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The G7 Research Group presents the

2022 G7 Elmau Summit Final Compliance Report

28 June 2022 to 17 April 2023

Prepared by

Keah Sharma and Malhaar Moharir

and the G7 Research Group

16 May 2023

www.g7.utoronto.ca • g7@utoronto.ca • [@g7_rg](https://twitter.com/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?

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



G7 Research Group
University of Toronto

6 Hoskin Avenue, Toronto Ontario M5S 1H6 Canada
g7@utoronto.ca +1-416-946-8953
www.g7.utoronto.ca www.g7g20.utoronto.ca

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12. Gender: Access to Education

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

Elmau G7 Summit Communiqué

Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France		0	
Germany			+1
Italy		0	
Japan			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average		+0.75 (88%)	

Background

COVID-19 has deepened pre-existing gender inequalities across multiple spheres. In regards to education, the impact of the pandemic has highlighted the disproportionate issues that are aggravating the “existing global learning crisis” and hampering the ability to provide “inclusive quality education for all.”²⁸⁴⁸ As stated in the G7 Declaration on girls’ education: recovering from COVID-19 and unlocking agenda 2030, “the learning losses from [the pandemic] may equal the gains made by girls over the last two decades,” making it imperative to address the global setbacks concerning women’s education.²⁸⁴⁹

At the 2006 St Petersburg Summit, G8 leaders committed to “provide affordable, quality education and professional training accessible for all, regardless of ... sex.”²⁸⁵⁰ Members also pledged to cooperate in order to achieve gender equality at all levels of education by 2015.²⁸⁵¹

At the 2010 Muskoka Summit, G7 members committed to supporting the Education for All initiative in African and developing countries. This strategy mainly focused on “[improving] access to primary education, strengthening institutional capacity (including through teacher training programs) and improving gender equality in education.”²⁸⁵²

At the 2016 Ise-Shima Summit, the G7 committed to striving towards achieving gender equality by taking action to increase women’s education and employment in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) fields. Through the adoption of the “G7 Guiding Principles for Capacity Building of Women and Girls

²⁸⁴⁸ Declaration on girls’ education: recovering from COVID-19 and unlocking agenda 2030, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 5 May 2021. Access Date: 23 September 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/g7-foreign-and-development-ministers-meeting-may-2021-communication/declaration-on-girls-education-recovering-from-covid-19-and-unlocking-agenda-2030>

²⁸⁴⁹ Declaration on girls’ education: recovering from COVID-19 and unlocking agenda 2030, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (London) 5 May 2021. Access Date: 22 September 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/g7-foreign-and-development-ministers-meeting-may-2021-communication/declaration-on-girls-education-recovering-from-covid-19-and-unlocking-agenda-2030>

²⁸⁵⁰ Education: Gender Disparities, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 5 June 2007. Access Date: 22 September 2022. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2006compliance_final/11-2006_g8compliance_gender.pdf

²⁸⁵¹ Education: Gender Disparities, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 5 June 2007. Access Date: 22 September 2022. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2006compliance_final/11-2006_g8compliance_gender.pdf

²⁸⁵² Education, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 20 June 2010. Access Date: 3 October 2022. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2010muskoka/accountability/mar_annex56.pdf

Towards Sustainable, Inclusive and Equitable Growth and Peace,” leaders aimed to work towards eliminating “gender disparities and reduc[ing] gender stereotypes and biases in education.”²⁸⁵³

At the 2017 Taormina Summit, the G7 committed to “implementing and monitoring the measures and actions agreed upon in the ... Roadmap for a Gender-Responsive Economic Environment.”²⁸⁵⁴ Among pledges, G7 leaders stated the goal of “promoting the participation of women and girls in Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics, and Medicine (STEMM) education and careers,” as well as other sections in which they are underrepresented.

At the 2018 Charlevoix Summit, the G7 reaffirmed their commitment to improving education for girls. The ‘Quality Education for Girls, Adolescent Girls and Women in Developing Countries’ declaration came as a recommendation from the newly formed G7 Gender Equality Advisory Council, which recognized the necessity to support education through “development and humanitarian assistance that ... achieves gender equality.”²⁸⁵⁵ The commitment served as a reminder of the G7’s aim to achieve quality education as means to eliminate gendered obstacles for girls and women.

At the 2019 Biarritz Summit, the G7 agreed to “endeavor to work together with developing countries to promote access of girls and women to quality education.”²⁸⁵⁶ Ensuring they have greater access to STEM education by working alongside developing countries affirmed their overall goal of reducing gender discrimination and inequality.

At the 2021 Cornwall Summit, the G7 introduced new targets that aimed to “value the individual and promote equality.”²⁸⁵⁷ This commitment came from recommendations made by the G7 Gender Equality Advisory, which called for urgent actions following the “potential global setback with respect to gender equality posed by the COVID-19 pandemic.” This included linking their commitments with the Global Sustainable Development Goal on Education (SDG4) target to support 40 million more girls entering into education, as well as culminating up to USD2.75 billion for the Global Partnership of Education.

Commitment Features

At the 2022 Elmau summit, leaders committed to “promoting gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, including through supporting girls’ access to education and by implementing gender mainstreaming across all policies.”²⁸⁵⁸ “Girls” is understood to mean female individuals below the age of 18 years.²⁸⁵⁹ “Women” is understood to mean female individuals aged 18 years or more.

“Promoting” is understood to mean supporting or renewing old efforts or creating new efforts in the area. It is not necessary for it to be a brand new initiative.²⁸⁶⁰

²⁸⁵³ Gender: Women’s Initiative in Developing STEM Careers, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 25 May 2017. Access Date: 22 September 2022. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2016compliance-final/2016-g7-compliance-final.pdf>

²⁸⁵⁴ G7 Ministerial Meeting on Gender Equality: Declaration of the Minister Taormina, Italy, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 November 2017. Access Date: 22 September 2022. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/gender/2017-gender-quality.html>

²⁸⁵⁵ Charlevoix Declaration on Quality Education for Girls, Adolescent Girls and Women in Developing Countries, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 9 June 2018. Access Date: 22 September 2022. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2018charlevoix/education-commitment.html>

²⁸⁵⁶ Gender: STEM Education, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 14 December 2020. Access Date: 22 September 2022. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2019compliance-final/07-2019-G7-final-compliance-stem.pdf>

²⁸⁵⁷ Gender: Education Equality, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 26 June 2022. Access Date: 3 October 2022. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2021compliance-final/13-2021-G7-final-compliance-education-equality.pdf>

²⁸⁵⁸ G7 Leaders' Communiqué, 2022 Elmau Summit (Toronto) 28 June 2022. Access Date: 24 September 2022. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2022elmau/220628-communication.html>

²⁸⁵⁹ Convention on the Rights of the Child, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (Geneva) 20 November 1989. Access Date: 9 October 2022. <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/CRC.aspx>

²⁸⁶⁰ Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 12 November 2020. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf

“Gender Equality” is understood to refer “to the equal rights, responsibilities and opportunities of women and men and girls and boys.” This means that “women’s and men’s rights, responsibilities and opportunities will not depend on whether they are born male or female.”²⁸⁶¹ For this commitment, G7 members must address gender inequalities in the sphere of education, promoting gender-equitable education systems.

“Empowerment” is “the granting of the power, right, or authority to perform various acts or duties.”²⁸⁶² In respect to education, this means granting power and autonomy to women and girls through policy making and government action, with the intent to provide more access to learning and academic institutions.

“Supporting” is defined as “the action, or act of providing aid, assistance, or backing up an initiative, or entity.”²⁸⁶³

“Access” is understood to mean the right to obtain or make use of the entity in reference.²⁸⁶⁴ “Education” can be defined as the process of “receiving or giving instruction,” most commonly at a school or university.²⁸⁶⁵ In terms of the commitment, the United Nations Women stresses the use of “equal access” in reference to the ability to access educational and academic related public goods, services and resources which are “crucial to achieving gender equality and sustainable development.”²⁸⁶⁶ The commitment therefore requires providing, funding, and aiding girls in being able to receive instruction from academic institutions.

“Implementing” is understood to mean “taking steps forward.”²⁸⁶⁷ While announcements may be a part of a longer-term initiative and actions on it may continue into the prolonged future, steps need to be taken in the near future to be considered as implementation.

The concept of “gender mainstreaming” is “a globally accepted strategy for promoting gender equality.”²⁸⁶⁸ According to United Nations Women, mainstreaming specifically “involves ensuring that gender perspectives and attention to the goal of gender equality are central to all activities - policy development, research, advocacy/dialogue, legislation, resource allocation, and planning, implementation and monitoring of programmes and projects.” In the context of education, this means looking at domestic or international actions that are focused on promoting gender equality within education related policy making.

Actions under this commitment can be divided into three key spheres concerning the strengthening of 1) rights, 2) resources, and 3) opportunities that support and increase women and girls’ access to education.

