



WIDE+ Annual Report 2021

WIDE+

Feminists Transforming
Sustainable Development



Introduction

One of the lessons from 2021 could be that European governments are more stable and less susceptible to political change. The huge disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 created a moment of deep uncertainty and concern, but also hope that it might be a catalyst for a significant transformation towards a more caring economy. This change hardly materialized. Feminists have an even greater task to promote women's human rights, the rights of LGBTQI* and other minorities, a well-being economy that lives within the boundaries of our nature, and equality. Ultra-conservatist, racist and neo-colonial political movements keep receiving a lot of public attention and support, in Europe and elsewhere. Our global problems continue to grow from lacking a sufficient political answer.

2021 did give hope and some transformation. And as a transnational feminist network we learned to rely solely on digital means of communication and strategizing. Towards the later part of 2021 we were able to return to pre-covid exchange with a first face to face meeting since 2019.

Each year we aim to present the reader with another angle in introducing our work over the year. This Annual report describes the activities of WIDE+ for 2021 categorized according to the four thematic working groups of WIDE+ that have been formed since 2015 (Gender and Trade), 2016 (Gender and Migration), 2018 (Feminist Movement Building Working Group) and 2020 (Feminist Economic literacy working group).

At our site readers can find updated information about each thematic Working Groups (WG) and links to webinars and activities not provided here:

- [Migration and Gender Working Group](#). This WG implements projects that promotes migrant feminist movement building throughout Europe, and it engages in collective actions to promote the rights of migrant women and girls.
- [Trade and Gender Working Group](#). This WG moni-

tors EU trade policy from a feminist perspective, develops public positions and analysis on EU trade and gender issues.

- [Feminist Movement Building Working Group](#). This WG reflects on strategic and current challenges and intersections within the Feminist movements and plans actions to promote feminist solidarity across Europe.
- [Feminist Economic Literacy Working Group](#). This WG aims to develop concrete projects to implement feminist economic literacy training, currently planned for Latin America and Western Balkans.

About WIDE+

WIDE+ is a European network of **feminist activists, scholars, and women's rights organisations that reaches out to 300 associations, through its national membership-based networks and organisations across Europe**. It promotes women's rights by analysing the systemic causes of inequality and advocating for transformative change. WIDE+ comes from a collaboration between feminists in the global South and feminist economists spanning close to 40 years. In the last 10 years WIDE+ has been able to connect this global expertise with feminist activism in Europe. It works through interlinked strategies of **analysis and capacity building** (feminist literacy), **innovative movement building**, and **advocacy** informed by a feminist perspective.

WIDE+ Strategies

Creating strategic catalyst and reflective spaces for feminisms, which will:

- Enhance understanding of feminists in Europe and elsewhere on issues relevant to WIDE+;
- Enable new partnerships and collaborations and deepen current partnerships;
- Create knowledge not only on the dynamics behind inequalities, but also on possible solutions, lessons learned and best practices

Be a bridge for feminists to make their voices heard and advocacy with European decision makers:

- Invest in strengthening, initiating and maintaining collaborations in the network and with alliances or in partnership.
- Engage in direct advocacy and lobby towards European Decision makers.
- Encourage and promote the voices of women and non-conforming person in the global South, Eastern Europe and migrants in European policy and political spaces.

Strengthening WIDE+ to make it financially more sustainable & keep its strong ethical and horizontal governance model in place.

Building the capacities of feminists and other relevant stakeholders

- Create knowledge not only on the dynamics behind inequalities, but also on possible solutions, lessons learned and best practices, with a focus on addressing issues that are strategic but not well covered within the feminist networks in Europe.
- Allow for learning through popular education tools, thus translating knowledge in papers into more interactive forms of information.

2. Gender and Migration Working Group



The main focus of the Working Group in 2021 was to complete the majority of the project: “Expanding Spaces for Capacity Building and Exchange To Strengthen Women Migrant Movement Building Across Europe”, supported by the Open Society Foundation. The main aim of this project has been to strengthen European Feminist Movement building at national level for migrant women through creating and facilitating transnational and national spaces for capacity building and dialogue as well increasing visibility. WIDE+ and the increasing number of working group members have successfully contributed to this aim since 2016, on which

they keep working on together. We are happy to look back at the actions done by this group of associations that consists of migrant and refugee women-led organisations including Community Based Organisations, networks, and feminist NGOs with migrant women group membership. With migrant women and girls, we mean refugee, trafficked, undocumented, and others on the move or arriving in Europe. We do not differentiate in our approach between different categories of women and girls that are or have been on the move between borders.

