

The G7 Research Group presents the

# 2022 G7 Elmau Summit Interim Compliance Report

#### 28 June 2022 to 6 January 2023

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"We have meanwhile set up a process and there are also independent institutions monitoring which objectives of our G7 meetings we actually achieve. When it comes to these goals we have a compliance rate of about 80%, according to the University of Toronto. Germany, with its 87%, comes off pretty well. That means that next year too, under the Japanese G7 presidency, we are going to check where we stand in comparison to what we have discussed with each other now. So a lot of what we have resolved to do here together is something that we are going to have to work very hard at over the next few months. But I think that it has become apparent that we, as the G7, want to assume responsibility far beyond the prosperity in our own countries. That's why today's outreach meetings, that is the meetings with our guests, were also of great importance."

Chancellor Angela Merkel, Schloss Elmau, 8 June 2015

G7 summits are a moment for people to judge whether aspirational intent is met by concrete commitments. The G7 Research Group provides a report card on the implementation of G7 and G20 commitments. It is a good moment for the public to interact with leaders and say, you took a leadership position on these issues — a year later, or three years later, what have you accomplished?

Achim Steiner, Administrator, United Nations Development Programme, in G7 Canada: The 2018 Charlevoix Summit



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### **12. Gender: Access to Education**

"We commit to promoting gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, including through supporting girls' access to education and by implementing gender mainstreaming across all our policies."

Elmau G7 Summit Communiqué

#### Assessment

|                | No Compliance | Partial Compliance | Full Compliance |
|----------------|---------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Canada         |               |                    | +1              |
| France         |               | 0                  |                 |
| Germany        |               | 0                  |                 |
| Italy          |               | 0                  |                 |
| Japan          |               |                    | +1              |
| United Kingdom |               |                    | +1              |
| United States  |               |                    | +1              |
| European Union |               |                    | +1              |
| Average        | +0.63 (81%)   |                    |                 |

#### Background

COVID-19 has deepened pre-existing gender inequalities across multiple spheres. In regards to education, the impact of the pandemic has highlighted the disproportionate issues that are aggravating the "existing global learning crisis" and hampering the ability to provide "inclusive quality education for all."<sup>1856</sup> As stated in the G7 Declaration on girls' education: recovering from COVID-19 and unlocking agenda 2030, "the learning losses from [the pandemic] may equal the gains made by girls over the last two decades," making it imperative to address the global setbacks concerning women's education.

At the 2006 St Petersburg Summit, G8 leaders committed to "provide affordable, quality education and professional training accessible for all, regardless of ... sex."<sup>1857</sup> Members also pledged to cooperate in order to achieve gender equality at all levels of education by 2015.

At the 2010 Muskoka Summit, G7 members committed to supporting the Education for All initiative in African and developing countries. This strategy mainly focused on "[improving] access to primary education, strengthening institutional capacity (including through teacher training programs) and improving gender equality in education."<sup>1858</sup>

At the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit, the G7 committed to striving towards achieving gender equality by taking action to increase women's education and employment in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) fields. Through the adoption of the "G7 Guiding Principles for Capacity Building of Women and Girls Towards Sustainable, Inclusive and Equitable Growth and Peace," leaders aimed to work towards eliminating "gender disparities and reduc[ing] gender stereotypes and biases in education."<sup>1859</sup>

- <sup>1858</sup> Education, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 20 June 2010. Access Date: 3 October 2022.
- http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2010muskoka/accountability/mar\_annex56.pdf

<sup>1859</sup> Gender: Women's Initiative in Developing STEM Careers, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 25 May 2017. Access Date: 22 September 2022. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2016compliance-final/2016-g7-compliance-final.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1856</sup> Declaration on girls' education: recovering from COVID-19 and unlocking agenda 2030, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 5 May 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2022. https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/g7-foreign-and-development-ministers-meeting-may-2021-communique/declaration-on-girls-education-recovering-from-covid-19-and-unlocking-agenda-2030

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1857</sup> Education: Gender Disparities, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 5 June 2007. Access Date: 22 September 2022. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2006compliance\_final/11-2006\_g8compliance\_gender.pdf

At the 2017 Taormina Summit, the G7 committed to "implementing and monitoring the measures and actions agreed upon in the … Roadmap for a Gender-Responsive Economic Environment."<sup>1860</sup> Among pledges, G7 leaders stated the goal of "promoting the participation of women and girls in Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics, and Medicine (STEMM) education and careers," as well as other sections in which they are underrepresented.

At the 2018 Charlevoix Summit, the G7 reaffirmed their commitment to improving education for girls. The 'Quality Education for Girls, Adolescent Girls and Women in Developing Countries' declaration came as a recommendation from the newly formed G7 Gender Equality Advisory Council, which recognized the necessity to support education through "development and humanitarian assistance that ... achieves gender equality."<sup>1861</sup> The commitment served as a reminder of the G7's aim to achieve quality education as means to eliminate gendered obstacles for girls and women.

At the 2019 Biarritz Summit, the G7 agreed to "endeavor to work together with developing countries to promote access of girls and women to quality education."<sup>1862</sup> Ensuring they have greater access to STEM education by working alongside developing countries affirmed their overall goal of reducing gender discrimination and inequality.

At the 2021 Cornwall Summit, the G7 introduced new targets that aimed to "value the individual and promote equality." This commitment came from recommendations made by the G7 Gender Equality Advisory, which called for urgent actions following the "potential global setback with respect to gender equality posed by the COVID-19 pandemic." This included linking their commitments with the Global Sustainable Development Goal on Education (SDG4) target to support 40 million more girls entering into education, as well as culminating up to USD2.75 billion for the Global Partnership of Education.<sup>1863</sup>

#### **Commitment Features**

At the 2022 Elmau Summit, leaders committed to "promoting gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, including through supporting girls' access to education and by implementing gender mainstreaming across all policies."<sup>1864</sup> "Girls" is understood to mean female individuals below the age of 18 years.<sup>1865</sup> "Women" is understood to mean female individuals aged 18 years or more.

"Promoting" is understood to mean supporting or renewing old efforts or creating new efforts in the area. It is not necessary for it to be a new initiative.<sup>1866</sup>

"Gender Equality" is understood to refer "to the equal rights, responsibilities and opportunities of women and men and girls and boys." This means that "women's and men's rights, responsibilities and opportunities will

<sup>1863</sup> Gender: Education Quality, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 June 2022. Access Date: 22 September 2022. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2021compliance-final/13-2021-G7-final-compliance-education-equality.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1860</sup> G7 Ministerial Meeting on Gender Equality: Declaration of the Minister Taormina, Italy, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 November 2017. Access Date: 22 September 2022. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/gender/2017-gender-quality.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1861</sup> Charlevoix Declaration on Quality Education for Girls, Adolescent Girls and Women in Developing Countries, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 22 September 2022. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/education-commitment.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1862</sup> Gender: STEM Education, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 14 December 2020. Access Date: 22 September 2022. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2019compliance-final/07-2019-G7-final-compliance-stem.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1864</sup> G7 Leaders' Communiqué, 2022 Elmau Summit (Toronto) 28 June 2022. Access Date: 24 September 2022.

http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2022elmau/220628-communique.html

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1865</sup> Convention on the Rights of the Child, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (Geneva) 20
November 1989. Access Date: 9 October 2022. https://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/CRC.aspx
<sup>1866</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 12 November 2020. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\_Coding\_Manual\_2020.pdf

not depend on whether they are born male or female."<sup>1867</sup> For this commitment, G7 members must address gender inequalities in the sphere of education, promoting gender-equitable education systems, and implement gender mainstreaming across all policies.

