The G7 Research Group
at the Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy at Trinity College
in the University of Toronto presents the

2018 Charlevoix G7 Final Compliance Report
10 June 2018 — 25 July 2019

Prepared by
Angela Min Yi Hou, Julia Tops, and Cindy Xinying Ou

23 August 2019

www.g7.utoronto.ca
g7@utoronto.ca
@g7_rg

“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?

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18. Gender: Quality Education for Girls and Women

“We will ensure commitment to gender equality and prioritize improved access to quality education for girls and women in the early stages of humanitarian response and peacebuilding efforts, while supporting schools as safe spaces for children.”

**G7 Charlevoix Declaration on Quality Education for Girls, Adolescent Girls and Women in Developing Countries**

Assessment

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Background

In recent years, gender equality has been a growing topic within the G7. In 1979, the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women was conceived, a ground-breaking moment for the fight for gender equality within global governance. The Convention provides the framework of “equality between women and men through ensuring women’s equal access to, and equal opportunities in, political and public life — including the right to vote and to stand for election -- as well as education, health, and employment.”

In the following years, major advances towards the overall goal for gender equality were made. On 15 September 1995, the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action was created with an unprecedented 17,000 participants and 30,000 activists for the Fourth World Conference on Women. This conference created the most progressive blueprint of its time for advancing women’s rights, and for connecting women’s rights movements and activism with a global platform. The Platform of Action imagined a world where “woman and girls can exercise [their] freedoms and choices and realize all [their] rights … [and] to go to school.”

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development reflects a turning point in global governance, namely one that turns its attention to girls and women. All 193 United Nations member states committed to the goal of ending gender inequality by 2030. This demonstrates global will to tackle the issue.

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from its root causes. Sustainable Development Goal 5 specifically targets the “end of all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere (5.1),” and to “ensure women’s full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life (5.5).”

Moreover, the global call to action by the UN Secretary General’s High-Level Panel (HLP) for Women’s Economic Empowerment was an important step for gender equality. On 22 September 2016, HLP for Women’s Economic Empowerment released its first findings at the UN General Assembly. This report strived to show the challenges faced by disadvantaged and vulnerable women.

On 26 June 2010, at the Muskoka Summit, the host nation Canada set a precedent for Maternal, Newborn and Under-Five Child Health under the G8 Muskoka Initiative. In this initiative, the G8 emphasized the necessity of improving education for women and girls as action is required on all factors that affect the health of women and children.

On 27 May 2016 at the Ise-Shima Summit, the leaders committed to empowering women and girls through capacity building, which included education and training, alongside science, technology, engineering and mathematics. This goal was set in the hopes that women and girls would realize their full potential, which is why the G7 leaders endorsed the G7 Guiding Principles for Capacity Building of Women and Girls: towards Sustainable, Inclusive and Equitable Growth and Peace.

On 16 November 2017, along with the representatives from the G7 members, the Gender Equality Ministers met in Taormina, Italy. This meeting was the last of 13 ministerial meetings that took place during the Italian G7 presidency. The discussions focused on how women’s economic empowerment could be a driver for global growth and development. Namely, the ministers reaffirmed commitments from previous summits, especially the commitments made by previous G7 and G20 presidencies and declarations. They committed to taking the full effort to “meet the respective qualitative and quantitative targets and deadlines set out in the G7 Roadmap for Gender-Responsive Economic Environment.” The declaration also noted the importance to invest in social

infrastructure to support households’ care for children, including quality of life in education facilities.\textsuperscript{\ref{4110}}

Leading up to the 2018 G7 summit in Charlevoix, Canadian prime minister Justin Trudeau promised an unprecedented emphasis on women and girls over the course of the group’s deliberations.\textsuperscript{\ref{4111}} All G7 members expressed support for Canada’s theme of gender equality and female empowerment. Uniquely to the Charlevoix Summit, Prime Minister Trudeau created the G7 Gender Equality Advisory Council, which signifies a significant step as a host nation championing and mainstreaming gender equality. The advisory council is composed of prominent feminist leaders, in an attempt to bring forth insightful commitments that spark real change.\textsuperscript{\ref{4112}} A core commitment was to girls’ education.\textsuperscript{\ref{4113}}

On 9 June 2018, G7 leaders agreed upon a summit declaration entitled Quality Education for Girls, Adolescent Girls and Women in Developing Countries.\textsuperscript{\ref{4114}} The declaration recognized the necessity for the full participation of everyone in order to promote social development and sustainable economic growth. The leaders emphasized support for “education, through our development and humanitarian assistance, that aspires to achieve gender equality.”\textsuperscript{\ref{4115}} Specifically, the emphasis was placed on the importance of safe transportation and investment in secure school facilities, in order to make education a rewarding and welcoming environment for girls around the world.

Commitment Features

The G7 member “will ensure commitment to gender equality and prioritize improved access to quality education for girls and women in the early stages of humanitarian response and peacebuilding efforts, while supporting schools as safe spaces for children.” The word “will” is understood to mean a commitment which entails a pledge that “ensures” direct action for gender equality. “Ensure” is considered to make something certain to happen.\textsuperscript{\ref{4116}} Gender equality in the context of the G7 is understood as binary (men/boys and women/girls) and does not refer to the larger spectrum of gender and sexual identities.

This commitment will ensure gender equality between men/boys and women/girls by prioritiz[ing] improved access to quality education for girls and women in the early stages of humanitarian response and peacebuilding efforts, while support[ing] schools as safe spaces for children.


\textsuperscript{4116} Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, Global Governance Program (Toronto) 27 September 2017. Access Date: 30 August 2018.
In the first part of the commitment, “prioritize” is defined as to “give high priority to” the need to improve access to quality education for girls and women. “Women” refers to all female persons of working age whereas “girls” is defined a female under aged 18, or a persons’ child. “Access” should be interpreted to mean the right to obtain or make use of the entity in reference. As understood by the International Labour Organization, this includes all women aged 15 or above who are either employed, unemployed, or not in the labour force. As understood by the United Nations, a girl child can be defined as a socially constructed category around female persons between 0 and 18 years.4119

“Improve” refers to taking concrete actions for the betterment of something. Examples of improvements include enhancing and updating old initiatives or implementing new ones to reach an old goal. When talking about improved access to quality education, the member is expected to partner with key humanitarian and development organization and host government to promote coordination when providing education in early stages of humanitarian response and peacebuilding. These efforts will be made in order to ensure gender equality, and thus, girls and women must be the subject and target of members’ initiatives. It is particularly important that such efforts are of “quality” which is understood as an initiative that adequately and sufficiently addresses women’s needs in the school environment. Examples of quality education include teachers, supplies and basic infrastructure needed such as women/girl’s bathrooms.

The “early stages” is understood as the “stabilization when immediate emergency needs have been addressed and return/recovery, when those who are displaced are returning home and/or the focus is on rebuilding systems and structures and transitioning to development.” It is important to note, that “early stages” is not limited to this time period but requires a fulsome approach to the emergency, looking at a wholesome response that includes prevention, pre-crisis, and the crisis in order to promote humanitarian responses and peacebuilding efforts. According to the United Nations Population Fund, these are the four stages of humanitarian response: emergency preparation & contingency planning, acute emergency response, chronic humanitarian situations, transition, and recovery. Peacebuilding would entail specifically “chronic situations & transition/recovery.” “We share a responsibility” to build a more peaceful and secure world, recognizing that respect for human rights, the rule of law and equality of opportunity are necessary for lasting security and to

enable economic growth that works for everyone.”

Humanitarian response is the material and logistical assistance to people in need with the intention of alleviating human suffering. Peacebuilding efforts is a broad term that has “diverse actors in government and civil society at the community, national, and international levels to address the immediate impacts and root causes of conflict before, during, and after a violent conflict occurs.”

Examples of humanitarian response and peacebuilding efforts include both government and non-government projects.

To fulfill the first aspect of the commitment, the G7 member must prioritize improved access to quality education: 1) for girls, 2) for women, 3) in early stages of humanitarian response and 4) in early stages of peacebuilding effort.

The second part of the commitment reflects the importance of the work environment for women and girls as they receive an education. “Supporting” refers to the act of providing aid, assistance, or public affirmation to an initiative or entity. In the context of this commitment, G7 members must aid, assist, or affirm their schools to be safe spaces for children. Therefore, examples of supporting “safety” in schools include implementing precautionary measures and outlining safety concerns for both male and female students attending their schools. “Supporting safe spaces,” in the context of this commitment refers to any actions taken to improve accessibility and security for children in school. Examples of actions taken towards supporting schools as safe spaces for children include but are not limited to: Supporting developing country partners in their efforts to provide equal opportunities for girls and women to complete at least 12 years of quality education from their early years through to secondary school or Supporting actions to make schools and education institutions safe and welcoming for girls and women, including through investments in secure schools.

To fulfill the second aspect of the commitment, the G7 member must take initiatives to support a safe school environment for children, both male and female, in addition to the four options of providing access.

To achieve full compliance a G7 member must successfully prioritize improved access to quality education for girls and women in the early stages of humanitarian response and peacebuilding efforts while supporting schools as safe spaces for children. For further context on the concept of gender equality, please refer to the document published by the Gender Equality Advisory Council for Canada’s G7 Presidency entitled Make Gender Inequality History.

Partial compliance is a score of 0 when the G7 member has fulfilled one of the four components of prioritized access to education while supported schools as safe spaces for children. This means that the G7 member has, for example, successfully prioritized improved access to quality education for girls while supporting schools as a safe place. The G7 member will receive a score of −1 for non-compliance if they have not successfully prioritized improved access to quality education for girls and women in the early stages of humanitarian response and peacebuilding efforts nor supported schools as safe spaces for children.

### Scoring Guidelines

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<td>G7 member has EITHER prioritized improved access to quality education 1) for girls, 2) for women, 3) in early stages of humanitarian response and 4) in early stages of peacebuilding efforts WHILE 2) supported schools as safe spaces for children</td>
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<td>G7 member has prioritized improved access to quality education 1) for girls, 2) for women, 3) in early stages of humanitarian response and 4) in early stages of peacebuilding efforts WHILE 2) supported schools as safe spaces for children</td>
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### Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with the commitment to prioritize improved access to quality education for girls and women in the early stages of humanitarian response and peacebuilding efforts while supporting schools as safe spaces for children.

On 9 June 2018, Canada, along with the European Union, Germany, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the World Bank invested CAD 3.8 billion to improving access and reducing barriers to quality education around the world. This is an investment in education for women and girls in crisis and conflict situations.

On 23 September 2018, Canada and Spain publicly reaffirmed their commitment to gender equality. This included the principles of the Charlevoix commitment to support developing...