The European Working Group brings together WIDE+ member organisations and individuals, partner groups and networks and volunteers (young professionals, academics, activists) from across Europe. The current working group membership covers active organisations and individuals in Spain, Belgium, the Netherlands, Serbia, Italy, Romania, Germany, Denmark, Turkey, and Sweden. Among the members of the Working Group are: [NGO Atina](#) in Serbia, [Red Latinas](#), [Mujeres Con Voz](#), [Alianza por Solidaridad](#) in Spain, [International Women Space](#), [LAFI](#) and [Gabriela](#) in Germany, [GADIP](#) in Sweden, [KULU Women and Development Denmark](#) and [WO-MI](#) in Denmark, [Voices of all Women](#) in the Netherlands, Chaska International in Belgium, [ADRI Association](#) in Italy.

There is an extended network of allies around the working group and individual volunteers can join as well. The working group is coordinated by WIDE+ secretariat member Nurhidayah Hassan and supported by WIDE+ coordinator Gea Meijers in financial and administrative issues. Groups that joined in 2021 were: LAFI and Gabriela in Germany, WO-MI in Denmark, Voice of all Women in the Netherlands, Chaska International in Belgium, and ADRI Association in Italy. Given our ambitions, we have not yet reached the full potential of our collective work.

In-person Capacity Building Meeting

After the pandemic situation stabilized, the group did manage to have 1 in-person meeting in November 2021, from 25-27 November, in Berlin, to commemorate the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, and to also have a strategic meeting evaluating the project and future activities. To meet each other face to face was a highlight of the year and made us realise how important it is to meet live as well. The theme of this meeting was **“Migrant Women’s Resistance Against Violence”**. It was a joint organisation with WIDE+ and International Women Space, a partner of the working group. A report on this meeting can be seen [here](#).

Through the meeting the working group and partners were able to:

- Connect members of WIDE+ gender and migration working group (WG) and other feminist organisations.
- Strengthen capacity and analysis around gender-based violence against migration women and girls.
- Evaluate the collaboration in the Gender and Migration working group and assessing needs and wishes for future collaboration.

The programme consisted of joining an international Feminist March in which Jennifer Kamau from IWS held a brief speech (see WIDE+ twitter) on 25 November. There was on this day a welcome dinner. The next day, 26 November, focused on the WIDE+ WG with a capacity building session on the Istanbul Convention with Laura Albu, a visit to the IWS office including a small tour of Kreuzberg district and a WG Strategic Planning Meeting. On the last day of activities, 27 November, there was room for exchange with participants from Berlin with a public all day event. This event included a Panel Dialogue on the impact of the pandemic on violence against migrant women, presentations on climate justice, gender, and migration as well as the impact of labour migration on children. And the day formally ended with a world café session on strategizing resistance against violence.

Online Transnational Capacity Building

We held an online transnational capacity building as well. The pandemic saw an increase of online gender-

Quotes from the face to face exchange:

“The meeting allowed me to know the colleagues, their organisations, and their work better. It made me feel like we are a team and that we have the same goals. It encouraged my desire to work at the European level and showed me that it is possible with a team so committed to social justice”.

“It was incredible to feel such a great energy, meet everyone face to face and hear about all the inspiring work other women are doing”.

based violence which includes acts like trolling, cyber stalking, zoom-bombing, etc, and has disproportionately affected migrant women. Together with a Catalan cyber-feminist collective, [Donestech](#), the group conducted two workshops on “Digital Security for Migrant Women, and other Women’s Rights Activists”, on 10 & 17 February 2021, and a webinar on “Tackling Online Gender-Based Violence Through EU Laws and Policies” on 25 February 2021.

The two online workshops had around 40 attendees in total, consisting of migrant and refugee women not only based in Europe but also in Latin America (the session was in English and Spanish). Digital security is a new topic for the group, and many were very keen to delve deeper into this topic given the digital attacks on women’s human rights defenders of late.