"Empowerment" is "the granting of the power, right, or authority to perform various acts or duties."<sup>1868</sup> In respect to education, this means granting power and autonomy to women and girls through policy making and government action, with the intent to provide more access to learning and academic institutions.

"Supporting" is defined as "the action, or act of providing aid, assistance, or backing up an initiative, or entity."<sup>1869</sup>

"Access" is understood to mean the right to obtain or make use of the entity in reference.<sup>1870</sup> "Education" can be defined as the process of "receiving or giving instruction," most commonly at a school or university.<sup>1871</sup> In terms of the commitment, the United Nations Women stresses the use of "equal access" in reference to the ability to access educational and academic related public goods, services and resources which are "crucial to achieving gender equality and sustainable development."<sup>1872</sup> The commitment therefore requires providing, funding, and aiding girls in being able to receive instruction from academic institutions.

"Implementing" is understood to mean "taking steps forward."<sup>1873</sup> While announcements may be a part of a longer-term initiative and actions on it may continue into the prolonged future, steps need to be taken in the near future to be considered as implementation.

The concept of "gender mainstreaming" is "a globally accepted strategy for promoting gender equality."<sup>1874</sup> According to United Nations Women, mainstreaming specifically "involves ensuring that gender perspectives and attention to the goal of gender equality are central to all activities – policy development, research, advocacy/dialogue, legislation, resource allocation, and planning, implementation and monitoring of programmes and projects."

This commitment requires G7 members to take action concerning women and girls' education as well as gender mainstreaming.

In regard to education, this report will take into account domestic or international actions that are focused on promoting gender equality within education related policy making.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1867</sup> Gender Equality, United Nations Women (New York) n.d. Access Date: 24 September 2022. https://www.un.org/womenwatch/osagi/conceptsandefinitions.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1868</sup> Empowerment, Merriam-Webster English Dictionary (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 20 September 2022.

https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/empowerment

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1869</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 12 November 2020. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\_Coding\_Manual\_2020.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1870</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 12 November 2020. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\_Coding\_Manual\_2020.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1871</sup> Education, Merriam-Webster English Dictionary (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 30 September 2022. https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/education

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1872</sup> Gender Equality, United Nations Women (New York) 5 March 2001. Access Date: 24 September 2022. https://www.un.org/womenwatch/osagi/conceptsandefinitions.htm

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1873</sup> Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 12 November 2020. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance\_Coding\_Manual\_2020.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1874</sup> "Women's equitable access to services, goods and resources," United Nations Women (New York) n.d. Access Date: 24 September 2022. https://www.unwomen.org/en/un-women-strategic-plan-2022-2025/goods-services-and-resources

The G7's Cornwall declaration identifies 1) rights, 2) resources, and 3) opportunities as actions that support and increase women and girls' access to education.<sup>1875</sup>

Strong actions that fit the "Rights" sphere include, but are not restricted to, enacting policies that address gender stereotypes and unconscious biases at all levels of schooling, working to guarantee girls' and women's right to education without discrimination; amending restrictive policies or legislation which prevent girls from thriving in school; implementing initiatives that support safe and accessible environments for girls to learn; developing gender-sensitive curricula and learning materials; eradicating sexual and gender-based violence at schools; working with other G7 members and multilateral institutions to remove obstacles to education that stand in women's way.

Strong actions that fit the "Resources" sphere include, but are not restricted to, providing financial support to domestic and/or international programs such as the UN Girls' Education Initiative (UNGEI); mobilizing technical resources, such as to reduce the gender digital divide; dismantling costs for girls as they progress through education (such as providing scholarship and stipend programs), and allocating monetary resources to address women's educational needs.

Strong actions that fit the "Opportunities" sphere include, but are not restricted to, expanding girls' access to technical and vocational education and training; increasing their participation in the science, technology, engineering and mathematics fields; scaling up early literacy programmes for girls, and supporting the participation of women and girl-led groups in education decision-making processes.

In regards to gender mainstreaming, this report will take into account national and international actions that address gender equality and integrate gender concerns across the following areas: health, climate change, security, and economic participation. Implementing gender mainstreaming across "all policies" will be understood as taking action in at least three of the aforementioned spheres.

Strong actions that fit the "Health" sphere include, but are not restricted to, providing for pre-and post-natal healthcare, increasing access to sexual and reproductive health services, promoting education on menstrual hygiene, funding greater access to essential medicines or health insurance coverage, and reallocating resources to ensure access to clean water and sanitation facilities.

Strong actions that fit the "Climate Change" sphere include, but are not restricted to, increasing women's participation in decision-making processes concerning climate change, addressing women's food insecurity and tackling factors that exacerbate women and girls' exposure to the impacts of climate change.

Strong actions that fit the "Security" sphere include, but are not restricted to, tackling gender-based violence, the gender dimensions of human trafficking, child marriage, and drafting proposals to aid and support women who suffer domestic violence.

Strong actions that fit the "Economic Security" sphere include, but are not restricted to, enacting provisions to reduce economic shocks, such as providing unemployment insurance relief, drafting proposals to ensure women's access to social protections like paid sick leave, increasing access to affordable childcare support, and recognizing the importance of unpaid care and domestic work.

Full compliance, or a score of +1, will be given to G7 members that demonstrate strong action, either nationally or internationally, in all three spheres (rights, resources and opportunities) concerning the promotion of gender equality in education AND mainstream gender in at least three of the four aforementioned spheres (health, climate change, security, and economic participation).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1875</sup> G7 Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 28 June 2022. Access Date: 24 September 2022. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2022elmau/220628-communique.html

Partial compliance, or a score of 0, will be awarded to G7 members who demonstrate strong action, nationally or internationally, in at least one of the three commitment spheres (rights, resources and opportunities), AND mainstream gender in at least one of the four aforementioned spheres (health, climate change, security, and economic participation). Alternatively, partial compliance will also be awarded to G7 members who take strong action in all spheres of education or gender mainstreaming but not in both.

Non-compliance, or a score of -1, will be assigned to G7 members that fail to take strong action in any of the commitment's spheres concerning education (rights, resources and opportunities) AND gender mainstreaming (health, climate change, security, and economic participation). Weak actions include less substantial initiatives, such as verbal reaffirmations of existing commitments, attendance at international conferences, and participation in meetings/events that discuss gender inequality in the context of education.

#### Scoring Guidelines

| -1 | The G7 member has NOT taken strong action to support girls' access to education AND has not       |
|----|---|
|    | mainstreamed gender in ANY of its policies. OR the G7 member has taken weak action in all areas.  |
|    | The G7 member has taken strong action in at least ONE of the education spheres (rights, resources |
| 0  | OR opportunities), AND has mainstreamed gender in at least ONE policy area (health, climate       |
| 0  | change, security, and economic participation). OR the G7 member has taken strong action in the    |
|    | spheres of education or gender mainstreaming but NOT in BOTH.                                     |
|    | The G7 member has taken strong action in ALL education spheres (rights, resources OR              |
| +1 | opportunities), AND has mainstreamed gender in at least THREE policy areas (health, climate       |
|    | change, security, and economic participation).  |
|    |   |

Compliance Director: Eisha Khan Lead Analyst: Vanessa Mabelle

#### Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to promote gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, including through supporting girls' access to education and by implementing gender mainstreaming across all policies.

On 29 June 2022, Global Affairs Canada announced the Project to Support Gender-Sensitive and Equitable Health Services.<sup>1876</sup> This project is aimed at improving the sexual health and well-being of young and adolescent girls in Côte d'Ivoire through training educators to implement a curriculum which provides a comprehensive sexual education.