Strong actions that fit the “Rights” sphere include, but are not restricted to, enacting policies that address gender stereotypes and unconscious biases at all levels of schooling, working to guarantee girls’ and women’s right to education without discrimination; amending restrictive policies or legislation which prevent girls from thriving in school; implementing initiatives that support safe and accessible environments for girls to learn; developing gender-sensitive curricula and learning materials; eradicating sexual and gender-based violence at

²⁸⁶¹ Gender Equality, United Nations Women (New York) n.d. Access Date: 24 September 2022. <https://www.un.org/womenwatch/osagi/conceptsanddefinitions.html>

²⁸⁶² Empowerment, Merriam-Webster English Dictionary (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 20 September 2022. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/empowerment>

²⁸⁶³ Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 12 November 2020. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf

²⁸⁶⁴ Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 12 November 2020. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf

²⁸⁶⁵ Education, Merriam-Webster English Dictionary (Springfield) n.d. Access Date: 30 September 2022. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/education>

²⁸⁶⁶ Gender Equality, United Nations Women (New York) 5 March 2001. Access Date: 24 September 2022. <https://www.un.org/womenwatch/osagi/conceptsanddefinitions.htm>

²⁸⁶⁷ Compliance Coding Manual for International Institutional Commitments, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 12 November 2020. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/compliance/Compliance_Coding_Manual_2020.pdf

²⁸⁶⁸ “Women’s equitable access to services, goods and resources,” United Nations Women (New York) n.d. Access Date: 24 September 2022. <https://www.unwomen.org/en/un-women-strategic-plan-2022-2025/goods-services-and-resources>

schools; working with other G7 members and multilateral institutions to remove obstacles to education that stand in women's way.

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

Strong actions that fit the "Opportunities" sphere include, but are not restricted to, expanding girls' access to Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET); increasing their participation in the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) fields; scaling up early literacy programmes for girls, and supporting the participation of women and girl-led groups in education decision-making processes.

Full compliance, or a score of +1, will be given to G7 members that demonstrate strong action, either nationally or internationally, in all three spheres (Rights, Resources and Opportunities) concerning the promotion of gender equality and empowerment within the context of girls' access to education.²⁸⁶⁹

Partial compliance, or a score of 0, will be awarded to G7 members who demonstrate strong action, nationally or internationally, in at least one of the three commitment spheres (Rights, Resources and Opportunities); or to members that take weak action in all three spheres. Weak actions include initiatives that are less substantial, such as verbal reaffirmations of existing commitments, attendance at international conferences, and participation in meetings/events that discuss gender inequality in the context of education.

Non-compliance, or a score of -1, will be assigned to G7 members that fail to take strong action in any of the commitment's spheres (Rights, Resources and Opportunities).

Scoring Guidelines

-1	The G7 member has NOT taken strong action to support girls' access to education in ANY of the three commitment spheres (Rights, Resources NOR Opportunities).
0	The G7 member has taken strong action to support girls' access to education in at least ONE of the commitment spheres (Rights, Resources OR Opportunities), OR member has taken weak action in ALL three spheres.
+1	The G7 member has taken strong action in promoting gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls through supporting girls' access to education in ALL spheres (Rights, Resources AND Opportunities).

*Compliance Director: Eisha Khan
Lead Analyst: Vanessa Mabelle*

Canada: +1

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

On 29 June 2022, Global Affairs Canada announced the Project to Support Gender-Sensitive and Equitable Health Services.²⁸⁷⁰ This project is aimed at improving the sexual health and well-being of young and adolescent girls in Côte d'Ivoire through training educators to implement a curriculum according to a gender-based lens and providing comprehensive sexual education.

²⁸⁶⁹ G7 Leaders' Communiqué, G7 Information Centre (Toronto) 28 June 2022. Access Date: 24 September 2022. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2022elmau/220628-communiqué.html>

²⁸⁷⁰ Project Profile — Project to Support Gender-Sensitive and Equitable Health Services (Ottawa) 29 June 2022. Access Date: 23 October 2022. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P010344001>

On 13 July 2022, Global Affairs Canada announced the Brighter Outcomes Ethiopia: Strengthening CSOs (Civil Society Organization) for Displaced Children’s Education project.²⁸⁷¹ To enhance equitable learning outcomes among refugees, with a focus on young girls, training will be delivered to educators on gender and inclusion. Additionally, the project will fund refugee-led organizations to ensure learning environments are safe and responsive to gender.

On 22 July 2022, Global Affairs Canada announced the Refugee Education and Development project, which aims to bolster inclusive learning outcomes among refugees, particularly young girls, in Cameroon and Niger.²⁸⁷² The primary initiative is to strengthen local refugee-led organizations through the provision of consistent funding in order to promote the capacity for gender-transformative development and gender equality in refugee education.

On 9 August 2022, Global Affairs Canada announced the project Geared for Success, which aims to enhance equitable learning outcomes for refugees, particularly young and adolescent girls, in South Sudan and Uganda.²⁸⁷³ This project aims to do so by providing small grants and technical support to refugee-led organizations, and overcome institutional gaps.

On 12 August 2022, Global Affairs Canada announced the project EMPOWER, which aims to enhance literacy and life skills among internally displaced people, with an emphasis on women and girls, in Mali.²⁸⁷⁴ This project is centered around enhancing the capacity of women-led organizations in Mali, and will provide grants to such organizations in order to deliver equitable education to women and girls. Additionally, the project will develop awareness campaigns to dismantle stereotypes that prevent girls from receiving equitable educational opportunities.

On 19 August 2022, Minister of International Development Harjit Sajjan announced CAD5 million in funding to UN Women to ensure that women are equipped with the skills to enter and engage in decision-making in civil and political spaces in Lebanon.²⁸⁷⁵

On 11 November 2022, Global Affairs Canada announced Project Lakana, which aims to better protect the boys and girls of Mali against sexual and gender-based violence.²⁸⁷⁶ In order to better support governmental and societal actors in fighting against child sexual violence, this project will develop appropriate educational materials and provide courses in schools on the prevention of and advocacy against sexual violence.

On 15 November 2022, Minister of Foreign Affairs Mélanie Joly announced that the United Nations General Assembly’s Third Committee adopted a resolution to end forced child marriage, which was a resolution co-led

²⁸⁷¹ Project Profile — Brighter Outcomes Ethiopia: Strengthening CSOs for Displaced Children’s Education (Ottawa) 13 July 2022. Access Date: 23 October 2022. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P010570001>

²⁸⁷² Project Profile — Refugee Education and Development (Ottawa) 22 July 2022. Access Date: 23 October 2022. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P010575001>

²⁸⁷³ Project Profile — Geared For Success (Ottawa) 9 August 2022. Access Date: 1 December 2022. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P010580001>

²⁸⁷⁴ Project Profile — EMPOWER (Ottawa) 12 August 2022. Access Date: 1 December 2022. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P010580001>

²⁸⁷⁵ Minister Sajjan concludes trip to Lebanon and announces \$5 million in international assistance for UN Women (Beirut) 19 August 2022. Access Date: 4 November 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2022/08/minister-sajjan-concludes-trip-to-lebanon-and-announces-5million-in-international-assistance-for-un-women.html>

²⁸⁷⁶ Project Profile — Lakana — Mali’s Girls and Boys Better Protected Against Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (Ottawa) 22 November 2022. Access Date: 1 December 2022. <https://w05.international.gc.ca/projectbrowser-banqueprojets/project-projet/details/P009563001>

by Canada and Zambia.²⁸⁷⁷ The minister re-affirmed the importance of the resolution and the steps that it will take toward providing education to all young and adolescent girls.

On 1 December 2022, Minister of Rural Economic Development Gudie Hutchings announced up to CAD1.6 million in funding to four organizations in Newfoundland and Labrador.²⁸⁷⁸ This funding will bolster the capacity of such organizations to provide education aimed at preventing gender-based violence against Indigenous women and girls in schools and related professional contexts.

On 2 December 2022, Member of Parliament Patrick Weiler announced up to CAD1.1 million in funding for Women's Studies Online and the Native Courtworker and Counseling Association of British Columbia.²⁸⁷⁹ Part of this funding will aim to prevent gender-based violence against women and girls in schools and related professional contexts.

On 5 December 2022, Global Affairs Canada announced that Canada and the European Union will co-host the upcoming International Conference in Solidarity with Venezuelan Refugees and Migrants.²⁸⁸⁰ This conference will emphasize how the COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated the difficulties faced by Venezuelan refugees, and particularly women and girls. Facilitating access to education for such refugees will be a primary initiative among attending countries.

On 5 December 2022, Minister for Women and Gender Equality and Youth Marci Ien announced up to CAD2.2 million for the implementation of five projects in collaboration with women-focused and Indigenous-focused organizations in New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, and Nova Scotia.²⁸⁸¹ Part of this funding will aim to prevent gender-based violence against women and girls in schools and related professional contexts.

On 5 December 2022, Minister Ien announced CAD682,000 in funding for two organizations in British Columbia.²⁸⁸² Part of this funding will aim to prevent gender-based violence against women and girls in schools and related professional contexts.

On 5 December 2022, Minister Ien announced up to CAD982,000 in funding to three organizations in Ontario.²⁸⁸³ Part of this funding will aim to prevent gender-based violence against women and girls in schools and related professional contexts.