Collective Advocacy

Related to the workshop topic of digital security, the group also wanted to engage in a discussion around the legislative and policy frameworks of online gender-based violence. The group invited several experts around this topic, including Member of the European Parliament, Dr Sylwia Spurek, who is the rapporteur for the legislative report on “combating gender-based cyberviolence in the EU”. The webinar provided an overview of the European and international legal framework in tackling online violence against women and girls. According to a report by the EU Parliament’s FEMM Committee, In Europe 1 in 10 women have experienced cyber violence since the age of 15. It is crucial to highlight migrant women and girls are also more vulnerable to online violence, in particular, online hate speech that are racist or xenophobic in nature.

With this newly established connection to the FEMM Committee of the European Parliament, the group, together with feminist NGO Creación Positiva (a member of WIDE+) also managed to provide a robust [set of recommendations](#) to this legislative process, specifically to provide a comprehensive and specific definition of

online gender-based violence, to ratify the Istanbul Convention at the EU level, and to earmark funding for women’s right groups and migrant women groups who work directly with women on the ground to counter any form of gender-based violence. These recommendations were taken up by the FEMM committee and included in the final legislative report. This is a good example of successful advocacy efforts from the group, and we would like to continue actively advocating for women’s rights, and migrant women’s rights in various policymaking spaces such as being a member at the “Expert Group of the European Commission” for migration policies.

National spaces for movement building

2 of the 5 national project activities were carried out in 2021, in which national partners/members enabled national movement building, including facilitating meeting spaces. Each meeting was part of a cohesive process that build or sustained the network-building of the group at national level, enabling them to strengthen themselves as collective force. Each partner developed a project proposal that was discussed in the working group and then approved:

- **2nd Cycle of the “School of Political Training for Migrant Women”**, July – February 2021-2022. Organiser: Red Latinas – Spain.
- **National project: “Expanding spaces for capacity building and exchange to strengthen women”**, in January – December 2021. Organiser: NGO Atina – Serbia.

2nd Cycle School of Political Training for Migrant Women, Spain

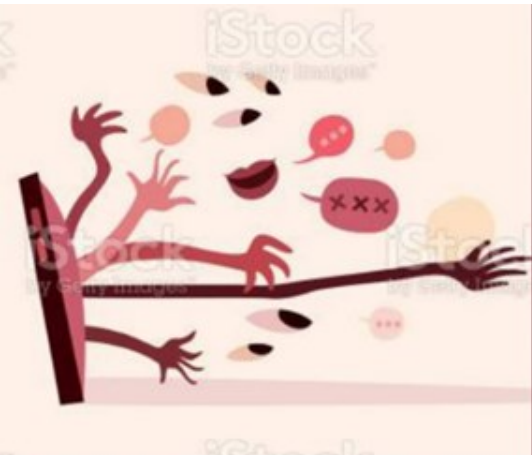
The second cycle of the school in 2021 had 5 sessions, examining international, European and Spanish State instruments relating to migrant women’s human rights. The aim was to facilitate the knowledge and use of instruments of law on migrant women’s human rights for political and social participation. The approach followed again the methodology of feminist popular education, with active listening, experience, and exchange of knowledge in a safe environment, with pre-reading, vid-

eo viewing and reflections from different perspectives. It was concluded that the challenges ahead are enormous in the work to overcome the gaps in access to rights in conditions of equality and non-discrimination, and to convert these legal and political instruments into actions to demand access to rights without discrimination. Activists from 18 allied associations (of Red Latinas) and 11 migrant women attended the trainings. It concluded with a transnational webinar that is mentioned in the other section. A report in English and Spanish is available as well.

National project: “Expanding spaces to strengthen migrant women”, Serbia

In addition to the two webinars that are listed in the held webinars below, an analysis was done named *Isolation within isolation* to reflect on the position of migrant women who are in the situation of so-called long-stay. The long stay is a de facto situation in which most refugees and migrants find themselves in Serbia, as well as in other transit countries. This situation is caused by different administrative, political, and practical changes on the migratory route and may last for several years, which altogether marks it as a semi-residence situation, making the transit country a semi-final-destination country for migrants.