On 13 July 2022, Global Affairs Canada announced the Brighter Outcomes Ethiopia: Strengthening CSOs [Civil Society Organizations] for Displaced Children's Education project.<sup>1877</sup> To enhance equitable learning outcomes among refugees, with a focus on young girls, training will be delivered to educators on gender and inclusion. Additionally, the project will fund refugee-led organizations to ensure learning environments are safe and responsive to gender.

On 22 July 2022, Global Affairs Canada announced the Refugee Education and Development project, which aims to bolster inclusive learning outcomes among refugees, particularly young girls, in Cameroon and Niger.<sup>1878</sup> The primary initiative is to strengthen local refugee-led organizations through the provision of consistent

<sup>1876</sup> Project Profile — Project to Support Gender-Sensitive and Equitable Health Services (Ottawa) 29 June 2022. Access Date: 23 October 2022. https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P010344001

<sup>1877</sup> Project Profile — Brighter Outcomes Ethiopia: Strengthening CSOs for Displaced Children's Education (Ottawa) 13 July 2022.
Access Date: 23 October 2022. https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P010570001
<sup>1878</sup> Project Profile — Refugee Education and Development (Ottawa) 22 July 2022. Access Date: 23 October 2022.
https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P010575001

funding in order to promote the capacity for gender-transformative development and gender equality in refugee education.

On 9 August 2022, Global Affairs Canada announced the project Geared for Success, which aims to enhance equitable learning outcomes for refugees, particularly young and adolescent girls, in South Sudan and Uganda.<sup>1879</sup> This project aims to do so by providing small grants and technical support to refugee-led organizations, and overcome institutional gaps.

On 12 August 2022, Global Affairs Canada announced the project EMPOWER, which aims to enhance literacy and life skills among internally displaced people, with an emphasis on women and girls, in Mali.<sup>1880</sup> This project is centered around enhancing the capacity of women-led organizations in Mali, and will provide grants to such organizations in order to deliver equitable education to women and girls. Additionally, the project will develop awareness campaigns to dismantle stereotypes that prevent girls from receiving equitable educational opportunities.

On 19 August 2022, Minister of International Development Harjit Sajjan announced CAD5 million in funding to UN Women to ensure that women are equipped with the skills to enter civil and political spaces in Lebanon.<sup>1881</sup>

On 11 November 2022, Global Affairs Canada announced Project Lakana, which aims to prevent sexual and gender-based violence in Mali.<sup>1882</sup> In order to better support governmental and societal actors in fighting against child sexual violence, this project will develop appropriate educational materials and provide courses in schools on the prevention of and advocacy against sexual violence.

On 15 November 2022, Minister of Foreign Affairs Mélanie Joly announced that the United Nations General Assembly's Third Committee adopted a resolution to end forced child marriage, which was a resolution co-led by Canada and Zambia.<sup>1883</sup> The minister re-affirmed the importance of the resolution and the steps that it will take toward providing education to all girls.

On 1 December 2022, Minister of Rural Economic Development Gudie Hutchings announced up to CAD1.6 million in funding to four organizations in Newfoundland and Labrador.<sup>1884</sup> This funding will bolster the capacity of such organizations to provide education aimed at preventing gender-based violence against Indigenous women and girls in schools and related professional contexts.

https://www.canada.ca/en/women-gender-equality/news/2022/11/government-of-canada-announces-funding-for-4-organizations-supporting-indigenous-women-and-2slgbtqqia-people-in-newfoundland-and-labrador.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1879</sup> Project Profile — Geared For Success (Ottawa) 9 August 2022. Access Date: 1 December 2022.

https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P010580001

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1880</sup> Project Profile — EMPOWER (Ottawa) 12 August 2022. Access Date: 1 December 2022.

https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banque projets/project-projet/details/P010580001

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1881</sup> Minister Sajjan concludes trip to Lebanon and announces \$5 million in international assistance for UN Women (Beirut) 19 August 2022. Access Date: 4 November 2022. https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2022/08/minister-sajjanconcludes-trip-to-lebanon-and-announces-5million-in-international-assistance-for-un-women.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1882</sup> Project Profile — Lakana — Mali's Girls and Boys Better Protected Against Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (Ottawa) 22 November 2022. Access Date: 1 December 2022. https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/projectprojet/details/P009563001

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1883</sup> Canada and Zambia Lead on UN Resolution to End Child, Early, and Forced Marriage (Ottawa) 15 November 2022. Access Date: 1 December 2022. https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2022/11/canada-and-zambia-lead-on-un-resolution-to-end-child-early-and-forced-marriage.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1884</sup> Government of Canada announces funding for 4 organizations supporting Indigenous women and 2SLGBTQQIA+ people in Newfoundland and Labrador (Long Range Mountains) 1 December 2022. Access Date: 20 December 2022.

On 2 December 2022, Member of Parliament Patrick Weiler announced up to CAD1.1 million in funding for Women's Studies Online and the Native Courtworker and Counseling Association of British Columbia.<sup>1885</sup> Part of this funding will aim to prevent gender-based violence against women and girls in schools and related professional contexts.

On 5 December 2022, Global Affairs Canada announced that Canada and the European Union will co-host the upcoming International Conference in Solidarity with Venezuelan Refugees and Migrants.<sup>1886</sup> This conference will emphasize how the COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated the difficulties faced by Venezuelan refugees, and particularly women and girls. Facilitating access to education for such refugees will be a primary initiative among attending countries.

On 5 December 2022, Minister for Women and Gender Equality and Youth Marci Ien announced up to CAD2.2 million for the implementation of five projects in collaboration with women-focused and Indigenous-focused organizations in New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, and Nova Scotia.<sup>1887</sup> Part of this funding will aim to prevent gender-based violence against women and girls in schools and related professional contexts.

On 5 December 2022, Minister Ien announced CAD682,000 in funding for two organizations in British Columbia.<sup>1888</sup> These organizations aim to address gender-based violence as well as general public safety.

On 5 December 2022, Minister Ien announced up to CAD982,000 in funding to three organizations in Ontario.<sup>1889</sup> This will target the prevention of gender-based violence against women and girls in schools and related professional contexts.

On 5 December 2022, Minister Ien announced up to CAD4 million in funding to 12 organizations in Quebec.<sup>1890</sup> The organizations cover a wide variety of gender-based issues such as women's homelessness, institutional incarceration, and violence against immigrant women.

On 5 December 2022, Minister Ien announced up to CAD482,000 in funding for Quajigiartiit Health Research Centre in Nunavut.<sup>1891</sup> This funding will contribute towards implementing strengths-based community service to prevent and heal from gender-based violence.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1885</sup> Government of Canada Announces Funding for Two Indigenous Women's and 2SLGBTQQIA+ Organizations in British Columbia (Ottawa) 2 December 2022. Access Date: December 20 2022. https://www.canada.ca/en/women-genderequality/news/2022/12/government-of-canada-announces-funding-for-two-indigenous-womens-and-2slgbtqqia-organizationsin-british-columbia0.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1886</sup> Canada and EU to co-host the next International Conference in Solidarity with Venezuelan Refugees and Migrants (Ottawa) 5 December 2022. Access Date: 1 December 2022. https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2022/12/canada-and-eu-to-co-host-the-next-international-conference-in-solidarity-with-venezuelan-refugees-and-migrants.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1887</sup> Government of Canada announces five projects to prevent gender-based violence in the Atlantic Region (Fredericton) 5 December 2022. Access Date: 20 December 2022. https://www.canada.ca/en/women-gender-equality/news/2022/12/governmentof-canada-announces-five-projects-to-prevent-gender-based-violence-in-the-atlantic-region.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1888</sup> Government of Canada announces two projects to prevent gender-based violence in British Columbia (Victoria) 5 December 2022. Access Date: 20 December 2022. https://www.canada.ca/en/women-gender-equality/news/2022/12/government-ofcanada-announces-two-projects-to-prevent-gender-based-violence-in-british-columbia.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1889</sup> Government of Canada announces three projects to prevent gender-based violence in Ontario (Toronto) 5 December 2022. Access Date: 20 December 2022. https://www.canada.ca/en/women-gender-equality/news/2022/12/government-of-canadaannounces-three-projects-to-prevent-gender-based-violence-in-ontario.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1890</sup> Government of Canada announces 13 projects to prevent gender-based violence in Quebec (Quebec City) 5 December 2022. Access Date: 20 December 2022. https://www.canada.ca/en/women-gender-equality/news/2022/12/government-of-canadaannounces-13-projects-to-prevent-gender-based-violence-in-quebec3.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1891</sup> Government of Canada announces a project to prevent gender-based violence in Nunavut (Iqaluit) 5 December 2022. Access Date: 20 December 2022. https://www.canada.ca/en/women-gender-equality/news/2022/12/government-of-canada-announces-a-project-to-prevent-gender-based-violence-in-nunavut.html

