



Graduate Women International (GWI) Oral Statement

CCPCJ Intersessional Meeting - November 11/11/2021

Graduate Women International welcomes the Kyoto Declaration. We urge UN Member States to implement effective measures to address the economic dimension of crime and deprive criminals of illicit gains.

In particular, we urge member states to implement effective measures to address **corruption in education**.

Education systems – not only the schools and universities themselves, but also the related administrative structures, examination boards, and licensing, inspection and regulatory authorities - are highly susceptible to corruption.

This corruption is wide-ranging and takes many forms, such as:

- Corrupt policy making, when policy decisions are made to serve private interests, rather than public benefit.
- Corruption in procurement, covering such as curriculum development, textbooks, library stock, uniforms, school meals, buildings and equipment.
- Corruption in licensing and accreditation; in admissions and examinations, where bribery and extortion can be endemic.
- Corruption in the recruitment, training and management of teachers.

When we tolerate corruption in education systems, we are prejudicing the future of our children and of our societies. Girls are particularly impacted. Sextortion – such as sex for grades - is a serious issue.

We urge member states:

- To develop multi-year plans to reduce corruption in their education systems and to implement these with determination.
- To publicise and prosecute instances of corruption and deprive corrupt parties of their gains.
- To institute sanctions against bribery in education – at all levels – particularly with admissions and grades.
- To institute best practices to reduce the scope for corruption in education procurement.
- To support and prioritise UNODC's efforts to combat corruption in education.
- To engage with, and support, relevant NGOs as partners.
- To recognise sextortion in education as a major threat to young women and girls, and to take measures to stamp it out.

Education is crucial to our futures. As the CCPCJ looks to address the economic dimension of crime in implementing the Kyoto Declaration, we ask that you prioritise '**corruption in education**' as a field for action. Thank you!