Promotion of the migrant women’s rights has been continuously carried out throughout the project implementation. Atina’s team has been addressing this issue both through participation in webinars, media interviews, and through actions which aimed to shed light on the current situation when it comes to the public stance on the presence of migrants and refugees in the country. Also, Atina worked to promoting migrant women activists to further their work together, through reaching out to possible new allies was a key priority not just for Atina’s members but also for members of the Advocacy group of migrant women. The project supported the ongoing work of NGO Atina’s Advocacy Group that consists of 9 women survivors of gender-based violence, human trafficking, and exploitation from the population of refugee and migrant women. The Group maintained regular meetings with decision-makers, trying to support them in better understanding the position of women migrants and asylum seekers. Their long-term goal became to become a mandatory and unavoidable body for influencing decision-making processes in the country when it comes to improving both the asylum and social protection system. During the reporting period, women and girls’ members of the Advocacy Group participated in 10 events (4 conferences and 6 meetings).



Organized by:

WIDE+
Promoting Leadership
Building Resilience

Co-organized by:

CCP Creación Positiva

Webinar: Tackling Online Gender-based Violence Through EU Laws & Policies

Thursday, 25 February, 3pm CET
In English & Spanish

Speakers:

- Sylwia Spurek, Member of European Parliament
- Laia Serra Perelló, Catalan Association for the Defence of Human Rights
- Spideralex, Donestech
- Jelena Hrnjak, Atina
- Seyi Akiwowo, Glitch

Moderator:

- Montse Pineda Lorenzo, Creación Positiva

Webinars

- Webinar: **"Tackling Online Gender-based Violence Through EU Laws and Policies"** 25 February 2021. Organiser: WIDE+ Gender and migration working group.
- Webinar: **"Global care chains and vulnerabilities in the COVID19 crisis"**, 3 March, 2021. Organiser: WIDE+ ad hoc COVID-19 and gender working group
- Webinar: **"Ending Trafficking and Violence Against Girls and Women in the Context of Global Migrations"** 10 June 2021 organized by NGO Atina,
- **"Positive changes in the lives of women and girls' migrants, refugees and asylum seekers - victims of human trafficking and gender-based violence"**, 20 November 2021. Organiser: NGO Atina .

3. Gender and Trade Working Group

"Food sovereignty and health for all women worldwide, how the EU is blocking it in the WTO"

WEB-SEMINAR 10 November 2021 1.00-2.30 PM CET

Yuan Qiong Hu | Senior Legal & Policy Advisor, Médecins Sans Frontières
 Ranja Sengupta | Senior Economist with the Third World Network
 Moderated by Michelle R. Maziwisa | Research Fellow, FEMNET
 In ENG, with ESP and GER interpretation

Picture Feminists for a People's Vaccine Initiative

Anders Handeln
 Women
 WIDE+
 Gender and Trade Coalition
 S2B
 Seattle to Brussels Network

GENDER TRADE COALITION

WIDE+
 Feminists transforming Economic Development

Webinar: A Gender Just Trade Policy and the EU-Mercosur Agreement

In collaboration with Seattle2Brussels

5-7 PM Central European Time, 21 April 2021
 Spanish, and English

Moderator: **Edmé Dominguez**, School of Global Studies, Gothenburg University, Sweden, board member GADIP and WIDE+

Speakers:

- **Graciela Rodriguez**, Instituto equit, Brazil, member of Gender Trade Coalition
- **Bettina Müller**, Powershift, Germany, and member of Seattle2Brussels
- **Alma Espino**, Institute of Economics, University of the Republic, Uruguay, UDELAR and CIEDUR

Illustration of women raising their fists in solidarity.

The oldest WIDE+ Working Group (WG) steadily continued its advocacy work in alliance building. The thematic WG monitors EU trade policy from a feminist perspective, develops public positions and analysis on EU trade and gender issues. It also contributes to global advocacy to promote a feminist perspective in trade policy.

