As the second half of the year begins, we pause to take stock of Quarter 2. These past three months have been a whirlwind of activity - but when is it not?

Quarter 2 wraps up the first half of 2019 with our focus on 5 Actions to End Gender-Based Violence (pg 2). The breadth of issues that gender-based violence touches are staggering. Read more about our actions around #EndGBV - April (climate change), May (mini-course with our local Chapters), and June (reproductive rights and bodily autonomy)

In celebration of Pride month, our Community joined Pride events around the world. To honor the sacrifices of black and brown trans activists like Marsha P. Johnson and Sylvia Rivera who accelerated and expanded the fight for LGBTQIA+ rights, we temporarily changed our logo to reflect not only the pride flag, but the black, brown, and trans people that continue to lead and build the movement.

Globally, human rights defenders and activists are facing increasing repression, silencing, and violence. From the mobilisation of citizens in Hong Kong and Sudan to the brave climate protestors who know the urgency we face - the need for collective action and movements is greater than ever before.

The accomplishments of the Free Saudi Women Coalition (pg 5) - seven organisations, including Women’s March Global, collaborating to advocate for the freedom of Saudi women proves the impact of collective action. Our continuing partnership with WILPF and WILPF Cameroon (pg 6) shows us how cross-organisation cooperation creates stronger and more effective results.

Our Global Community continues to show up and speak out for our collective liberation. In our first annual survey (pg 7), you shared with us how you’ve grown since this movement started. 79% of you reported that you are now more aware of feminist issues globally. The tangible impact you all create by having conversations, raising awareness and holding Events in your communities is nothing short of extraordinary.

Thank you for taking the time to share in our journey and to read through our shared impact. Stay tuned next month for the release of our collective vision for 2020. We look forward to continuing to listen, mobilise and move forward with you.

In community and solidarity,
The 5 Actions to #EndGenderBasedViolence Campaign provided actionable ways to address our Global Anniversary March’s theme – End Violence Against Women. Through monthly actions, the Campaign encouraged people to engage in conversations about violence against women; through sharing their personal experiences, and learning about related global laws and policy.

Women are the first affected by climate change.

Climate change-related violence disproportionately affects women and girls. For our #22to22 Campaign spanning World Water Day (22 March) to Earth Day (22 April), Women’s March Global highlighted female activists who have dedicated their lives to speaking out against climate inaction and creating space for women to make an impact in their communities.
Women’s March Global hosted a month-long online mini-course featuring our network of Global Chapters. Chapter Ambassadors shared their experiences of community organising and the stories of violence against women they have witnessed in their own communities.

The Webinars amplified stories across borders and time zones, and emphasised that women’s experiences of violence are not isolated.

For the fifth of 5 actions to End Violence Against Women, Women’s March Global launched our “My Human Right to Bodily Autonomy” Campaign to advocate for reproductive rights and bodily autonomy globally. The worldwide rollback of abortion access is a direct violation of the individual right to bodily autonomy.

Now more than ever we need to be committed to the fight for abortion rights. Women’s March Global launched our Global Letter to unite and mobilise for a Global Day of Solidarity on 28 September – International Safe Abortion Day. Over 500 of you from 50 countries have joined our call for solidarity!
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On the 24th of June 2018, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia lifted the driving ban for women. Just a month earlier in May 2018, Saudi Women Human Rights Defenders and activists were arrested and imprisoned. Some of these same activists worked to advocate for the lift of the driving ban and the further liberation of Saudi Women. As of today these activists remain imprisoned.

Last quarter we shared the continued advocacy work of the #FreeSaudiWomen coalition. The coalition has been working tirelessly to advocate for the immediate and unconditional release of Saudi Activists. In March our collective action helped to urge 36 member states at the United Nations to publicly call out Saudi Arabia for the first time at the Human Rights Council.

This past month at the 41st Human Rights Council session we continued our advocacy and sent a letter supported by 40 NGO’s calling on member states to continue holding Saudi Arabia accountable.

We will not rest until Saudi Activists and Women Human Rights Defenders are free. Join us.
In September 2018, we held our first ever Social Media for Peace training in Yaoundé, Cameroon in partnership with WILPF Cameroon. The purpose of the training was to show the importance of social media in activism, leading up to the Cameroonian elections.

Since the training Women’s March Global has further collaborated with WILPF Cameroon on campaigns to promote the use of Social Media for Peace. But we have also been listening to and learning from the WILPF Cameroon and Young WILPF Cameroon team on how the training has helped them move forward.

In May this year, we attended the WILPF African Regional Conference in Yaoundé to hear more from the African Sections on how they currently use social media and how we could help increase their effort and amplify impact.

Our Executive Director also gave an intensive social media training to all 13 of the WILPF Sections present.

We will continue working with WILPF – our strategic partner – to host further trainings so that all activists can be empowered with the knowledge of how to use Social Media for Peace.
As a part of our Q2 Report, we surveyed our Community and asked you to share with us how Women's March Global has had an impact over the past two years. Below are the survey results.

Our Community reported **563% growth** in their **awareness of Women’s Human Rights globally** since their involvement with Women’s March Global.

*71% of our Community* report that they are having more discussions about **White Supremacy**.

*72% of our Community* now feel **motivated to take action** around Women’s Human Rights.

*61% of our Community* now feel **supported** in their activism and learning about issues around the world via Women’s March Global.

*73% of our Community* said they feel like they are part of a **Global Community**.
WHAT’S NEXT...

AUGUST 2019

2020 STRATEGY

More than ever, mass action is needed to build awareness, halt regression, and build forward momentum on issues affecting all of us. Stay tuned for the release of Women’s March Global’s 2020 Strategy in August 2019. We are excited to share with you how we will continue forward as a global movement united by a single goal – the collective liberation of ALL people.

SEPTEMBER 2019

As part of our #MyHumanRight Campaign, Women’s March Global is mobilising for International Safe Access to Abortion Day on 28 September 2019. There are currently twenty-six countries in the world where abortions are prohibited altogether. Join us for a global mobilisation call to action that will include a toolkit and more to help you prepare for a day of international solidarity.

MARCH 2020

WOMEN’S GLOBAL STRIKE

The Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development (APWLD) is leading the effort for the Women’s Global Strike on International Women’s Day (March 8) 2020. Women’s March Global has joined the global strike campaign committee, to assist in leading mobilisation and communication efforts globally. Stay tuned for developments!

APRIL 2020

Women’s March Global and Minority Veterans of America are uniting to hold the first ever Global Women’s Veteran’s Covening in April 2020. Our Executive Director, Uma Mishra-Newbery, is herself a veteran of the U.S. Army. Uma is proud to draw attention to the experiences and stories of veterans globally. The Convening will be focused on the impact of militarisation on climate change, indigenous rights, toxic masculinity and its effects, colonisation and more.