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Welcome to the Spring 2024/25 2nd edition of the World-CWS-Messenger, a digital newsletter from the World Center for Women's Studies. This newsletter highlights past and upcoming conference events, global issues affecting women and children, important gender policy matters, and news about our members' academic achievements. It also serves as a platform for members to engage in discussions on critical gender-related topics. The Messenger will include summaries of past conferences and information about future events, including a call for papers and webinar series. We encourage your input and submissions. If your ideas align with our annual conference theme, we would be happy to share them with the global community through the World-CWS Messenger.

#### CONTACT: World-CWS Publication Committee

Ram Alagan, 115 Paterson Hall | 915 S. Jackson Street, Montgomery | AL 36104 | USA

Tel: 334-604-8021 | [ralagan@alasu.edu](mailto:ralagan@alasu.edu)



# PRESIDENT'S COLUMN



**Barbara Wejnert, Ph.D.**  
**President | World CWS**  
**Professor of Global Gender Studies**  
**and Environment and Sustainability**  
**University at Buffalo, New York**

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In March 2015, during the inaugural Annual World Conference on Women's Studies organized by TIKM in Colombo, Sri Lanka, the World Center for Women's Studies (World-CWS) was founded. This organization is dedicated to supporting both men and women, as well as women's organizations, by offering various services, conducting research, and facilitating women's empowerment on a global scale. Furthermore, the World-CWS advocates for gender equality worldwide through policy research and the development of practical application models. The primary objective of the World-CWS is to safeguard women's rights and well-being, enhance access to education, and promote economic empowerment.

The Center aims to benefit women globally by proposing recommendations for policies and action plans informed by research, and by facilitating the

exchange of information regarding academic empirical research and case study analyses within the domain of women's and gender studies. This is accomplished through meticulously designed grassroots programs and policies, which have been implemented and evaluated for their effectiveness in improving the daily lives of women. The findings from studies presented at the Annual World Conferences on Women's Studies, which have occurred over the past nine years in various international locations, are published in peer-reviewed academic journals for widespread scholarly access.

Collaborating with scholars from around the world, the Center functions as a communication and networking conduit for individuals, society, and organizations that advocate for gender equality and the advancement of women's empowerment. Scholarly interactions and collaborations are further enriched through the annual meetings of the WORLD-CWS, as well as regional and local conferences and seminars. Such interactions among scholars from diverse regions and countries enhance their collaborative efforts to achieve greater gender equality.

Drawing inspiration from Gandhi's philosophy, the World Center for Women's Studies emphasizes the importance of idea exchange, the establishment of collaborative networks, and the exploration of new research initiatives during its Annual Meetings, which are held each year in a different country across the globe.

Cordially,

*Barbara Wejnert*

# MEET THE

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# EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



**Prof. Barbara Wejnert**

**BARBARA WEJNERT** is a Professor of Global Gender Studies, and Environment and Sustainability at the College of Arts and Sciences, University at Buffalo. She is the Founding Chair of the Department of Global Gender Studies at the University at Buffalo and a former faculty member and the Director of Academic Programs at Cornell University. She is the author of ten books and nearly 70 scholarly articles and chapters in academic books. Her research concerns are the worldwide diffusion of democracy, and the effects of democratization on the well-being of societies, especially on women and girls. Her teaching interests include sociology, gender justice, environmental justice, global democracy, and development.



**Prof. Maria Anita Stefanelli**

**MARIA ANITA STEFANELLI** teaches American literature in the Department of Foreign Languages, Literatures and Cultures at Università Roma Tre, Italy. Her research concerns eighteenth- and nineteenth-century American literature, twentieth-century American poetry and American drama. She is currently working on Elizabeth Vesey and the Bluestocking coterie in Ireland, Britain and America. She has published several books, book chapters, and a number of research articles with international publishers. Her most recent books are an edition of 'Performing Gender and Violence in Contemporary Transnational Contexts (2018) and a co-edition of 'Bob Dylan and the Arts' (2020).



**Prof. Jasbir Singh**

**JASBIR SINGH** is a Professor of Economics at the University of Jammu in Jammu, India. He serves as the Dean of the Department of Economics and has a strong focus on Indian Economy, Gender Economics, and Development Economics in both his teaching and research. Professor Singh has authored several books, book chapters, and research articles covering various aspects of economics, published with leading publishers. Currently, he also holds the position of Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences and serves as the Director of the Centre for the Study of Social Exclusion and Inclusive Policy at the University of Jammu.

# MEET THE

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## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



**Prof. Jeeva Niriella**

**(DESHABANDU) JEEVA NIRIELLA** is a Senior Attorney at Law and a Professor, having previously served as the Head of the Department of Public and International Law at the Faculty of Law, University of Colombo. She is the author of four books, ten book chapters, and nearly fifty scholarly articles. Her teaching and research interests encompass gender justice, criminal justice, international law, as well as criminal law and procedure. Notably, she was the first female board member of both the Colombo Stock Exchange in Sri Lanka and the National Authority for the Protection of Victims and Witnesses. Currently, she serves as a board member for the Office of National Unity and Reconciliation in Sri Lanka. Additionally, she is a board member of the Asian Criminological Society, the International Society of Criminology, and the Justice Commission of the Congress of Nations and States. She also holds the position of Vice President of the South Asian Society of Criminology and Victimology.



**Prof. Anupama Vohra**

**ANUPAMA VOHRA** is a Professor of English at the University of Jammu, India. She was selected as a Fellow in Residence at the Indian Institute of Advanced Study (IIAS) in Shimla from 2012 to 2014. Currently, Professor Vohra serves as the Coordinator of the Postgraduate Program at the Directorate of Distance Education at the University of Jammu. Additionally, she is the Convener of the Publication Cell, where she oversees the publication of peer-reviewed journals and the university newsletter. Her research interests include gender studies, testimonial literature, conflict literature, and regional literature. She has published two books, contributed chapters to other books, and written numerous research articles for world-renowned publishers.



**Prof. Izabela Skorzyńska**

**IZABELA SKORZYŃSKA** is a graduate of Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań, Poland, where she also earned her PhD. She completed post-doctoral studies at Laval University in Québec, Canada. Throughout her career, she has worked as a history teacher, journalist, theater reviewer, assistant, and assistant professor. Currently, she is an Associate Professor at the Faculty of Historical Studies at Adam Mickiewicz University. Additionally, she serves as the Head of the Education Council at the School of Humanities at AMU for the term 2020-2024. Her research focuses on memory studies, the history of women in Central and Eastern Europe, and the didactics of history. She co-hosted the WCWS Conference in Warsaw in 2019 with Professor Anna Wachowiak and has conducted two sessions at WCWS events, one in India in 2018 and another virtually in Buffalo in 2020.

