



NAWO @ WRC, United House, North Road, London N7 9DP
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Dear Members,

We are pleased to share with you the National Alliance of Women's Organisations' latest news, information and upcoming events and opportunities from our network.

NEWS AND UPDATES: EUROPEAN WOMEN'S LOBBY

THE EUROPEAN WOMEN'S FORUM

Mobilise. Strategise. Act.

BRUSSELS JUNE 7-11 2017

The *European Women's Forum* organized by EWL gathered members and 300+ experts, professionals, decision-makers, women's rights defenders, and activists from all over Europe for a dynamic conference. The gathering was set to develop concrete strategies, campaigns

and action plans for tackling key women's rights and gender equality issues in Europe during 2017-2018. More information on the event can be found [here](#).

Barbara Cleary, Vice-Chair of NAWO, is the NAWO representative on the UK Joint Committee for Women (UKJCW), which is the body that represents women and girls in the UK on EWL. Barbara is also a member of the EWL Board. As the UKJCW representative on EWL, Barbara works with NAWO partner organisations Engender in Scotland, NIWEP in Northern Ireland and WEN in Wales to gather the perspectives of the Four Nations so that the views of women and girls across the UK are well represented at EWL. In addition to representing the UKJCW, Barbara was also elected onto the Board of EWL in her own right and NAWO is proud that our Vice-Chair is also so active on the EWL Board and Executive. She is also the Joint Chair of the Membership Committee. The General Assembly is the formal space for EWL members to voice ideas and comments and put forward resolutions and approve the strategy put forward by the



NAWO's Barbara Cleary in Brussels/
Photo Credit: @EmmaRitch

Board during the year. This year the UKJCW was active in putting forward a resolution on UK legislation in regard to the benefit cap on two children unless other children are the result of rape. Engender has been very active in work to raise awareness of this campaign which is strongly supported by NAWO. For more information see [Engender's Blog](#).

There are often other activities aligned with the General Assembly and this year there was the Youth4Abolition workshop, in which two representatives from NAWO YWA participated. A Loud & United event to call for the end to violence against women and girls was also part of the programme and NAWO YWA member Alisha Watts spoke. The reports of these events can be found [here](#) and [here](#).

CEDAW

On 26 June, NAWO will be attending the round table hosted by the GEO on the UK submission to CEDAW. The UK is due to make its report and the Government are seeking the input of key NGOs such as NAWO in preparation. NAWO members are warmly invited to share your concerns, interests and questions in regard to CEDAW so that we can ensure that we represent the greatest diversity of perspectives.



NAWO attended CEDAW in February with members of the NAWO YWA who gave presentation in Geneva. Please see [link](#). NAWO accredited members and allies to attend CEDAW the last time the UK reported to the Committee in 2013. The Equalities and Human Rights Commission (EHCR), asked NAWO to work with them on making the Concluding Observations from that report readily available to people in the UK. NAWO worked with members and IT experts

to create accessible information on CEDAW properly representing the Four Nations. These can be found [here](#). Please click [here](#) for the report that EHRC commissioned NAWO to do.

NAWO Chair Zarin Hainsworth was invited to appear in a film commissioned by EHCR on CEDAW. You can see it following the link above or [here](#) on YouTube.

ELECTIONS

NAWO continues to support and encourage women and girls to be involved in democratic processes. We wrote to all the major parties and asked them to let us know their policies relating to women and girls that they would share in their manifestos. We look forward to highlighting the promises made to women and girls in future analysis.

80 UNDER 80

NAWO is still engaged in a project to ensure that as diverse a range of people have their voices heard on a number of key issues. We are asking women and girls within different demographics: under 20, 20-40, 40-60, 60-80 and indeed 80-90 to send in a short answer (no more than 500 words) to any or all of the following questions.



1. How do you think Britain's exit from the EU will affect you personally and do you think it will have a specific effect on women, if so what?
2. What do you currently know about the Sustainable Development goals. Do you think there are important and if so why? What role do you think they should have (particularly goal 5) in the advancement of women and gender equality internationally and in the UK?
3. Do you have knowledge of the legal instruments/frameworks in place to protect and improve the situation for women and if so do you feel this has had any affect or relevance to your life?
4. What do you feel is the most important route of action to take in ending violence against women and girls?
5. If you could tell world leaders one thing about protection and improvement of the lives of women and girls what would it be.

Please click here [here](#) for the information or just send in your thoughts to Tahereh, NAWO Coordinator. The response so far have been very enlightening and some of them have already been shared. We look forward to creating more reports as more of you send in your thoughts and comments.

NAWO YWA ADVANCE PROJECT

NAWO undertook a short project funded by ROSA working to raise capacity among women. This was highly successful as we were able to achieve more than we promised within budget. A report will follow shortly. The young women involved are still working actively with the YWA and you can find out more and add your own thoughts by using the blog [here](#).

NAWO WELCOMES...

Gemma Welsh has been co-opted onto the MC and we are very happy to welcome a young woman onto the Board who has been an active members of the NAWO YWA and also is at university in Edinburgh, so we hope to have the perspectives of Scotland strongly represented as well as that of young women. Gemma worked for NAWO on the very successful YWA Advance project funded by ROSA and also interned with NAWO helping with the YWA and IT.

And lastly, we welcome our new coordinator Tahereh Matejko who shortly joined us at NAWO. Please do not hesitate to contact her if she can be of assistance.

With very best wishes from all of us at NAWO



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