²⁸⁷⁷ Canada and Zambia Lead on UN Resolution to End Child, Early, and Forced Marriage (Ottawa) 15 November 2022. Access Date: 1 December 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2022/11/canada-and-zambia-lead-on-un-resolution-to-end-child-early-and-forced-marriage.html>

²⁸⁷⁸ Government of Canada announces funding for 4 organizations supporting Indigenous women and 2SLGBTQIA+ people in Newfoundland and Labrador (Long Range Mountains) 1 December 2022. Access Date: 20 December 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/women-gender-equality/news/2022/11/government-of-canada-announces-funding-for-4-organizations-supporting-indigenous-women-and-2slgbtqia-people-in-newfoundland-and-labrador.html>

²⁸⁷⁹ Government of Canada Announces Funding for Two Indigenous Women's and 2SLGBTQIA+ Organizations in British Columbia (Ottawa) 2 December 2022. Access Date: December 20 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/women-gender-equality/news/2022/12/government-of-canada-announces-funding-for-two-indigenous-womens-and-2slgbtqia-organizations-in-british-columbia.html>

²⁸⁸⁰ Canada and EU to co-host the next International Conference in Solidarity with Venezuelan Refugees and Migrants (Ottawa) 5 December 2022. Access Date: 1 December 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2022/12/canada-and-eu-to-co-host-the-next-international-conference-in-solidarity-with-venezuelan-refugees-and-migrants.html>

²⁸⁸¹ Government of Canada announces five projects to prevent gender-based violence in the Atlantic Region (Fredericton) 5 December 2022. Access Date: 20 December 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/women-gender-equality/news/2022/12/government-of-canada-announces-five-projects-to-prevent-gender-based-violence-in-the-atlantic-region.html>

²⁸⁸² Government of Canada announces two projects to prevent gender-based violence in British Columbia (Victoria) 5 December 2022. Access Date: 20 December 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/women-gender-equality/news/2022/12/government-of-canada-announces-two-projects-to-prevent-gender-based-violence-in-british-columbia.html>

²⁸⁸³ Government of Canada announces three projects to prevent gender-based violence in Ontario (Toronto) 5 December 2022. Access Date: 20 December 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/women-gender-equality/news/2022/12/government-of-canada-announces-three-projects-to-prevent-gender-based-violence-in-ontario.html>

On 5 December 2022, Minister Ien announced up to CAD4 million in funding to 12 organizations in Quebec.²⁸⁸⁴ Part of this funding will aim to prevent gender-based violence against women and girls in schools and related professional contexts.

On 5 December 2022, Minister Ien announced up to CAD482,000 in funding for Qaujigiartiit Health Research Centre in Nunavut.²⁸⁸⁵ Part of this funding will aim to prevent gender-based violence against women and girls in schools and related professional contexts.

On 9 December 2022, Minister Ien announced CAD2 million in funding for six Indigenous-led organizations in Alberta.²⁸⁸⁶ This funding will bolster the capacity of such organizations to provide education aimed at preventing gender-based violence against Indigenous women and girls in schools and related professional contexts.

On 21 December 2022, along with several other countries, the foreign minister of Canada issued a statement on the decision of the Taliban to ban women from universities.²⁸⁸⁷ The statement strongly condemned the choice to bar women from receiving a university education and urged the Taliban to abandon these measures and reverse the existing prohibition of girls from attending secondary school.

On 21 December 2022, the Foreign Ministers of the G7 and Australia, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain and Switzerland condemned the Taliban's decision to ban women from universities and girls from secondary school in Afghanistan. The statement noted that the restrictions placed upon women and girls deny them their fundamental rights and freedoms and urged the Taliban to reverse its decision.²⁸⁸⁸

On 27 January 2023, Minister of International Development Harjit Sajjan announced a loan of CAD120 million to help strengthen the education sector in Jordan.²⁸⁸⁹ In particular, this funding will go towards equitable education initiatives for girls and refugees.

On 16 February 2023, Minister Sajjan announced CAD87.5 million in funding to Education Cannot Wait (ECW).²⁸⁹⁰ This funding will support over 20 million young and adolescent girls in fragile and conflict-affected regions to access quality education.

²⁸⁸⁴ Government of Canada announces 13 projects to prevent gender-based violence in Quebec (Quebec City) 5 December 2022. Access Date: 20 December 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/women-gender-equality/news/2022/12/government-of-canada-announces-13-projects-to-prevent-gender-based-violence-in-quebec3.html>

²⁸⁸⁵ Government of Canada announces a project to prevent gender-based violence in Nunavut (Iqaluit) 5 December 2022. Access Date: 20 December 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/women-gender-equality/news/2022/12/government-of-canada-announces-a-project-to-prevent-gender-based-violence-in-nunavut.html>

²⁸⁸⁶ Preventing gender-based violence that targets Indigenous women and 2SLGBTQQIA+ persons in Alberta (Edmonton) 9 December 2022. Access Date: 20 December 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/women-gender-equality/news/2022/12/preventing-gender-based-violence-that-targets-indigenous-women-and-2slgbtqqia-persons-in-alberta.html>

²⁸⁸⁷ Statement from foreign ministers on Taliban decision to ban women from universities (Ottawa) 21 December 2022. Access Date: December 23 2022. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2022/12/statement-from-foreign-ministers-on-taliban-decision-to-ban-women-from-universities.html>

²⁸⁸⁸ Joint Statement from Foreign Ministers on Taliban Decision to Ban Women from Universities, Federal Office (Berlin) 21 December 2022. Access Date: 25 December 2022. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/-/2570710>

²⁸⁸⁹ Minister Sajjan signs \$120-million sovereign loan agreement and announces funding for projects in Jordan (Ottawa) 27 January 2023. Access Date: March 5 2023. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2023/01/minister-sajjan-signs-120-million-sovereign-loan-agreement-and-announces-funding-for-projects-in-jordan.html>

²⁸⁹⁰ Canada announces funding to support quality education for children in emergency and crisis situations worldwide (Ottawa) 16 February 2023. Access Date: March 2023.

On 28 February 2023, Minister Ien announced CAD4 million in funding for eight Indigenous-led organizations in Saskatchewan.²⁸⁹¹ This funding will bolster the capacity of such organizations to help Indigenous women and girls overcome the unique barriers they face in educational environments.

On 6 March 2023, Minister Ien and Parliamentary Secretary Jenna Sudds announced that they will be leading the Canadian delegation at the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (UNCSW).²⁸⁹² The theme of the UNCSW will center around achieving gender equality in education and Minister Ien intends to emphasize Canada's commitment to making gains in equitable access to digital technology and education for all women and girls.

On 8 March 2023, Minister Sajjan announced CAD10 million in funding to a project that aims to improve access to equitable, gender-responsive education for marginalized children and adolescents in Bangladesh.²⁸⁹³

On 8 March 2023, Minister Sajjan announced CAD3.4 million in funding to empower youth and adolescent girls to exert control over their position in their communities, their rights, and their sexual and reproductive health. This will be accomplished by strengthening access to services and education.²⁸⁹⁴

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

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Olivia MacDonald

France: 0

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

On 26 August 2022, the Minister of National Education and Youth Pap Ndiaye presented the plan to tackle inequalities for the 2022-2023 school year.²⁸⁹⁵ This objective aims to provide various career paths for all genders,

²⁸⁹¹ Minister Marci Ien announces funding for organizations advancing gender equality in Saskatchewan (Ottawa) 28 February 2023. Access Date: March 5 2023. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2023/02/canada-announces-funding-to-support-quality-education-for-children-in-emergency-and-crisis-situations-worldwide.html><https://www.canada.ca/en/women-gender-equality/news/2023/02/minister-marci-ien-announces-funding-for-organizations-advancing-gender-equality-in-saskatchewan.html>

²⁸⁹² Minister Marci Ien and Parliamentary Secretary Jenna Sudds lead Canadian Delegation to the 67th Session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (Ottawa) 6 March 2023. Access Date: March 7 2023. <https://www.canada.ca/en/women-gender-equality/news/2023/03/minister-marci-ien-and-parliamentary-secretary-jenna-sudds-lead-canadian-delegation-to-the-67th-session-of-the-united-nations-commission-on-the-sta.html>

²⁸⁹³ Backgrounder: Minister Sajjan announces \$157.6 million in development and humanitarian funding as he concludes visits to Bangladesh, the Phillipines and Qatar (Ottawa) 8 March 2023. Access Date: 6 April 2023. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2023/03/backgrounder-minister-sajjan-announces-1576-million-in-development-and-humanitarian-funding-as-he-concludes-visits-to-bangladesh-the-philippines-an.html>

²⁸⁹⁴ Backgrounder: Minister Sajjan announces \$157.6 million in development and humanitarian funding as he concludes visits to Bangladesh, the Phillipines and Qatar (Ottawa) 8 March 2023. Access Date: 6 April 2023. <https://www.canada.ca/en/global-affairs/news/2023/03/backgrounder-minister-sajjan-announces-1576-million-in-development-and-humanitarian-funding-as-he-concludes-visits-to-bangladesh-the-philippines-an.html>

²⁸⁹⁵ 2022-2023 School Year: Build An Engage School Together!, Ministry of National Education and Youth (Paris) 26 August 2022. Access Date: 20 December 2022. <https://www.education.gouv.fr/annee-scolaire-2022-2023-construisons-ensemble-une-ecole-engagee-342475>

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

On 26 September 2022, the Ministry of National Education and Youth released their EUR59 billion budget which included funding to build more schools that promote student success in an equitable and inclusive learning space.²⁸⁹⁶ The plan will aim to develop more trained education personnel, provide financial assistance for vulnerable families, and support the launch of the initiative, the School of the Future.

On 11 October 2022, Chrysoula Zacharopoulou, the Minister of State for Development, Francophonie and International Partnerships, took part in events promoting political and civil participation among young women as part of International Day of the Girl Child. She also reaffirmed that France had continued its financial commitment towards a fund supporting feminist organizations.²⁸⁹⁷

On 13 November 2022, the Minister of National Education and Youth Pap Ndiaye announced a new strategy to “make 2023 the year of promotion of mathematics at school.”²⁸⁹⁸ The strategy includes a detailed outline for each education level to make the French school system more inclusive and targets to achieve gender equality by 2027. Additionally, it aims to encourage more girls to participate in STEM classes through initiatives to challenge gender stereotypes and promote female role models.

On 21 December 2022, the Foreign Ministers of the G7 and Australia, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain and Switzerland condemned the Taliban’s decision to ban women from universities and girls from secondary schools in Afghanistan.²⁸⁹⁹ The statement noted that the restrictions placed upon women and girls deny them their fundamental rights and freedoms and urged the Taliban to reverse its decision.