# GREETINGS FROM THE PUBLICATION COMMITTEE



**Ram Alagan, Ph.D.**  
Chair, Publication Committee  
Prof. of Geography &  
Interim Dir. of W.E.B Du Bois  
Honors Program  
Alabama State University  
Montgomery, Alabama



**Seela Aladuwaka, Ph.D.**  
Prof. of Geography  
Alabama State University  
Montgomery, Alabama



**Jasbir Singh, Ph.D.**  
Prof. of Economics  
University of Jammu  
Jammu J&K, India.



**Anupama Vohra, Ph.D.**  
Prof. of English  
University of Jammu  
Jammu J&K, India.



**Barbara Wejnert, Ph.D.**  
Prof. of Global Gender  
Studies, and Environment and  
Sustainability,  
University at Buffalo,  
Buffalo, New York

The Publication Committee is proud to announce the 2024/25 edition of the "World-CWS Messenger" digital newsletter. Following the conclusion of the ninth international conference in 2023, the Executive Committee has put together this second edition to share World-CWS's important messages with the international community. We recognize that "The Messenger" will bring together global scholars and grassroots communities to engage in critical and innovative investigations of global gender issues and human rights, as well as to share our findings. Once again, the "World-CWS Messenger" will provide a wealth of information on women's studies worldwide.

The publication committee brings you the following news:

- President Column
- Meet the Executive Committee
- Greetings from the Publication Committee
- World-CWS Perspectives
- 7th Annual World-CWS Conference Recaps
- 8th Annual World-CWS Conference Recaps
- 9th Annual World-CWS Conference Recaps
- World-CWS Webinar Series
- 10th Annual World-CWS Conference Announcement & Program

The Publication Committee believes that "The Messenger" will continue to serve as a messenger for enhancing global communities' perception of gender issues, enriching communication, professional development, scholarly discourse, and, most importantly, highlighting our dedication and productivity for future generations.

We are so grateful to those who have submitted documents to the Messenger. We encourage World-CWS members and students to contribute news about their academic achievements and plans. We also encourage submissions regarding faculty and students' research and conferences (published or presented) from cross-disciplines.

# PERSPECTIVES

## Ukraine 2023: Between Home, War and Uncertainty

By: Izabela Skórzyńska

By examining the contemporary world of women and girls, we notice the importance of positive changes that are taking place in various, often distant, places around the world in terms of equality between women and men. However, we also witness violence, aggression, and lack of solidarity and responsibility for the fate of millions of people, women and men, girls and boys, who suffer from hunger and homelessness, lack of freedom and care, who make a superhuman effort and who experience fear for their own and others' health and lives. While investigating, i.e. trying to understand these extremely difficult circumstances of people's lives in many places around the world, we once again faced war on February 24th, 2022, this time as a result of Russia's attack on Ukraine and the transformation of the creeping Russian-Ukrainian conflict, which had been ongoing since 2014, into a full-scale war. In February 2022, the world froze in fear of nuclear war, but moved by the fate of Ukrainian victims, mainly women, and children, it set out to help on a huge scale. How huge? Given the numerous grassroots civic aid initiatives, it does not seem that even the most astute analysts are able to measure it today. Meanwhile, what occupies us now, over a year after the Russian invasion of Ukraine, is the long-term support of Ukrainians experiencing the protracted war and its destructive power. Unprecedented help and disregard for their own financial and organizational capabilities on the part of the people helping Ukrainians in the first months after the outbreak of the war gradually began to take on a systemic aid framework necessary in the absence of knowing when and how this war will end. According to UNHCR data from December 2022, 4.8 million displaced persons from Ukraine were covered by temporary protection or similar programs in Europe.

This means their right to reside in the EU, the right to access the labor market and housing, the right to social assistance and health care, and for minors, the right to legal protection and education. Each of these persons also has the right to apply for refugee status. However, the system will not replace the support and favor of the citizens of the host countries for new arrivals, whose social and economic capital can be very diverse and is not necessarily conducive to living in exile, while fear, pain, and uncertainty of tomorrow take away the strength to build life anew. That is why it is so important that after the huge organizational, financial, and material effort made by citizens, to maintain full openness towards Ukrainians. It is worth looking at them through their own eyes, through the eyes of people who, fleeing from the war, still do not see its end. Taking the perspective of people experiencing war and those who rush to their aid, WCWS is preparing for the Ukrainian session co-hosted in 2023 by the Faculty of History at Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan (Poland) with the conviction that not only knowledge of what its citizens are going through but also actions in their favor are important for our Center.

World-CWS: Marching to Promoters of Equality,  
Peace and Sustainable Development

# PERSPECTIVES

## Women in Dysfunctional Democracies

By: Ram Alagan and Seela Aladuwaka

Exactly ten years ago, the World-CWS Scholars convened to discuss the significance of freedom of choice, advocacy for global gender equality, the importance of policy-oriented research, and the design of practical solutions for women's empowerment. Over this time, the center has successfully organized nine international conferences, a number of webinar series, keynote speaker forums, conference presentations, and numerous international publications focused on global gender equality. Despite these accomplishments, we still have a long way to go to achieve true gender equality and women's empowerment, especially in the context of dysfunctional democracies and broken political promises around the world.

The year 2023 has emerged as a significant setback filled with challenges. Notably, the pre-and post-2024 U.S. Presidential elections have brought women's freedom and reproductive rights to the forefront of political discourse. Throughout this period, presidential candidates made various commitments aimed at safeguarding and advancing these essential rights, underscoring their importance in national discussions. A pivotal moment during this electoral cycle was the landmark decision to overrule *Roe v. Wade* in 2023, which intensified scrutiny and debate over women's issues across the political spectrum. As the elections unfolded, expectations grew regarding the influence of political will on the future of women's rights. The legal framework established by *Roe v. Wade* became a central focus in shaping conversations surrounding reproductive rights. However, uncertainty persisted about how effectively discussions on reproductive rights could progress to meet and uphold women's aspirations in the aftermath of the election. The interplay of these factors highlights the complex and often contentious relationship between law, politics, and fundamental human rights.

This World-CWS perspective sheds light on the myriad issues women face globally regarding reproductive rights, including in the United States. It emphasizes the obstacles women encounter due to political, religious, and cultural beliefs while proposing alternatives to navigate these unprecedented challenges. *Roe v. Wade* stands as the U.S. landmark decision on reproductive rights and was the Supreme Court case that legalized abortion in the United States in 1973. This 50-year-old ruling has faced ongoing challenges from conservative political factions and was ultimately overturned by the Supreme Court. The reversal of this landmark decision on women's rights has created significant health disparities across the country, affecting millions who seek to protect their autonomy. This change not only restricts reproductive rights for many but also jeopardizes their economic stability. Research indicates that individuals denied an abortion are more likely to experience poverty and financial distress for years afterward, facing higher rates of evictions and bankruptcies.

