Members Update 2023 | Issue 13

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

Invitation to WIDE+ General Assembly, 4.00-5.30 PM CET, Wednesday 8 November

The Annual General Assembly of WIDE+ is taking place coming Wednesday. All members and interested partners are much invited to join, members can vote (two for associations and one for individuals).

4.00-5.00 PM: formal part for adoption of financial and narrative report, election of board, caucus and members, voting and AOB.

5.00-5.30 PM: Ceasefire Gaza, a dialogue to further develop a feminist statement on the war in Israel and Palestine (there is not a draft, but the caucus has shared some suggestions)

ZOOM Link
Join the Zoom Meeting:
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89955512391?pwd=WndHOTV Vy1h1T2ZiNU9ubzRmdllxZz09
Meeting ID: 899 5551 2391
Passcode: 894724

You will find all the documents to the agenda items here:
https://wideplus.org/general-assembly-2023/, password: WIDE+GA2023

WE-EMPOWER Dissemination Campaign on the democratic participation of migrant women across Europe
Migrant women in Europe face many barriers when it comes to participation in political and democratic life. The active participation of migrant women is not only a crucial aspect of integration, but also essential for gender parity and democracy.

Under the framework of the WE-EMPOWER project that is funded by the European Union, WIDE+ and our partners Alianza por la Solidaridad, Red de Mujeres Latinoamericanas y del Caribe, Gabriela Germany, GADIP - Gender And Development In Practice, Romanian Women's LOBBY, ADRI Association, KULU-Women and Development, and NGO Atina are working together since 2021 to promote the democratic and political participation of migrant women.

In the week of 9-15 October the project team held an online campaign to delve into the specific details of migrant women’s challenges based on research done in Denmark, Italy, Germany, Serbia and Europe overall. In general, we find that there are similar barriers, especially the lack of electoral rights, intersectional discrimination, lack of economic opportunities, and under-representation of migrant women in the media.

The papers on migrant women’s participation in political and democratic life can be found here: Denmark (English/ Danish), Spain (English/ Spanish), Italy (English / Italian / Romanian), Germany (English/ German), Serbia (English/ Serbian), and covering the overall European situation (English/ Dutch). The Spanish study is an extra-ordinary in-depth report that includes a quantitative study with close to 1400 respondents.

The factsheets can be found at: https://wideplus.org/we-empower-project/. You will find there later also our communication materials used for our campaign.
The campaign was promoted by WIDE+ and members and is the used in an ongoing awareness raising, like by Silvia Dumitrache, president of A.D.R.I. during a TV debate: https://www.facebook.com/tvriasi/videos/1394349698107032

WE-EMPOWER project team met for the second International Training hosted by NGO Atina in Belgrade, Serbia, 17-20 October 2023

In addition to the social media campaign to highlight the research the project partners conducted, the WE-EMPOWER project also had its second transnational training. All project partners met over the course of three days during a very learnative, energetic, and eye-opening exchange in Belgrade, Serbia.

The main organizer and host, NGO ATINA, provided multiple opportunities to learn from the work of ATINA and the situation of refugee and migrant women in Serbia, including
discussing asylum processes. The group visited the Bagel shop 'Bejgle' set up by ATINA that enables migrant women to access decent work.

A full report will be available in the coming weeks. I realized more and more how definite the barrier of electoral rights is. Migrant women who have arrived from outside the EU are generally not allowed to cast ballots in municipal, national, or European elections, outside a few country exceptions. While the first feminist wave got known for the fight to be able to vote, it is a cause to fight for collectively that there are still migrant women in our countries that do not have this right, when they are living decades in this country or are even born in the country.

**WIDE+ undersigns Open Letter the UN member states to promote the Women, Peace, and Security Agenda**

Ahead of the upcoming UN (United Nations) Security Council Open Debate on the implementation of the UNCHR resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security, WIDE+ is calling with many other networks and associations on all Member States to take immediate action to demand the full, equal, meaningful and safe participation of women in all aspects of peace and security. This means:

- Demanding the inclusion of diverse women at all levels and stages of decision-making, in all contexts, from beginning to end;
- Supporting women's participation in all peace and security processes with the target of 50%;
- Calling for direct, substantive and formal inclusion of diverse women; and
- Enforcing a zero-tolerance approach to any form of intimidation or reprisal against women human rights defenders, peacebuilders and civil society.

To read the open letter in full, click **here**. (Available also in **Arabic**, **French**, **Russian** and **Spanish**)

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**Members and Partners News**

**GADIP Webinar 9 November, 6 PM CET: Gender Equality through microfinance opportunities of ethnic minority women**
Poverty is the root cause of gender inequality, especially among ethnic and minority women. Therefore, WIDE+ partner Gender and Development in Practice (GADIP) will have a webinar with Linh-Trang Nguyen to learn more about her research on microfinance opportunities of ethnic minority women in Son La Province, Vietnam. Discover more of both the positive impacts on the lives of ethnic minority women, but also the difficulties in the processes of microfinance services in Vietnam.

The webinar will take place on 9 November 2023, 6 PM CET. It is free but registration is required through this link.

Don’t miss the opportunity to learn more and join the discussions.

To learn more about GADIP, click here.

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**General News**

New report: “Women on the Frontlines of Extractivism: How funders can support women environmental defenders”
GAGGA announced the launch of the new report, “Women on the Frontlines of Extractivism: How funders can support women environmental defenders.” This report draws upon and synthesizes independent research conducted by the Global Alliance for Green and Gender Action (GAGGA), Global Greengrants Fund, and SAGE Fund, structures dedicated to supporting women on the frontlines of environmental justice activism.

Funding focused on addressing gender-based violence against women environmental activists represents only 0.05% of overall funding by foundations for the environment.

Download the full report here.

New GAGGA report, "Women within the Context of Agricultural Extractivism: Voices of Women Land Defenders in Central America"
This report provides a brief description of monocultures in Central America and delves into the agricultural practice’s gendered impacts and the struggles of women and their communities to care for life and the territories.

The executive summary includes recommendations to ensure that human rights in these contexts are guaranteed.

AWID Webinar Series on Palestinian Voices & Feminist Resistance with last meeting on 6 November, 2 - 3:30 PM UTC.

AWID, WHRD MENA and The Palestinian Feminist Collective organised this series of webinars about the current crisis, its historical roots & how young feminists are organising to preserve collective memory, heal & organise for a world of justice, safety & freedom. To participate sign up here.
GAPS UK: Beyond Feminist Foreign Policy Briefing Series

The Beyond Feminist Foreign Policy briefing series developed by the GAPS UK network (including WO=MEN) explores the linkages between Feminist Foreign Policy and Women, Peace and Security and how to understand and realise a vision of what FFP could perhaps entail across thematic and geographical contexts.

With a deep dive in Meaningfull Partnerships; Asylum and Migration; Climate Change; the Triple Nexus (Development, Peacebuilding and Humanitarian Action); and Disarmement & Dimilitarisation. Click here for more.

Read the first WPS-HA Compact Accountability report

The Compact on Women, Peace and Security and Humanitarian Action (WPS-HA) works to drive action and accountability for women and girls in conflicts and crises. Together with over 200 signatories, the Compact is calling for five years of transformative action across five thematic pillars: financing, participation, leadership, economic security, and protection.

For the interactive version of the WSP-HA 2022 report, click here or to download the compact version, click here.