On 7 March 2023, the French government published an inter-ministerial plan for equality between women and men 2023-2027.²⁹⁰⁰ Section 4 proposes its objective to promote equality in and outside of school through teacher training and by developing and providing resources and media content to fight against gender-based violence and gender stereotypes. It also includes actions for greater diversity to support female representation in STEM fields through improved skills development, financial resources and networking opportunities.

France has partially complied with its commitment to promoting gender equality and empowering all women and girls’. The Ministry of National Education and Youth acknowledges their lack of representation and has made efforts to address and break existing gender stereotypes and promote gender equality and social diversity in and outside of schools. Although the implementation outcomes and effectiveness are yet to be measured, a few strategies introduced aim to support education and provide more resources and opportunities for women and girls.

Thus, France receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Ga Vin Park

²⁸⁹⁶ Finance Bill 2023, Ministry of National Education and Youth (Paris) 26 September 2022. Access Date: 4 November 2022. <https://www.education.gouv.fr/projet-de-loi-de-finances-2023-342934>

²⁸⁹⁷ International Day of the Girl Child (October 11, 2022), Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (Paris) 11 October 2022. Access Date: 6 March 2023. <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/feminist-diplomacy/news/article/international-day-of-the-girl-child-10-11-22>

²⁸⁹⁸ Reconciling All Students With Mathematics And Promoting Excellence: A New Strategy From The Start Of The 2023 School Year, Ministry of National Education and Youth (Paris) 13 November 2022. Access Date: 20 December 2022. <https://www.education.gouv.fr/reconcilier-tous-les-eleves-avec-les-mathematiques-et-promouvoir-l-excellence-une-nouvelle-strategie-343423>

²⁸⁹⁹ Joint Statement from Foreign Ministers on Taliban Decision to Ban Women from Universities, Federal Office (Berlin) 21 December 2022. Access Date: 25 December 2022. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/-/2570710>

²⁹⁰⁰ Interministerial plan for equality between women and men 2023-2027, Government News (Paris) 7 March 2023. Access Date: 8 March 2023. <https://www.gouvernement.fr/dossier-de-presse/plan-interministeriel-pour-legalite-entre-les-femmes-et-les-hommes-2023-2027>

Germany: +1

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

On 14 July 2022, the German government committed EUR40 million to support a three-year humanitarian project to assist people in Nigeria.²⁹⁰¹ The project will be used to provide education, livelihood opportunities, and nutrition to children and adolescent girls in Borno and Yobe states.

On 22 July 2022, the Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development, through KfW Development Bank, delivered a EUR13 million agreement to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA).²⁹⁰² This contribution will go toward an ongoing digitization initiative for Palestinian refugees in Gaza and Jordan. The EUR13 million will be used to facilitate the digitization of UNRWA's health and education programmes in order to improve access, quality, and efficiency of said services for refugees. Additionally, the proceeds will be used to enhance internet access for students in Gaza and Jordan.

On 25 September 2022, Development Minister Svenja Schulze declared that Germany would donate another EUR10 million to "Education Cannot Wait."²⁹⁰³ Education Cannot Wait is a United Nations organization actively providing educational measures to girls and boys in Ukraine. Since the conflict began, thousands of schools have been attacked, and hundreds have been completely demolished, depriving Ukrainian children of their right to an education. This brings the total German contribution to EUR330 million, which will be used to help children by guaranteeing consistent access to education and psychological support.

On 11 November 2022, following a visit to the Gaza Strip by Oliver Owczar, Head of the German Representative Office in Ramallah to Gaza, two new agreements totaling more than EUR36 million were signed for the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) through the KfW Development Bank.²⁹⁰⁴ The first investment, worth EUR18 million, will be used to create short-term employment opportunities for Palestinian refugees in Gaza, including 3,000 women, and will also go towards repairing and maintaining infrastructure like schools and hospitals. The second arrangement, also at EUR18 million, would help UNRWA provide educational and health services to Palestinian refugees in Lebanon and Jordan.

On 15 November 2022, the Albert Einstein German Academic Refugee Initiative (DAFI) scholarship programme marked its thirtieth anniversary, with the German government serving as the main donor.²⁹⁰⁵ Over the past three decades, the programme has provided scholarships to refugees pursuing post-secondary education in order to not only foster independence in the students, but also to enable them to contribute to the economies of their host countries as well as their own communities. Thousands of students throughout the Middle East and Africa have benefited from the DAFI programme, which maintains its target of gender parity

²⁹⁰¹ Nigeria: New UN resilience project paves 'pathway to peace and sustainable development', UN Geneva, 14 July 2022. Access Date: 17 December 2022. <https://www.ungeneva.org/en/news-media/news/2022/07/nigeria-new-un-resilience-project-paves-pathway-peace-and-sustainable>

²⁹⁰² Germany Contributes Eur 28 Million to Support Digital Transformation of Unrwa Education and Health Programmes, as well as Camp Improvement Interventions in Gaza and Jordan. UNRWA. (East Jerusalem). 11 August 2022. Access Date: 19 December 2022. <https://www.unrwa.org/newsroom/press-releases/germany-contributes-eur-28-million-support-digital-transformation-unrwa>

²⁹⁰³ Development Minister Schulze promises children and young people in Ukraine concrete support. BMZ. (Germany) 25 September 2022. Access Date: 19 October 2022. <https://www.bmz.de/de/aktuelles/aktuelle-meldungen/schulze-sagt-kindern-jugendlichen-in-ukraine-unterstuetzung-zu-121974>

²⁹⁰⁴ German Delegation Visits Unrwa in Gaza and Signs Projects Totaling Eur 36 Million in Support of Palestine Refugees. UNRWA. (East Jerusalem). 11 November 2022. Access Date: 20 December 2022. <https://www.unrwa.org/newsroom/press-releases/german-delegation-visits-unrwa-gaza-and-signs-projects-totaling-eur-36>

²⁹⁰⁵ Celebrations mark 30 years of DAFI scholarship programme in Pakistan. UNHCR. (Islamabad). 15 November 2022. Access Date: 21 December 2022. <https://www.unhcr.org/pk/15527-celebrations-mark-30-years-of-dafi-scholarship-programme-in-pakistan.html>

by offering greater support to women and girls. Over the course of 2022, half of all scholarships awarded in Pakistan were granted to women, and a new two-year science and technology programme for women was introduced.

On 21 December 2022, Foreign Minister Anna Baerbock condemned the Taliban's decision to ban women from universities and girls from secondary schools in Afghanistan.²⁹⁰⁶ The Foreign Minister stated that the restrictions placed upon women and girls deny them their fundamental rights and freedoms and urged the Taliban to reverse its decision.

On 23 December 2022, the Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development announced that Germany would collaborate with UNICEF and sign a new EUR35 million commitment to aid conflict-affected children and families in Ukraine.²⁹⁰⁷ This contribution will be used to provide support and assistance to children, such as enhanced child protection, access to drinking water, and sanitation services, and ensuring that children can safely return to their schools and pursue their education. The funding will also go towards supporting children through youth empowerment, which will aid them in garnering their self-confidence and ensuring they have healthy coping mechanisms.

On 17 February 2023, Germany revealed that it would be donating another EUR210 million to Education Cannot Wait (ECW).²⁹⁰⁸ The statement was made at a summit in Geneva, when Germany and other nations announced that they would be donating a total of EUR770 million to children in need around the world. The funds will be distributed to ECW partners on the ground rather than directly to governments, and they will be used to establish educational institutions, supply learning materials, ensure children have meals, and provide them with psychological and social support. Germany's contribution makes it the single largest donor to the ECW fund.

On 24 February 2023, the Federal Government of Germany announced that it would contribute EUR5 million to a project to repair and rebuild schools in Ukraine.²⁹⁰⁹ According to Ukraine's Ministry of Education and Science, over three thousand schools have been damaged or destroyed during the conflict, affecting nearly five million children. Germany's contribution will specifically go toward rebuilding 12 schools in five districts, allowing over three thousand children to return to school. The funds will also be used by the project to promote resilience building and green recovery.

On 2 March 2023, State Secretary of the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development Jochen Flasbarth attended the inauguration of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) Gaza Preparatory Girls' School A & B, which was funded by the Federal Republic of Germany.²⁹¹⁰ The school was built as part of the Regional Programme for the Improvement of Living Conditions of Palestine Refugee Camps (REPAC), and Germany contributed EUR5 million to the programme through KfW. The school will provide three thousand Palestinian refugee girls with a safe learning environment that includes a green area, a playground, solar panels, and elements that will shade them from the sun. This EUR5 million contribution is in addition to the EUR180 million Germany committed in 2022.