Reproductive rights are fundamental democratic rights, embodying the principles of individual autonomy and self-determination. In a democracy, individuals should have the freedom to make decisions about their bodies, including whether or not to have children. Unfortunately, many democracies are sliding into dysfunction due to authoritarianism, nationalistic sentiments, and conservative religious ideologies. As a result, women's rights to control their bodies are increasingly undermined. It is disheartening to see the United States following this trend toward limiting women's reproductive rights.

In conclusion, the challenges posed by dysfunctional democracies mean that we still have a long way to go in our pursuit of gender equality and women's empowerment.

World-CWS: Marching to Promoters of Equality,  
Peace and Sustainable Development

2024

World-CWS

# PERSPECTIVES

**This is for Anupama Write up**

By: Anupama Vohra

World-CWS: Marching to Promoters of Equality,  
Peace and Sustainable Development

2022

# 7<sup>th</sup> WORLD-CWS

## CONFERENCE - RECAPS

Holy Cross College (NAAC 'A' Grade), Agartala, India



**World Center for Women's Studies (World-CWS)  
in Collaboration with  
Holy Cross College (NAAC 'A' Grade), Agartala,  
Organized**

**7<sup>th</sup> World-CWS Conference 2021-2022  
25<sup>th</sup> March 2022**

## **Conference Theme: Women and Technology**

Women have a close association/interaction with 'the application of scientific knowledge for practical purposes', what is termed as technology, using it in various ways in their day to day lives whether in the handling of gadgets in the kitchen, driving, using computers, mobiles to playing a leading role in strategic research in the fields of biotechnology, space technology and information technology, medicine, mathematics, business technology, etc. With more and more women across the globe opting for science and technology degrees and even those from humanities and social sciences learning to use technology at work, a change though small but significant can be observed in women's empowerment through their representation in the technology field. Against this background the one day E-seminar invites abstract of not more than 250 words with maximum 5 keywords on any of the subthemes given below or related to the conference theme 'Women and Technology'.

# 7<sup>th</sup> WORLD-CWS CONFERENCE - RECAPS

Holy Cross College (NAAC 'A' Grade), Agartala, India




World Center for Women's Studies (World-CWS)

In collaboration with

**Holy Cross College (NAAC 'A' Grade), Agartala**  
Organizes

**7th World-CWS Conference 2021-2022**  
25th March, 2022

**Theme: Women and Technology**



**Patron of the Conference**  
Prof. Barbara Wejnert



**Co-Patron of the Conference**  
Dr. Fr. Benny K. John,



**Prof. Jasbir Singh**  
Organizing Secretary



**Dr. Prasanta Chakraborty**  
Co-organizing Secretary



**Patron of the conference: Prof. Barbara Wejnert**

**Co-Patron of the conference: Dr. Fr. Benny K. John, CSC**

**Organizing secretary: Prof. Jasbir Singh**

**Co-organizing secretary: Dr. Prasanta Chakraborty**

**Advisory Committee**

Prof. Maria Anita Stefanelli  
Dr. Moumita Dey  
Prof. Anna Topolska  
Dr. Seeta Aladuwaka  
Dr. Twinkle Suri  
Dr. Smita Verma

**Scientific Committee**

Prof. Ram Alagan  
Dr. Shreya Ghosh  
Prof. Bishnu Charan Barik  
Prof. Jeeva Niriella  
Dr. Parveen Kumari  
Ms. Carolyn Klotzbach-Russell  
  
Ms. Katie Lafferty  
Ms. Ebehitale Imobhio

**Programme Committee**

Prof. Anupama Vohra  
Dr. Moumita Dey  
Dr. Izabella Skórzyńska  
Dr. Sandhya Bhardwaj  
Ms. Barnita Majumder  
Ms. Himanshi Chandervanshi  
Ms. Diksha Bhagat  
Mr. Gourav Sharma  
Ms. Alisson Vera  
Ms. Insiya Gandotra

# 7<sup>th</sup> WORLD-CWS CONFERENCE - RECAPS

Holy Cross College (NAAC 'A' Grade), Agartala, India

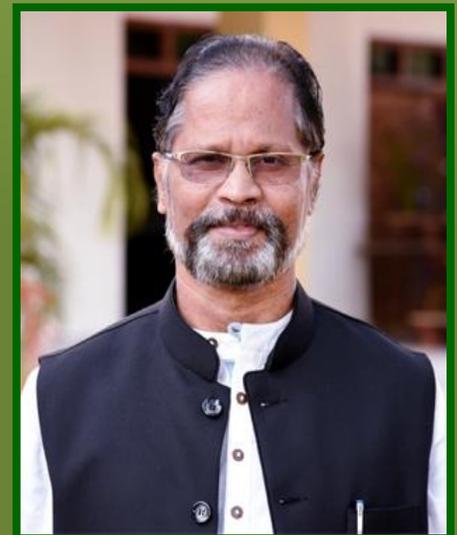
## Patron of the Conference:

Prof. Barbara Wejnert Dr. Barbara Wejnert is a Professor in the Department of Environment and Sustainability and Department of Global Gender Studies (formerly Transnational Studies) and a former founding chair of the Global Gender Studies Department at the University at Buffalo. She came to the University at Buffalo, SUNY by way of the Departments of Development Sociology and Sociology at Cornell University. She is an award-winning author of research papers specializing in democracy, political sociology, political economics, economic sociology, environmental sustainability, and gender. Her interdisciplinary, transnational research focuses on the worldwide diffusion of democracy, the impact of democracy on globalization, and the effects of these changes on environmental sustainability and gender equality. She is an author and editor of 14 books, including *Diffusion of Democracy* published by Cambridge University Press in 2014 (paperback edition in 2016) which received nominations for three academic book awards. This book presents an innovative assessment of 187 sovereign countries that challenges established thinking about the diffusion of democracy over a 200-year period. She is the author of nearly 70 peer-reviewed articles in professional journals related to democratizing processes and their consequences to social policies and societal development. In 2016 she received the prestigious Inaugural Arlene Kaplan Daniels



## Co-Patron of the Conference:

Dr. Fr. Benny K. John CSC is a life member of the Congregation of Holy Cross. The year 1997 he graduated with a Master's Degree in Social Work and engaged in Social Service activities primarily among the indigenous people of Tripura. Following his Doctoral studies in Social Anthropology, he moved to higher education in 2015 as a full-time teacher in the Department of Sociology while holding the post of Vice Principal currently the Principal of Holy Cross College having twelve departments of Arts, Science, BBA, B.Com and B.Ed. He has worked in Tripura for eighteen years.