On 9 December 2022, Minister Ien announced CAD2 million in funding for six Indigenous-led organizations in Alberta.<sup>1892</sup> This funding will bolster the capacity of such organizations to provide education aimed at preventing gender-based violence against Indigenous women and girls in schools.

On 21 December 2022, the Foreign Ministers of the G7 and Australia, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain and Switzerland condemned the Taliban's decision to ban women from universities and girls from secondary schools in Afghanistan.<sup>1893</sup> The statement noted that the restrictions placed upon women and girls deny them their fundamental rights and freedoms and urged the Taliban to reverse its decision.

On 15 December 2022, Minister Ien announced up to CAD972,000 for Tahiuqtiit Women's Society in the Northwest Territories, and Qaujigiartiit Health Research Centre in Nunavut. This funding builds on the endorsement of the National Action Plan to End Gender-based Violence by the Federal-Provincial-Territorial Ministers responsible for the Status of Women.<sup>1894</sup>

On 21 December 2022, the Foreign Minister of Canada Mélanie Joly issued a joint statement with several other countries regarding the decision of the Taliban to ban women from universities.<sup>1895</sup> The statement strongly condemned the choice to bar women from receiving a university education and urged the Taliban to abandon these measures and reverse the existing prohibition of girls from attending secondary schools.

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to promote gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, including through supporting girls' access to education and by implementing gender mainstreaming across all our policies. Canada has demonstrated strong action in working to guarantee an equitable and gendersensitive education for women and girls domestically and abroad. Canada has also gender mainstreamed in three policy spheres and taken strong action with respect to enhancing opportunities for women and girls in health, security, and economic participation.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Olivia MacDonald

#### France: 0

France has partially complied with its commitment to promoting gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, including through supporting girls' access to education and by implementing gender mainstreaming across all policies.

On 26 August 2022, the Minister of National Education and Youth Pap Ndiaye presented the plan to tackle inequalities for the 2022-2023 school year.<sup>1896</sup> This objective aims to provide various career paths for all genders,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1892</sup> Preventing gender-based violence that targets Indigenous women and 2SLGBTQQIA+ persons in Alberta (Edmonton) 9 December 2022. Access Date: 20 December 2022. https://www.canada.ca/en/women-gender-

equality/news/2022/12/preventing-gender-based-violence-that-targets-indigenous-women-and-2slgbtqqia-persons-in-alberta.html

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1893</sup> Joint Statement from Foreign Ministers on Taliban Decision to Ban Women from Universities, Federal Office (Berlin) 21
December 2022. Access Date: 25 December 2022. https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/-/2570710
<sup>1894</sup> Government of Canada announces funding for Northern Indigenous women's organizations to address gender-based violence (Ulukhaktok) 15 December 2022. Access Date: 04 January 2023. https://www.canada.ca/en/women-gender-equality/news/2022/12/government-of-canada-announces-funding-for-northern-indigenous-womens-organizations-to-address-gender-based-violence0.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1895</sup> Statement from foreign ministers on Taliban decision to ban women from universities (Ottawa) 21 December 2022. Access Date: 23 December 2022. https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2022/12/statement-from-foreign-ministers-on-taliban-decision-to-ban-women-from-universities.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1896</sup> 2022-2023 School Year: Build An Engage School Together!, Ministry of National Education and Youth (Paris) 26 August 2022. Access Date: 20 December 2022. https://www.education.gouv.fr/annee-scolaire-2022-2023-construisons-ensemble-une-ecole-engagee-342475

and improve sexual education to prevent sexist and sexual violence and implement the Girls-Boys Equality label in response to them.

On 26 September 2022, the Ministry of National Education and Youth released their EUR59 billion budget which included funding to build more schools that promote student success in an equitable and inclusive learning space.<sup>1897</sup> The plan will aim to develop more trained education personnel, provide financial assistance for vulnerable families, and support the launch of the initiative, the School of the Future.

On 11 October 2022, Chrysoula Zacharopoulou, the Minister of State for Development, Francophonie and International Partnerships, took part in events promoting political and civil participation among young women as part of International Day of the Girl Child. She also reaffirmed that France had continued its financial commitment towards a fund supporting feminist organizations.<sup>1898</sup>

On 13 November 2022, Minister Ndiaye announced a new strategy to "make 2023 the year of promotion of mathematics at school."<sup>1899</sup> The strategy includes a detailed outline for each education level to make the French school system more inclusive and targets to achieve gender equality by 2027. Additionally, it aims to encourage more girls to participate in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics classes through initiatives to challenge gender stereotypes and promote female role models.

On 21 December 2022, the Foreign Ministers of the G7 and Australia, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain and Switzerland condemned the Taliban's decision to ban women from universities and girls from secondary schools in Afghanistan.<sup>1900</sup> The statement noted that the restrictions placed upon women and girls deny them their fundamental rights and freedoms and urged the Taliban to reverse its decision.

France has partially complied with its commitment to promote gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, including through supporting girls' access to education and by implementing gender mainstreaming across all our policies. The Ministry of National Education and Youth acknowledges their lack of representation and has made efforts to address and break existing gender stereotypes and promote gender equality and social diversity in their schools. Although a few strategies introduced aim to support education and provide more resources and opportunities for women and girls, there has been no efforts in supporting gender mainstreaming across any policies.

Thus, France receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Ga Vin Park

#### Germany: 0

Germany has partially complied with its commitment to promoting gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, including through supporting girls' access to education and by implementing gender mainstreaming across all policies.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1897</sup> Finance Bill 2023, Ministry of National Education and Youth (Paris) 26 September 2022. Access Date: 4 November 2022. https://www.education.gouv.fr/projet-de-loi-de-finances-2023-342934

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1898</sup> International Day of the Girl Child (October 11, 2022), Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 11 October 2022. Access Date: 6 March 2023. https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/feminist-diplomacy/news/article/international-day-of-the-girl-child-10-11-22

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1899</sup> Reconciling All Students With Mathematics And Promoting Excellence: A New Strategy From The Start Of The 2023 School Year, Ministry of National Education and Youth (Paris) 13 November 2022. Access Date: 20 December 2022.

https://www.education.gouv.fr/reconcilier-tous-les-eleves-avec-les-mathematiques-et-promouvoir-l-excellence-une-nouvelle-strategie-343423

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1900</sup> Joint Statement from Foreign Ministers on Taliban Decision to Ban Women from Universities, Federal Office (Berlin) 21 December 2022. Access Date: 25 December 2022. https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/-/2570710

On 14 July 2022, the German government committed EUR40 million to the Resilience and Social Cohesion initiative in Nigeria.<sup>1901</sup> The project will be used to provide education, livelihood opportunities, and nutrition to children and adolescent girls in Borno and Yobe states.