²⁹⁰⁶ Joint Statement from Foreign Ministers on Taliban Decision to Ban Women from Universities, Federal Office (Berlin) 21 December 2022. Access Date: 25 December 2022. <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/newsroom/news/-/2570710>

²⁹⁰⁷ Government of Germany, through KfW, partners with UNICEF to support social services for Ukrainian children. UNICEF. (Ukraine) 23 December 2023. Access Date: 4 February 2023. <https://www.unicef.org/ukraine/en/press-releases/government-germany-through-kfw-partners-unicef-support-social-services-ukrainian>

²⁹⁰⁸ Germany is biggest donor to a UN education fund, Deutschland (Geneva) 17 February 2023. Access Date: 4 March 2023. <https://www.deutschland.de/en/news/germany-is-biggest-donor-to-a-un-education-fund>

²⁹⁰⁹ Germany earmarks EUR 5 million to rebuild schools in Ukraine, United Nations Development Programme (Kyiv) 24 February 2023. Access Date: 1 March 2023. <https://www.undp.org/ukraine/press-releases/germany-earmarks-eur-5-million-rebuild-schools-ukraine>

²⁹¹⁰ High – Level German Delegation Inaugurates Unrwa School In Gaza, United Nations Relief and Works Agency (Gaza) 2 March 2023. Access Date: 27 February 2023. <https://www.unrwa.org/newsroom/news-releases/high-%E2%80%93-level-german-delegation-inaugurates-unrwa-school-gaza>

On 14 March 2023, UNICEF declared that thanks to funding from the German Government, it could now provide radio learning lessons to vulnerable children in Nigeria.²⁹¹¹ The radio lessons and radio clubs are intended for the fifty six percent of out-of-school children in north-east Nigeria who are unable to pursue their education owing to poverty or displacement. The courses are delivered by Nigeria's Universal Basic Education Boards and collaborators like the Restoration of Hope Initiative, and the program's objective is for the children to be enrolled in formal schools after nine months. The programme also promotes girls' education by assisting with their school enrollment.

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to promoting gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, including through supporting girls' access to education and by implementing gender mainstreaming across all policies. Germany has supported girls' fundamental right to an education by providing resources and opportunities, as well as endorsing their rights.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Divya Jagpal

Italy: 0

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

On 4 July 2022, the Ministry of Education and Soroptimist International of Italy signed a Memorandum of Understanding aimed to promote the advancement of girls and combat gender discrimination and inequality in schools.²⁹¹² Over the next three years, this will be accomplished through awareness campaigns against gender-based violence and discrimination in schools, as well as promoting respect and equal opportunities for girls in the classroom.

On 8 August 2022, Minister of Education Patrizio Bianchi announced the approval of EUR2.1 billion for the 4.0 School Plan, which explicitly aims to engage female students in the classroom.²⁹¹³ Of the approved funds, EUR424 million will be allocated to creating scientific laboratories geared towards promoting the development of advanced technical and digital skills. The Plan also intends to craft teaching methodologies and learning environments that are better suited to the unique needs of female students.

On 11 August 2022, EUR267.8 million of funding was allocated to innovative teaching environments for kindergarteners.²⁹¹⁴ The goal of this funding will be to enhance problem-solving and technological and mathematical literacy among young boys and girls.

²⁹¹¹ Radio Learning Brings Hope and Education to Displaced Children like Awana in North-East Nigeria, United Nations Children's Emergency Fund (Nigeria) 14 March 2023. Access Date: 4 April 2023. <https://www.unicef.org/nigeria/stories/radio-learning-brings-hope-and-education-displaced-children-awana-north-east-nigeria>

²⁹¹² Memorandum of Understanding Mi-Soroptimist International Italy — "Promote the advancement of the condition of women ... in the school environment" 4 July 2022. Access Date: 23 October 2022. <https://www.miur.gov.it/web/guest/-/protocollo-d-intesa-mi-soroptimist-international-italia-promuovere-l-avanzamento-della-condizione-femminile-in-ambito-scolastico-1>

²⁹¹³ PNRR, the "4.0 School Plan" is underway: 2.1 billion for 100,000 innovative classes and laboratories for the digital professions of the future. Bianchi: "The biggest transformative intervention of the education system is underway. With PNRR and European resources 4.9 billion on digitization (Rome) 8 August 2022. Access Date: 29 October 2022. <https://www.miur.gov.it/web/guest/-/pnrr-al-via-il-piano-scuola-4-0-2-1-miliardi-per-100-000-classi-innovative-e-laboratori-per-le-professioni-digitali-del-futuro-bianchi-in-atto-il-piu->

²⁹¹⁴ Kindergarten, rankings published: 267.8 million for innovative teaching environments (Rome) 11 August 2022. Access Date: 1 December 2022. <https://www.miur.gov.it/web/guest/-/scuola-dell-infanzia-pubblicata-le-graduatorie-267-8-mln-per-ambienti-didattici-innovativi-1>

On 21 December 2022, Foreign Minister Antonio Tajani, along with several other countries, released a formal statement on the decision of the Taliban to ban women from universities in Afghanistan.²⁹¹⁵ This statement strongly condemned the action and urged a reversal of this initiative as well as of a previous decision to prohibit young girls from accessing secondary education.

On 6 February 2023, Minister Tajani reaffirmed Italy's commitment to the elimination of female genital mutilation so that women and girls are able to fully assert themselves into their community and reach their full educational and societal potential.²⁹¹⁶

On 8 March 2023, the Ministry of Education announced the STEM month initiative, which aims to enhance equitable technological and scientific education while also dismantling gender stereotypes in schools.²⁹¹⁷

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

Thus, Italy receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Olivia MacDonald

Japan: +1

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

On 29 June 2022, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced that the Japanese government will host the World Assembly for Women on 3 December 2022.²⁹¹⁸ The conference aimed to mobilize discussion on gender equality, specifically their economic independence.²⁹¹⁹

On 6 July 2022, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) loaned JYP22 million for the Development Policy Loan for the Improvement of Learning Environment of Basic Education in Morocco.²⁹²⁰ The aim of this loan is to help develop policies to improve the basic education and learning environment for boys and girls in Morocco. It is noted that this program contributes not only to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 4 (Quality education), but 10 (Reduced inequalities), suggesting that this program loan will help develop education access for marginalized communities, such as women.

On 27 July 2022, JICA granted JPY165 million towards constructing lower-secondary schools of technical education and vocational training in Burkina Faso.²⁹²¹ This is in cooperation with the United Nations Children's

²⁹¹⁵ Joint Statement From Foreign Ministers on Taliban Decision to Ban Women from Universities (Rome) 21 December 2022. Access Date: 23 December 2022. https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2022/12/joint-statement-on-statement-from-foreign-ministers-on-taliban-decision-to-ban-women-from-universities/

²⁹¹⁶ Italy's commitment to eliminate the practice of Female Genital Mutilation (Rome) 6 February 2023. Access Date: March 5 2023. https://www.esteri.it/en/sala_stampa/archivionotizie/comunicati/2023/02/impegno-dellitalia-per-leliminazione-della-pratica-delle-mutilazioni-genitali-femminili/

²⁹¹⁷ March 8, International Women's Day: "The month of STEM" is underway (Rome) 8 March 2023. Access Date: 7 April 2023. <https://www.miur.gov.it/web/guest/-/8-marzo-giornata-internazionale-della-donna-al-via-il-mese-delle-stem->

²⁹¹⁸ World Assembly for Women: WAW! 2022, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 29 June 2022. Access Date: 1 November 2022. https://www.mofa.go.jp/fp/hr_ha/page3e_001217.html

²⁹¹⁹ Prime Minister Kishida's Participation in the "HeForShe" Summit, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 21 September 2022. Access Date: 1 November 2022. https://www.mofa.go.jp/fp/hr_ha/page3e_001248.html

²⁹²⁰ Signing of Japanese ODA Loan Agreement with Morocco 2022, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 6 July 2022. Access Date: 22 December 2022. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2022/20220706_41.html

²⁹²¹ Signing of Grant Agreement with UNICEF for Burkina Faso, Japan International cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 28 July 2022. Access Date: 19 December 2022. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2022/20220728_21_en.html

Fund and aims to build eight new schools to improve access to education for boys and girls, specifically in regions with less access. Furthermore, it aims to develop the quality of education for boys and girls through promotion of vocational training.

On 8 September 2022, JICA reinstated that due to this year's extensive flooding in Pakistan, JICA will work to provide equitable primary education for the students affected.²⁹²² This includes working in cooperation with the Advancing Quality Alternative Learning Project (AQAL) to enroll 523 girls into the "Middle Tech Program."

On 22 September 2022, Prime Minister Fumio Kishida stated the country's prioritization of "clearing the obstacles that hinder women's advancement," when discussing the future of the Japanese economy.²⁹²³ This included the promise of the Child and Family Affairs Agency, which is a policy to meet the challenges of childbearing while also encouraging women to pursue higher education and careers.

On 31 October 2022, the National Women's Education Center of Japan concluded their annual Global Seminar titled: "Does Digital Technology advance Gender Equality?"²⁹²⁴ The aim of the global seminar is to highlight gender inequality in the digital field and encourage discussion towards technological development in a way that supports gender equality.

On 21 December 2022, Press Secretary Hikariko Ono of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan released a statement regarding the Taliban's suspension of girls' higher education in Afghanistan.²⁹²⁵ The statement condemned this action and urged the Taliban to resume girls' education.

On 1 February 2023, the Resident Representative of the Japan International Cooperation Agency met with the Général Director of Access to Formal Education, the Général Director of Sectoral Studies and Statistics of the Ministry in charge of Education to review the progress of and adopt operational plans for the Project for Improving the Quality of Education through the Strengthening of the Community School Collaboration.²⁹²⁶ The project aims to practice and identify "good practices" of inclusive education for girls, and to develop mathematics-learning tools for use in and out of the classroom.

On 10 February 2023, the Japan International Cooperation Agency provided JYP11,686 million towards The Project for Upgrading Primary Girls' Schools into Elementary Schools in Rural Areas of Sindh.²⁹²⁷ This project was signed along with the Government of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan in Islamabad. The project aims to improve the enrollment rate for young girls in middle education, specifically in the rural areas of Pakistan. The project contributes to the Sustainable Development Goals 4 of Quality Education and 5 Gender Equality.

