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Gender & Migration
Virtual Community

Dear Members of the G & M Virtual Community,

In this newsletter I hope you'll find many useful links and resources. Please have a look at the news section to see the latest videos, interviews, articles and reports in the gender & migration area. There are also some new events in the migration field, most have included at least a seminar or a workshop directly related to gender and female migrants. Please, if you know about a local workshop or conference related to gender & migration, let us know! You can upload the event yourself – you need to log in first - or send the link by e-mail and I'll be happy to post it for you. In the same way, institutional links are always welcome so we can promote the work of your organization and share knowledge among users.

In this issue you'll also find a summary of our recent Virtual Discussion on **"Migration, Remittances and Gender-Responsive Local Development"**. A very sincere thank you once again to all participants who posted a comment and helped creating a very engaging forum. I hope these ideas and recommendations can help us in creating future synergies, programmes and research work. There's much to be done! I'm looking forward to organizing a new discussion with you soon. If you would like to suggest a discussion theme and contribute with questions, please, send us a brief message outlining your interests.

Thank you once again for your constant support!

Romina Iebra Aizpurúa

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News:

[Photo Essay: The Magnificent Migrants](#)

The magazine Foreign Policy has published a photo exhibition entitled "The Magnificent Migrants – Extraordinary photos of ordinary Mexicans". The photographs tell the stories of Mexican migrants struggling to live in the United States.

[Gender-based violence among undocumented migrant women](#)

The article "Undocumented Migrant Women: Gender-based violence in Europe's fight against irregular migration", written by Eve Geddie (Acting Director of PICUM - Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants) has been recently published in the magazine Choices (IPPF). Described as "the most pervasive yet least recognised human rights abuse in the world", violence against women is a manifestation of gender-based inequality and discrimination.

[Migrant women in Ireland: Breaking the silence of genital mutilation](#)

(IrishTimes.com) Greater awareness among healthcare workers in Ireland is needed to help women who have undergone 'female circumcision', writes Catherine Reilly. More than 2,500 migrant women in Ireland are estimated to have suffered some form of female genital mutilation (FGM) in their countries, according to AkiDWA, a national network of African and migrant women.

[Reforming America's Immigration Laws: A Woman's Struggle](#)

While immigrant communities across the nation endure the long wait for immigration reform, there are roughly 19 million immigrant women and girls currently in the U.S. Immigrant women, particularly the undocumented, are often more vulnerable than their male counterparts, lack the same economic opportunities, and experience exploitation while crossing the border, while working and even in their own homes. In short, immigrant women have become the silent victims of a broken immigration system.

[Migrant mothers tempted to abandon babies in Moscow](#)

(BBC News Europe) An increasing number of babies born to Central Asian migrant workers are abandoned in Moscow maternity hospitals. Diloram Ibrahimova, of the BBC's Central Asia and Caucasus Service, meets some of those struggling to tackle this trend. When a migrant woman who is here on her own gives birth she experiences a psychological trauma... she has no other choice than to leave her baby behind" says Rustam Tadjiev, a Moscow gynaecologist

[DPhil Studentships at IMI](#)

The International Migration Institute at the University of Oxford seeks to award two fully-funded DPhil studentships commencing 1 October 2011 for the ['Determinants of International Migration'](#) (DEMIG) research project.

[Female migrants' isolation heightens HIV risk in Cambodia](#)

(Panos London) Female garment workers in Cambodia who have migrated to the capital are more exposed to a risk of HIV infection because of the changes in their social and economic circumstances, a new report claims. The report, published in this month's Women's Studies International Forum journal, looks at the social and economic factors that affect HIV rates among migrant Cambodian garment workers.

[Government of Canada Helps Develop Leadership Skills Among Immigrant Women and Girls](#)

Waterloo, Ontario - On behalf of the Honourable Rona Ambrose, Minister of Public Works and Government Services and Minister for Status of Women, Mr. Peter Braid, Member of Parliament (Kitchener-Waterloo), today announced Government of Canada support for a new project to help immigrant women and girls in the Kitchener-Waterloo region.

[Women refugee need better protection from violence](#)

Caritas is highlighting the plight of three million women in long-term refugee crises on World Refugee Day, 20 June. Women refugees are particularly vulnerable to human rights abuses in cases where they've been forced to leave their homes for long-standing periods. Caritas says the international community can do better in protecting them from violence.