On 25 September 2022, Development Minister Svenja Schulze announced Germany's EUR10 million donation towards the United Nations' 'Education Cannot Wait' program.<sup>1902</sup> This initiative will provide educational measures to children in Ukraine, through guaranteeing consistent access to education and psychological support.

On 21 December 2022, the Foreign Ministers of the G7 and Australia, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain and Switzerland condemned the Taliban's decision to ban women from universities and girls from secondary schools in Afghanistan.<sup>1903</sup> The statement noted that the restrictions placed upon women and girls deny them their fundamental rights and freedoms and urged the Taliban to reverse its decision.

Germany has partially complied with its commitment to promoting gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, including through supporting girls' access to education and by implementing gender mainstreaming across all policies. Germany has supported girls' education through resources and opportunities, primarily through monetary donations aimed at ensuring that children have consistent access to education. However, Germany has provided little support in the form of rights and lacks gender mainstreaming across any policies.

Thus, Germany receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Divya Jagpal

#### Italy: 0

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to promoting gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls including through supporting girls' access to education and by implementing gender mainstreaming across all policies.

On 4 July 2022, the Ministry of Education and Soroptimist International of Italy signed a Memorandum of Understanding aimed to promote the advancement of girls and combat gender discrimination and inequality in schools.<sup>1904</sup> Over the next three years, this will be accomplished through awareness campaigns against gender-based violence and discrimination in schools, as well as promoting respect and equal opportunities for girls in the classroom.

On 8 August 2022, Minister of Education Patrizio Bianchi announced the approval of EUR2.1 billion for the 4.0 School Plan, which explicitly aims to engage female students in the classroom.<sup>1905</sup> Of the approved funds, EUR424 million will be allocated to creating scientific laboratories geared toward promoting the development

https://www.bmz.de/de/aktuelles/aktuelle-meldungen/schulze-sagt-kindern-jugendlichen-in-ukraine-unterstuetzung-zu-121974 <sup>1903</sup> Joint Statement from Foreign Ministers on Taliban Decision to Ban Women from Universities, Federal Office (Berlin) 21 December 2022. Access Date: 25 December 2022. https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/-/2570710

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1901</sup> Nigeria: New UN resilience project paves 'pathway to peace and sustainable development', UN Geneva, (Geneva) 14 July 2022. Access Date: 17 December 2022. https://www.ungeneva.org/en/news-media/news/2022/07/nigeria-new-un-resilience-project-paves-pathway-peace-and-sustainable

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1902</sup> Development Minister Schulze promises children and young people in Ukraine concrete support, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, (Berlin) 25 September 2022. Access Date: 19 October 2022.

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1904</sup> Memorandum of Understanding Mi-Soroptimist International Italy — "Promote the advancement of the condition of women ... in the school environment" 4 July 2022. Access Date: 23 October 2022. https://www.miur.gov.it/web/guest/-/protocollo-d-intesa-mi-soroptimist-international-italia-promuovere-l-avanzamento-della-condizione-femminile-in-ambito-scolastico--1
<sup>1905</sup> PNRR, the "4.0 School Plan" is underway: 2.1 billion for 100,000 innovative classes and laboratories for the digital professions of the future. Bianchi: "The biggest transformative intervention of the education system is underway. With PNRR and European resources 4.9 billion on digitization (Rome) 8 August 2022. Access Date: 29 October 2022. https://www.miur.gov.it/web/guest/-/pnrr-al-via-il-piano-scuola-4-0-2-1-miliardi-per-100-000-classi-innovative-e-laboratori-per-le-professioni-digitali-del-futuro-bianchi-in-atto-il-piu-

of advanced technical and digital skills for female students. The Plan also intends to craft teaching methodologies and learning environments that are better suited to the unique needs of female students.

On 11 August 2022, EUR267.8 million of funding was allocated to innovative teaching environments for kindergarteners.<sup>1906</sup> The goal of this funding will be to enhance problem-solving and technological and mathematical literacy among young boys and girls.

On 21 December 2022, the Foreign Minister Antonio Tajani, along with several other countries, released a formal statement on the decision of the Taliban to ban women from universities in Afghanistan.<sup>1907</sup> This statement strongly condemned the action and urged a reversal of this initiative as well as of a previous decision to prohibit young girls from accessing secondary education.

Italy has partially complied with its commitment to promoting gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls. Italy has demonstrated some strong actions in working towards expanding the opportunities afforded to girls and ensuring that their learning environment is safer and gender-responsive. However, Italy has failed to take either strong or partial action in expanding resources for women and girls in education as well as gender mainstreaming across any policies.

Thus, Italy receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Olivia MacDonald

#### Japan: +1

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to promoting gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, including through supporting girls' access to education and by implementing gender mainstreaming across all policies.

On 29 June 2022, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced that the Japanese government will host the World Assembly for Women on 3 December 2022.<sup>1908</sup> This conference aimed to mobilize discussions on gender equality, specifically their economic independence.<sup>1909</sup>

On 6 July 2022, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) loaned JPY22 million for the Development Policy Loan for the Improvement of Learning Environment of Basic Education in Morocco. The aim of this loan is to help develop policies to improve the basic education and learning environment for boys and girls in Morocco. It is noted that this program contributes to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 4 (Quality education), but 10 (Reduced inequalities), suggesting that this program loan will help develop education access for marginalized communities, such as women.<sup>1910</sup>

On 27 July 2022, JICA granted JPY165 million towards constructing lower-secondary schools of technical education and vocational training in Burkina Faso. This is in cooperation with the United Nations Children's Fund and aims to build eight new schools to improve access to education for boys and girls, specifically in

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1906</sup> Kindergarten, rankings published: 267.8 million for innovative teaching environments (Rome) 11 August 2022. Access Date: 1 December 2022. https://www.miur.gov.it/web/guest/-/scuola-dell-infanzia-pubblicate-le-graduatorie-267-8-mln-per-ambientididattici-innovativi-1

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1907</sup> Joint Statement From Foreign Ministers on Taliban Decision to Ban Women from Universities (Rome) 21 December 2022. Access Date: 23 December 2022. https://www.esteri.it/en/sala\_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2022/12/joint-statement-on-statement-from-foreign-ministers-on-taliban-decision-to-ban-women-from-universities/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1908</sup> World Assembly for Women: WAW! 2022, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 29 June 2022. Access Date: 1 November 2022. https://www.mofa.go.jp/fp/hr\_ha/page3e\_001217.html.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1909</sup> Prime Minister Kishida's Participation in the "HeForShe" Summit, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 21 September 2022. Access Date: 1 November 2022. https://www.mofa.go.jp/fp/hr\_ha/page3e\_001248.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1910</sup> Signing of Japanese ODA Loan Agreement with Morocco 2022, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 6 July 2022. Access Date: 22 December 2022. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2022/20220706\_41.html

regions with less access. Furthermore, it aims to develop the quality of education for boys and girls through promotion of vocational training.<sup>1911</sup>

On 8 September 2022, JICA reinstated that due to this year's extensive flooding in Pakistan, JICA will work to provide equitable primary education for the students affected.<sup>1912</sup> This includes working in cooperation with the Advancing Quality Alternative Learning Project to enroll 523 girls into the "Middle Tech Program."