On 10 October 2018, Greg Fergus, the Member of Parliament for Hull-Aylmer, on behalf of the Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Public Services and Procurement Canada, and Minister of Public Services and Procurement Canada, announced the Canadian government is opening its training centre in Gatineau to students of Ecole secondaire Mont-Bleu for the remainder of the school year after the school was damaged by lightning during a storm.\footnote{Government of Canada makes Asticou Centre available for Mont Bleu students, Public Safety Canada (Gatineau) 10 October 2018. Access Date: 20 October 2018. https://www.canada.ca/en/public-safety-canada/news/2018/10/government-of-canada-makes-asticou-centre-available-for-mont-bleu-students-displaced-by-recent-tornado.html.} Space was made available in the Asticou Centre to ensure that students have an adequate and safe learning environment.

On 10 October 2018, John Oliver, the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Health announced more than CAD 4.1 million in funding under Health Canada’s Substance Use and Addictions Program prior to the Cannabis Act coming into force.\footnote{Government of Canada funds innovative cannabis public education projects targeting young Canadians, Health Canada (Toronto) 10 October 2018. Access Date: 20 October 2018. https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2018/10/government-of-canada-funds-innovative-cannabis-public-education-projects-targeting-young-canadians.html.} As part of this funding package, the Ontario Physical and Health Education Association will receive CAD 653,000 for a program that...
On 12 October 2018, Canada’s Minister of International Development announced the provision of up to CAD 50 million over two years for Palestinian refugees through the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East. Up to CAD 40 million will assist in the provision of basic services, including helping over 500,000 Palestinian children receive a basic quality education. However, this assistance is not limited to women and girls specifically.

Included in the 12 October 2018 announcement is Canada’s commitment to providing up to CAD 12.5 million over five years for Right to Play International. Right to Play International will collaborate with UNRWA to create safe, inclusive and gender-responsive classrooms for Palestinian refugee children in the West Bank and Gaza.

Between 23 and 31 October 2018, the Governor General of Canada visited three West African nations, including Burkina Faso, Côte d’Ivoire, and Nigeria, to deepen Canada’s relations with these states and reaffirm partnerships committed to promoting access to quality education. As part of the visit, the Governor General visited a school in Burkina Faso to emphasize the importance of equitable and quality education for the country’s youth.

On 6 November 2018, Marie-Claude Bibeau, the Minister of International Development, announced an additional CAD 50 million in funding, taken out of the CAD 400 million budget pledged at the Charlevoix G7 summit, for the Global Financing Facility through 2020. It is an innovative financing mechanism that helps developing countries transform investment models in the health


sector to benefit women and children and reduce barriers to accessing care, services, and education in order to ultimately reduce poverty.4150

On 13 November 2018, the Canadian government announced CAD 19.5 million through 2023 for gender-responsive education through Right to Play in Ghana, Mozambique, and Rwanda.4151 The project will address challenges in the education sector, including barriers to education for young girls.4152

On 16 November 2018, Jane Philpott, the Minister of Indigenous Services, announced an investment of CAD 248 million in partnership with First Nations communities for new school infrastructure in four First Nation reserves, as well as major renovations to an existing school in northern Manitoba.4153 The new and upgraded facilities will ensure the delivery of quality education and reduce the need for students to move off-reserve in order to complete their education.4154

On 16 November 2018, Marie-Claude Bibeau, Minister of International Development announced CAD 23 million in funding for two initiatives that will help advance gender equality for women and girls in Ethiopia.4155 One of the initiatives is Women’s Voice and Leadership, which supports local women’s organizations across Ethiopia to strengthen their capacity to promote gender equality and empower women and girls in their communities.4156

On 2 December 2018, Canada pledged CAD 50 million over three years to Education Cannot Wait as part of its initial Charlevoix G7 Summit commitment of CAD 400 million to reduce barriers to quality education for women and girls in conflict zones.4157 Education Cannot Wait addresses gaps in financing, capacity, and coordination in crisis situations to provide quality education for children.4158

On 15 December 2018, Canada’s Minister of Foreign Affairs, Chrystia Freeland, and the Minister of International Development, Marie-Claude Bibeau, issued a statement in support of the UN-
sponsored peace consultations on Yemen. The statement reaffirmed Canada’s continued support of gender-responsive humanitarian action in Yemen, including addressing the specific humanitarian needs of girls and women. However, explicit mention of action on access to education for women and girls was not included.

On 19 December 2018, Bardish Chagger, on behalf of Marie-Claude Bibeau, Minister of International Development, announced CAD17.97 million in funding over five years for the Mennonite Economic Development Associates project in Senegal. The project promotes the use of innovative technologies and best practices for women and youth to improve economic resilience. Project activities will include developing customized training programs for women and youth in financial management, business planning and adapting to climate change.

On 16 January 2019, Canada’s Minister for Women and Gender Equality, Maryam Monsef, met with the newly established Advisory Committee on the Framework to Prevent and Address Gender-Based Violence at Post-Secondary Institutions. The Committee provides advice and expertise on the development, consultation and implementation of the framework, which will serve as a comprehensive resource for post-secondary institutions to help guide actions in addressing gender-based violence. The Government of Canada is working with the Advisory Council of partners to ensure the safety of Canada’s youth while they complete their studies.

On 21 January 2019, the Government of Canada and Assembly of First Nations announced a new policy and funding approach for First Nations K-12 education on reserve. The funding will...

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support First Nations with control of their own education, ensure predictable and sufficient funding, and better support the needs of students on reserve by accounting for factors such as remoteness, school size, language and socio-economic conditions. This new approach allows First Nations to build education systems that reflect their needs and vision of holistic learning, and a culturally safe space for First Nations children to learn.

On 22 January 2019, the Minister of Border Security and Organized Crime Reduction, Bill Blair, and Minister of Defence announced CAD7.5 million in federal funding for the Surrey Anti-Gang Family Empowerment (SAFE) Program. SAFE provides at-risk youth with alternatives to joining gangs and is funded through the National Crime Prevention Strategy which funds programs that target young people through schools, community centers and neighbourhood activities.

On 22 January 2019, Member of Parliament for Saint Boniface-Saint Vital and Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Indigenous Services, Dan Vandal, announced a CAD9.5 million investment for two education infrastructure projects. This includes the expansion of the Amikobi primary school and a new centre for the Aboriginal Head Start on Reserve program which helps children develop healthy lifestyles. The investment provides access to renovated education facilities that focuses on the physical, emotional, culture and social well-being of children.

On 23 January 2019, Prime Minister Trudeau announced funding for Dene High School in La Loche, Saskatchewan to support cultural and language based programs, on-the-land activities, and mental

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health services for students.\textsuperscript{4175} The funding is a result of recommendations from the community and supports the Holistic Healing Plan that the Dene High School developed after the 2016 shootings.\textsuperscript{4176} It builds on work the federal government is already doing in La Loche, including funding mental health services and supporting at-risk youth to ensure that every child has access to quality education in a safe environment.\textsuperscript{4177}

On 23 January 2019, Seamus O’Regan, the Minister of Indigenous Services, Rob Fleming, British Columbia Minister of Education, and Tyrone McNeil, President of the First Nations Education Steering Committee announced the signing of the BC Tripartite Education Agreement.\textsuperscript{4178} It is a five-year agreement that will benefit First Nations students in BC attending on-reserve, public or independent schools.\textsuperscript{4179} The Agreement includes the establishment of new funding models and the creation of a First Nations Language policy leading to full-course offerings of First Nations languages in public schools.\textsuperscript{4180} It is intended to close the education outcome gaps and provide a sense of safety and security to explore personal cultural identity for First Nations youth.\textsuperscript{4181}

On 4 February 2019, the Government of Canada announced a contribution of CAD52.89 million towards a stabilization and humanitarian response to the crisis in Venezuela and neighbouring


countries. This funding will assist with the provision of basic needs, including access to health care, water and sanitation, and education, with an emphasis on the needs of women and girls.

On 5 February 2019, Seamus O'Regan, Minister of Indigenous Services Canada, congratulated the Alexis Nakota Sioux Nation on the completion of improvements to the Aboriginal Head Start on Reserve facility. The federal government provided CAD1,088,276 for renovations, including energy efficiency and accessibility upgrades. The renovations provide a safe and accessible space for the children and are part of a wider initiative of working with First Nation communities to improve on-reserve education facilities for students.

On 11 February 2019, Ginette Petitpas Taylor, Minister of Health, announced more than CAD1.2 million in funding over five years for the University of Calgary to deliver and evaluate a teen and youth dating violence prevention program called WiseGuyz. The program is delivered in schools and promotes healthy masculinities and positive ways of being a young man to grade nine boys to help prevent teen dating violence. The funding will increase the delivery of the program to students across Alberta.

On 13 February 2019, Member of Parliament Peter Fragiskatos, on behalf of Ginette Petitpas Taylor, Minister of Health, announced nearly CAD5 million in funding over five years to Western University’s Healthy Relationships Approach to Violence Prevention and Mental Health Promotion

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with Vulnerable Youth project.\textsuperscript{4190} The project is an evidence-based program aimed at preventing teen and youth dating violence.\textsuperscript{4191}

On 18 February 2019, Ginette Petitpas Taylor, Minister of Health, awarded nearly CAD1.8 million to two projects aimed at addressing teen and youth dating violence.\textsuperscript{4192} Boost Child & Youth Advocacy Centre delivers a curriculum through the Toronto District School Board and the Toronto District Catholic School Board.\textsuperscript{4193} The University of Windsor’s Girl, you got this! Project will adapt and deliver an intervention focused on helping young women resist sexual coercion and assault.\textsuperscript{4194}

On 21 February 2019, the Minister of Indigenous Services, Seamus O’Regan, reaffirmed the Government of Canada’s commitment to improve and support student safety and to ensure that education and health services meet the needs of students.\textsuperscript{4195} The statement is a result of a report card release on progress made on recommendations from the 2016 Ontario Coroner’s inquest into the deaths of seven First Nations youth who died while attending high school in Thunder Bay.\textsuperscript{4196}

On 26 February 2019, Chrystia Freeland, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Marie-Claude Bibeau, Minister of International Development, announced an additional CAD46.7 million to respond to the humanitarian crisis in Yemen, building on the existing CAD130 million provided since 2015.\textsuperscript{4197} The funding will be allocated to international organizations and agencies for urgent assistance and will


also focus on the urgent needs of women and girls, in particular. However, it does not explicitly mention improving access to education for girls.

On 4 March 2019, Ginette Petitpas Taylor, Minister of Health, announced the provision of nearly CAD1 million to the Students Commission of Canada’s Be the Change project to help prevent teen and youth dating violence. The project will develop a youth dating violence intervention to be designed and delivered by youth in 15 communities in Canada. It will examine issues including the influence of media, online content and school settings on attitudes.