2023

# 7<sup>th</sup> WORLD-CWS CONFERENCE - RECAPS

Holy Cross College (NAAC 'A' Grade), Agartala, India

## Organizing Secretary:

Prof. Jasbir Singh Jasbir Singh, Ph.D., Professor of Economics, Department of Economics; Controller of examinations; Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences; Director, Centre for Study of Social Exclusion & Inclusive Policy; and Head, Department of Philosophy, University of Jammu Jammu, J&K, India. He is the Vice-President of the World Centre for Women's Studies, and is closely associated with youth and gender activities and programs. He has numerous research papers and books to his credit.



## Co-Organizing Secretary:

Dr. Prasanta Chakraborty, a retired Professor, ICFAI University, Tripura is actively engaged in research and publication. Before joining ICFAI, he worked in Govt. colleges of Tripura for 34 years. He did his PhD in Australian literature in 2002. His area of interest covers Indian English literature, African literature, British literature, and linguistics. He presented papers in a number of International and National seminars, chaired some sessions, and was the speaker in two plenary sessions. He organized a couple of National seminars, published 30 papers in national and International journals, and also in chapters of edited books. He co-edited eight books and published one book by himself. He coedited a couple of text books for the students of Tripura University. Recently he has been working on a project on partition literature of Eastern India.



2023

# 7th WORLD-CWS CONFERENCE - RECAPS

Holy Cross College (NAAC 'A' Grade), Agartala, India

A screenshot of a Zoom meeting interface. The main window shows a grid of nine video thumbnails. The participants are: Prof. Jasbir Singh, Dr. Moumita Dey, sandhya bharadwaj, Mariella Stefanelli, Ramkrishnan Alagan, Muthukuda Niriella, Holy Cross College Agartala, INDIA (with the college logo), 29 others, and You. On the right side, there is a 'People' list with 11 names: Samarpita Dey, sandhya bharadwaj, Sentienla, Shreya Ghosh, SIMRAN, Sri Suguna, Sudipta Garai Sociolo..., Sunil Gaikwad, and Swethal Ramchandran. At the bottom, there is a status bar showing '7:50 AM | mxc-amac-imp' and various meeting controls like mute, video, chat, and share.

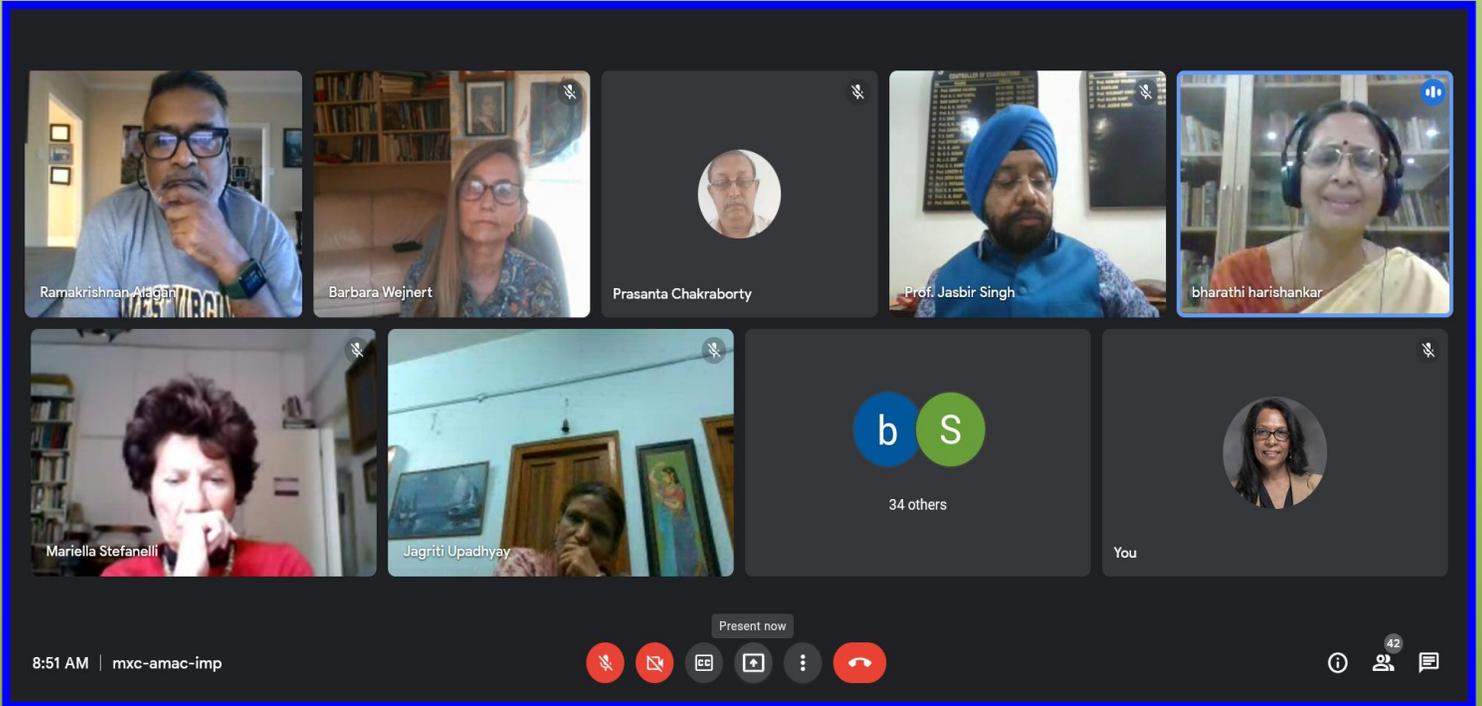
A screenshot of a Zoom meeting where a presentation is being shared. The presentation slide is titled 'Resolution WORLD-CWS Stands with Ukraine'. The text on the slide reads: 'As an organization devoted to equality, peace, and global development that focuses on empowering women and girls, we condemn the Russian invasion of the independent, democratic, and sovereign Ukraine. We are staying strong in support and solidarity with the Ukrainian people, calling Russia to stop the general killing of civilians, bombing cities, and indiscriminatory bombing schools, kindergartens, and hospitals, including maternity hospitals. We call on the Russian President and the Russian people to stop the aggression and withdraw its troops from Ukrainian soil.' Below the text, it says 'The Executive Committee and members of the World Center for Women's Studies (WCWS)' with a logo. The Zoom interface shows a grid of participants on the right, including Mariella Stefanelli, Bishnu Barik, Dr. Moumita Dey, Prasanta Chakrabor..., Muthukuda Niriella, Barbara Wejnert, Prof. Jasbir Singh, 31 others, and You. The status bar at the bottom shows 'mxc-amac-imp' and meeting controls.