The Group is a mixture of WIDE+ members, international experts, other civil society and Trade Unionists representatives. The group meets mostly through zoom with an active e-list. In addition to the Working Group, WIDE+ worked closely with WO=MEN on gender and trade policy, the CONCORD trade group in 2021 and it remained an active member of the Gender Trade Coalition. WIDE+ is a member of the Steering Group of the Gender Trade Coalition (GTC), a global coalition of women's rights networks and other civil society that is monitoring current trade policy processes on its gender-responsiveness.

WIDE+ collaborated with CONCORD in the new EU strategy "Trade Policy Review"

WIDE+ collaborated with CONCORD members in preparing an analysis identifies 12 key improvements to the reviewed EU Trade Strategy to move towards an economy that ensures wellbeing for the people and planet. The Trade Strategy relegates gender equality to an after-thought on the last page. In the last paragraph. In terms of gender equality, WIDE+ coordinator Gea Meijers concludes that for the first time in the multi-annual EU trade strategy gender is included with an action, though in a very limited manner.

CONCORD and WIDE+ deeply regret that the European Commission missed this opportunity to truly align EU trade policy with the objectives of the 2030 Agenda and to deliver concrete recommendations on the protection of women's rights. The EU continues to promote a model in which trade liberalisation and measures to protect European companies and domestic markets are the main goals, without enough consideration for realising sustainable development across the globe.

The Activities in chronological order

Civil Society Campaign on TRIPS WAIVER for COVID medicines and vaccines

WIDE+ continued to ask attention and support the global call of (also feminist) networks have called on the EU, its member states and other Western governments to accept the proposal to allow all countries in the world access to information protected by WTO patent law that would allow them to produce vaccines and remedies to COVID. WIDE+ supported actions to further promote the TRIPS WAIVER for COVID-19 through social media, advocacy asks and joining other statements.

Contribution to EU publication, "A Gender-Transformative European Green Deal?"

Isabelle Brachet, on behalf of Action Aid, and Gea Meijers, contributed the chapter: '[The EU's global trade and investment agenda, environmental pressures and gender equality](#)' in this report which maps the gender gaps and opportunities of the European Green Deal. Women Engage for a Common Future (WECF) and the European Environmental Bureau (EEB), together with a wide range of authors from CSOs, academia and independent experts, produced this report

Gender and Trade Coalition and the first UNCTAD Gender and Development Forum

As a member of the Gender Trade Coalition, WIDE+ spoke during the first Gender and Development Forum

organized by UNCTAD in which the Gender Trade Coalition was a co-organizer. The forum was held at the end of September. WIDE+ contributed to the statement development by the Gender Trade Coalition of which elements were included in the overall Civil Society Statement and final conclusions of the Gender and Development Forum.

[The statement](#) asserts that UNCTAD must resist attempts by the Global North to reduce and hijack its mandate, to instead promote gender justice through a broad macroeconomic development lens that connect policies around debt, tax, human rights, climate justice and trade.

The Working Group (co-)organized three Webseminars:

- [A gender just trade policy and the EU-Mercosur Agreement](#), 21 April 2021.
- '[Gender, Trade and development: examining old and new issues on the global trading system](#)', co-organized with Gender and Trade Coalition Members and held during the WTO Public Forum, 1 October, 2021.
- '[Food Sovereignty and Health for all women worldwide, how the EU is blocking it in the WTO](#)', 10 November, 2021.



Implementing an Intersectional Feminist Approach
series of 4 webseminars

Tim Mossholder



Webseminar: "Intergenerational Feminist Dialogue"

3 November 2021 12.00-1.30 PM CET

With

Twasiima Bigirwa, radical feminist, lawyer & author, Segal Family Foundation, FRIDA, the Young Feminist Fund Uganda

Marlize Andre, feminist, trans and refugee rights, International Women's Space, Germany

Srilatha Batliwala, feminist, scholar, grassroots movements, Feminist Monitoring CREA, India

ENG, with translation into ESP and FR

4. Intersectional Feminist Movement building Working Group

Members work together in the WIDE+ Feminist Movement Building Working Group to provide spaces for transnational feminist solidarity, exchange and capacity building in Europe on key themes and questions we are faced with at this moment, such as: "how to make our feminist visions heard in public spaces, while being protected from online violence and restrictions from politicians?", or: "how can we make an intersectional feminist approach tangible?".

the Status of Women and collaborate where relevant in pushing for strong feminist recommendations for the final conclusions of the 65th United Nations Commission of the Status of Women (CSW) held between 15 and 26 March 2021.