On 4 March 2019, Maryam Monsef, Minister of International Development and Minister for Women and Gender Equality, launched a national committee committed to gender equality. The purpose of the committee is to increase awareness of gender equality and inclusion of diversity and engage in discussions with Canadians on how to work to improve the lives of women and girls domestically and abroad.

On 8 March 2019, Ginette Petitpas Taylor, Minister of Health, reaffirmed the government’s commitment to preventing gender-based violence by committing CAD1 million over five years to Raison d’Art’s PortraitX project. The project will use technology and art therapy in schools to educate students on how to identify and prevent dating violence in select schools in Montreal and Oakville.

On 13 April 2019, Maryam Monsef, Minister of International Development and Minister for Women and Gender Equality, announced the launch of a guiding document for Canada’s feminist foreign

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policy entitled A Feminist Approach: Gender Equality in Humanitarian Action. The document outlines the actions Canada will take to increase gender responsiveness in humanitarian action, including innovative approaches to removing obstacles to quality education in order to empower women and girls.

On 17 April 2019, Patty Hajdu, Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Labour, announced a commitment of nearly CAD3 million over five years to support three initiatives to prevent teen dating violence in rural and Indigenous communities. The projects will be funded by the Public Health Agency of Canada and will include a school-based program targeting teenagers in Thunder Bay, Ontario.

On 30 April 2019, Pam Damoff, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Health, announced more than CAD 6.4 million in funding for seven projects aimed at preventing gender-based violence amongst teens and youth. The selected projects include Planned Parenthood Ottawa, which designs and implements classroom-based workshops for grade eight and nine students to reduce teen dating violence. Additionally, a school-based intervention delivered by the University of Quebec will help students identify and understand impacts of teen dating violence, and train educators, school administrators and parents to effectively address and respond to such violence.

On 10 May 2019, Ginette Petitpas Taylor, Minister of Health, announced CAD5 million in funding for UpLift. UpLift is an initiative to promote healthy eating and physical wellbeing among

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students in Nova Scotia by optimizing school environments, including supporting students to identify and implement actions that contribute to healthy and safe schools.\(^{4214}\)

On 22 May 2019, Kamal Khera, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of International Development, announced a commitment of nearly CAD100 million in humanitarian and development initiatives for those affected by the Rohingya crisis in Bangladesh.\(^{4215}\) This includes CAD67.7 million in development assistance which includes addressing gender-based violence, skills training for women, and expanding health and education services.\(^{4216}\) While the funding includes gender-responsive initiatives, the education component does not explicitly mention a focus on girls.

On 24 May 2019, Rachel Bendayan, member of Parliament for Outremont, announced funding for a project in Montreal that is part of a larger CAD18 million investment in Funding to Advance Gender Equality.\(^{4217}\) The project, Prévention Côte-des-Neiges-Notre-Dame-de-Grâce, will receive CAD393,429 in funding from the federal government to assist in preventing sexual violence against girls in high schools and the larger community.\(^{4218}\)

On 29 May 2019, Carla Qualtrough, Minister of Public Services and Procurement and Accessibility, announced several initiatives aimed at improving accessibility for students.\(^{4219}\) This includes over CAD430,000 in support from the Youth Innovation Component of the Enabling Accessibility Fund to 53 organizations across the country for youth-driven projects that will increase accessibility and safety for those with disabilities.\(^{4220}\)

On 2 June 2019, Maryam Monsef, Minister of International Development and Minister for Women and Gender Equality, announced Canada will partner with the Equality Fund to establish legacy investments with organizations that support women’s rights and gender equality in Canada and
abroad. This new funding model will support women’s rights organizations in developing countries to shift power into the hands of local women leaders and remove barriers to gender equality. Although no explicit reference to gender equality in education is mentioned in Canada’s announcement, current partners of the Fund include organizations that provide support and resources for girls to stay in school in a number of developing countries.

On 4 June 2019, Ginette Petitpas Taylor, Minister of Health, announced nearly CAD4 million in funding for four projects in British Columbia aimed at preventing youth and teen dating violence. This investment includes several projects which will deliver responsive education and school-based programs to equip both youth and school staff with the knowledge and skills to prevent dating violence and create a safer school community.

Canada has fully complied on providing access for women, girls and in early stages of humanitarian response while supporting a safe space for children in schools, through inclusive and equitable education, which increases the accessibility and security for children. By investing in safe and quality education for Palestinian refugee children in the West Bank and Gaza, Canada has specifically targeted early stages of peacebuilding efforts in a conflict area. Domestically, Canada invested in new and improved education infrastructure for First Nations communities as well as a program for educators to address the safety risks of cannabis use in schools and arranged alternative school facilities for Gatineau students whose school had been structurally damaged by a recent storm. Financial support has also been provided for addressing domestic violence in Canadian post-secondary institutions and improving infrastructure for the Canadian Coast Guard College.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Emily Burton-Brown

France: 0

France has partially complied with the commitment to prioritize improved access to quality education for girls and women in the early stages of humanitarian response and peacebuilding efforts while supporting schools as safe spaces for children.

On 10 July 2018, the Agence Française de Développement (AFD), France’s public development bank, allocated EUR323,248 to SIPAR, a Cambodian non-profit organization promoting reading and education access for all, which is the first half of the global EUR646,497 budget allocated for the

SIPAR project. This project is a reading and education program that gives access to libraries and education to factory workers, including women and children, in urban and rural areas.

On 10 July 2018, the AFD announced the creation of the Education League to develop a network of young ambassadors “strongly committed to engaging young people locally and internationally, with the implementation of civic service programs and international volunteering.” This will have territorial relays of the league, educators, and supervisors working with trainers to promote a cohesive environment.

On 30 July 2018, the French government passed a law banning the use of smartphones and smart devices for children aged 3 to 15 years of age in a move to create safer school environments and protect children from cyberbullying and violence.

On 30 August 2018, the AFD issued its strategic plan for 2018-2022 and announced that France would increase grant assistance to EUR1.3 billion in 2019 to reach 19 priority countries in Africa, of which investment in education and gender equality is a priority. Moreover, gender equality is set to be a central theme in the AFD’s new strategy, with one of its five foundational commitments being “increasing access to education and promoting gender equality.”

On 13 September 2018, President Emmanuel Macron announced plans to open more daycare centres in disadvantaged areas in order to make education more equitable for all. Moreover, funding will be given to schools to provide heavily subsidized meals in a push to make education accessible for all.

On 17 September 2018, the French government announced its intention to scrap 2,650 jobs in teaching posts, in an attempt to reduce the number of public service workers. This proposal is intended only for secondary schools and colleges. Approximately 1,800 secondary teachers will be affected.

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school teaching positions are expected to be cut.\textsuperscript{4236} For primary school, the government intends to create 1,800 jobs.\textsuperscript{4237} 

On 25 September 2018, France was one of the leaders of \#LeaveNoGirlBehind meeting at the 73rd Session of the United Nations General Assembly, along with G7 members Canada and the United Kingdom.\textsuperscript{4238} In a joint statement, the three world leaders called for countries to improve girls’ access to education internationally, as well as ensure 12 years of free, safe, and quality education. The statement, which emphasizes this action in “developing contexts and countries struggling with conflict,” outlines 11 resolutions to do so, including ensuring schools are safe places for learning, and increasing international, regional, national, and South-South cooperation to ensure gender equality in education.\textsuperscript{4239} 

As of 27 September 2018, France has pledged to increase its grants to less developed countries from USD10 billion to USD15 billion in 2020 to 2030, a considerable portion of which, President Macron said, would focus on the education of girls, particularly in African countries.\textsuperscript{4240} 

On 11 October 2018 at the 17th Summit of La Francophonie Yerevan, Armenia, France adopted a strategy for the Organisation internationale de la Francophonie (OIF) to promote gender equality and the rights and empowerment of women and children. This strategy will be included in “all international solidarity and development policies of the OIF and its agencies.”\textsuperscript{4241} 

On 19 November 2018, the French Minister of State for Gender Equality Marlène Schiappa re-affirmed France’s commitment to gender equality at the World Forum for Democracy, and has highlighted that France has already announced measures regarding “emotional and sexual education in schools.”\textsuperscript{4242} 

On 25 November 2018, the Government of France launched a campaign focused on securing the universal adoption of the Council of Europe’s Istanbul Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence.\textsuperscript{4243} 

On 4 December 2018, the Government of Togo, in partnership with the AFD, inaugurated drinking water wells and sanitation facilities for at least 69 cantons in the Savannah region, as part of the

Project for the Improvement of Health Conditions in Schools and Rural Areas. The project includes hundreds of new boreholes and latrines built for schools. The AFD was responsible for subsiding the infrastructure.

On 6 December 2018, protesting high school students in Mantes-la-Jolie were rounded up by French police and made to kneel. The protests were meant to decry President Emmanuel Macron’s educational reforms.

On 18 December 2018, the French Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs, Jean-Yves Le Drian, announced that French ministers responsible for gender equality will create legislative packages containing “laws most conductive to equality between women and men in the world.”

On 20 December 2018, the French Parliament approved the Finance Bill for 2019, where a record EUR530 million was delegated to gender equality.

On 17 January 2019, France’s independent High Council for Equality Between Women and Men released a report on the state of sexism in France. It has been described as “the first official investigation into sexism” in the country.

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On 25 January 2019, the Government of France signed two loan financing agreements with Uganda aimed at supporting access to clean water and upgrading water and sanitation infrastructures in the region, worth EUR150 million and EUR120 million respectively. The French envoy emphasized that it this will make education more accessible for girls because “girls and women are often the one fetching the water.”

On of 29 January 2019, the Ministry for Education and Youth announced a campaign named “All Equal, All Allies” that seeks to combat anti-LGBTQ+ violence in middle and high schools across the country and create safe spaces for members of the LGBTQ+ community within them.

On 31 January 2019, Minister of State for Gender Equality and the Fight against Discrimination, Marlène Schiappa, unveiled the priorities of France’s feminist diplomacy for the year, which is set to be carried out with the UN Commission of the Status of Women, France’s Chairmanship of the Council of Europe, and France’s Presidency of the G7. Among their three main priorities is the education of women and girls. Schiappa further announced that the Gender Equality Advisory Council, set up under the Canadian presidency, will hold its first meeting under the French presidency in mid-February.

On 6 February 2019, the French Government released a statement calling on the international community to put an end to female genital mutilation. The government did not, however, outline further steps that it will take to reach this goal.