On 22 September 2022, Prime Minister Fumio Kishida stated the country's prioritization of "clearing the obstacles that hinder women's advancement," when discussing the future of the Japanese economy. This included the promise of the Child and Family Affairs Agency, which is a policy to meet the challenges of childbearing while also encouraging women to pursue higher education and careers.<sup>1913</sup>

On 31 October 2022, the National Women's Education Center of Japan concluded their annual Global Seminar titled: "Does Digital Technology advance Gender Equality?"<sup>1914</sup> The aim of the global seminar is to highlight gender inequality in the digital field and encourage discussion towards technological development in a way that supports gender equality.

On 21 December 2022, Press Secretary Ono Hikariko of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs released a statement regarding the Taliban's suspension of girls' higher education in Afghanistan.<sup>1915</sup> The statement condemned this action and urged the Taliban to resume girls' education.

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to promoting gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, including through supporting girls' access to education and by implementing gender mainstreaming across all our policies. Japan has taken action to enact policies and forums to address and discuss the issues women face in the digital, health, climate, and economic field. Japan has also taken action to provide financial resources for the enrollment of girls and women internationally. Finally, Japan has taken action to promote and support the participation of girls and women in Technical and Vocational Education and Training.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Petrina van Nieuwstadt

#### United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to promoting gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, including through supporting girls' access to education and by implementing gender mainstreaming across all policies.

On 29 June 2022, the United Kingdom announced the Girls' Education and Skills Programme (GESP), in collaboration with UNICEF's Generation Unlimited to enhance girls' access to education.<sup>1916</sup> The programme

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1911</sup> Signing of Grant Agreement with UNICEF for Burkina Faso, Japan International cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 28 July 2022. Access Date: 19 December 2022 https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2022/20220728\_21\_en.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1912</sup> JICA commits to continue to support flood affected and out of school children against all odds, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 8 September 2022. Access Date: 23 October 2022.

https://www.jica.go.jp/pakistan/english/office/topics/220908.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1913</sup> Speech by Prime Minister KISHIDA Fumio at the New York Stock Exchange, Prime Minister's Office of Japan (Tokyo) 22 September 2022. Access Date: 23 October 2022. https://japan.kantei.go.jp/101\_kishida/statement/202209/\_00009.html <sup>1914</sup> FY2022 NWEC Global Seminar: Does Digital Technology Advance Gender Equality?, National Women's Education Center (Saitama) n.d. Access Date: 3 November 2022. https://www.nwec.jp/en/global/seminar/n5phhq00000000co.html <sup>1915</sup> Supersign of Cirls' Lighter Education in Africanter Minister of Foreign Affairs of Lange (Tokyo) 21 December 2022. Acc

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1915</sup> Suspension of Girls' Higher Education in Afghanistan, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 21 December 2022. Access Date: 25 December 2022. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press3e\_000523.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1916</sup> Girls' Education Skills Partnership (GESP) – Challenge Fund Request for Proposals, Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office (London) 29 June 2022. Access Date: 22 October 2022. https://www.gov.uk/international-development-funding/girls-education-skills-partnership-gesp-challenge-fund-request-for-proposals#full-publication-update-history

will deliver the initiative through two methods: the Challenge Fund and Passport to Earning (P2E).<sup>1917</sup> The Challenge Fund will award grants ranging from GBP750,000 to GBP1.5 million to projects and proposals for girls in Bangladesh and Nigeria. Additionally, P2E will provide skills and certificates to adolescent girls in low to middle-income nations who have had little to no formal education.

On 3 July 2022, the United Kingdom pledged GBP636,548 in emergency funds to the Government of Bangladesh to deliver basic necessities. The emergency funds will additionally be used to replace school supplies and provide students with a stable education..<sup>1918</sup>

On 8 July 2022, the Permanent Representative to the United Nations in Geneva Simon Manley delivered a speech condemning the Taliban for barring girls from attending secondary school.<sup>1919</sup> The speech called for the Taliban to reverse said policies and practices.

On 30 August 2022, the Department of Health and Social Care published the first Women's Health Strategy for England. It maps out how the government plans to improve the way in which the health and care system listens to women's voices, and boost health outcomes for women and girls.<sup>1920</sup> This is a 10-year strategy that sets out a range of commitments to improve the health of women everywhere through policy making, education, and research.

On 1 September 2022, the British High Commission, in collaboration with the British Council, introduced 75 scholarships to Pakistani students to commemorate seventy-five years of relations between the United Kingdom and Pakistan. These efforts will be in conjunction with the UK's contribution for flood relief in Pakistan to more than GBP16.5 million, GBP10 million of which will exclusively benefit girls and women.<sup>1921</sup>

On 30 September 2022, the United Kingdom collaborated with the World Bank and Denmark to supply the Ukrainian government with an additional USD500 million for the Public Expenditures for Administrative Capacity Endurance (PEACE) project.<sup>1922</sup> PEACE assists in the facilitation and maintenance of essential public services such as health and education.

On 19 October 2022, Minister for Development Vicky Ford announced that the UK will deliver a GBP14 million support package to assist up to 150,000 people. The resources will go towards delivering basic education to girls and boys, with the latest grant expected to provide emergency education to 20,000 children.<sup>1923</sup>

On 25 November 2022, Home Secretary Suella Braverman announced that the UK will award GBP15 million in funding to support services for victims of violence. This is a part of the Home Office's commitment to tackling all forms of violence against women and girls. This funding will aim to equip more healthcare

<sup>1921</sup> The UK announces 75 scholarships for Pakistan, British High Commission Islamabad (Islamabad) 7 September 2022. Access Date: 24 November 2022. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/the-uk-announces-75-scholarships-for-pakistan

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1917</sup> Girls' Education and Skills Programme (GESP), Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office (London) 29 June 2022. Access Date: 22 October 2022. https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/62bc4a25d3bf7f2919e98d2e/GESP-concept-note-RFP.pdf <sup>1918</sup> Joint Press Statement on Flash Flood – July 2022, United Nations Bangladesh (Dhaka) 6 July 2022. Access Date: 9 December 2022. https://bangladesh.un.org/en/189312-joint-press-statement-flash-flood-july-2022

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1919</sup> UN Human Rights Council 50: UK statement on women and girls in Afghanistan, Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office (Geneva) 8 July 2022. Access Date: 11 December 2022. https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/un-human-rights-council-50-uk-statement-on-women-and-girls-in-afghanistan

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1920</sup> Women's Health Strategy for England, Government of UK (London) 30 August 2022. Access Date: 4 January 2023. https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/womens-health-strategy-for-england

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1922</sup> World Bank Mobilizes Additional \$530 Million in Support to Ukraine, World Bank (Washington D.C.) 30 September 2022. Access Date: 5 December 2022. https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2022/09/30/world-bank-mobilizesadditional-530-million-in-support-to-ukraine

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1923</sup> UK announces humanitarian assistance for 150,000 women and children suffering drought and conflict in Ethiopia, Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office (London) 19 October 2022. Access Date: 20 October 2022. https://www.gov.uk/government/ news/uk-announces-humanitarian-assistance-for-150000-women-and-children-suffering-drought-and-conflict-in-ethiopia

professionals with the right tools to be able to better identify and respond to domestic abuse, and improve referral pathways for victims to access support services.<sup>1924</sup>

On 9 December 2022, Minister of State for Social Care Helen Whately announced that the UK will deliver GBP1.97 million to sixteen organizations across England. This package is a part of the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise Health and Wellbeing Fund, where the theme of the fund for 2022 to 2025 is women's reproductive wellbeing in the workplace. This fund aims to support organizations that can assist women experiencing various reproductive health issues in the workplace.<sup>1925</sup>

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to promoting gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, including through supporting girls' access to education and by implementing gender mainstreaming across all policies. The United Kingdom has made resources and opportunities available to guarantee that girls not only have consistent access to education but also have the ability to earn an income for themselves. The United Kingdom has also made efforts in gender mainstreaming in the health, security, and economic sectors.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Divya Jagpal

#### United States: +1

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to promoting gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, including through supporting girls' access to education and by implementing gender mainstreaming across all policies.