WIDE+ hosted in the beginning of the year the online seminar: "[The women's strike in Poland as a feminist strategy for change](#)" In face of the near-ban of abortion in Poland and feminist resistance building WIDE+ hosted

We want to condemn not only the almost complete ban on abortion. We also strongly oppose the lack of respect for democratic rule by the ruling party PiS. It has used its tactic of a continuous erosion of the rule of law by appointing their favoured judges into the Constitutional Court because earlier democratic attempts to discuss it in Parliament were not successful. On top of that they are instrumentalizing the pandemic and promote a violent and oppressive response by police and special forces that is intimidating protesters and leaders of the movement.

In recent days peaceful protestors, including one of the leaders of the women's strike Klementyna Suchanow, were arrested and brought to police stations outside the centre of Warsaw, which seems part of an ongoing and intensified tactic of intimidation.

We resist these attacks on our common rights to our bodies and to our political voice, [#StrajkKobiet](#).

The WIDE+ Feminist network, bringing together many feminists activists, scholars, women's rights and development organisations in Europe in partnerships with feminists elsewhere, stand in solidarity with women's rights protesters in Poland.



#solidaritywithbelarus



"I stand with Belarusian activists, working toward a feminist future, peace and human security."

Silke Steinhilber, WIDE+, Germany

Main highlights for 2021 have been its two webinar series to build the capacity of feminists. In Spring it organized an online series around the diverse impacts and interrelationships of the pandemic with the position of women and women's rights defenders. In November this series was followed up with a four webinar one that explained different aspects of an intersectional feminist approach.

Besides this thematic work, WIDE+ in terms of feminist movement building expressed solidarity with (women's) human rights struggles around the world through several solidarity statement and letters it send or under-signed. And WIDE+ members set up an ad-hoc Working Group to informally exchange around UN Commission of

a webinar with Bunt Kobiet in which polish activist explained the work, structure and context of the women's strike in Poland. The online event was held in the context of WIDE+ network's solidarity with all the women, men and gender non-conforming persons, young, old, migrants, non-migrants, queer, lesbian, gay, and all others that have come to public spaces to stand up for reproductive and the human rights of women* and for democracy.

COVID19 and care: feminist reflections on a new normal

The WIDE+ series: “[COVID19 and care: feminist reflections on a new normal](#)”, included three online seminars that were held between 24 February and 10 March.

Webinar: ‘COVID19 and the care economy. What do we see, what do we call for?’, 24 February

Focus of the event: almost one year after the first lockdown measures were put in place in Europe, the similarities and differences among government responses to the crisis have been assessed and conclusions can be drawn from its impact on the care economy. Feminists have formulated alternative recovery responses based on the assertion that the care economy must be a key element in economic and social policies for recovery. The post-pandemic “new normal”, from a feminist point of view, thus cannot mean any return to austerity and the financialization and privatization of care.

Webinar: ‘Global care chains and vulnerabilities in the COVID19 crisis’ (ENG - ESP), 3 March

Focus of the event: global care chains are based on gender, class/caste, ethnic/racial and North/South inequalities and provide a kind of spatial fix of the crisis. Transnational care chains withdraw care capacities and emotional work from the Global South and shift care energy from poorer to more affluent households, from poor to richer countries. Migrant care workers are in a precarious position with regard to labour relations and rights, and in a dilemma of providing care and emotions to their employer or patient and their own transnational family at the

same time. The Corona pandemic has deepened this dilemma, has depleted care energies and torn apart the care workers.