On 11 February 2019, the Government of France’s initiative “Ensemble pour l’école inclusive,” was officially presented to the Minister of National Education Jean-Michel Blanquer and Secretary of State for Persons with Disabilities Sophie Cluzel. Crafted in close consultation with the Conseil pour l’Egalité des Femmes et des Hommes (Paris) and the Conseil à l’Egalité (Paris), the project’s goals include fighting sexual and gender-based violence in middle and high schools.


national consultatif des personnes handicapées, it aims to make schools a safer space for its students.4263

On 12 February 2019, the French Parliament passed an amendment to make schools replace the words “mother” and “father” with “parent 1” and “parent 2” in order to make school a safer space for children of same sex parents.4264

On 20 February 2019, President Macron stated that he will take extra measures to combat rising anti-Semitism in France, including investigating acts of racism and harassment against Jewish students in France’s public schools.4265

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On 4 March 2019, France’s Ambassador to the United Nations affirmed again that gender equality is “one of France’s top priorities,” and that France is focusing on the protection of women in conflicts, among other priorities.4267

On 8 April 2019, The Global Partnership for Education announced that the AFD has allocated USD25.6 million for the education of children in Burundi, particularly in the most vulnerable areas of the country, with a focus on the needs of marginalized groups such as girls.4268

On 23 April 2019, Education Minister, Jean-Michel Blanquer, and Junior Health and Solidarity Minister, Christelle Dubos, announced EUR6 million in funding for free breakfast programs in public schools as part of the “priority education network.”4269

On 10 May 2019, Minister for Gender Equality, Marlene Schiappa, chaired a meeting on gender equality and signed a joint-declaration with other G7 members recognizing gender equality a global

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cause." France and other G7 members committed to adopting the Biarritz Partnership laws, which are “a set of laws that are most favourable to women worldwide,” at the August 2019 G7 Summit.

On 4 June 2019, the AFD signed an agreement with the Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) to use football as a vehicle for “education, development, and social change,” and to empower girls and women around the world. The agreement is focused on implementing joint social programs related to football, such as the Football for Schools Programme, in order to create “positive change in society and communities.”

On 6 June 2019, the Government of France signed an agreement with Angola to educate 50 Angolan students at French universities, specifically in the oil and gas industry. This initiative will be co-financed by the French and Angolan governments.

France has made it clear that it prioritizes education for girls and women both at home and in developing countries but has not clarified on whether it will prioritize it in either the early stages of humanitarian response or peacebuilding. It has, also, confirmed its commitment to ensuring that schools are safe places for children.

Thus, France receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Ninar Fawal

Germany: 0

Germany has partially complied with the commitment to prioritizing improved access to quality education for girls and women in the early stages of humanitarian response and peacebuilding efforts while supporting schools as safe spaces for children.

On 9 June 2018, Germany along with the European Union, Canada, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the World Bank invested CAD3.8 billion to improving access and reducing barriers to quality

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On 4 October 2018, through the “German-Israeli Program on Cooperation in Vocational Education and Training,” both governments had verbally committed to providing more nourishing and nutrient-based food at local Israeli schools, in an attempt to improve the overall quality of life of young girls.\footnote{Joint Statement by the Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany and the Prime Minister of the State of Israel, German-Israeli Inter-Government Consultations (Jerusalem). 4 October 2018. Access Date: 18 October 2018. https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/blob/228220/cfa39cadc63eaa7d8f3d6ec23f5147a9/160216-d-isr-kons-gemerklaerung-data.pdf.}

On 26 October 2018, the German government had strengthened its commitment towards reducing the tragedies amongst women and children in Yemen, by collaborating with a non-profit organization known as the Berghof Foundation.\footnote{To ease suffering and support solutions: Germany’s work in Yemen. 26 October 2018. Access Date: 19 December 2018. https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/laenderinformationen/jemen-node/germany-yemen/2155088.} This was instigated in order to resume failed peace negotiations between the parties causing hardship upon the entirety of Yemen.\footnote{To ease suffering and support solutions: Germany’s work in Yemen. 26 October 2018. Access Date: 19 December 2018. https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/aussenpolitik/laenderinformationen/jemen-node/germany-yemen/2155088.}

On 27 November 2018, during the Women Wage Peace International Congress, the Chancellor of Germany Angela Merkel prioritized women, security, and peace within Israel after Germany becomes a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council in 2019.\footnote{Keynote speech by Minister of State Michelle Müntefering on the occasion of the Women Wage Peace International Congress “Removing Barriers to Middle East Peace” in Tel Aviv. 27 November 2018. Access Date: 19 December 2018. https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/muentefering-women-wage-peace-conference/2164956.} The following speech was made to support women during peace negotiations, as the Middle East had failed to include women during peacebuilding efforts.


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On 1 January 2019, Germany was announced as a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council.4285 Germany reiterated its commitment to assisting women in conflict situations by accepting a co-chairmanship for the Informal Expert Group on Women, Peace, and Security, which will be held throughout 2019.4286

On 12 February 2019, Barbel Kofler, German Commissioner for Human Rights Policy and Humanitarian Aid, allocated EUR1.5 billion towards humanitarian aid for children in crisis situations.4287 The Commissioner reiterated Germany’s commitment to eradicating the existence of child soldiers globally.4288

On 21 February 2019, German Minister of State, Niels Annen, ensured that the protection of women and their empowerment will be a political priority for both Germany and Peru at the United Nations Security Council.4289 This will progress throughout 2020, as Germany will target countries such as Afghanistan and South Sudan to ensure that women are involved in peace negotiations.4290

On 26 February 2019, the German Federal Government Commissioner for Human Rights Policy and Humanitarian Aid, Bärbel Kofler, committed EUR100 million towards providing humanitarian assistance for the crisis in Yemen.4291 The financial commitment made by Germany will assist towards providing clean water and nourishing food for young boys and girls in Yemen.4292

On 31 March 2019, the Government of German allocated EUR10 million towards UNICEF’s “No Lost Generation” program.4293 The following initiative will provide approximately 442,000 vulnerable

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children in Syria with adequate education, while maintaining and developing safe learning environments. On 28 May 2019, the German Minister of Foreign Affairs, Heiko Maas announced the initiation of the newly founded women’s network referred to as UNIDAS. The following network will ensure that the rights of women are promoted within the Caribbean, Latin America, and Germany. UNIDAS will encourage women to engage with and be represented in regional matters in an effort to promote equality.

Germany has continued to increase its commitments towards humanitarian responses and is attempting to establish access to quality education for girls and women in crisis situations. However, no significant contribution has been made towards the promotion of schools as safe spaces for children and advocating for women’s and children’s rights.

Thus, Germany receives a score of 0.

**Analyst: Saranngan Vaithianathan**

**Italy: +1**

Italy has fully complied with the commitment to prioritize gender equality and improving access to quality education for girls and women in the early stages of humanitarian response and peacebuilding efforts while supporting schools as safe spaces for children.

On 1 August 2018, the governing Italian coalition introduced Bill 735 to enforce “perfect co-parenting,” whereby children of divorced parents will spend exactly the same amount of time with each parent. Bill 735 further mandates that couples with children who seek a divorce must first attend couples’ mediation, which must be paid for out of pocket. This stipulation reduces the ability of Italian women, particularly women economically dependent on their husbands, from obtaining a divorce.

On 3 September 2018, the Italian Minister for the Interior, Matteo Salvini, announced the allocation of EUR2.5 million to 15 beneficiary cities under the “#ScuoleSicure” program. The program aims to...

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to promote safety in schools through improved video surveillance, information campaigns, and increased access to police resources.4301

On 3 September 2018, the Government of Italy participated in the High-Level Conference on the Lake Chad region in Berlin, where it affirmed a USD17 million allocation for crisis response and development initiatives across four countries.4302 The conference emphasized the need for enhanced protection against gender-based violence for women and girls.4303

On 10 September 2018, the Italian Minister for Education, University and Research, Marco Bussetti, announced the commencement of a joint initiative between the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, the Italian Space Agency, and the National Research Council for the satellite mapping of 40,000 school buildings across Italy.4304

On 11 September 2018, the Government of Italy made a EUR500,000 contribution to the World Food Program for the provision of daily meals to schoolchildren in Mali.4305

On 21 September 2018, the Italian Minister for Education, University and Research, Marco Bussetti, allocated EUR3.6 million for the reconstruction of three school buildings affected by the August earthquake in Molise.4306

On 25 September 2018, the Italian Minister for Education, University and Research, Marco Bussetti, pledged EUR7 billion for the construction and redevelopment of school buildings in the upcoming budget, and established frameworks to ensure a faster allocation of this funding to local authorities.4307

On 28 September 2018, the Government of Italy implemented a EUR3.5 million joint initiative with the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women for the economic participation of women in Honduras, Guatemala, and El Salvador.4308
On 1 October 2018, the Government of Italy made a EUR1 million contribution to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees, with the purpose of providing Palestinian refugee children in Syria with access to education and psychosocial support.\textsuperscript{4309} This contribution also provides training to teachers and parents on gender-based violence.\textsuperscript{4310}

On 22 November 2018, Italy’s Presidency of the Council of Ministers Department for Equal Opportunities signed a memorandum of understanding with the Bank of Italy and the Italian Companies and Exchange Commission, establishing an inter-institutional program for data collection and research concerning women’s participation in the administration and control of Italian companies, effective 1 January 2019.\textsuperscript{4311}

On 24 November 2018, Italian Undersecretary for the Presidency of the Council of Ministers with responsibility for Equal Opportunities and Young People, Vincenzo Spadafora, announced the launch of the “#lapartitaditutti” initiative.\textsuperscript{4312} It is a media campaign for the prevention and tackling of violence against women and domestic abuse.\textsuperscript{4313} The initiative seeks to challenge stereotypes and encourage women and girls to speak out in difficult or isolated situations, emphasizing the importance of educating young persons in combating violence against women.\textsuperscript{4314}

On 24 November 2018, Italian Undersecretary for the Presidency of the Council of Ministers with responsibility for Equal Opportunities and Young People, Vincenzo Spadafora, pledged EUR33 million to combat gender-based violence against women and girls.\textsuperscript{4315} Further, Spadafora established a victim’s fund for female victims of gender-based violence.\textsuperscript{4316}
On 5 December 2018, the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation announced, in unison with UNICEF and the Tunisian Ministries of Health and Education, a program to improve sanitary conditions and practices of children and adolescents in Tunisian primary schools.4317

On 22 January 2019, Italian Consul General in Jerusalem, Fabio Skolowicz, and the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation Representative in Jerusalem, Cristina Natoli, allocated EUR36 million towards supporting Palestine’s healthcare system, in cooperation with the World Health Organization.4318 Specifically, the funds seek to address mental health deficiencies, neonatal care, and the transportation of vulnerable patients.4319