[Fewer internal displacements in Africa](#)

(Vafrol News) - While internal displacements continue to rise in the world at large, Africa has seen a slow but marked decrease in the number of internal "refugees" during the last decade. Africa has become more peaceful. This is one of the conclusions in a 2001-09 overview of internally displaced persons due to conflict and violence, made available to afrol News today by the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC).

[New Video: Refugee series](#)

The experience of Sowda Hussen Mohamud, a refugee in South Africa. Women News Network Video collection 22-year-old sports reporter Sowda is a refugee from the war in Somalia, and lives in Mayfair, Johannesburg, having fled her country after threats from extremists who believe women should not be journalists. Women journalists face numerous dangers in Somalia and countries in many other regions after they release investigative reports.

[Radio Interview: Migrant Domestic Workers in Ireland](#)

Pat Kenny from Radio 1 interviews Anele Jakiel, a migrant worker from Malawi and Siobhan O'Donoghue from the Migrants Rights Centre Ireland on the Domestic Working Action Group and their demands for improving the protection of migrant domestic workers in Ireland.

[Mexico's Distressed-Migrant Visas Reach Few Women](#)

Mexico City (Womensenews) Central American female migrants seeking a better life in the United States risk huge dangers as they pass through Mexico. Human rights researchers say their chances of getting a humanitarian visa for what they suffer are almost non-existent. When Mexico decriminalized undocumented migration from the nations south of its border through its country two years ago, it also started allowing migrant victims of violence access to humanitarian visas. However, the visas are rarely issued and the process is so slow it's nearly useless.

[Europa tiene a 140.000 mujeres esclavizadas en la prostitución](#)

La ONU cree que una de cada siete meretrices es víctima de redes de trata - La mayoría procede de los Balcanes y sufre la violencia de pequeñas bandas. Naciones Unidas calcula que hay alrededor de 140.000 mujeres víctimas de la trata de personas con fines de explotación sexual en Europa occidental. Son en su mayoría mujeres y chicas que han sido engañadas, o incluso vendidas por familiares o amigos en sus países de origen para ser prostituidas bajo coacción en Alemania, Holanda o España.

[Immigration is a Woman's Issue](#)

(AWID) In the wake of the recent passing of the harsh anti-immigrant law in Arizona, Gloria Steinem, writer, feminist organizer and cofounder of the Women's Media Center, and Pramila Jayapal, an immigrant herself, and founder and executive director of OneAmerica, a national organization that works for civil and human rights for immigrants, consider the unique impact of immigration on women.

[Doctoral research fellowships on return migration to Burundi and Iraq](#)

The Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO) is initiating a large project entitled Possibilities and realities of return migration (PREMIG). As part of the project we are inviting applications for two three-year doctoral researcher positions at PRIO. The two positions are devoted to studying return migration to Burundi and Iraq, respectively. Each study will draw upon fieldwork among migrants in Norway and the United Kingdom, as well as in Burundi/Iraq. Within the scope of the project's research questions, the doctoral candidates will be able to develop their own interests and conduct independent analysis.

[Films on displacement](#)

IRIN Films: Forced to Flee: These two documentaries filmed by the Integrated Regional Information Networks (IRIN) tell the story of two very different displaced communities, one in DRC and the other in the Philippines, and the daunting challenges they both face.

[Hivos Knowledge Programme](#)

An academic-practitioner cooperation to strengthen Civil Society Building efforts. International cooperation is in need of more knowledge to make a difference. To tackle complex problems such as the rise of fundamentalist movements and to innovate the sector needs to invest in the development, deepening, dissemination and application of knowledge. The Knowledge

Programme is a practitioner-academic collaboration aimed at developing knowledge on issues imperative to the work of civil society organisations (CSOs) and the development sector at large. To achieve its goals Hivos works closely with CSOs and academic centres worldwide.

[Inequality and Internal Migration in China](#)

This research paper, written by Wei Ha, Junjian Yi and Junsen Zhang, analyzes the impact of rural-to-urban migration on income inequality and gender wage gap in source regions using a newly constructed panel dataset for around 100 villages over a ten-year period from 1997 to 2006 in China. The researchers found a pattern between migration and income inequality in the sending communities.

