse des initiatives féministes en Europe, WIDE+ briefing paper in French

Ce rapport résulte d’une analyse de l’organisation féministe en Europe initiée par le réseau Wide+. Lorsque nous avons pris conscience des fragmentations existantes entre les initiatives et les groupes féministes, nous avons décidé de faire ce rapport. Bien que certains espaces internationaux existent, il n’y a pas d’espace suffisamment englobant pour permettre aux féministes de travailler ensemble sur des stratégies européennes à partir d’une vision collective commune. De la même manière, aucun réseau ne relie toute la diversité des actions et des identités féministes.

De la même manière, aucun réseau ne relie toute la diversité des actions et des identités féministes. Nous présentons ici les conclusions d’entretiens approfondis avec des féministes travaillant dans des contextes locaux et nationaux, comme sources d’inspiration et de réflexion pour d’autres féministes, sans prétendre que les observations issues de ces entretiens puissent être généralisées.

To download: les initiatives féministes en Europe 2020

The translation is prepared by Margaux Bolzan.

Read about Atina's analysis and work to combat labor exploitation, including trafficking, in Europe during the COVID-19 Pandemic

Since the beginning of the pandemic, organization Atina has, with the support of the Council of Europe, been particularly focused on the prevention of labor exploitation in the context of human trafficking. Atina is a WIDE+ member that is very active in the...
WIDE+ migration Working Group.

In their project, expert discussions have been held and recorded on the influence of the pandemic on the phenomenon of labor exploitation in the context of human trafficking, in order to fully grasp the extent of this issue and its prevalence at the European level. Particular debate was concerning hidden forms of labor exploitation, domestic servitude during the pandemic, as well as child labor.

A selection of the key conclusions:

- **Impact of COVID-19 on labor exploitation of migrants at Europe’s farmlands** will have permanent consequences. It’s worth asking ourselves: is it hard to recruit workers because there’s a labor shortage, or because the conditions these workers have to face are such that it’s practically impossible for locals to accept them? A significant number of citizens of the Republic of Serbia has also experienced labor exploitation abroad, including work at Europe's farmlands.

- The transport industry has been largely absent from reports dealing with labor exploitation, which mostly focused on migrant agricultural workers or care workers in Western European countries. **Labor exploitation of truck drivers during the COVID-19 pandemic** is becoming more and more common, as many reports are warning.

Further information, click here.

**Article how the German state is preventing the protection of migration women against violence**

This article (in GERMAN) reflects on how the German law and system is preventing the protection of migrant women against violence, despite their commitment to the Istanbul Convention. It includes an interview with WIDE+ partner and member to the WIDE+ migration Working Group, International Women* Space.

https://www.berliner-zeitung.de/politik-gesellschaft/partnerschaftliche-gewalt-der-staat-als-nebentaeter-li.120163 (picture below is from the article).
Die Frauen vom International Women* Space kämpfen gegen die mehrfache Diskriminierung geflüchteter Frauen. Hier in der Ohlauer Straße trafen sie sich zum ersten Mal.

New Action Aid Series on Advancing feminist economic alternatives

Click here for the four volumes that make up ActionAid’s report series “Another world is possible: Advancing feminist economic alternatives to secure rights, justice and autonomy for women and a fair, green, gender equal world.”

Through this report, Action Aid argues squarely that the idea of ‘one economic’ system must be challenged and that feminist economic alternatives should be pursued as an urgent priority. The recommendations and alternatives put forward in this report builds on the work of many feminist economists and activists and women’s rights organisations and groups. Through this report we hope to shine a light on just some of the vast multitude of feminist economic alternatives that exist, demonstrating their huge value and providing inspiration and practical examples for policy-makers. Different WIDE+ members contributed to report.
The new Gender Equality Strategy for EU External Relations adopted this week

The following information is from CONCORD’s press release on GAPIII: “The adoption of a third Gender Action Plan (GAP III) demonstrates the European Union’s continued commitment to achieving gender equality. Clearly, the will to support partner countries in achieving gender equality is there, at least in most Member States and the EU institutions. And a good plan can pave the way, but, by itself, it is not enough.

There are many aspects of the GAP III which CONCORD, the European Confederation for relief and development NGOs, welcomes. For example, the new action plan suggests important steps to tackle the root causes of gender inequalities. As Marie Tempesta, Advocacy Advisor at the International Planned Parenthood Federation European Network said, “GAP III challenges the power dynamics that generate gender-based discrimination. And it tries to address how gender discrimination can be magnified by other forms of discrimination. But it’s unclear how this more inclusive
understanding of gender will work in practice so as to reach women in all their diversity.”

WIDE+ is a partner in the CONCORD Gender Reference Group and has in modest means, contributed to the long process towards the formulation of the third GAP.

It is not certain yet if the adoption by the Commission will be confirmed by the Council (the ministers of foreign affairs from the different EU member states). Read this article in Politico on GAPIII, about the risk of Poland and Hungary vetoing the CCs leading to Presidency conclusions.

The Routledge Handbook of the politics of the #MeToo Movement, edited by Chandra Erlingsdóttir, includes a chapter on Latin America & Mexico, by WIDE+ board member Edmé Dominguez.

Register for the Women's Working Group on Financing for Development's Closing Global Town Hall for the Macro Solutions for Women, People and the Planet Webinar Series. Dec 2, 2020 3pm CET.

There is a new briefer of Women's Major Group, "The Future of Advocacy" This briefer summarizes how feminists are adapting their advocacy tools in response to a virtual world when not everyone is online.

The briefer is available in English, Spanish, French & Russian.

Please help WMG spread the word using this toolkit for social media posts.