On 10 March 2019, the Italian Government implemented legislation requiring school children be fully vaccinated to attend public schools.4320 Italian parents had until 10 March 2019 to ensure their children were fully vaccinated, and students aged 0-6 were sent home if they did not have proof of vaccinations.4321 While children between the ages of 6-16 may still attend school without vaccinations, they may only do so after paying a USD560 fine.4322 The program is the Italian Government’s way of participating in a global push towards full vaccinations, and will allow children with impaired immune systems - who currently must stay home due to uncertainty over their classmates’ vaccination status – to finally attend school.4323

On April 17, 2019, Italy as part of the Equal Rights Coalition (ERC) expressed concern at Brunei’s decision to implement a revised penal code that allows extreme penalties.4324 Many of these penalties, according to Italy, target vulnerable groups such as women and children.4325 They committed, along with other ERC members, to press the Brunei government to abolish the penalties.4326

On 17 April 2019, the Italian Foreign Ministry committed EUR5 million in aid for the UNHCR from its Africa Fund to support Eritrean refugees in Ethiopia, and to support the Tunisian government’s efforts to provide shelter for refugees in Tunisia.4327 The aid will be put towards healthcare services,

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activities for refugee children and persons with specific needs, water for refugee camps, and expanded primary schooling for Eritrean refugees.\textsuperscript{4328}

Italy has fully complied with prioritizing gender equality and improving access to quality education for women and girls in crisis situations. Italy has taken action to intervene in early stages of humanitarian response and in peacebuilding efforts while ensuring spaces for girls in schools, although the majority of Italy’s focus has been on improving health and hygiene standards.

Thus, Italy receives a score of 1.

\textit{Analysts: Spenser Borrie and Vanda Mayer}

\textbf{Japan: +1}

Japan has fully complied with the commitment to prioritize gender equality and improving access to quality education for girls and women in the early stages of humanitarian response and peacebuilding efforts while supporting schools as safe spaces for children.

On 9 June 2018, Japan, along with the European Union, Germany, Canada, the United Kingdom, and the World Bank invested CAD3.8 billion to improve access and reduce barriers to quality education around the world.\textsuperscript{4329} This is an investment in education for women and girls in crisis and conflict situations.\textsuperscript{4330}

On 9 June 2018, Japan allocated USD200 million for girls’ and women’s quality education, including in conflict-ridden regions.\textsuperscript{4331}

On 24 July 2018, government spokesman Yoshihide Suga announced that the Japanese Government would ensure that all schools are equipped with air conditioners by the following summer to protect the lives of schoolchildren.\textsuperscript{4332} This commitment is in response to the unprecedented heat wave that swept across Japan in July 2018, highlighting the inadequate climate control in Japanese schools.\textsuperscript{4333}

On 4 August 2018, the Japanese Education Minister, Yoshimasa Hayashi, ordered Tokyo Medical University to disclose the results of the university’s investigation of administrators, who allegedly


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lowered exam scores of female applicants, so as to investigate gender discrimination in Japanese medical schools.\(^{4334}\)

On 10 August 2018, the Japanese Education Ministry requested all private and public medical schools to assess their admission procedures for possible discrimination against female applicants.\(^{4335}\) The ministry also evaluated the gender ratio of successful applicants from the previous six months to identify recent cases of gender discrimination in medical schools.\(^{4336}\)

On 10 August 2018, the Japanese Education Ministry reported that a quarter of Japan’s schools have dangerous external walls.\(^{4337}\) The ministry plans to use state subsidies from the 2019 budget to repair or remove dangerous walls to ensure the safety of school children.\(^{4338}\)

On 2 October 2018, the Prime Minister of Japan, Shinzo Abe, reduced the number of women in his cabinet to one.\(^{4339}\) This cabinet reshuffle comes only a few months after the Japanese Legislator passed a bill to increase women’s participation in government.\(^{4340}\)

On 12 October 2018, Japan announced funding of buses exclusively for women and children in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa region of Pakistan.\(^{4341}\) These buses are called “sakura buses,” and provide safe transportation for women who are vulnerable to sexual assault and harassment on public transportation.\(^{4342}\) The sakura buses aim to help women feel safe to commute to school or work, so as to increase the mobility and participation of women in Pakistani society.\(^{4343}\)

On 19 November 2018, Japan provided JPY510 million to assist in Pakistan’s efforts to eradicate polio.\(^{4344}\) The assistance will “support the supply of the essential polio vaccine for the campaigns


During the 2018/19 low transmission season of the poliovirus,4345 and quickly close the immunity gaps in high risk areas.4345

On 22 November 2018, Japan’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs partnered with the United Nations Development Program to operate disaster simulations in disaster-prone regions of Cambodia.4346 The initiative facilitated a drill that involved 1500 students and strengthened the region’s preparedness for tsunamis.4347

On 22 November 2018, Japan contributed USD5 million to the World Food Programme to scale up their efforts to address “undernutrition, micronutrient deficiencies and obesity in Ghana.”4348 This contribution will “allow more pregnant and nursing women, children, and adolescent girls to access nutritious foods.”4349

On 29 November 2018, the Japanese government granted USD505,210 to the Bokeo Province of Laos to construct secondary school facilities and support gender education.4350 Due to the traditional gender norms of the region, many girls marry early and do not have access to secondary education.4351 The initiative aims to “create gender-sensitive school environments and develop the capacity of secondary school teachers, students, and communities to promote gender equality.”4352

From 30 November to 1 December 2018, Japan attended the G20 Summit in Buenos Aires.4353 The theme of the summit was “Building Consensus for Fair and Sustainable Development.”4354 One of the main development goals was the empowerment of women and “the elimination of gender

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disparities in employment, science, technology and education, and protection from all forms of gender-based violence.\textsuperscript{4355}

On 2 December 2018, Japan contributed USD9.1 million to the United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund’s efforts to address urgent needs and rights of Afghanistan’s children and women.\textsuperscript{4356} These efforts will focus on vaccinating vulnerable women and children from preventable diseases.\textsuperscript{4357}

On 10 December 2018, Japan and Bangladesh signed the “Japanese Grant Aid for The Fourth Primary Education Development Programme.”\textsuperscript{4358} This initiative will grant JPY500 million to distribute textbooks, improve teacher training, and strengthen school management in Bangladesh.\textsuperscript{4359}

On 26 December 2018, the Japanese Education Ministry reported that “210 teachers at public schools in Japan were disciplined over sexual behavior in fiscal 2017.”\textsuperscript{4360} The ministry reported that 206 of the offenders were male, and four were female.\textsuperscript{4361} The ministry’s report highlights the targeting of young girls in schools.\textsuperscript{4362}

On 22 January 2019, the Japanese Education Ministry announced that it will end subsidies to Tokyo Medical University for this or the next fiscal year due to its discrimination against female


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In addition, seven other universities will receive lower subsidies as well due to misconduct.4364

On 22 January 2019, the Japanese government “signed two grant contracts amounting to USD16 million to purchase two school buses” for two schools in Jamaica.4365 These schools never had school buses and traveling to school in rural areas is dangerous for children.4366 This initiative is intended to “provide safe and reliable transportation to and from school for children.”4367

On 25 January 2019, Japan and other countries formed the “Group of Friends for Education and Lifelong Learning” at the UN. 4368 The advocacy initiative will “provide equal educational opportunities for all boys and girls in Asian and African countries” and “address the shortage of teachers.”

On 25 January 2019, Japan granted USD12 million to the World Food Programme to alleviate the hunger crisis in Yemen.4369 This assistance is expected to address the food insecurity of 850,000 people and improve the nutritional status of 250,000 pregnant and lactating women.4370

On 31 January 2019, Japan contributed USD8 million to support the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations’ efforts to enhance the food security of Yemen’s most vulnerable communities.4371 The initiative will focus on ensuring “that products, especially milk, are available to the most vulnerable members of the poor families - especially children, pregnant women and lactating mothers.”4372

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On 7 February 2019, Japan granted Yemen a new humanitarian assistance package of USD32.8 million to alleviate the suffering caused by the Yemeni civil war. The contribution will provide “income opportunities and vocational training to youth and women, and also capacity building of medical staffs.”

On 8 February 2019, Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe held a meeting with ministers involved in child abuse issues following the death of a 10-year-old girl at the hands of her father. The Prime Minister discussed the negligence of the school, Board of Education and Child Welfare Center who failed to protect the child. Prime Minister Abe announced, “efforts to eradicate child abuse to protect children’s lives as a top priority.” Abe also proposed new rules that “ban the disclosure of information, including the identity of the party who reported the abuse.” Abe also urged “child consultation centers nationwide and other institutions to ensure that the safety of all suspected victims is checked within a month.”

On 12 February 2019, Japan adopted bills to make preschool and tertiary education free of charge. This initiative will guarantee all children have access to early education.

On 13 February 2019, the Japanese government granted USD529,068 to the Shanti Volunteer Association. The funds are intended to improve childhood education in Battambang, Cambodia. This initiative will focus on improving pre-school libraries and capacity building for teachers and librarians.

On 18 February 2019, Japan and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization signed an agreement in support of the project “Voices of the children of Old Mosul: the rehabilitation and management of primary schools in historic urban context emerging from
conflict.” This initiative aims to prevent of violent extremism in Iraqi primary education by laying “the ground for participatory design principles in the creation of pupil-centred schools through the collaboration of pupils, teachers, parents, architects and designers.”

On 19 February 2019, Japan announced USD10.6 million in contributions to combat malnutrition and increase resilience to natural disasters in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Sindh and Balochistan provinces of Pakistan. USD3.5 million of the contribution will go to “early identification and treatment of 155,000 acutely malnourished mothers and children in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, including families who have been displaced from Afghanistan and vulnerable host populations.”

On 22 February 2019, Japan granted World Vision Japan USD400,384 to “complete its two-year project aimed at improving maternal and child health in Takeo province.” This funding will support marginalized mothers and children gain access to clean water and health care.

On 26 February 2019, Japan signed an agreement with six United Nations Agencies valued at USD37 million to implement humanitarian and development projects in the Shan, Kachin and Rakhine States of Myanmar. The agreement will deliver “life-saving assistance, protection, trust-building initiatives and early recovery support to women, men, girls and boys across the three states,” including efforts to support women leaders to become effective advocates for gender equality and women’s empowerment as well as “strengthening government capacities to ensure gender-responsive policies, programmes and service delivery.”

On 26 February 2019, Japan signed an agreement with Sierra Leone to support the Food Aid Programme for Sierra Leone’s Free Quality Education and School Feeding Programmes. This agreement aims to increase national food security and ensure that children are well fed in schools.