On 8 July 2022, President Joe Biden passed an executive order to protect healthcare service delivery and promote access to critical reproductive healthcare services, including abortion. This includes actions to enhance family planning services as well as identifying ways to increase outreach and education about access to reproductive healthcare services.<sup>1926</sup>

On 18 July 2022, the United States government released the second US Government Women Peace and Security Report. The goal of this report is to advance the goals of the 2019 US Women Peace and Security Strategy Agenda, which affirms gender equity and equality in security, peace-making, and peacekeeping, in the United States and globally. The report discusses plans to avert and respond to crises, such as conflict-related sexual violence and underrepresentation of women in civic participation.<sup>1927</sup>

On 27 July 2022, the United States hosted the Trilateral Working Group on Violence Against Indigenous Women and Girls. This is in partnership with the governments of Mexico and Canada, along with Indigenous \$women leaders from all three countries. The group issues a statement reaffirming commitments to advance

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1924</sup> £15 million funding boost for women who are victims of violence, Government of UK (London) 25 November 2022. Access Date: 4 January 2023. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/15-million-funding-boost-for-women-who-are-victims-of-violence <sup>1925</sup> £1.97 million awarded to support women in the workplace, Government of UK (London) 9 December 2022. Access Date: 4 January 2023. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/197-million-awarded-to-support-women-in-the-workplace

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1926</sup> Executive Order on Protecting Access to Reproductive Healthcare Services, White House (Washington D.C.) 8 July 2022. Access Date: 5 January 2023. https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2022/07/08/executive-order-onprotecting-access-to-reproductive-healthcare-services/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1927</sup> FACT SHEET: U.S. Government Women Peace and Security Report to Congress, White House (Washington D.C.) 18 July 2022. Access Date: 5 January 2023. https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2022/07/18/fact-sheet-us-government-women-peace-and-securityreport-to-congress/

prevention efforts, increase support for survivors, and enhance regional coordination to better address root causes that increase vulnerability to all forms of gender-based violence.<sup>1928</sup>

On 12 August 2022, the US Agency for International Development (USAID) signed a USD40 million agreement with the United Nations Children's Fund. The funding will contribute to international support for Afghan children, with a particular focus on helping adolescent girls.<sup>1929</sup> This will include further educational resources, opportunities, and skilled teachers to promote access to safe and quality education.

On 6 September 2022, USAID Advancing Girls' Education (USAID AGE) partnered with the Government of Mozambique to empower young girls and increase school enrolment and attendance.<sup>1930</sup> The partnership aims to raise awareness among communities for more support within schools and outside of school, as well as to increase female representation in the workforce and participation in society.

On 12 October 2022, the Department of Education launched "YOU Belong in STEM," to implement equitable and quality education in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) for all children from prekindergarten to higher education.<sup>1931</sup> The initiative aims to challenge the stereotypes regarding STEM education and allow students to participate in STEM learning and build necessary skills.

On 14 December 2022, Vice President Kamala Harris announced new commitments to advance women's economic participation in Africa at the US-Africa Leaders Summit. These programs aim to foster women's economic, political, and social inclusion in Africa in order to advance the United States' priority to drive gender equality and equity investments through the Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment. This includes discussing and financing actions such as advancing women's entrepreneurship, accelerating women's participation in green jobs, and economic security for survivors of trafficking.<sup>1932</sup>

The United States has fully complied with promoting gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls. The United States has provided financial assistance and supported girls to receive a safe and quality education, develop their potential in various fields, and contribute to broader society.

Thus, the United States receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Ga Vin Park

#### European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to promoting gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, including through supporting girls' access to education and by implementing gender mainstreaming across all policies.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1928</sup> Report on the Fourth Convening of the Trilateral Working Group on Violence Against Indigenous Women and Girls, White House (Washington D.C.) 27 July 2022. Access Date: 5 January 2023. https://www.whitehouse.gov/gpc/briefing-room/2022/07/27/report-on-the-fourth-convening-of-the-trilateral-working-group-on-violence-against-indigenous-women-and-girls/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1929</sup> USAID Announces New \$40 Million Agreement With UNICEF to Increase Girls' and Boys' Education Opportunities in Afghanistan, United States Agency for International Development (Washington D.C.) 12 August 2022. Access Date: 5 November 2022. https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/aug-12-2022-usaid-announces-new-40-million-agreementunicef-increase-girls-boys-education-opportunities-afghanistan

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1930</sup> USAID Advancing Girls' Education (USAID AGE), United States Agency for International Development (Washington D.C.) 6 September 2022. Access Date: 24 October 2022. https://www.usaid.gov/documents/usaid-advancing-girls%E2%80%99education-usaid-age

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1931</sup> Department Launches "YOU Belong in STEM" Initiative to Enhance STEM Education for All Young People, U.S. Department of Education (Washington D.C.) 12 October 2022. Access Date: 24 October 2022. https://www.ed.gov/stem

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1932</sup> Fact Sheet: U.S.-Africa Partnerships in Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, White House (Washington D.C.) 14 December 2022. Access Date: 5 January 2023. https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statementsreleases/2022/12/14/fact-sheet-u-s-africa-partnerships-in-gender-equality-and-womens-empowerment/

On 29 June 2022, the European Commissioner for International Partnerships announced an increase in the European Union's budget for international partnerships regarding funding in education from 7% to 13%.<sup>1933</sup> This aimed to further initiatives taken with Member States and international partnerships to improve equal access to quality education for all children. This also included updates on the progress of the Mozambique "E-Youth" initiative promoting support to girls interested in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematical (STEM) subjects.

On 24 September 2022, the European Commission announced an additional EUR45 million over six years for the United Nations Population Fund. The funding will help to support sexual and reproductive health as well as supporting countries in strengthening their health systems from the gendered perspective. This includes services such as delivering contraceptives and life-saving maternal health medicines to the women and young people who need them the most.<sup>1934</sup>

On 10 October 2022, the European Commission launched a programme titled the "Youth Action Plan."<sup>1935</sup> This external partnership with young people committed EUR40 million towards their "Partnership to Engage" pillar and the Youth and Women in Democracy Initiative.<sup>1936</sup> This aimed to empower women through means such as providing civil education in relation to democracy.<sup>1937</sup>

On 17 October 2022, the European Commission launched a survey seeking consultation for key actions to be addressed in the creation of a "Manifesto for gender-inclusive Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STE(A)M) education and careers."<sup>1938</sup> The EU recognizes the shortage of women in STEM careers and creates this manifesto with the integration of arts and humanities into a more inclusive approach to STEM in the hopes of encouraging more women to study STE(A)M subjects.