Webinar: ‘authoritarian regimes using COVID19 to curb civic rights, labour standards and women’s rights’, 10 March

This online event reflected on how authoritarian regimes and elites are using the insecure and uncertain situation during the pandemic to advance the state's

WIDE+ statements of international Solidarity

- WIDE+ solidarity statement with women’s **rights protesters in Poland**, given the near-ban on abortion enforced.
- WIDE+ stands, 2021 and beyond, in solidarity with the feminist **Civil Society movement in Belarus the fight for a rights-based Belarusian society**, in which everybody has the influence over the decisions affecting their lives and livelihoods.
- WIDE+ expressed solidarity with **the Dominican Women & Activists struggling for reproductive rights**. We are joining the appeal to end the total ban on abortion in the Dominican Republic immediately.
- In the month of June, WIDE+ condemned **the Colombian state oppression and violence** against all groups and individuals that are asking for social justice.
- WIDE+ and Gender and Migration working group partner International Women’s Space demanded in the Autumn the Friedrichshagen-Kreuzberg District and Berlin Senate to respect their 2014 agreement with the Refugee Movement to be able to use the Oranienplatz for events and protest.
- WIDE+ supported the open letter written by Multinational Women Peacemakers Network, a consortium of Black, Migrant, and Dutch Women groups to call on the **Ethiopian Prime Minister to make concrete steps in promoting peace**.
- WIDE+ has undersigned letter for **the International Financial Institutions & States to stop loans to Myanmar**. Two hundred and eighteen civil society organizations from Myanmar and globally urged International Financial Institutions (IFIs) to immediately freeze loans and other financial assistance to the country amounting to an estimated US\$11Billion when the junta overturned the elected government.
- WIDE+ supported and joined over 100 associations and networks in an open Letter **To The UN - Tax Justice For Women’s Rights 2021**.

monopoly on the use of force, militarization and de-democratization to further marginalise and exclude part of the population, downgrading women, indigenous people, LGBTIQ people and poor classes to secondary citizens with high risks to their livelihoods and lives.

Implementing an intersectional feminist approach

WIDE+ collaborated with FES (Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung) in hosting series of 4 web-seminars around implementing an intersectional feminist approach. All seminars were English with Spanish & French interpretation and streamed online. The final web-seminar was held in 2022. The online capacity building sessions provided insights on how to integrate an intersectional lens in feminist activism and policy around gender mainstreaming. Intersectional feminism helps us to act on patterns of gendered discrimination in which multiple layers of power inequalities tied to other aspects of people's identities, such as age, gendered expression, color of skin, sexual orientation and location, are continuously reproducing multiple discriminations

Web Seminar: "Intergenerational Feminist Dialogue", 3 November

This webseminar reflected on experiences of perceived differences and commonalities among different genera-

tions of feminists to come to concrete suggestions on how to improve our collective work. With the large scale street protests that have been visible in the past years, such as the Women's Strike, Ni Una di Meno, Black Lives Matter and climate change protests, many women and others joined feminist activism for the first time in their lives. They joined the many feminists that enabled new groups to build on previous activism.

Web Seminar: 'Racism, Classism and Gender discrimination intersectional feminist approach in strategy and analysis', 16 November

This web-seminar reflected on how an intersectional approach can be built that connects anti-racism and gender equality with reducing economic inequality and precarity. There are strategic and analytical challenges combining different intersections into a framework of policy and action. The intersectional feminist approach came from black feminists not being represented in feminist movements. This dynamic bears a striking resemblance with a lot of examples of feminist demands struggling being heard in movements promoting economic equality between different classes.

Web Seminar: 'Joint strategies of LGBTQI* rights and feminisms', 30 November

This web-seminar reflected on the overlap in issues and strategies among LGBTQI* and (other) feminist activists. The ultra-conservative political groups connect their backlash on women's rights with an attack on the rights of LGBTQI* communities, among several other intersections. It opens up strategic questions on how LGBTQI* movements and feminists can and should further work together. What are examples of an effective shared strategy, common language? What differences do we need to learn about, especially when working from an intersectional perspective in which other intersections interrelate?



5. Feminist Economics Working Group

This Working Group is the newest of the thematic working groups, just founded before the pandemic started. Members are coming together to develop concrete projects to implement feminist economic literacy training, currently planned for Latin America and Western Balkans. Feminist Economic Literacy is non-formal education that all women can benefit from as a tool of empowerment to publicly participate in debating and setting economic policy. It aims to help people challenge destructive myths and create positive policy or community alternatives. The work of this group over 2021 was to develop its project proposals. In addition, WIDE+ engaged through alliance building in international and European spaces and agenda around macro-economic policies (outside the trade arena):

WIDE+ remained a partner to the CONCORD gender reference group and the trade working group. In this capacity it has contributed to the civil society consultations around the evaluation of the action plan on gender equality and women's empowerment in external relations (GAP II) and formulation on GAP III, for example by facilitating an online session on digitalisation during the online consultation with staff of the European Commission, facilitated by CONCORD Europe webinar on the European Union's Gender Action Plan III, which took place Wednesday 8 July 2021.