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On 28 February 2019, the Japan International Cooperation Agency and the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency helped Rwanda launch satellites into space. These satellites will provide internet access to rural schools in Rwanda.

On 28 February 2019, Japan granted Haiti USD2 million to fund the distribution of school meals based on local products. Japan aims to improve food security and increase access to education while supporting Haitian food producers, especially women.

On 3 March 2019, the Government of Japan introduced a plan to ban corporal punishment of children by parents, foster parents, welfare workers. This plan aims to prevent child abuse and strengthen “the authority of child welfare centres to ensure prompt separation of children from abusive parents.”

On 3 March 2019, the Government of Japan contributed USD1.339,285 to “increase access to reproductive health services and strengthen the response to gender-based violence across Iraq.” The funding will provide “psychosocial support to gender-based violence survivors” and build capacity for service providers and communities to prevent gender-based violence.

On 4 March 2019, the Government of Japan donated USD3.4 million to provide health and nutrition assistance for vulnerable children in conflict affected areas in Iraq. The donation will support vulnerable communities caught in cycles of violence by increasing the capacity of health care workers and providing nutrition and immunization services to displaced mothers and children.

On 6 March 2019, the Government of Japan granted USD1.47 million to “the Project for the Improvement of Access to Information and Services of Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights

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On 7 March 2019, the Government of Japan contributed USD500,000 to “Empowered Women, Peaceful Communities: Promoting Peace and Preventing Intolerance in Sri Lanka.” This program is implemented by the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women and aims to promote gender equality in Sri Lanka. The aid is part of Japan’s commitment to the G7 Women, Peace and Security Partnerships Initiative agreed at the G7 Foreign Ministers’ Meeting in April 2018.

On 7 March 2019, the Government of Japan granted USD205,035 to three Bangladeshi NGOs through its initiative to support Grass-roots Human Security Projects. All three NGOs are working towards improving public health in Bangladesh.

On 8 March 2019, the Government of Japan granted USD86,612 to the Idara Al-Khair Welfare Society for the construction of schools for girls at Wangi Goth Village in Karachi.

On 23 March 2019, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe announced that Japan will support developing countries in providing high quality education to 4 million women by 2020 at an International Women’s conference.

On 31 March 2019, the Government of Japan allocated funding to the United Nations Children’s Fund to provide education and protection for Somalian children affected by recent droughts, floods, sexual and reproductive health and rights of young Sri Lankans, as well as support shelters for sexual and gender-based violence victims.


and other disasters.\textsuperscript{4413} Japan’s support will help more than 8500 young girls and boys access safe learning environments.\textsuperscript{4414}

On 5 April 2019, the Japanese Ministry of Education announced that gender-discrimination in university entrance exams are inappropriate and committed to eradicating this inequality from the Japan’s post-secondary system.\textsuperscript{4415}

On 7 April 2019, Japan announced USD3.57 million to support the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Jordan to assist Syrian refugees across that country.\textsuperscript{4416} The funding will help the Government of Jordan provide key services such as healthcare and education.\textsuperscript{4417}

On 9 May 2019, Japan contributed USD6.9 million to the United Nations World Food Programme to provide food assistance to cyclone and flood affected people in Mozambique.\textsuperscript{4418} The assistance will assist 350,000 people, including women and girls, to recover and will prevent malnutrition.\textsuperscript{4419}

On 28 May 2019, the Government of Japan and the World Health Organization donated six ambulances to the Ministry of Health of the Republic of South Sudan.\textsuperscript{4420} The donation aims to increase access of health care for the most vulnerable populations of the country, such as women and children.\textsuperscript{4421}

On 29 May 2019, Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe ordered police and education officials to strengthen safety measures to protect schoolchildren across the country following an attack on children at a school bus stop.\textsuperscript{4422}


Japan has fully complied with prioritizing gender equality and improving access to quality education for women and girls in crisis situations by addressing widespread gender discrimination and child abuse. Japan has taken action domestically and internationally to intervene in early stages of humanitarian response and in peacebuilding efforts while ensuring spaces for girls in schools.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

**Analyst: Collin Xia**

**United Kingdom: +1**

The United Kingdom has fully complied with the commitment to prioritize gender equality and improving access to quality education for girls and women in the early stages of humanitarian response and peacebuilding efforts while supporting schools as safe spaces for children.

On 1 July 2018, the United Kingdom’s Department for Education announced a new GBP6.5 million program aimed at supporting children with special educational needs and children from disadvantaged backgrounds who are at risk of falling behind in reading, writing, and language skills. 4423

On 10 August 2018, UK’s International Development Secretary Penny Mordaunt announced that Tanzania’s education program will receive GBP41.6 million to improve “quality of education in every primary and lower secondary school in Tanzania.” 4424 Young women will be empowered to take advantage of their educational opportunities to contribute to the economic growth of their communities. 4425

On 30 August 2018, the Government of the United Kingdom announced funding for the “Leave No Girl Behind” initiative that aims to help Kenyan girls to go back to school. 4426 This initiative will support up to 5,000 Kenyan girls in their educational endeavours. 4427 It will tackle common barriers to girls’ education and give access to those who are impoverished and lack access to education. 4428

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On 3 September 2018, the Government of the United Kingdom committed USD186 million for crisis response and development initiatives across four countries in Africa. The conference emphasized the need for enhanced protection against gender-based violence for women and girls.4429

On 4 September 2018, the Government of the United Kingdom announced an aid package for Palestinians through the United Nations Relief and Work Agency (UNRWA) to help improve access to health care and education.4430 GBP7 million will be added to the United Kingdom’s contribution to UNRWA, which will now total GBP38.5 million for the establishment of “an essential humanitarian and stabilising force in the Middle East, educating hundreds of thousands of children every year.”4431

On 8 September 2018, the United Kingdom’s Department of Education and Government Equalities Office allocated GBP4.4 million for an online application which allows for children to report instances of bullying or cyber-bullying in schools.4432

On 26 September 2018, the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, Theresa May, announced 9 new projects to support access to quality education for up to 171,723 marginalized girls, including 13,146 girls with disabilities, in Ghana, Somalia, Nepal, Ethiopia, Zimbabwe, and Malawi.4433 The projects constitute the second phase of the Department for International Development’s Girls Education “Challenge” program.4434

On 26 September 2018, the United Kingdom’s International Development Secretary, Penny Mordaunt, announced a GBP7.8 million investment to improve education data and analysis, to help better understand the UK’s aid priorities and track its progress towards Sustainable Development Goals.4435

On 27 September 2018, the United Kingdom’s Minister for Human Rights and the United Nations, Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon, co-chaired an event under the UN General Assembly with Afghanistan and Norway and called for an increase in the participation of women in peace building and conflict resolution.4436

On 3 October 2018, the United Kingdom’s Department for International Development allocated GBP10 million, in partnership with the United Nations’ Children’s Fund, to provide digital registration for up to 400,000 children in the Horn of Africa, to guard them against the risk of slavery, human trafficking, underage marriage, or military service.4437

On 3 October 2018, the United Kingdom’s Department for International Development announced a GBP26 million initiative to combat child labour and child sex trafficking across six Asian countries, in partnership with the United Nations’ Children’s Fund, the International Labour Organization, and the Institute of Development Studies.4438

On 3 October 2018, the United Kingdom’s Department for International Development announced a GBP12 million fund set to provide up to 400,000 vulnerable individuals in conflict-ridden parts of Africa with alternate income opportunities and skills training to recognize disguised risks of trafficking.4439

On 16 October 2018, the Government of the United Kingdom announced a three-year GBP96.5 million commitment to UNICEF to screen up to GBP2.2 million young children in Yemen for malnutrition, with urgent treatment provided for 70,000 of the most vulnerable.4440

On 20 October 2018, the United Kingdom’s Communities Secretary, James Brokenshire, announced a GBP5 million fund to promote early intervention practices among teachers, community workers, and childcare professionals for youth or families at risk of the gang and knife violence.4441

On 15 November 2018, the United Kingdom’s Minister for Women and Equalities, Penny Mordaunt, announced that the Government Equalities Office will join the United Kingdom’s Cabinet Office.4442 This change ensures that gender equality is at the forefront of all the government’s policymaking.

On 23 November 2018, the United Kingdom’s Department for International Development Secretary, Penny Mordaunt, launched a GBP50 million initiative to combat female genital mutilation in Africa, which includes support for “women’s organizations and girls’ clubs in schools where [women and girls] can discuss the issue in safe spaces.”4443

On 24 January 2019, the British Ambassador to Guatemala announced an initiative to tackle teen pregnancy in Solola by providing training in life skills and access to knowledge and mentoring from

The objective of the UK-funded project is to provide basic tools for girls and boys to understand sexual and reproductive health issues, while the long-term goal is to reduce child marriage and teenage pregnancy in Guatemala. The 5-month project is part of the UK’s commitment to improve access to girls’ education.

On 30 January 2019, Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon, the Duke of Sussex and Tijani Christian, Chair of the Commonwealth Youth Council, allocated over GBP200 million in nine Commonwealth countries to support the objective of ensuring 12 years of quality education for girls and boys. The objective is to create 150 new Queen Elizabeth II’s Commonwealth scholarships for students by 2025.

On 4 February 2019, the British Embassy in Cairo launched the initiative “She Leads” in partnership with the British embassies in Australia, Canada, New Zealand, and Singapore. The 10-month initiative, which is a Young Women Leadership Program, trains and mentors 26 Egyptian female students in their last two years at the Faculty of Economics and Political Science at Cairo University. The objective is to build communication, critical thinking, self-awareness, peer mentoring, and leadership skills.

On 7 February 2019, Minister of State for the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Harriet Baldwin, announced that the UK will increase funding by GBP2.8 million for humanitarian support and will increase funding by GBP3.5 million for peacebuilding activities in Ukraine to address gender-based violence. The funding aims to deliver Mine Risk Education Sessions, while another objective is to increase the number of women in politics through gender-focused caucuses.