On 24 October 2022, the European Institute for Gender Equality launched the first Gender Equality Forum. The aim of the forum is to bring together different organizations and experts from EU Member States to discuss pressing issues in relation to gender equality. Topics range from labour statistics, gender violence, health, and economy.<sup>1939</sup>

youth/news/european-commission-launched-youth-action-plan-eu-external-action\_en

<sup>1939</sup> Experts' forum, European Institute for Gender Equality (Villinius) 24 October 2022. Access Date: 5 January 2023. https://eige.europa.eu/about/organisation/experts-forum

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1933</sup> UNESCO Pre-summit – Transforming education, Directorate-General for International Partnerships (Paris) 29 June 2022. Access Date: 19 October 2022. https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/news-and-events/news/unesco-pre-summit-transforming-education-2022-06-29\_en

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1934</sup> Sexual and reproductive health and rights: EU announces additional €45 million for UNFPA Supplies Partnership, European Commission (Brussels) 24 September 2022. Access Date: 4 January 2023. https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/news-and-events/news/sexual-and-reproductive-health-and-rights-eu-announces-additional-eu45-million-unfpa-supplies-2022-09-24\_en

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1935</sup> The European Commission launched the Youth Action Plan in EU External Action! Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture (Brussels) 06 October 2022. Access Date: 1 November 2022. https://youth.europa.eu/year-of-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1936</sup> Youth Action Plan, European Commission (Brussels) n.d. Access Date: 1 November 2022. https://internationalpartnerships.ec.europa.eu/policies/youth/youth-action-plan en#related-documents

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1937</sup> Questions and Answers: Youth Action Plan in EU external action for 2022-2027, European Commission (Strasbourg) 4 October 2022. Access Date: 2 November 2022. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/qanda\_22\_5882

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1938</sup> Towards a manifesto for gender-inclusive STE(A)M education and careers, Directorate-General for Research and Innovation (Brussels) 17 October 2022. Access Date: 31 October 2022. https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/news/all-research-and-innovation-news/towards-manifesto-gender-inclusive-steam-education-and-careers-2022-10-17\_en

On 25 October 2022, the EU Delegation to Malawi implemented further changes to the Zantchito programme signed on 18 August 2020.<sup>1940</sup> It aimed to improve equitable and safe opportunities in vocational education for women and accompany them as they start businesses within the field.<sup>1941</sup>

On 26 October 2022, the EU Delegation to Malawi announced an "enhancement" in contribution to the Multi-Annual Indicative Program (MIP).<sup>1942</sup> Within the MIP, with which the EU has committed to provide EUR352 million,<sup>1943</sup> and in coordination with the Malawi Government, as well as local women and youth organizations, the Delegation outlined the development of Phase II of "Improving Secondary Education in Malawi" (ISEM).<sup>1944</sup> ISEM aims to increase and provide equitable opportunities of a quality education for Malawi youth, specifically in 350 secondary schools.<sup>1945</sup>

On 26 October 2022, the European Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth announced the expansion of the EU education programme titled "Girls Go Circular."<sup>1946</sup> The programme aims to close the digital gender gap by providing resources to teach girls aged 14-19 in Southern and Eastern Europe on digital, STEM, and entrepreneurial skills.<sup>1947</sup> New initiatives announced by the Commissioner included gender sensitive education, and transformational and sustainable interventions to the culture and structure of STEM organizations.<sup>1948</sup>

On 21 November 2022, the European Union, in partnership with United Nations Children's Fund, granted GBP33 million towards education services in Ethiopia.<sup>1949</sup> The funding will support school feeding for 50,000 children, with the aim to limit dropout rates of children and "especially girls," in conflict affected areas.<sup>1950</sup>

On 15 December 2022, the European Commission and African partners launched a flagship initiative in Rwanda. This initiative aims to improve sexual and reproductive health and rights, specifically among young

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1940</sup> Zantchito – Skills for Jobs programme, Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Malawi (Brussels) 25 October 2022. Access Date: 4 November 2022. https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/malawi/zantchito-%E2%80%93-skills-jobs-programme\_en

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1941</sup> EU support to Youth in Malawi, Press and information team of the Delegation to Malawi (Brussels) 26 October 2022. Access Date: 3 November 2022. https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/malawi/eu-support-youth-malawi\_en

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1942</sup> EU support to Youth in Malawi, Press and information team of the Delegation to Malawi (Brussels) 26 October 2022. Access Date: 3 November 2022. https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/malawi/eu-support-youth-malawi\_en

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1943</sup> A new step in the EU's future-proof partnership with Malawi, Press and information team of the Delegation to Malawi (Brussels) 2 March 2022. Access Date: 4 November 2022. https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/malawi/new-stepeu%E2%80%99s-future-proof-partnership-malawi\_en?s=107

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1944</sup> EU support to Youth in Malawi, Press and information team of the Delegation to Malawi (Brussels) 26 October 2022. Access Date: 3 November 2022. https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/malawi/eu-support-youth-malawi\_en

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1945</sup> Improving Secondary Education in Malawi-ISEM (Phase II), Press and information team of the Delegation to Malawi (Brussels) 31 March 2022. Access Date: 3 November 2022. https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/malawi/improving-secondaryeducation-malawi-isem-phase-ii en?s=107

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1946</sup> Girls Go Circular Education Programme set for Expansion across Europe, European Institute of Innovation and Technology (Brussels) 27 October 2022. Access Date: 5 November 2022. https://eitrawmaterials.eu/girls-go-circular-education-programmeset-for-expansion-across-europe/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1947</sup> Digital and Entrepreneurial Skills for the Circular Economy, Girls Go Circular (Budapest) n.d. Access Date: 5 November 2022. https://eit-girlsgocircular.eu/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1948</sup> Girls Go Circular Education Programme set for Expansion across Europe, European Institute of Innovation and Technology (Budapest) 27 October 2022. Access Date: 5 November 2022. https://eitrawmaterials.eu/girls-go-circular-education-programmeset-for-expansion-across-europe/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1949</sup> EU donates 33 million to UNICEF and WFP to restore essential education services and implement school feeding programmes in conflict-affected areas in Ethiopia, OCHA services (Brussels) 23 November 2022. Access Date: 18 December 2022.

https://reliefweb.int/report/ethiopia/eu-donates-eu33-million-18-billion-etb-unicef-and-wfp-restore-essential-education-services-and-implement-school-feeding-programmes-conflict-affected-areas-ethiopia-0

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1950</sup> EU donates 33 million to UNICEF and WFP to restore essential education services and implement school feeding programmes in conflict-affected areas in Ethiopia, World Food Programme, (Brussels) 21 November 2022. Access Date: 18 December 2022. https://www.wfp.org/news/eu-donates-eu33-million-18-billion-etb-unicef-and-wfp-restore-essential-education-services-and

girls and women across different regions in Africa. This includes progress on key issues such as family planning, gender-based violence, mortality rates, and sexual health.<sup>1951</sup>

On 21 December 2022, the Council of the EU released a press statement condemning the Taliban's banning of women from universities, stating that this systematic policy is "extremely concerning" and can be defined as "crimes against humanity."<sup>1952</sup> Furthermore, the EU called for the Taliban to revert their decision and abide by their international obligation to ensure the fundamental rights of their citizens.

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to promoting gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, including through supporting girls' access to education and by implementing gender mainstreaming across all our policies. The European Union has taken action to support girls' access to education by expanding programs which provide accessible environments for women to learn in STEM. Further action has been taken to support girls' access to education through increasing funding for the enrollment of girls in secondary and tertiary education levels, and further investments into programs across gender mainstreaming policies.

Thus, The European Union receives a score of +1.

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 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1951</sup> EU and African partners launch flagship initiative to enhance sexual and reproductive health and rights, (Brussels) 15
December 2022. Access Date: 4 January 2023. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP\_22\_7738
<sup>1952</sup> Afghanistan: Statement by the High Representative on behalf of the European Union on additional restrictions by the Taliban to the right of education of girls and women, European Council (Brussels) 21 December 2022. Access Date: 25 December 2022. https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2022/12/21/afghanistan-statement-by-the-high-representative-on-behalf-of-the-european-union-on-additional-restrictions-by-the-taliban-to-the-right-of-education-of-girls-and-women/