WIDE+ remained a member of the Women's Group on Financing for Development, in which it has given input into the Economic Justice Action Coalition of the UN Beijing+25 review process. The Women's Group on Financing for Development is a global alliance of women's rights associations working to promote feminist economic perspectives in UN processes, especially around the Financing for Development Agenda.

WIDE+ remained also part of inter-organisational working groups. A group that remained active in 2021 was an ad-hoc working group on the digital economy from a feminist perspective, an international working group facilitated by the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung with the project: ["Feminist visions on the future of work"](#). WIDE+ also is a member of a coalition of Transform! Associations whom are together implementing an Erasmus+ project on combating hate speech and misinformation in order to: "Dismantling Fake News to Stop Hatred: Education for the Inclusion of Adult Women in Risk of Exclusion", led by Fundación Europa de los Ciudadanos. There was one project meeting WIDE+ attended in 2021.

6. WIDE+ as a democratic, financially viable and participatory network

The network was able to double its part time support in the secretariat, with 2 consulting coordinators that supported the network throughout the year. And in addition to its active working groups, the board had its six annual meetings, while the caucus came together four times. The network concluded its General Assembly in November of 2021 in a smooth manner.

What is interesting to note is that the online visibility of the network kept on growing. We did a summary statistic to show impact over the years 2019-2021. WIDE+

twitter impressions grew from 32.500 views in 2017 to 66.000 views in 2018, to 142.000 views in 2019, it stabilized in 2020 with around 140.000 views and an engagement rate of around 1,4 % and it has grown again in 2021 to almost 230.000 views with an engagement rate of around 2,1 % (up to 30 October of this year). Our number of followers is growing with currently over 1400 followers. Our Facebook outreach dropped from over 20.000 views and 1300 engagements in 2019 to 11.000 views and 1200 engagements in 2020 and it increased again to 15.000 views with around 2000 engagements.

The network was able to double its part time support in the secretariat, with 2 consulting coordinators that supported the network throughout the year. And in addition to its active working groups, the board had its six annual meetings, while the caucus came together four times. The network concluded its General Assembly in November of 2021 in a smooth manner.

What is interesting to note is that the online visibility of the network kept on growing. We did a summary statistic to show impact over the years 2019-2021. WIDE+ twitter impressions grew from 32.500 views in 2017 to 66.000 views in 2018, to 142.000 views in 2019, it stabilized in 2020 with around 140.000 views and an engagement rate of around 1,4 % and it has grown again in 2021 to almost 230.000 views with an engagement rate of around 2,1 % (up to 30 October of this year). Our number of followers is growing with currently over 1400 followers. Our Facebook outreach dropped from over 20.000 views and 1300 engagements in 2019 to 11.000 views and 1200 engagements in 2020 and it increased again to 15.000 views with around 2000 engagements.

These are all organic impressions since we do not use any commercial services for social media outreach.

Members and partners receive regular news from WIDE+. This e-newsletter is opened by 30 to 50 % of the readers.

WIDE+ experimented in 2020 with video messages as well, and published a [video message](#) from our migration working group to start the 16 days campaign against gender-based violence. And we published another kind of [video statement](#) on International Migration day. We continued with this kind of communication in 2021 with messages on International Women's Day in 2021 and 2022 (the one for 2021 was an overall one for WIDE+, including the gender and migration work) and on International Migration Day 2021.

It is essential to the functioning of the network that we have a paid secretariat. The core of WIDE+ is the voluntary work of many members, partners, and friends. WIDE+ would like to thank all board members, caucus members and working group members for their huge contributions and dedication. WIDE+ would like to thank the following foundations for their financial support: Oak Foundation, Foundation Open Society Institute in cooperation with the Human Rights Initiative of the Open Society Foundations, and our members for their contributions.