On 9 March 2019, the Government of the United Kingdom pledged GBP400 million life-saving aid to the 2019 Syria crisis response, which is an increase of GBP100 million from previous years. Minister for the Middle East, Alistair Burt, announced this aid will provide vulnerable Syrians in

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Jordan, Lebanon, and Turkey with access to drinking water, food, clothing, tents, hygiene kits, medical care, and education.\footnote{4455}

On 11 April 2019, International Development Secretary, Penny Mordaunt, pledged an additional GBP14 million in funding for the damage caused by Cyclone Idai. GBP10 million was allocated for humanitarian aid, while GBP4 million went towards ensuring emergency education for children affected by the disaster.\footnote{4456}

On 3 June 2019, International Development Minister, Baroness Sugg, announced a new GBP12.5 million program in Rwanda to support over 200,000 adolescent girls pursue formal education.\footnote{4457} She also allocated GBP12 million to tackle gender-based violence in Zimbabwe and to help survivors.\footnote{4458}

On 10 June 2019, the Department for Education and the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy announced a GBP18.5 million initiative to boost diversity in AI tech roles and innovation in online training for adults.\footnote{4459} The initiative includes over 1000 scholarships for people from underrepresented groups and is part of the effort to increase gender diversity in the tech sector.\footnote{4460} Of the GBP18.5 million, GBP13.5 million will be used to train 2,500 people in data science and artificial intelligence over the next three years through new degrees, Masters conversions courses, and scholarships.\footnote{4461} The objective is to increase representation minority groups in the tech sector, and in particular women.\footnote{4462}

The United Kingdom has fully complied with prioritizing gender equality and improving access to quality education for women and girls in the early stages of humanitarian response and peacebuilding efforts while supporting schools as safe spaces for children.

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

*Analysts: Spenser Borrie and Vanda Mayer*

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G7 Research Group
23 August 2019

604
United States: +1

The United States has fully complied with the commitment to prioritize gender equality and improving access to quality education for girls and women in the early stages of humanitarian response and peacebuilding efforts while supporting schools as safe spaces for children.

On 11 June 2018, the United States Department of Education’s Office for Civil Rights (OCR) announced an investigation of the University of South California’s “handling of reports of sexual harassment against former employee Dr. George Tyndall.” The OCR will assess the university’s response to sexual harassment complaints from the 1990s that were not fully investigated until 2016 and review the university’s handling of civil rights issues.

On 18 July 2018, the National Threat Assessment Center published an operational guide for preventing targeted school violence, which details threat assessment models to identify potential student shooters, so schools may “develop comprehensive targeted violence prevention plans for conducting threat assessments in schools.”

On 3 August 2018, the United States Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos awarded USD138,213 to Marshall County School District in Kentucky to support recovery efforts following the 23 January 2018 shooting at Marshall County High School. These funds will be used to hire and compensate staff.

On 14 August 2018, Secretary DeVos allocated USD359.8 million in new federal assistance to 20 states and the U.S. Virgin Islands under the Temporary Emergency Impact Aid for Displaced Students program. This program is used by the Department of Education to help fund the education of students displaced by natural disasters such as Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, Maria or the 2017 California wildfires.

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On 21 August 2018, Secretary DeVos hosted a meeting with the Federal Commission on School Safety to address the issue of cyberbullying on social media, and how it may promote violence and endanger student safety.4470

On 28 August 2018, Secretary DeVos announced USD63 million in new federal assistance for 47 institutions of higher education across America.4471 The funding will go to institutions and students in areas directly affected by Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, or Maria or the 2017 California wildfires.4472

On 28 September 2018, Secretary DeVos appointed five new members to the National Assessment Governing Board.4473 Three of the five new members are women leaders in education from across the United States.4474 These appointments increase female participation and leadership in the education system.4475

On 2 October 2018, Secretary DeVos announced USD1,983,597 in funding for low-income North Carolina students who were impacted by Hurricane Florence.4476 More than USD800,000 was specifically allocated to South Carolinian students for similar relief.4477

On 9 October 2018, the House of Representatives introduced the Keeping Girls in School Act.4478 This bill will “review and update a United States global strategy to empower adolescent girls,” and direct U.S. foreign aid to promote the health, education, safety of girls around the world.4479

On 11 October 2018, the United States passed the Missing Children’s Assistance Act of 2018. This bill intends to improve support to missing or exploited children through developing and disseminating programs across the country to prevent child abduction and sexual exploitation. It also provides technical assistance and training to local schools and governments to assist in finding and helping such children.

On 26 October 2018, the House of Representatives introduced the Minority Women in STEM Inclusion Act. This bill will “direct the Administrators of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the National Science Foundation to produce a report to Congress regarding the efforts to support minority women involvement in STEM fields.” Both agencies will conduct a study on how to increase participation of minority women, and consider scholarship and internship programs to female students in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

On 8 November 2018, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Ethiopian Ministry of Education launched the new READ II project. This project will allocate USD86 million to improve primary level reading skills amongst students and train teachers.

On 14 November 2018, the House of Representatives introduced the “Keeping All Students Safe Act” to prevent seclusion and physical restraint in schools. This bill protects children by training...
school personnel in appropriate and safe methods of discipline to prevent students from experiencing mental and physical abuse.\footnote{4489}

On 15 November 2018, USAID announced a new education policy to “guide the Agency’s investments in international education.”\footnote{4490} The new policy includes increasing access to education, ensuring children acquire basic skills, and “fostering skills needed to lead productive lives.” The program seeks to engage with more partners to give educational opportunities to all children, including girls.

On 16 November 2018, USAID lopment announced plans to fund private and religious schools in developing countries.\footnote{4491} This plan aims to help children who do not have access to public schools by expanding non-state educational institutions.\footnote{4492}

On 16 November 2018, the House of Representatives introduced a bill that would “replace drinking water fountains in playgrounds and parks.”\footnote{4493} This bill addresses high lead levels in drinking water in playgrounds, schools, daycares, and parks to provide safe water consumption for children.\footnote{4494}

On 16 November 2018, the United States Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos released her “proposal on improving schools’ responses to sexual harassment and assault.”\footnote{4495} The proposal “prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in education programs or activities that receive federal funding.”\footnote{4496} Secretary DeVos stressed the importance of having “clear policies and fair processes that every student can rely on” to prevent sexual violence in schools.\footnote{4497}

From 30 November to 1 December 2018, the United States attended the G20 Summit in Buenos Aires. The theme of the summit was “Building Consensus for Fair and Sustainable Development.” One of the main development goals was the empowerment of women and “the elimination of gender disparities in employment, science, technology and education, and protection from all forms of gender-based violence.”

On 11 December 2018, President Donald Trump signed the Women in Aerospace Education Act into law. This bill encourages the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to support female students with fellowships and internships to recruit “women or individuals who are underrepresented in the fields of science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and computer science.”

On 17 December 2018, the House of Representatives introduced the Trauma-Informed Schools Act of 2018. The bill would “provide criteria for use of Federal funds to support trauma-informed practices in schools” by educating students and school personnel on the effects of childhood trauma, as well as “identifying students who exhibit symptoms commonly associated with trauma” to enhance the wellbeing and security of schools.

On 18 December 2018, the Federal Commission on School Safety released a “comprehensive resource guide for keeping students, teachers safe at school.” This report includes “93 best practices and policy recommendations for improving safety at schools across the country.”

report recommends policies ranging from supporting student social and emotional wellbeing to enhancing the physical security of schools to reduce risks of violence in schools.\(^\text{4507}\)

On 19 December 2018, the Trump Administration unveiled the Federal Lead Action Plan to Reduce Childhood Lead Exposures and Associated Health Impacts (Lead Action Plan).\(^\text{4508}\) The plan reduces children’s exposure to lead and its associated harms by identifying lead sources, lead-exposed children, and communicating with key stakeholders.\(^\text{4509}\) This initiative will “reduce exposure to lead and improve children’s health.”\(^\text{4510}\)

On 9 January 2019, the United States passed the Women’s Entrepreneurship and Economic Empowerment Act of 2018.\(^\text{4511}\) This bill seeks to “improve programs and activities relating to women’s entrepreneurship and economic empowerment that are carried out by the United States Agency for International Development.”\(^\text{4512}\) This bill requires the international development cooperation policy of the United States to increase women and girls’ access to education, “particularly higher education opportunities in business, finance, and management, in order to enhance financial literacy and business development, management, and strategy skills.”\(^\text{4513}\)

On 14 January 2019, the United States passed the Protecting Girls’ Access to Education in Vulnerable Settings Act.\(^\text{4514}\) The bill “urges the consideration of the educational needs of vulnerable


women and girls” in U.S. foreign aid programs.\textsuperscript{4515} The bill encourages U.S. foreign aid to focus on increasing access to safe education to displaced children, especially girls.\textsuperscript{4516}

On 17 January 2019, Secretary DeVos announced “an initiative to address the possible inappropriate use of restraint and seclusion” in schools.\textsuperscript{4517} The program will protect students with disabilities through providing technical support to schools and help school personnel understand how federal law applies to the use of restraint and seclusion.\textsuperscript{4518}

On 23 January 2019, the House of Representatives introduced the Ending Corporal Punishment in Schools Act of 2019.\textsuperscript{4519} This bill prohibits corporal punishment in schools to “ensure the safety of all students and school personnel in schools and promote a positive school culture and climate.”\textsuperscript{4520} This bill would be enforced by withholding funds to State educational agencies that do not comply with the prohibition.\textsuperscript{4521}

On 30 January 2019, the House of Representatives introduced the Rebuild America’s Schools Act of 2019.\textsuperscript{4522} This bill allocates funds to “provide for the long-term improvement of public school facilities.”\textsuperscript{4523} Allowable uses of the funds include constructing new buildings, repairing old buildings,
improving air and drinking water quality of schools, and bring schools into compliance with “applicable fire, health, and safety codes.”

On 4 February 2019, the House of Representatives introduced the Empower Our Girls Act. This bill allows grants to be used in assisting victims of female genital mutilation.

On 4 February 2019, the House of Representatives introduced the Protect Our Girls Act of 2019. This bill prohibits travelling interstate to perform female genital mutilation on underaged girls.

On 7 February 2019, President Donald Trump launched the Women’s Global Development and Prosperity Initiative. This initiative has pledged USD50 million to help 50 million women in developing countries in education, job training, financial support, and legal or regulatory reforms. The head of the initiative, Ivanka Trump, claims supporting women in developing countries is a national security priority of the United States.

On 8 February 2019, the House of Representatives introduced the Department of Peacebuilding Act of 2019. This bill would establish a Department of Peacebuilding which would tackle...
peacebuilding efforts domestically and internationally. The department would work on empowering women and girls, tackling societal violence, and support community building.

On 27 February 2019, the House of Representatives passed the Bipartisan Background Checks Act of 2019, which will require a background check for every firearm sale. This bill is a significant step towards prohibiting individuals unfit to carry guns from obtaining them and increasing school security around the country.

On 28 February 2019, the House of Representatives passed the Enhanced Background Checks Act of 2019. This bill will help reduce gun violence in the United States as it “addresses a loophole in current law that enables some firearms to be transferred by licensed gun dealers before the required background checks have been completed.”