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to promoting gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, including through supporting girls' access to education and by implementing gender mainstreaming across all our policies. Japan has taken action to enact policies and forums to address and discuss the issues women face in the digital and economic field. Japan has also taken action to provide financial

²⁹²² JICA commits to continue to support flood affected and out of school children against all odds, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 8 September 2022. Access Date: 23 October 2022. <https://www.jica.go.jp/pakistan/english/office/topics/220908.html>

²⁹²³ Speech by Prime Minister KISHIDA Fumio at the New York Stock Exchange, Prime Minister's Office of Japan (Tokyo) 22 September 2022. Access Date: 23 October 2022. https://japan.kantei.go.jp/101_kishida/statement/202209/_00009.html

²⁹²⁴ FY2022 NVEC Global Seminar: Does Digital Technology Advance Gender Equality?, National Women's Education Center (Saitama) n.d. Access Date: 3 November 2022. <https://www.nvec.jp/en/global/seminar/n5phhq00000000co.html>

²⁹²⁵ Suspension of Girls' Higher Education in Afghanistan, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 21 December 2022. Access Date: 25 December 2022. https://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press3e_000523.html

²⁹²⁶ The first meeting of the Technical Committee for Guidance and Monitoring (CTOS) of the Project for the Improvement of the Quality of Education through the Strengthening of the Community School Collaboration, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 1 February, 2023. Access Date: 3 March 2023. <https://www.jica.go.jp/burkinafaso/english/office/topics/230201.html>

²⁹²⁷ Signing of Grant Agreements with Pakistan. Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 13 February, 2023. Access Date: 3 March 2023. https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2022/20230213_31.html

resources for the enrollment of girls and women internationally. Finally, Japan has taken action to promote and support the participation of girls and women in Technical and Vocational Education and Training.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1

Analyst: Petrina van Nieuwstadt

United Kingdom: +1

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

On 29 June 2022, the United Kingdom announced the Girls' Education and Skills Programme (GESP), its first educational collaboration with the commercial sector to enhance girls' access to education.²⁹²⁸ The programme will deliver the initiative through two methods: the Challenge Fund and Passport to Earning (P2E).²⁹²⁹ The Challenge Fund will award grants ranging from GBP750,000 to GBP1.5 million to projects and proposals for girls in Bangladesh and Nigeria. Additionally, P2E will provide skills and certificates to adolescent girls in low to middle-income nations who have had little to no formal education.

On 3 July 2022, the United Kingdom pledged GBP636,548 in emergency funds to the Government of Bangladesh to deliver basic necessities. The emergency funds will additionally be used to replace school supplies and provide students with a stable education.²⁹³⁰

On 8 July 2022, the Permanent Representative to the United Nations in Geneva Simon Manley delivered a speech condemning the Taliban for barring girls from attending secondary school. The speech called for the Taliban to reverse said policies and practices.²⁹³¹

On 30 August 2022, the Department of Health and Social Care published the first Women's Health Strategy for England. It maps out how the government plans to improve the way in which the health and care system listens to women's voices, and boost health outcomes for women and girls.²⁹³² This is a 10-year strategy that sets out a range of commitments to improve the health of women everywhere through policy making, education, and research.

On 1 September 2022, the British High Commission, in collaboration with the British Council, introduced 75 scholarships to Pakistani students to commemorate seventy-five years of relations between the United Kingdom and Pakistan. These efforts bring the UK's overall contribution for flood relief in Pakistan to more than GBP16.5 million, GBP10 million of which will exclusively benefit girls and women.²⁹³³

On 30 September 2022, the United Kingdom collaborated with the World Bank and Denmark to supply the Ukrainian government with an additional USD530 million for the Public Expenditures for Administrative

²⁹²⁸ Girls' Education Skills Partnership (GESP) – Challenge Fund Request for Proposals, Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office (London) 29 June 2022. Access Date: 22 October 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/international-development-funding/girls-education-skills-partnership-gesp-challenge-fund-request-for-proposals#full-publication-update-history>

²⁹²⁹ Girls' Education and Skills Programme (GESP), Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office (London) 29 June 2022. Access Date: 22 October 2022. <https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/62bc4a25d3bf7f2919e98d2e/GESP-concept-note-RFP.pdf>

²⁹³⁰ Joint Press Statement on Flash Flood - July 2022. United Nations Bangladesh. (Dhaka). 06 July 2022. Access Date: 09 December 2022. <https://bangladesh.un.org/en/189312-joint-press-statement-flash-flood-july-2022>

²⁹³¹ UN Human Rights Council 50: UK statement on women and girls in Afghanistan. GOV.UK. (Geneva). 08 July 2022. Access Date: 11 December 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/un-human-rights-council-50-uk-statement-on-women-and-girls-in-afghanistan>

²⁹³² Women's Health Strategy for England, Government of UK (London) 30 August 2022. Access Date: 4 January 2023. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/womens-health-strategy-for-england>

²⁹³³ The UK announces 75 scholarships for Pakistan, British High Commission Islamabad (Islamabad) 7 September 2022. Access Date: 24 November 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/the-uk-announces-75-scholarships-for-pakistan>

Capacity Endurance in Ukraine (PEACE) project.²⁹³⁴ PEACE assists in the facilitation and maintenance of essential public services such as health and education.

On 19 October 2022, Minister for Development Vicky Ford announced that the UK will deliver a GBP14 million support package to assist up to 150,000 people.²⁹³⁵ The resources will go towards delivering basic education to girls and boys, with the latest grant expected to provide emergency education to about 20,000 children.

On 25 November 2022, Home Secretary Suella Braverman announced that the UK will award GBP15 million in funding to support services for victims of violence. This is a part of the Home Office's commitment to tackling all forms of violence against women and girls. This funding will aim to equip more healthcare professionals with the right tools to be able to better identify and respond to domestic abuse, and improve referral pathways for victims to access support services.²⁹³⁶

On 8 December 2022, Christian Turner, a British High Commissioner, visited Jaba Taili, an Islamabad Model School for Girls, to underscore Pakistan's ongoing education crisis.²⁹³⁷ Teachers at Jaba Taili were selected and trained through a partnership between the UK and the Federal Directorate of Education in Islamabad, as well as Teach for Pakistan.

On 9 December 2022, Minister of State for Social Care Helen Whately announced that the UK will deliver GBP1.97 million to sixteen organizations across England. This package is a part of the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise Health and Wellbeing Fund, where the theme of the fund for 2022 to 2025 is women's reproductive wellbeing in the workplace. This fund aims to support organizations that can assist women experiencing various reproductive health issues in the workplace.²⁹³⁸

On 3 February 2023, Minister for Development Andrew Mitchell signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the United States to guarantee twelve years of quality education to marginalized children worldwide. The MoU will establish an alliance of donors and nations to champion education so that children learn literacy and numeracy, as well as to support educational institutions so that they can better handle emergencies, such as ensuring that alternative spaces exist where children can safely learn during crises. In addition to providing basic education to girls, the MoU will educate them on reproductive health, sexuality, relationships, and gender-based violence.²⁹³⁹

On 16 February 2023, the United Kingdom revealed that it would provide additional funding for Education Cannot Wait.²⁹⁴⁰ Minister Mitchell announced that the United Kingdom will donate GBP80 million over the next four years, with the money going toward providing safe classrooms, learning materials, and holistic support

²⁹³⁴ World Bank Mobilizes Additional \$530 Million in Support to Ukraine, World Bank (Washington D.C.) 30 September 2022. Access Date: 5 December 2022. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2022/09/30/world-bank-mobilizes-additional-530-million-in-support-to-ukraine>

²⁹³⁵ UK announces humanitarian assistance for 150,000 women and children suffering drought and conflict in Ethiopia. GOV.UK. (Ethiopia) 19 October 2022. Access Date: 20 October 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-announces-humanitarian-assistance-for-150000-women-and-children-suffering-drought-and-conflict-in-ethiopia>

²⁹³⁶ £15 million funding boost for women who are victims of violence, Government of UK (London) 25 November 2022. Access Date: 4 January 2023. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/15-million-funding-boost-for-women-who-are-victims-of-violence>

²⁹³⁷ British High Commissioner's school visit highlights UK efforts to tackle Pakistan's learning crisis. Government of UK (London) 08 December 2022. Access Date: 24 January 2023. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/british-high-commissioners-school-visit-highlights-uk-efforts-to-tackle-pakistans-learning-crisis>

²⁹³⁸ £1.97 million awarded to support women in the workplace, Government of UK (London) 9 December 2022. Access Date: 4 January 2023. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/197-million-awarded-to-support-women-in-the-workplace>

²⁹³⁹ UK and US sign agreement to secure 12 years of quality education for marginalised children. GOV.UK. (United Kingdom) 03 February 2023. Access Date: 27 February 2023. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-us-sign-agreement-to-secure-12-years-of-quality-education-for-marginalised-children>

²⁹⁴⁰ New UK support will help provide emergency education to 20 million children in crisis. Government of UK (United Kingdom) 16 February 2023. Access Date: 05 March 2023. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-uk-support-will-help-provide-emergency-education-to-20-million-children-in-crisis>

to children. This contribution is part of a GBP90 million package, bringing the UK's total donation to ECW since 2016 to nearly GBP200 million.

On 8 March 2023, foreign ministers of 27 countries, joined by the EU High Representative, issued a statement condemning the treatment of girls in Afghanistan.²⁹⁴¹ The nations and the High Representative wanted to utilize the occasion to issue a joint statement calling attention to the events unfolding in Afghanistan, particularly the fact that girls and women have been denied their basic human rights, including access to education, for more than a year.

On 8 March 2023, the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office unveiled its new international strategy for women and girls for the years 2023 to 2030.²⁹⁴² The paper covered a wide range of subjects, but it paid particular attention to education and acknowledged the severe global learning crisis that was threatening millions of girls. According to the paper, gender norms, the COVID-19 pandemic, environmental disasters, and internal and interstate conflict, among other factors hinder girls from receiving an education. By declaring its goal to reduce, by half, the number of children who are unable to read a simple sentence by the age of ten, the UK reaffirmed its commitment to ensuring that more girls had access to quality basic education.