[Ni Une ni Deux: Contre la violence aux femmes étrangères](#)

La Cimade a organisé l'inauguration d'un commissariat modèle dans l'accueil et la protection des femmes étrangères victimes de violences. Depuis février en effet, l'association mène campagne pour sensibiliser le public mais aussi les acteurs sociaux et politiques à la situation parfois inextricable dans laquelle se retrouvent les femmes étrangères victimes de violences.

Events / Call for papers & proposals:

[8-10 Sept Event: 'European Migration And Asylum Policies'](#)

[13 Sept Event: 'Extending Social Protection To Migrant Workers And Their Families'](#)

[13-14 Sept Event: 'New Migration In Industrial Cities And Regions Of Europe'](#)

[16-18 Sept Event: 'Masculine/Feminine : New Issues For Geography'](#)

[20 Sept-1 Oct Event: 'Migration: Challenges And Opportunities For Europe'](#)

[21-24 Sept: Event: 'II Congreso Latinoamericano De Trata Y Tráfico De Personas: Migración, Género Y Derechos Humanos'](#)

[3-4 Oct Event: '2010 Cities Of Migration Conference'](#)

[4-8 Oct Event: '15th International Metropolis Conference'](#)

[8-12 Oct Event: 'IV World Social Forum On Migration'](#)

[8-11 Nov Event: 'Global Forum On Migration And Development \(GFMD\)'](#)

[13 Nov Event: 'Disciplining Global Movements: Migration Management and its Discontents'](#)

[16-19 Nov Event: "African Migrations Workshop: The Contribution of African Research to Migration Theory"](#)

[25 Nov Event: 'How Safe Is Safe? Evaluating Migration Channels For Women Migrants'](#)

[13-15 Nov Event: '2nd European Conference On Politics And Gender'](#)

Virtual Discussion Summary

Between the 31 May and 25 June 2010 the Gender & Migration Virtual Community successfully hosted the **III Virtual Discussion: "Migration, Remittances and Gender-Responsive Local Development"**.

Please, **click here** to read the discussion summary, where you can find a review of the key points discussed, an outline of the main ideas & policy recommendations, and a list of participants' contact details. Thank you to all of you for creating such an inspiring e-discussion! I hope it was useful and interesting to you all.

New Links:

Pratichesociali

<http://www.pratichesociali.org/>

PRATICHE SOCIALI is a web experience, a "human beings oriented" website as we call it. Here, different backgrounds find the chance to improve and upgrade their knowledge and skills. We are not a company but an informal non profit place on internet at the service of the thirst of knowledge all around the world. Our fields of interest are Social Justice, Welfare State, Human Rights, Migration, Social Research, Adult Education and all sectors related with human dignity and respect.

Fundación Diáspora Solidaria

<http://www.diasporasolidaria.org>

It is an international women migrant organization based in Europe which promotes and facilitates the commitment of Latin American diasporas with the development of their countries through the advocacy and defense of women's rights. We are an autonomous women's fund which mobilizes resources for women's organizations in L.A.

Centre for Research on Nationalism, Ethnicity and Multiculturalism (CRONEM)

<http://www.roehampton.ac.uk/researchcentres/cronem/index.html>

CRONEM is a multidisciplinary research centre in the field of nationalism, ethnicity and multiculturalism. It brings together those at the University of Surrey and Roehampton University who are engaged in issues which lie at the nexus between nation, ethnicity, multiculturalism, citizenship and migration.

Featured Publications

New Book: Identity Processes and Dynamics in Multi-Ethnic Europe (Amsterdam University Press)

Edited by Charles Westin, José Bastos, Janine Dahinden and Pedro Góis. Globalisation, migration and integration have shaken up identity processes and identity dynamics as never before. But in a post colonial, multi-ethnic Europe, what is identity? How is it constructed? This book endeavours to answer these questions and more. Eleven of the thirteen chapters present empirical case studies from the Basque Country, the Netherlands, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and Portugal – thus resulting in one of the first international volumes to highlight Portugal's diverse and complex migration flows. Transnationalism also takes centre stage in

several contributions that survey various types of informal and formal networks in local communities and across national borders. Via American studies, anthropology, cultural studies, ethnology, history, social psychology and sociology, the authors come from an array of disciplines as dynamic as the continent about which they write.