On 28 February 2019, Secretary DeVos unveiled Education Freedom Scholarships that will “expand and improve the education options available to students across the country.” This program will give USD5 billion annually to locally controlled scholarship programs that increase the range of accessible educational opportunities. The funds may be used to increase school services, course options, and access to transportation.

On 28 February 2019, USAID announced USD15 million in funding to alleviate the critical food security situation in Zimbabwe. The contribution will go to provide food rations and cash transfers to maintain the nutritional status of vulnerable Zimbabweans.

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On 3 March 2019, the United States contributed USD45.5 million to the UN World Food Program in support of the Rohingya refugee crisis. The contribution will help Rohingya refugees buy food, prepare for the monsoon season and provide “nutritional support for vulnerable children and pregnant and lactating women.”

On 11 March 2019, the Department of Education released the Trump Administration’s budget request for the 2020 fiscal year. The budget includes funding to support vulnerable students and to increase school safety.

On 9 April 2019, the House of Representatives introduced the Keeping Girls in School Act. This bill aims to support the economic security and educational opportunities for adolescent girls around the world by recognizing the barriers to education for girls and working globally to empower adolescent girls.

On 17 April 2019, Secretary of Education, Betsy Devos, announced a grant of USD460,064 to Marshall County School District in Kentucky. The grant is part of Project School Emergency Response to Violence, an initiative that supports schools following school shootings. The funds will increase staff and school resources to support students and staff members.

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On 2 May 2019, the Senate introduced the 21st Century STEM for Girls and Underrepresented Minorities Act. The bill intends to provide grants to local educational agencies to help girls and underrepresented minorities pursue studies and careers in STEM fields.

On 3 May 2019, the House of Representatives introduced the Vaccinate All Children Act of 2019. The bill aims to require states to enforce mandatory vaccinations for all students in public elementary and secondary schools to prevent the spread of infectious diseases.

On 5 June 2019, President Trump suspended educational, legal and recreational programs for migrant children in American custody. The decision reduces the capacity of the Office of Refugee Resettlement and leaves many migrant children, separated from their parents and more vulnerable.

On 7 June 2019, the United States committed USD82 million to HIV programs in Namibia through the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief. The funding aims to control the spread of HIV among the most vulnerable Namibians.

The United States has fully complied with the commitment to prioritize gender equality and improving access to quality education for girls and women in the early stages of humanitarian response and peacebuilding efforts while supporting schools as safe spaces for children through extensive legislative and foreign aid initiatives.

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

Analyst: Collin Xia

European Union: 0

The European Union has partially complied with the commitment to prioritize to prioritizing improved access to quality education for girls and women in the early stages of humanitarian response and peacebuilding efforts while supporting schools as safe spaces for children.
On 9 June 2018, European Union, along with Canada, Germany, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the World Bank invested CAD3.8 billion to improving access and reducing barriers to quality education around the world. The European Union will invest EUR72 million over three years. This is an investment in education for women and girls in crisis and conflict situations.

On 12 July 2018, the European Commission announced its Annual Action Programme for Myanmar and Burma for 2018. The European Union will contribute EUR221 million to the programme. The programme aimed to develop education in Myanmar through teacher training, education reform, and financial transparency. The objective of this is to “equitably enhance the education and skills base among Myanmar/Burma youth.”

On 3 September 2018, the European Commission announced a EUR138 million aid package for humanitarian and development assistance in the Lake Chad region. A portion of the development assistance funding will go towards advancing existing programs in North East Nigeria by strengthening girls’ education and reintegration efforts.

On 24 September 2018, the European Union was represented among a coalition of leaders launching “Generation Unlimited” at the United Nations General Assembly. This partnership builds on

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existing programmes with the goal of getting every young person into quality education, training or employment by 2030, but does not specifically target girls.\textsuperscript{4571}

On 27 September 2018, the European Union and the United Nations released a joint statement reaffirming a longstanding partnership supporting key development goals.\textsuperscript{4572} The first priority area identified is promoting gender equality, including in the realm of quality education and training.\textsuperscript{4573}

On 17 October 2018, the European Union expanded on the 2017 commitment to provide assistance to Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh with an additional EUR15 million.\textsuperscript{4574} This humanitarian assistance will go towards the provision of basic necessities for medium-term needs, including education.\textsuperscript{4575}

On 13 November 2018, the European Parliament adopted a report on development assistance in the field of education.\textsuperscript{4576} This report affirmed a commitment to address improved education for girls and the specific barriers girls face in accessing education in conflict zones and outlined a policy framework to move forward.\textsuperscript{4577}

On 19 November 2018, the European Commission released a statement in advance of the Universal Children’s Day to reiterate commitment to protecting and promoting children’s rights globally.\textsuperscript{4578} This commitment included the provision of access to safe and quality education for both boys and girls.

On 23 November 2018, the European Union allocated EUR36 million to education reform policies in Kyrgyzstan.\textsuperscript{4579} The funding will support Kyrgyzstan authorities in their efforts to promote equitable access to quality education, regardless of gender or ethnic background.\textsuperscript{4580}


On 26 November 2018, EU Member States endorsed the policy framework “Communication on education in emergencies and protracted crises” through its “Council Conclusions,” which welcomes the European Commission’s to reach 10 percent of the EU’s humanitarian budget for education in emergencies in 2019.\footnote{Council Conclusions on Education in Emergencies and Protracted Crises (Brussels) 26 November 2018. Access Date: 14 February 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/echo/sites/.../20181126_-_council_conclusions_-_eie_final.pdf} The Council Conclusions specifically takes note of the fact that “girls are notably more disadvantaged, being 2.5 times more likely to be out-of-school in affected countries,” and recognises that “emergencies and protracted crises have a disproportionate effect on the education of women and girls. The conclusions identify improved access, inclusion and equity as a key point of action, in order to ‘support the gender-specific needs of children and young people, especially with regard to education and protection, with special focus on the education of girls and young women, in line with the Gender Action Plan 2016-2020.’\footnote{Council Conclusions on Education in Emergencies and Protracted Crises (Brussels) 26 November 2018. Access Date: 14 February 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/echo/sites/.../20181126_-_council_conclusions_-_eie_final.pdf} Additionally, education services need to respond to the needs of girls and boys through measures such as prioritising sex-segregated toilets in the rehabilitation of schools, to address the safety concerns of students and parents.

On 27 November 2018, the European Union committed to a EUR30 million programme to support displaced communities in Yemen.\footnote{EU steps up support to displaced and crisis-affected communities in Yemen, European Commission 27 November 2018. Access Date: 6 December 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/news-and-events/eu-steps-support-displaced-and-crisis-affected-communities-yemen_en.} The support will contribute to the development of Yemen and will help provide basic services, including education, to internally displaced populations.

On 10 December 2018, the Council of the European Union released conclusions on Women, Peace and Security as adopted at the meeting of the Council. The conclusions include commitment of the European Union to continue to use data with gender balance and specific actions to achieve gender equality and women’s empowerment in a number of policy frameworks, including education. It also affirms the need to protect women in conflict situations, promote their participation in all aspects of peace, security and development and to support these actions through the promotion of access to education.

On 13 December 2018, the European Parliament adopted a resolution regarding the human rights situation in Tanzania. The resolution urged Tanzanian politicians to repeal any laws, policies or barriers to services and information needed by women, girls or young mothers. This includes President Magufuli’s declaration that girls who give birth should not be allowed to return to school.

On 21 January 2019, the Foreign Ministers of Member States of the European Union and the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice President of the Commission and the Foreign Ministers of the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations released a joint statement on shared values of the two regions. The statement reaffirmed commitment to gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls. However, it did not specifically refer to improved access to education for girls.

On 25 January 2019, the European Parliament’s Committee for Women’s Rights and Gender Equality adopted a resolution on women’s rights in the Western Balkans as proposed by the EU’s

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Rapporteur for Women’s Rights Biljana Borzan. The resolution addresses socioeconomic factors such as employment, political participation, violence against women, and quality of education.

On 15 February 2019, the European Commission announced an additional EUR24 million in humanitarian aid for Rohingya refugees and host communities in Bangladesh. The funding will help provide refugee and host communities with protection, emergency health services, nutrition, water and food security and education. However, improving access to education for girls and women specifically is not mentioned.

On 26 February 2019, the Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Management, Christos Stylianides, announced the European Union’s intention to provide EUR161.5 million to Yemen in humanitarian aid for 2019. The additional funding will help with the provision of food, nutrition, health services, shelter and education programmes. However, assisting with girls’ access to education is not explicitly mentioned.

Between 12 and 14 March 2019, the European Union and the United Nations allocated EUR8.3 billion for humanitarian aid in Syria, of which EU 6.79 billion comes from the European Union. Johannes Hahn, the Commissioner for Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement, announced the support will build on current investments in health care, employment and education.

On 20 March 2019, the Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Management, Christos Stylianides, announced EUR27 million in humanitarian assistance for those in Afghanistan affected by floods. The support will go towards the provision of food, shelter, water, protection, medical care and the EU will continue to provide education to children who were forced to leave their schools.

On 27 March 2019, the European Commission announced an additional EUR50 million in emergency assistance to the most vulnerable in Venezuela. This support will include healthcare, access to

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food and safe water, and children’s education. However, the announcement does not mention improved access to education for girls specifically.

On 3 April 2019, the European Commission announced €6 million in humanitarian assistance to Libya to improve access to food, clean water, education and basic health care. The total humanitarian assistance provided to Libya this year now totals €15 million. That said, the support does not specifically target access to education for girls.

On 2 May 2019, Neven Mimica, the Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development announced €7.9 million to support Mauritius’ efforts to address unemployment. The investment will aim to improve employability and education and will aim to improve the relevance of post-secondary and vocational training education to allow more students from vulnerable groups to participate.

On 29 May 2019, Neven Mimica, the Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development announced funding for seven new programs and projects in the Horn of Africa. The projects include an €15 million investment in increased access to primary and secondary education for children in remote areas in South Sudan. However, improving access to quality education for girls in particular is not explicitly mentioned.

On 6 June 2019, the European Commission announced an aid package of €6 million to assist those displaced or threatened by natural disasters in Colombia. The assistance includes protection, healthcare, food assistance, access to safe water and sanitation, and education in emergencies. The funding will support the most vulnerable groups, including but not limited to women and children.

European Union has taken efforts to promote access for early stages of humanitarian response and peacebuilding efforts in Myanmar/Burma, Yemen, Mali, and the Lake Chad region while promoting a safe space for youth. Yet, the EU does not do so for specifically women and girls. Additionally, resolutions and statements have been released which reaffirm commitment to gender equality in access to education broadly, and in Tanzania in particular.

Thus, the European Union receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Emily Burton-Brown

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