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to promoting gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, including through supporting girls' access to education and by implementing gender mainstreaming across all policies. The United Kingdom has championed girls' fundamental right to education through resources, providing opportunities, and endorsing their rights.

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

Analyst: Divya Jagpal

United States: +1

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

On 8 July 2022, President Joe Biden passed an executive order to protect healthcare service delivery and promote access to critical reproductive healthcare services, including abortion. This includes actions to enhance family planning services as well as identifying ways to increase outreach and education about access to reproductive healthcare services.²⁹⁴³

On 18 July 2022, the United States government released the second US Government Women Peace and Security Report. The goal of this report is to advance the goals of the 2019 US Women Peace and Security Strategy Agenda, which affirms gender equity and equality in security, peace-making, and peacekeeping, in the United States and globally. The report discusses plans to avert and respond to crises, such as conflict-related sexual violence and underrepresentation of women in civic participation.²⁹⁴⁴

²⁹⁴¹ Situation for women and girls in Afghanistan: joint statement from foreign ministers for International Women's Day. Government of UK (London) 08 March 2023. Access Date: 10 March 2023. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/joint-statement-from-foreign-ministers-on-the-situation-for-women-and-girls-in-afghanistan-on-international-womens-day>

²⁹⁴² International women and girls strategy 2023 to 2030, GOV.UK (London) 8 March 2023. Access Date: 6 April 2023. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/international-women-and-girls-strategy-2023-to-2030/international-women-and-girls-strategy-2023-to-2030#part-4-goals>

²⁹⁴³ Executive Order on Protecting Access to Reproductive Healthcare Services, White House (Washington D.C.) 8 July 2022. Access Date: 5 January 2023. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2022/07/08/executive-order-on-protecting-access-to-reproductive-healthcare-services/>

²⁹⁴⁴ FACT SHEET: U.S. Government Women Peace and Security Report to Congress, White House (Washington D.C.) 18 July 2022. Access Date: 5 January 2023. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2022/07/18/fact-sheet-us-government-women-peace-and-securityreport-to-congress/>

On 27 July 2022, the United States hosted the Trilateral Working Group on Violence Against Indigenous Women and Girls. This is in partnership with the governments of Mexico and Canada, along with Indigenous women leaders from all three countries. The group issues a statement reaffirming commitments to advance prevention efforts, increase support for survivors, and enhance regional coordination to better address root causes that increase vulnerability to all forms of gender-based violence.²⁹⁴⁵

On 12 August 2022, the US Agency for International Development (USAID) signed a USD40 million agreement with the United Nations Children’s Fund. The funding will contribute to international support for Afghan children, with a particular focus on helping adolescent girls.²⁹⁴⁶ This will include further educational resources, opportunities, and skilled teachers to promote access to safe and quality education.

On 6 September 2022, USAID Advancing Girls’ Education (USAID AGE) partnered with the Government of Mozambique to empower young girls and increase school enrolment and attendance.²⁹⁴⁷ The partnership aims to raise awareness among communities for more support within schools and outside of school, as well as to increase female representation in the workforce and participation in society.

On 12 October 2022, the Department of Education launched “YOU Belong in STEM” to implement equitable and quality education in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) for all children from pre-kindergarten to higher education.²⁹⁴⁸ The initiative aims to challenge the stereotypes regarding STEM education and allow students to participate in STEM learning and build necessary skills.

On 7 December 2022, the Department of Education launched a new initiative, “Raise the Bar: STEM Excellence for All Students initiative,” to implement more inclusive and quality STEM education for students of all backgrounds.²⁹⁴⁹ The Department focuses on supporting students and educators for lifelong success in the STEM field by providing equitable and accessible opportunities and resources and developing partnerships and commitments to ensure the efficient use of funds and enhancement of STEM teaching and learning, especially meeting the needs of marginalized and vulnerable populations.

On 14 December 2022, Vice President Kamala Harris announced new commitments to advance women’s economic participation in Africa at the US-Africa Leaders Summit. These programs aim to foster women’s economic, political, and social inclusion in Africa in order to advance the United States’ priority to drive gender equality and equity investments through the Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment. This includes discussing and financing actions such as advancing women’s entrepreneurship, accelerating women’s participation in green jobs, and economic security for survivors of trafficking.²⁹⁵⁰

²⁹⁴⁵ Report on the Fourth Convening of the Trilateral Working Group on Violence Against Indigenous Women and Girls, White House (Washington D.C.) 27 July 2022. Access Date: 5 January 2023. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/gpc/briefing-room/2022/07/27/report-on-the-fourth-convening-of-the-trilateral-working-group-on-violence-against-indigenous-women-and-girls/>

²⁹⁴⁶ USAID Announces New \$40 Million Agreement With UNICEF to Increase Girls’ and Boys’ Education Opportunities in Afghanistan, United States Agency for International Development (Washington D.C.) 12 August 2022. Access Date: 5 November 2022. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/aug-12-2022-usaid-announces-new-40-million-agreement-unicef-increase-girls-boys-education-opportunities-afghanistan>

²⁹⁴⁷ USAID Advancing Girls’ Education (USAID AGE), United States Agency for International Development (Washington D.C.) 6 September 2022. Access Date: 24 October 2022. <https://www.usaid.gov/documents/usaid-advancing-girls%E2%80%99-education-usaid-age>

²⁹⁴⁸ Department Launches “YOU Belong in STEM” Initiative to Enhance STEM Education for All Young People, U.S. Department of Education (Washington D.C.) 12 October 2022. Access Date: 24 October 2022. <https://www.ed.gov/stem>

²⁹⁴⁹ U.S. Department of Education Launches New Initiative to Enhance STEM Education for All students, U.S. Department of Education (Washington D.C.) 07 December 2022. Access Date: 21 February 2023. <https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/us-department-education-launches-new-initiative-enhance-stem-education-all-students>

²⁹⁵⁰ Fact Sheet: U.S.-Africa Partnerships in Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment, White House (Washington D.C.) 14 December 2022. Access Date: 5 January 2023. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2022/12/14/fact-sheet-u-s-africa-partnerships-in-gender-equality-and-womens-empowerment/>

On 16 February 2023, USAID Administrator Samantha Power announced that the United States provided an additional USD43 million to Education Cannot Wait.²⁹⁵¹ This funding will help ECW work with other private and non-governmental donors to further support individuals to develop skills and improve their employability.

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

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

Analyst: Ga Vin Park

European Union: +1

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

On 29 June 2022, the European Commissioner for International Partnerships announced an increase in the European Union's budget for international partnerships regarding funding in education from 7% to 13%.²⁹⁵² The aim of this is to further initiatives taken with Member States and international partnerships to improve equal access to quality education for all children. Highlighted were updates on the progress of the Mozambique "E-Youth" initiative promoting support to girls interested in STEM subjects.

On 24 September 2022, the European Commission announced an additional EUR45 million over six years for the United Nations Population Fund. The funding will support sexual and reproductive health as well as supporting countries in strengthening health systems from the gendered perspective. This includes services such as delivering contraceptives and life-saving maternal health medicines to people who need them most.²⁹⁵³

On 10 October 2022, the European Commission launched a programme titled the "Youth Action Plan."²⁹⁵⁴ Focused on an external partnership with young people, the European Commission has committed 40 million euros towards their "Partnership to Engage" pillar and the Youth and Women in Democracy Initiative.²⁹⁵⁵ The aim of this initiative is to empower the youth, and in particular women, through means such as providing civil education for women in relation to democracy.²⁹⁵⁶

On 17 October 2022, the European Commission launched a survey seeking consultation for key actions to be addressed in creating a "Manifesto for gender-inclusive STE(A)M education and careers."²⁹⁵⁷ The EU recognizes

²⁹⁵¹United States Provides Additional \$43 million to Education Cannot Wait, United States Agency for International Development (Washington D.C.) 16 February 2023. Access Date: 21 February 2023. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/feb-16-2023-united-states-provides-additional-43-million-education-cannot-wait>

²⁹⁵² UNESCO Pre-summit – Transforming education, Directorate-General for International Partnerships (Paris) 29 June 2022. Access Date: 19 October 2022. https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/news-and-events/news/unesco-pre-summit-transforming-education-2022-06-29_en

²⁹⁵³ Sexual and reproductive health and rights: EU announces additional €45 million for UNFPA Supplies Partnership, European Commission (Brussels) 24 September 2022. Access Date: 4 January 2023. https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/news-and-events/news/sexual-and-reproductive-health-and-rights-eu-announces-additional-eu45-million-unfpa-supplies-2022-09-24_en

²⁹⁵⁴ The European Commission launched the Youth Action Plan in EU External Action! Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture (Brussels) 06 October 2022. Access Date: 1 November 2022. https://youth.europa.eu/year-of-youth/news/european-commission-launched-youth-action-plan-eu-external-action_en

²⁹⁵⁵ Youth Action Plan, European Commission (Brussels) n.d. Access Date: 1 November 2022. https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/policies/youth/youth-action-plan_en#related-documents

²⁹⁵⁶ Questions and Answers: Youth Action Plan in EU external action for 2022-2027, European Commission (Strasbourg) 4 October 2022. Access Date: 2 November 2022. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/qanda_22_5882

²⁹⁵⁷ Towards a manifesto for gender-inclusive STE(A)M education and careers, Directorate-General for Research and Innovation (Brussels) 17 October 2022. Access Date: 31 October 2022. https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/news/all-research-and-innovation-news/towards-manifesto-gender-inclusive-steam-education-and-careers-2022-10-17_en

the shortage of women in STEM careers and creates this manifesto with the integration of arts and humanities into a more inclusive approach to STEM in the hopes of encouraging more women to study STE(A)M subjects.