[Report examines violence against immigrant women in Canada](#)

(Frontier Centre for Public Policy) A new report calls on Canadians to confront the abuse faced by many women in immigrant communities. The Frontier Centre for Public Policy today released Culturally-Driven Violence Against Women: A growing problem in Canada's immigrant communities. The report, written by Aruna Papp, M.Ed., M.A., a Toronto-based social worker who deals with domestic violence, focuses on the growing problem of the abuse of girls and women in Canada's immigrant communities.

[Report on Healthcare for the Uninsured and Undocumented](#)

This report summarizes the main findings and policy implications from the eight concurrent sessions which took place in the February 2010 Research Conference on Healthcare for the Uninsured and Undocumented. Ontario is seen to have a high-quality health system, free and accessible to all. However, significant numbers of people do not have OHIP cards or health insurance for various reasons and face major barriers to accessing the healthcare they need.

[IOM's Gender & Migration Bulletin: Focus on care, domestic work & trafficking](#)

The IOM Gender Issues Coordination (GIC) has recently published the latest issue of the Gender and Migration News Bulletin. This issue features, among other themes: Migration for Domestic Work, The Case of Domestic Workers in Costa Rica, Lebanon: Fair Deal for Domestic Workers?, Bolivia: Women's Remittances Come at High Cost, Bangladesh: Examining the Impact of the Global Economic Crisis on Female Migrants, Honduras: IOM Study Recommends Greater Focus on Adult Female Victims of Trafficking, Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation of Boys and Male Adolescents in Central America, Forced Marriage in the Sierra Leone Civil War: Beyond Sexual Exploitation, Skilled Female Migrant Care Workers Negotiating the 4th Shift.

[Informe sobre Tráfico de Personas 2010](#)

Colombia, único país en la región que lucha contra el tráfico de personas. El Departamento de Estado de EE.UU. indico, en su informe, que Cuba y República Dominicana no cumplen con los mínimos niveles en la lucha contra el tráfico de personas, según un informe del Departamento de Estado de EE.UU. que coloca a Colombia como el único país de la región que los cumple. El informe sobre Tráfico de Personas 2010' estudia la situación de 177 países y este año por primera vez se ha incluido a Estados Unidos utilizando los mismos parámetros que para el resto de naciones.

[UNFPA's Annual Report 2009](#)

UNFPA's Annual Report 2009 provides an overview of achievements last year in saving mothers' lives, planning families, preventing HIV infections and promoting the rights of women and girls. The report also highlights initiatives to address gender-based violence, to assist pregnant women in humanitarian emergencies and to bolster efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals. UNFPA, from its headquarters in New York and a global network of 129 offices, supported the development priorities of 155 countries, territories and areas in 2009. Income totaled \$783.1 million, including \$469.4 million in voluntary contributions from governments and private donors.

- **Do you want to add your Institution to our [Links section](#)?**
(You need to **log in first**, then follow the green menu on the right side of your browser and click on **"Submit a Link"**).
- **Are you aware of a Gender and Migration conference? Add it to our [events section](#)!**
(You need to **log in first**, then follow the green menu on the right side of your browser and click on **"Submit a New Event"**)
- **Do you want to publish a paper/research report or want to share a ppt.?** please, send it to us (gmvirtualcommunity@un-instraw.org) or submit it to the [library](#), it's easy!
(You need to **log in first**, then follow the green menu on the right side of your browser and click on **"Submit to the Library"**. Your document will be announced on the main page of the community under "latest downloads", so everyone can see it)

For questions, suggestions and requests regarding the G & M Virtual Community, please contact Romina Iebra Aizpurúa (gmvirtualcommunity@un-instraw.org).

The [Gender and Migration Virtual Community](#) is a space for those who share an interest in gender and migration to debate and reflect on issues in the field, share information and learn from each other. To find out more please visit [About the Community](#). To learn more about the members who make up the community please visit [Who we are](#). If you're interested in joining us please visit the [Sign Me Up](#) page.

[UN-INSTRAW](#) is the leading United Nations Institute devoted to research, training and knowledge management in partnership with governments, the United Nations System, civil society and academia to achieve gender equality and women's empowerment. Since 2004, UN-INSTRAW has been working on the issue of Gender, Migration, Remittances and Development. For more information about the Migration Programme please [click here](#).