2023

# 7th WORLD-CWS

## CONFERENCE - RECAPS

Holy Cross College (NAAC 'A' Grade), Agartala, India



2023

# 7th WORLD-CWS CONFERENCE - RECAPS

Holy Cross College (NAAC 'A' Grade), Agartala, India

This screenshot shows a Google Meet session in progress. The main area displays a grid of video thumbnails for participants: Jagriti Upadhyay, Arupa Lahiry, Mariella Stefanelli, Barbara Wejnert, Prof. Jasbir Singh, Dr. Moumita Dey, and another instance of Jagriti Upadhyay. A notification indicates that 19 other participants have joined. The bottom control bar shows the time as 12:32 PM and the meeting ID as mxc-amac-imp. On the right, an 'In-call messages' panel is open, displaying messages from Dr. Moumita Dey (9:42 AM) and Barbara Wejnert (9:48 AM) regarding meeting links and session chair reminders. A message from Raffaella Leproni (9:50 AM) is partially visible.

This screenshot shows a Google Meet session with a presentation slide titled "Basics of IoT" being presented by Gautam Pal. The slide content includes:

- Internet of Things (IoT) comprises of **Things** that have unique identities and are connected to the Internet.
- The focus on IoT is in the configuration, control and networking via the Internet of devices or "Things" that are traditionally not associated with the internet. Eg: Light, utility meter, TV etc.
- IoT is a new revolution in the capabilities of the endpoints that are connected to the internet.

A diagram on the slide illustrates the progression from "Make Device Connected to World" to "Internet of Things (IoT)" through three stages: "Man to Machine", "Machine to Machine", and "Anything to Everything". The slide footer includes the date "25-Mar-22" and the names "Adwitiya Gope, Gautam Pal".

The meeting interface shows a grid of participants including Gautam Pal, Mariella Stefanelli, Barbara Wejnert, Rumki Nath Sen, Mireia Canals, Adwitiya Gope, and a notification for 19 other participants. The bottom control bar shows the meeting ID as mxc-amac-imp. The 'In-call messages' panel on the right is open, showing messages from Dr. Moumita Dey (9:42 AM) and Barbara Wejnert (9:48 AM) regarding meeting links and session chair reminders. A message from Raffaella Leproni (9:50 AM) is partially visible.

2022

# 8<sup>th</sup> WORLD-CWS

## CONFERENCE - RECAPS

Nicolae Iorga Institute of History  
Romanian Academy Bucharest



8th Annual  
Conference  
World Center  
for Women's Studies

in collaboration with



Nicolae Iorga  
Institute  
of History  
Romanian Academy  
Bucharest

4-5 November 2022

8wciorgainstitute@gmail.com

### Conference Theme: “Gender Equality, Conflict, and Humanitarian Crises: Issues and Prospects for the Future.”

#### Scientific and Organizing Committee



prof. Barbara Wejnert, University at Buffalo,  
State University of New York (president of the WCWS)



prof. Maria Anita Stefanelli, Universita Romana Tre, Roma,  
(vice president of the WCWS)



prof. Claudia Floretnina Dobre, Nicolae Iorga Institute  
of History, director of the Center for Memory  
and Identity Studies, Bucharest (co-host of Conference)



prof. Izabela Skórzyńska, Adam Mickiewicz  
University, Poznań, (Executive Committee Member of the  
WCWS)



Deshabndu prof. Jeeva Niriella, University of Colombo (Executive  
Committee Member of the WCWS)



prof. Anupama Vohra, University of Jammu, (Executive Committee  
Member of the WCWS)



prof. Jasbir Singh, University of Jammu (vice-president of the WCWS)



prof. Bishnu Charan Barik, University of Swami Ramanad Teerth  
Maratwada (Executive Committee Member of the WCWS)



prof. Seela Alduwaka, Alabama University (Member of the Publication  
Comettee of WCWS)



prof. Ram Alagan, Alabama State University, (Member of the Publication  
Comettee of WCWS)

#### Keynote Speaker

2022

# 8<sup>th</sup> WORLD-CWS

CONFERENCE - RECAPS

Nicolae Iorga Institute of History  
Romanian Academy Bucharest



8th Annual Conference  
World Center for Women's Studies

4-5 November 2022  
Remote Conference

Co-host:  
Nicolae Iorga Institute of History  
Romanian Academy  
Bucharest

## Conference Theme:

**“Gender Equality, Conflict, and Humanitarian Crises: Issues and Prospects for the Future.”**

Impact of Conflict on Women's Health  
Impact of War on Women and Children  
Conflict and Violence Against Women  
Women, Development and Humanitarian Crises  
Gender Issues in Post-War Reconstruction  
War, Conflict and Cities

War, Women and Economy  
Migration and Refugee Issues  
Women, Peace and Security  
Search for a New Livelihood

Session on the Impact of War  
on Gender Equality

Call for paper abstracts  
Submission deadline: September 15th  
Acceptance notification: September 20th  
Details of participation: see attachment

Abstract submission:  
Barbara Wejnert (president of WCWS)  
bwejnert@gmail.com or worldcws@gmail.com  
Abstract submission form: see attachment

2022

# 8<sup>th</sup> WORLD-CWS

CONFERENCE - RECAPS

Nicolae Iorga Institute of History  
Romanian Academy Bucharest

8th Annual Conference World Center  
for Women's Studies

4-5 November 2022



## KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Prof. Maria Bucur, John W. Hill Chair  
of East European and of Gender Studies  
at Indiana University, Bloomington, USA

Gender Equality, Conflict  
and Humanitarian Crises: Issues and Prospects  
for the Future

in collaboration with



Nicolae Iorga Institute of History  
Romanian Academy  
Bucharest, Romania



**Prof. Maria Bucur**

Gender Justice in the Twenty-First  
Century: Global Challenges, Local  
Responses, Transnational  
Connections

world-cws.com  
8wciorgainstitute@gmail.com  
Google Meet Platform



## 9th Annual Conference

of the World Center for Women's Studies (World-CWS)

Co-host: Central University of Odisha, Koraput, Odisha, India



# Women in the 21st Century, Environment & Sustainable Development

**December  
7th – 9th  
2023  
In-Person  
&  
Online**

### Coordinators:

- Department of Sociology, Central University of Odisha
- World Center for Women's Studies

### Conference Sub-Themes:

- Women Nurture the Nature Across the Globe
- Gender and Environmental Movements
- Women and Recent Trends of Environmental Studies
- Women and Sustainable Development
- Gender and Environment in Literature, Film, and Theater

### Contact:

- Dr. Kapila Khemundu: [icwesd@cuo.ac.in](mailto:icwesd@cuo.ac.in)
- Dr. Barbara Wejnert, President of WCWS: [world.cws@gmail.com](mailto:world.cws@gmail.com)

## Conference Theme:

### “Women in the 21st Century: Environment and Sustainable Development.”

The role of women in society has evolved from a feudal, patriarchal structure to a more flexible, liberal social order based on democratic principles in the twenty-first century. As global climate change emerges as a critical issue, there is a growing movement toward conserving natural resources and promoting a sustainable environment. Slogans such as "Save the Environment" and "Save the Earth" are now widely used by academics, researchers, youth, leaders, bureaucrats, and environmental activists alike.