On 24 October 2022, the European Institute for Gender Equality launched the first Gender Equality Forum. The aim is to bring together different organizations and experts from EU members to discuss pressing issues in relation to gender equality. Topics range from labour statistics, gender violence, health, and economy.²⁹⁵⁸

On 25 October 2022, the EU Delegation to Malawi implemented further changes to the Zantchito programme signed on 18 August 2020.²⁹⁵⁹ It aimed to improve equitable and safe opportunities in vocational education for women and accompany them as they start businesses within the field.

On 26 October 2022 the Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Malawi announced an “enhancement” in contribution to the Multi-Annual Indicative Program (MIP).²⁹⁶⁰ Within the MIP, with which the EU has committed to provide EUR352 million,²⁹⁶¹ and in coordination with the Malawi Government, as well as local women and youth organizations, the Delegation outlined the development of Phase II of “Improving Secondary Education in Malawi.”²⁹⁶² It aims to increase and provide equitable opportunities of a quality education for Malawi youth, specifically in 350 secondary schools.²⁹⁶³

On 26 October 2022 the European Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth stated the expansion of the EU “Girls Go Circular” programme.²⁹⁶⁴ New initiatives mentioned were gender sensitive education, an increase in mentors, and transformational and sustainable interventions of the culture and structure of STEM organizations. It aims to close the digital gender gap by providing resources to teach girls aged 14-19 in Southern and Eastern Europe on digital, STEM, and entrepreneurial skills.²⁹⁶⁵

On 21 November 2022 the European Union, in partnership with UNICEF, granted GBP33 million towards education services in Ethiopia.²⁹⁶⁶ The funding will support school feeding for 50,000 children, with the aim to limit dropout rates of children and “especially girls,” in conflict affected areas.

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

²⁹⁵⁸ Experts' forum, European Institute for Gender Equality (Villinius) 24 October 2022. Access Date: 5 January 2023.

<https://eige.europa.eu/about/organisation/experts-forum>

²⁹⁵⁹ Zantchito – Skills for Jobs programme, Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Malawi (Brussels) 25 October 2022.

Access Date: 4 November 2022. https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/malawi/zantchito-%E2%80%93-skills-jobs-programme_en

²⁹⁶⁰ EU support to Youth in Malawi, Press and information team of the Delegation to Malawi (Brussels) 26 October 2022. Access

Date: 3 November 2022. https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/malawi/eu-support-youth-malawi_en

²⁹⁶¹ A new step in the EU's future-proof partnership with Malawi, Press and information team of the Delegation to Malawi

(Brussels) 2 March 2022. Access Date: 4 November 2022. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/malawi/new-step-](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/malawi/new-step-eu%E2%80%99s-future-proof-partnership-malawi_en)

[eu%E2%80%99s-future-proof-partnership-malawi_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/malawi/new-step-eu%E2%80%99s-future-proof-partnership-malawi_en)

²⁹⁶² EU support to Youth in Malawi, Press and information team of the Delegation to Malawi (Brussels) 26 October 2022. Access

Date: 3 November 2022. https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/malawi/eu-support-youth-malawi_en

²⁹⁶³ Improving Secondary Education in Malawi-ISEM (Phase II), Delegation to Malawi (Brussels) 31 March 2022. Access Date: 3

November 2022. https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/malawi/improving-secondary-education-malawi-isem-phase-ii_en?s=107

²⁹⁶⁴ Girls Go Circular Education Programme set for Expansion across Europe, European Institute of Innovation and Technology

(Brussels) 27 October 2022. Access Date: 5 November 2022. [https://eitrawmaterials.eu/girls-go-circular-education-programme-](https://eitrawmaterials.eu/girls-go-circular-education-programme-set-for-expansion-across-europe/)

[set-for-expansion-across-europe/](https://eitrawmaterials.eu/girls-go-circular-education-programme-set-for-expansion-across-europe/)

²⁹⁶⁵ Digital and Entrepreneurial Skills for the Circular Economy, Girls Go Circular (Budapest) n.d. Access Date: 5 November 2022.

<https://eit-girlsgocircular.eu/>

²⁹⁶⁶ EU donates 33 million to UNICEF and WFP to restore essential education services and implement school feeding programmes

in conflict-affected areas in Ethiopia, OCHA services (Brussels) 23 November 2022. Access Date: 18 December 2022.

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

girls and women across different regions in Africa. This includes progress on key issues such as family planning, gender-based violence, mortality rates, and sexual health.²⁹⁶⁷

On 21 December 2022 the Council of the EU released a press statement condemning the Taliban's banning of women from universities, stating that this systematic policy is "extremely concerning" and can be defined as "crimes against humanity."²⁹⁶⁸ Furthermore, the EU expects the Taliban to revert its decision and abide by international obligations to ensure the fundamental rights of their citizens.

On 24 January 2023, the European Commission funded a new project launched by the United Nations, called Winter School for Afghan women students.²⁹⁶⁹ It consisted of a five-day course of interactive sessions teaching gender equality, networking, and financial literacy.²⁹⁷⁰ The aim of this project is to increase Afghan women's access to university education in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Uzbekistan.

On 7 February 2023, the European Union launched a new program providing school construction, resources, and training for schools for Sudan, with a budget of EUR30 million. One of the schools included the Al Mutamar girls school, where the European Union Ambassador to Sudan, Dutch Ambassador and the Italian Charge d'Affaires paid a visit.²⁹⁷¹

On 16 February 2023, the European Commission pledged to invest EUR313 million towards the United Nations' global fund "Education Cannot Wait." This fund aims to financially support and invest in increasing access to high-quality education for young boys and girls in protracted crises. This is in line with the European Union's commitment to progress the Sustainable Development Goal 4 on quality education.²⁹⁷²

On 20 February 2023, the European Council released a press statement stressing the importance of providing indigenous children and women access to education in their own language and culture. This was part of the many council conclusions the European Council arrived to when deciding on EU priorities in the United Nations for 2023.²⁹⁷³

On 20 February 2023, the European Council released a press statement publicly condemning the denial of the right of education for Afghan women, and urged the Iranian authorities to uphold women's rights. This was

²⁹⁶⁷ EU and African partners launch flagship initiative to enhance sexual and reproductive health and rights, (Brussels) 15 December 2022. Access Date: 4 January 2023. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_22_7738

²⁹⁶⁸ Afghanistan: Statement by the High Representative on behalf of the European Union on additional restrictions by the Taliban to the right of education of girls and women, European Council (Brussels) 21 December 2022. Access Date: 25 December 2022. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2022/12/21/afghanistan-statement-by-the-high-representative-on-behalf-of-the-european-union-on-additional-restrictions-by-the-taliban-to-the-right-of-education-of-girls-and-women/>

²⁹⁶⁹ Boosting career opportunities for young Afghan girls, UN Women (New York) 8 February 2023. Access Date: 21 February 2023. <https://eca.unwomen.org/en/stories/news/2023/02/boosting-career-opportunities-for-young-afghan-girls-in-kazakhstan-kyrgyzstan-and-uzbekistan>

²⁹⁷⁰ UNDP and UN Women launched winter school, United Nations Development Programme Kyrgyzstan (Bishkek) 24 January 2023. Access Date: 3 March 2023 <https://www.undp.org/kyrgyzstan/press-releases/undp-and-un-women-launched-winter-school-afghan-women-students-kyrgyzstan>

²⁹⁷¹ European Union launches a new project to promote basic education in six states of Sudan, Delegation of the European to the Republic of the Sudan (Brussels) 7 February 2023. Access Date: 3 March 2023. https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/sudan/european-union-launches-new-project-promote-basic-education-six-states-sudan-0_en

²⁹⁷² Education Cannot Wait, European Commission (Geneva) 16 February 2023. Access Date: 3 March 2023 https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_23_841

²⁹⁷³ Council conclusion on EU priorities in UN human rights for a 2023, European Council (Brussels) 20 February 2023. Access Date: 3 March 2023 <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2023/02/20/council-conclusions-on-eu-priorities-in-un-human-rights-for-a-2023/>

part of the many council conclusions the European Council arrived to when deciding on EU priorities in the United Nations for 2023.²⁹⁷⁴

On 6 March 2023, the European Commission, through Eurostat, held an international webinar covering the participation of women in science, technology, and research. The aim of this was to educate people on women's participation in these sectors of education and research.²⁹⁷⁵

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to promoting gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, including through supporting girls' access to education and by implementing gender mainstreaming across all our policies. The European Union has taken action to support girls' access to education by expanding programs which provide accessible environments for women to learn in STEM. The European Union has taken action to support girls' access to education by increasing funding for multiple foreign aid programs funding the enrollment of girls in secondary and tertiary education levels. The European Union has taken action to support girls' access to education by investing and creating programs which increase women's access to training in STEM and TVET fields.

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

Analyst: Petrina van Nienstadt

²⁹⁷⁴ Council conclusion on EU priorities in UN human rights for a 2023, European Council (Brussels) 20 February 2023. Access Date: 3 March 2023 <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2023/02/20/council-conclusions-on-eu-priorities-in-un-human-rights-fora-2023/>

²⁹⁷⁵ Women in science, technology, research, Eurostat (Luxembourg) 6 March 2023. Access Date: 4 March 2023 <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/main/news/events/2023/women-in-science-technology-and-research>