



# MEDICAL WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION

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For immediate release

**Press Release**

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## **Take action for healthier women to get a healthier world**

### **Gender knowledge in medicine needs to be fostered in medical curricula and in all medical textbooks and instruction leaflets**

#### **Medical Women's International Association (MWIA) will support Georgia to found a Gender Medicine Institute**

Central European Regional Congress of Medical Women's International Association (MWIA) was held last weekend in Batumi/Georgia themed "The Actual Topics on Women Health". About 250 participants from all over the world, of course mainly of Europe e.g. from Austria, Australia, New Zealand, France, the Netherlands, UK, Germany, Aserbajdschan, Norway and Russia participated in this congress, which dealt with highly relevant issues like how to overcome gender related differences in health and healthcare between women and men, girls and boys. In this regard Medical Women's International Association (MWIA) will support Georgia to found a Gender Medicine Institute.

On the occasion of MWIA Central European Regional Congress Dr. Waltraud Diekhaus (Germany), MWIA Vice-President of Central Europe and Dr. Cisca Griffioen (The Netherlands), Vice President from Northern Europe stated:

"Gender medicine should be part of the training of medical specialists. Diversity between men and women strongly has to get significant impact on medical policies. During this Congress we achieved International cooperation in the field of Practical health care and medical Sciences and also carried out scientific and epidemiological investigations, educational work and activities directed toward improvement of population, especially women's health and promoting healthy life style.

Sex and Gender have different impact on women's and men's health. Fifteen years since the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing 1995 have brought important changes, but in terms of meeting the commitments for women's health the journey is still at the beginning. The crucial role of women at the local level especially in the Eastern countries means creating the conditions for social change necessary to resolve the issues of poverty, education, inequality and special diseases. The main problem in the health sector is that the diversity between men and women has not yet had any significant impact on the medical policies.



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Finally our demand is as such: all medical textbooks and all instruction leaflets from drugs need gender specific data, which means they must be written anew, thus representing a good chance to advance equality between men and women. Combating gender stereotypes means tackling the fundamental causes of persisting gaps in medicine. Gender knowledge in medicine also needs to be fostered in medical curricula - for the benefit of men and women”.

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*The MWIA is an association which was founded in 1919 in New York. MWIA is representing women doctors from all five continents. Our aims and goals are: To promote the cooperation of Medical Women in different countries and to develop friendship and understanding between Medical Women throughout the world. To actively work against gender related inequalities in the medical profession between female and male doctors including career opportunities and economical aspects. To offer medical women the opportunity to meet so as to confer upon questions concerning the health and well-being of humanity. The Association is composed of 8 geographical regions as Northern Europe, Central Europe, Southern Europe, North America, Latin America, Near East and Africa, Central Asia and Western Pacific. <http://www.mwia.net>*

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Founded 1919, Incorporated Geneva, Switzerland

In official relations with the World Health Organization since 1954  
Category II status with the Economic and Social Council, United Nations