The urgency to protect the environment has become essential due to various threats, including population growth, technology, deforestation, infrastructure development, war, and migration. The connection between women, the environment, and sustainable development has been recognized since the early 1960s, yet this discussion has largely remained confined to academic writings in books, journals, and newspapers.

In the early 1980s, policymakers and governments around the world began to express concern about the interconnections between environmental issues and gender equality. The World Bank highlighted in 1991 that women play a crucial role in managing natural resources, including soil, water, forests, agriculture, and energy.

Within the framework of Women, Environment, and Development, a dialogue emerged advocating that improving women's economic status in developing countries requires a focus on these interconnected issues. Challenges such as manmade pollution, environmental hazards, waste disposal, and the use of pesticides, chemicals, and nuclear waste are significant environmental concerns globally. While there is a strong emphasis on women as solution providers for environmental issues, there remains a lack of substantial policies aimed at empowering women.

## **Resolution**

**As an organization devoted to equality, peace, and global development that focuses on empowering women and girls, we condemn the Russian invasion of the independent, democratic, and sovereign Ukraine. We are staying strong in support and solidarity with the Ukrainian people, calling Russia to stop the brutal killing of civilians, bombing cities, and nondiscriminatory bombing schools, kindergartens, and hospitals, including maternity hospitals. We call on the Russian President and the Russian people to stop the aggression and withdraw its troops from Ukrainian soil.**

**The Executive Committee and members of the World Center for Women's Studies (WCWS)**

2023

# 9th WORLD-CWS

## CONFERENCE - RECAPS

Central University of Odisha, India



2023

# 9th WORLD-CWS

## CONFERENCE - RECAPS

### Central University of Odisha, India



2023

# 9<sup>th</sup> WORLD-CWS

## CONFERENCE - RECAPS

### Central University of Odisha, India



Please briefly describe the photo and occasion

## International Conference on 'Women in the 21st Century Environment and Sustainable Development concludes at CUO

Koraput, (TNB): The three-day International Conference on 'Women in the 21st Century: Environment and Sustainable Development' started on 7 December 2023 and ended at the main campus of the Central University of Odisha on 9 December 2023. The Department of Sociology organized it in collaboration with the World Centre for Women Studies, University at Buffalo, New York, USA. Prof. Chakradhar Tripathi, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of the Central University

of Odisha conveyed his good wishes. He hoped that the conference would serve as a forum to provide critical inputs for policymakers and inspire the young generation to research the field. Prof. V. C Jha, advisor (academics and administration) of the Central University of Odisha, was the chief guest for the valedictory ceremony. He said that our prime minister, Shri Narendra Modiji, is committed to the development of women. Our objective is to end global gender

disparity. The role of science and technology is very important, especially in the development of women. The concept of local to global was showcased through the agricultural products, including the Koraput region millets exhibited during the conference. The Atharva Veda, the religious scripture from India, has taught us that the land is our mother.

The guest of honour, Prof. Barbara Wejnert, Professor, Department of Environment and



Sustainability, University at Buffalo, New York, remarked on the tremendous potential of students for a better tomorrow. She drew attention to various environmental challenges such as manmade pollution, environmental haz-

ards, garbage and waste disposal, the use of pesticides and chemicals, nuclear tests, and electronic waste disposal, which continue to pose significant global concerns. She also said that we all can make a better

future with gender equality and sustainable development and contribute to peace through global cooperation. Prof B C Barik, eminent sociologist and former Vice-Chancellor of Sambalpur University, stressed the importance of knowledge gathering. He emphasized that substantial policies aimed at empowering women are crucial in addressing these Women, Environment, and Development issues.

Earlier, Dr. Kapila Khemundu, Associate Professor and HoD of

Dept. of Sociology, CUO, and the organizing secretary of the conference delivered the welcome address. In the Women, Environment, and Development context, he emphasized the need to enhance women's economic status in developing countries. He informed that 54 papers were presented in a total of eight sessions at the conference. On the occasion, the book of abstracts was released by the dignitaries. Dr. Aditya Keshari Mishra, Faculty in the Department of Sociol-

ogy, CUO, proposed the vote of thanks. Dr. Nupur Pattnaik, Faculty, Dept. of Sociology, supported the technical session proceedings and highlighted the importance of women's empowerment. Dr. Manas Kumar Malik, Faculty, Dept. of Sociology also supported the entire ceremony. The programme was anchored by Mr. Niranjan Majhi, a research scholar of Sociology at CUO. A large number of teaching and non-teaching staff and students were also present. 10 Dec 2023

2024

# World-CWS Webinar Series



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## Virtual Global Workshop

### Women's Rights as Human Rights

Date: January 28, 2022

Time: 8:30 AM - 11:30 AM ETS (New York time)

#### Speakers:



Professor Deshabandu Professor Jeeva Niriella '**Right to be Free from Violence and Discrimination as a Fundamental Human Right of a Woman: Law and Development in Sri Lanka**'

Senior Attorney at Law, is a Professor in the Department of Public and International Law, Faculty of Law, University of Colombo, Professor in Law, Faculty of Law and the Funding Dean of the Faculty of Criminal Justice, General Sir John Kotelawala Defense University Sri Lanka



Dr. Neal Hall, Medical Doctor-surgeon, and Poet, poetry award winner from Niger: reading his Poetry on race and rights '**Matriarchal Patriarch**' for which he won the first prize of the Dehli One Lakh Rupees in Wingword poetry prize in 2020 <https://www.wingword.in/blog/2021/5/16/matriarchal-patriarch-neal-hall>



Professor Ram Alagan, Alabama State University who will be discussing, '**Women's Reproductive Rights in Disfunctional Democracies**'

Organized by the World Center for Women's Studies : [www.world-cws.com](http://www.world-cws.com)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://buffalo.zoom.us/j/3734490108?pwd=TUJPWEhPUElvSFBQK0Z1N1FYcG9rUT09>

**2024**

# World-CWS Webinar Series



**WORLD CENTER FOR WOMEN'S STUDIES  
CELEBRATES  
10TH ANNIVERSARY OF WORLD-CWS  
ORGANIZES  
KNOWLEDGE LECTURE SERIES (KLS)**

**INAUGURAL LECTURE ONLINE**



**SPEAKER**

**PROF. SUDHI RAJIV  
VICE CHANCELLOR**

**HARIDEV JOSHI UNIVERSITY OF JOURNALISM AND MASS COMMUNICATION  
JAIPUR INDIA**

**SATURDAY**

**26 OCTOBER 2024**

**AT 7.00 PM (IST) & 9.30 AM (EST)**

**PROF. ANUPAMA VOHRA  
ORGANIZING SECRETARY  
KLS**



2023

# 10<sup>th</sup> WORLD-CWS CONFERENCE

## Adam Mickiewicz University Poznań (Poland)

Time (Central European Time CET)	Meeting Venue	Type of Activity	Participants	Presentation
19-02-2025 Wednesday 6:00 PM	<b>SFINKS RESTAURANTE</b> Św. Marcin 66-72 str. (ticket)	Network Meeting		
20-02-2025 Thursday 10:00 – 10:15 AM	Faculty of History Adam Mickiewicz University Uniwersytetu Poznańskiego 7 str. Conference Room (ground floor)	<b>Opening Ceremony (inaguration speeches)</b>	Prof. Barbara <u>Wejnert</u> (President of the World-CWS, Buffalo University) Prof. Rafał Witkowski (Vice-Rector of the Adam Mickiewicz University) Prof. Sudhi Rajiv (Vice Chancellor Haridev Joshi University of Journalism and Mass Communications Jaipur)	
20-02-2025 Thursday 10:15 – 10:50 AM		<b>Keynote Speech</b>	Keynote Speaker Katarzyna Sękowska-Kozłowska - Ph.D. Institute of Legal Studies of the Polish Academy of Sciences (ILS PAS)	45 Years of the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW): Achievements and Prospects
20-02-2025 Thursday 10:50 – 11:00 AM		Coffee Break		
20-02-2025 Thursday 11:00 – 01:15 PM		<b>Plenary Session 1 Women &amp; Girls Presence &amp; Narrative</b>	Pratibha N.A.	Education as a Contradictory Resource for Dalit Women's Development: Perspectives from Autobiographical Narratives
		<b>Chair Anupama Vohra</b>	Marta Studenna-Skruckwa	<i>A Week Like Any Other</i> by Natalya <u>Baranskaya</u> as a Literary Image of Gender Inequality in the Late Soviet Union.
			Parveen Kumari	Time and Memory in Shilpa <i>Raj's</i> <i>the Elephant Chaser's Daughter</i> and <i>Yashica Dutt's Coming out as</i> <i>Dalit</i>
			Kshamata Chaudhary	Daring to break convention & Humanizing the Villain: An Exploration of Kavita Kane's Lanka's Princess
			Marcelina Kilińska	Women before the Poznan Consistory Court in 1430
20-02-2025 Thursday 01:15 – 02:15 PM	Lunch			
20-02-2025 Thursday 2:15 – 4.45 PM		<b>Plenary Session 2 Women &amp; Girls Economy &amp; Law</b>	<u>Nirjella Muthukuda</u> , <u>Arachchige</u> <u>Dona Shiroma</u> , <u>Jeeva Shirajanie</u> .	Understanding Cybercrime Against Women in Sri Lanka: A Criminological Analysis of Motivations and Legal Responses
		<b>Chair Marta Studenna – Skrukwa</b>	Anupama Vohra	Insights into the Politics of Rape through selected Case Studies
			Jasbir Singh	Economics of Socio-Economic Inequality among Women Workers: A Case Study of Paid and Unpaid Work in the Care Economy
			<u>Sarbleet Singh</u> Harjinder Singh Jitendra Kumar Pal	<u>Labour</u> Market Dilemma of Young Women in India: An Analysis
			Prakash Nirupama Deb Rouni	Rethinking Women Empowerment: Women-Led Development
20-02-2025 Thursday 4:45 – 5:00 PM	Coffee Break			
20-02-2025 Thursday 5:00 – 7:00 PM		<b>Plenary Session 3 Women &amp; Girls Popular Culture - Resistance Cultures</b>	Jagriti Upadhyaya	Debunking Gender Stereotypes: Meet Hooda as an Advocate for Gender Equality- A Feminist Reading of the TV Serial Meet.
		<b>Chair Maria Anita Stefanelli</b>	Kalpna Purohit	Gender equality And Social Justice: A Kaleidoscopic View of <u>Women</u> Empowerment
			Marta <u>Rybczyńska</u> Jakub Nowocin	" <i>Girls to the front</i> – the impact of Riot <u>Grrrr!</u> "

2023

# 10<sup>th</sup> WORLD-CWS CONFERENCE

Adam Mickiewicz University  
Poznań (Poland)

			Grazyna Gajewska <a href="#">Jewdokimow</a> Dorota	<a href="#">Hydrofeminist</a> reading of nature-culture texts Mom has a secret. The cultural specificity of Russian women's anti-war activism
20-02-2025 Thursday 7:00 PM			Diner	
21-02-2025 Friday 9:00-9:45 AM	Senate Hall of <a href="#">The Adam Mickiewicz University Wieniawskiego 1 str.</a>	<b>Special session</b>	Professor Bogumila Kaniewska (Rector of Adam Mickiewicz University) & Exhibition curated by Anna Schmidt-Fiedler, prof. Iwona Chmura-Rutkowska, prof. Edyta Glowacka-Sobiech	
21-02-2025 Friday 9:45-12:00 AM	Senate Hall of <a href="#">The Adam Mickiewicz University Wieniawskiego 1 str.</a>	<b>Plenary Session 4</b> <b>Women &amp; Girls Education – Science - Health</b>  Chair <b>Jeeva <a href="#">Nirjella</a></b>	Katarzyna Witek-Dryjańska Manorama Upadhyaya Neeru Sharma Sandu K. Aladuwaka Seela Aladuwaka Ram Alagan Mishra Manoj Sandu K. Aladuwaka Seela Aladuwaka Ram Alagan Mishra Manoj	Talking about hygiene and menstruation – underwear as a catalyst for women's conversations <a href="#">Aanganwadi</a> Workers: Promoters of Health and Medicine <i>among the Disadvantaged Classes. (A Case Study of Jodhpur)</i> Developmental Niche of the <a href="#">Children Mothers</a> , Family, Child Development and SDGs Social Determinants of Health Influence in Breast Cancer Epidemic in Alabama Examining African American Students Representation in STEM Education and Research Using Geospatial Technology: A Case of Alabama
21-02-2025 Friday 12:00-12:15 PM			Coffee Break	
21-02-2025 Friday 12:15-02:30 PM		<b>Plenary Session 5</b> <b>Women &amp; Girls Art &amp; Performance</b>  Chair <b>Dorota <a href="#">Jewdokimow</a></b>	Sharif <a href="#">Atiquzzaman</a> Justyna Budzińska Stefanelli Maria Anita Kijak Ula Katarzyna <a href="#">Balbuza</a>	The Intersections of Gender, Arts and Sustainable Development Lessons from South Asia A Story of Emotions – a 'Woman in 'Tears of Joy'. "Prayer Of The mother". A hymn for peace "Battlegrounds: Reclaiming Art as a Form of Activism for Equality" <a href="#">Fuducilla</a> on coins of Roman empress Herennia Etruscilla - the story of one issue
21-02-2025 Friday 02:30 – 03:30 PM			Lunch	
21-02-2025 Friday 03:30 – 05:45 PM		<b>Plenary Session 6</b> <b>Women &amp; Girls Gender &amp; Politics</b>  Chair <b>Jasbir Singh</b>	Seema Thakur Barbara <a href="#">Wejnert</a> Maciej <a href="#">Bugajewski</a> Asma Show Twinkle Suri	From Resolution to Reality: Celebrating 25 Years of UNSCR 1325's Contributions to Global Peace Promoters of Peace and Equality in Polarized Modern Societies Connected <a href="#">histories</a> and woman's <a href="#">history</a> . An attempt at methodological reflection Habba Khatoon: The discerning voice for freedom from the Himalayan <a href="#">vale</a> of Kashmir Women and Girls: Architects of Equality Peace, and a Sustainable Future
21-02-2025 Friday 05:45 – 06:00 PM			Coffee Break	
21-02-2025 Friday		<b>Plenary Session 7</b>	Izabela Skórzyńska Agnieszka Chwieduk	Care and Justice: Women's Strategies to Help People Affected

2023

# 10<sup>th</sup> WORLD-CWS CONFERENCE

Adam Mickiewicz University

Poznań (Poland)

06:00 – 07:30 PM		<b>Women &amp; Girls Migration &amp; Humanitarian Crises</b>		by the Migration Crisis in Central and Eastern Europe
		<b>Chair Nirupama Prakash</b>	Soe G. Win	Forgotten War: A Fight for Democracy and Humanitarian Crisis in Burma (Myanmar)
			Beata Halicka	Polish Women in Postwar America. Female Agency, Migration and Knowledge Transfer
21-02-2025 Friday 07:45 PM		Dinner		
22-02-2025 Saturday 9:00-11:00 AM (please note the time difference between your location and Central European Time)	<b>Faculty of History Adam Mickiewicz University Uniwersytetu Poznańskiego 7 str. Conference Room (ground floor)</b>	<b>On-line Session 1 Women &amp; Girls Narrative – Testimony</b>	Heemal Pandey	Relevance of the <u>Nāṭyaśāstra's</u> concept of <u>nāyikās</u> (heroines) in navigating the complexities of modern life
		<b>Chair Sudhi Rajiv</b>	Himanshi <u>Chandervanshi</u>	The Importance of Reproductive Rights to Achieve Sustainable Development Goals: A Study of Crying in the Bathroom
			Simran	Where do I Stand? Question of the <u>Autofictional/Autobiographical Self</u> in Hoshang Merchant's <i>The Man Who Would Be Queen</i>
			ALKA	Re-reading Women's Suffering and Survival during the Holocaust through the Memoir of Anita Lobel
22-02-2025 Saturday 11:00-11:15 AM		Coffee Break		
22-02-2025 Saturday 11:15 – 01:30 AM/PM		<b>On-line Session 2 Women &amp; Girls Activity - Activism</b>	Diksha Bhagat	<u>Awista Ayub's Kabul Girls Soccer Club</u> : Insights into Afghan women's struggle for inclusion in sports
			<u>Ravita_Sonia</u> Goyal	Participation of Young Women in the <u>Indian Labour Market</u>
		<b>Grażyna Gajewska</b>	Ranjeet Kaur	The Political Mobilization of Women during the Farmers' Protest: A Changing Dynamics of women's role in <u>Agriculture</u>
			Thankam K. Abraham	<u>Ecotism</u> ; Ashvini Menon 's <u>Ecological Take on Urbanscapes</u>
			Kriti Singh	Adivasi women's activism: advocacy of peace and equality in <u>Jacinta Kerketta's poetry</u>
22-02-2025 Saturday 01:30 – 02:30 PM		<b>Roundtable Moderator Barbara Wejnert</b>	Sisira Shantha <u>Niriella</u> Purohit Ashok Jeeva <u>Niriella</u> Jasbir Singh	The Promotion of Women's Rights - <u>Glocal Perspective</u>
22-02-2025 Saturday 02:30 – 03:00 PM		<b>Closing of the Conference</b>	Prof. Barbara <u>Wejnert</u> (President of the World-CWS) Prof. Jasbir Singh (Vice President of the World-CWS) Prof. Izabela Skórzyńska (Vice President of the World-CWS (2024-2025))	
22-02-2025 Saturday 03:00-04:00 PM		Lunch		
22/23 – 02 - 2025 Sunday		City Tour		
24.02.2025 Monday 10:00-12:00 AM	<b>Welcome Center Adam Mickiewicz University Świety Marcin 78 str</b>	<b>Post-Conference Workshop</b>	World-CWS Team/AMU Team	

# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

## World-CWS Messenger

The Publication Committee and the Executive Committee of the World Center for Women Studies are excited to announce the distribution of the second edition (Spring 2025) of the World-CWS digital newsletter, titled the “World-CWS Messenger.” We invite submissions for the third edition (Spring 2026) that relate to publications in gender studies, research accomplishments, conference presentations, and creative works.

The 2025 conference will occur both in-person and virtually at [Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań, Poland](#). We encourage participation and look forward to sharing experiences with our global research community. Members of World-CWS are welcome to submit research perspectives, publications, webinars, and discussions on global gender studies for consideration in our future volume. Please direct your submissions to Ram Alagan, Publication Committee, at [ralagan@alalsu.edu](mailto:ralagan@alalsu.edu).

# WCG

Women and Girls: Promoters of Equality,  
Peace and Sustainable Development

**WORLD-CWS | 2025**

## Thank you!

We are grateful to all who have contributed to the 7th, 8th, and 9th annual conference

### Our Special Thanks to

**Dr. Fr. Benny K. John** (Holy Cross College, Agartala, India)

**Dr. Prasanta Chakraborty** (ICFAI University, Tripura India)

**Dr. Claudia-Florentina** (Nicolae Lorga Institute of History Romanian Academy Bucharest)

**Prof. Maria Bucur** (Indiana University, Bloomington, IN, USA)

**Prof Chakaradhar Tripathi** (Central University of Odisha, Koraput, India)

**Dr. Kapila Khemundu** (Central University of Odisha, Koraput, India)

**Dr. Neal Hall** (Medical Doctor Surgeon and Poet)

**Prof. Sudhi Rajiv** (Haridev Joshi University, India)

### World-CWS Members

Prof. Maria Anita Stefanelli

Prof. Jeeva Niriella

Prof. Izabela Skorzynska

Prof. Jasbir Singh

Prof. Anupama Vohra

Prof. Barbara Wejnert

Prof. Seela Aladuwaka

Prof.. Ram Alagan

All participants of 2022-2023 (7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>) World CWS Conferences

Thank you,  
World-CWS: Publication Committee

## Tell Your STORIES to World-CWS

We will publish it in the next issue of  
“Messenger”

For more update on Word-CWS News, please visit <http://world-cws.com/>