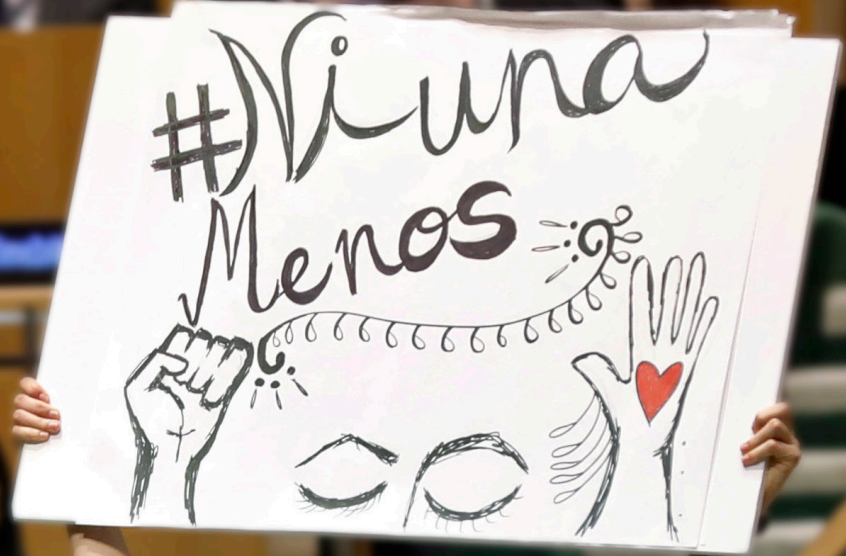




**Global  
Justice Center**  
Human Rights Through Rule of Law



# ***Building a Feminist Future***

Global Justice Center | 2019 Annual Report





Akila Radhakrishnan prepares to speak in front of the United Nations Security Council Arria Formula meeting on accountability for conflict-related sexual violence.

## Letter from the President

Dear Friends and Allies,

I hope this letter finds you safe and healthy.

I am writing to you from my home as our community, and the world, responds to the rapid spread and devastating impacts of COVID-19. This global pandemic reminds us why it is essential to protect and ensure the strongest possible framework for women's rights, as the inequalities and challenges facing women on a daily basis are further exacerbated during crises like this. On behalf of the GJC team, I am sharing our annual report and trust you'll find our progress inspiring and hopeful.

In preparing this report, our team had the pleasure of reliving all of our accomplishments from 2019. Just like last year, I am incredibly impressed and proud of the impact our small team has made on the global movements for gender equality and human rights. With our sharp focus and boundless tenacity, we continue to make waves.

**In 2019, we doubled down on fights that have always been central to our mission: justice and bodily autonomy for survivors of sexual and gender-based violence.**

**We denounced the international community's inaction on conflict-related sexual violence.**

At a United Nations Security Council meeting, we stressed that failure to act to prevent and punish mass atrocities fuels a culture of impunity for sexual violence. We also took the opportunity to remind Member States that sexual and gender-based violence is, at its core, an expression of discrimination, patriarchy, and inequality.

**We battled the Trump administration as they worked to erode UN human rights commitments and practices, both at home and abroad.** We fought back against US attempts to erase all references to sexual and reproductive health services in UN Security Council resolutions and pushed forward our argument that US abortion funding restrictions violate international law.

In an age of retrenchment from multilateral institutions and the international rules-based order, the Global Justice Center continues to develop and shift global norms to ensure protections for women and girls around the world. And we remain steadfast in our belief that centering gender equality and justice is critical to strengthening our hallowed institutions.

With your support, our vision of international law as a tool for radical change can be realized.

In solidarity,

Akila Radhakrishnan

*P.S. To match our new fiscal year cycle, this report covers January 1 - September 30, 2019.*



# Using the Law

## TO ADVANCE GENDER EQUALITY



*GJC was founded at the height of the human rights revolution to transform international commitments on gender equality from paper to practice.*

For 15 years, our feminist lawyers and advocates have fought to make gender equality a central component of global governance. We have made tremendous progress in the fight for sexual and reproductive rights and accountability for sexual and gender-based violence—two priority areas that we believe are integral to achieving global gender equality.



*We have been able to achieve these gains by holding true to our convictions that:*

1. Gender parity in power and under the law is foundational to global justice
2. Discriminatory political and legal systems need radical change to ensure human rights
3. International law is a powerful catalyst for social and structural change



*Today, GJC is operating in a very different global landscape.*

The international rule-based order and multilateral institutions are facing an unprecedented crisis of trust, credibility, and authority. We are witnessing a dangerous retreat from the global human rights framework and shrinking space for civil society, spurred by global trends toward authoritarianism and nationalism. In this context, we are working to protect and expand upon the progress we have made to strengthen and codify international legal obligations and commitments on gender equality.



*We know from our experience working in areas of conflict, transition, and post-conflict that moments of crisis present important opportunities to shift global norms, laws, and policies.*

That's why, in today's context, we are not only consolidating the gains we have achieved in places like the United Nations Security Council, we are also identifying other regional and international forums and institutions to propel gender equality forward. We are building alliances and engaging in cross-movement work that builds the collective power required to dismantle the institutions that maintain systems of oppression.



“

*The Global Justice Center's deep and nuanced understanding of the United Nations system, and unparalleled international legal expertise, is invaluable to the broader sexual and reproductive health and rights advocacy community. - Serra Sippel, President, Center for Health and Gender Equity (CHANGE)*



*Gender equality can no longer be understood as a positive by-product of multilateralism, but rather as the starting point for rebuilding these critical institutions.*

In this challenging and complex historical moment, GJC is uniquely qualified and positioned to advocate for radical, systemic changes in existing legal, political, and social structures. We know that meaningful and sustainable progress for women and girls requires more than basic advances like gender parity in institutional staffing and inclusive language in objectives.

*Now more than ever before, we are working to ensure that global institutions embrace a progressive, feminist agenda and actively counter embedded patriarchy at every level.*



# Program Highlights



## January

- **We submitted a joint report** to the UN Human Rights Committee and published a joint policy brief arguing that the US's restrictive abortion policies, including the Global Gag Rule, Helms Amendment, and Siljander Amendment, violate fundamental human rights.
- **We coordinated a joint NGO letter** to highlight concerns and suggestions ahead of the UN Special-Representative to the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict's visit to Burma and Bangladesh.

## February

- **Our president, Akila Radhakrishnan, briefed the UN Security Council** on accountability for conflict-related sexual violence, reminding council members that "Sexual and gender-based violence is, at its core, an expression of discrimination, patriarchy, and inequality."
- **We sent a joint letter to the CEDAW Committee** ahead of its review of Myanmar, criticizing the country's blanket denials of atrocities including rape and sexual violence.
- **We called on the US Department of Health and Human Services** to remove proposed changes to the Affordable Care Act that would restrict abortion access.
- **We discussed opportunities** to strengthen the UN Security Council's response to conflict-related sexual violence at a high-level workshop hosted by Germany's Federal Foreign Office.

## March

- **The Trump administration escalated its campaign to dismantle reproductive rights with a new expansion to the Global Gag Rule, a new Domestic Gag Rule on Title X funds, and the use of the Siljander Amendment to attack funding for the Organization of American States.**
- **We brought activists and experts together** for a two-day brain trust to discuss legal limits on the UN Security Council veto in the face of mass atrocity crimes.
- **At the Commission on the Status of Women**, our Legal Director, Grant Shubin, joined grassroots activists from Cameroon, Niger, and Libya to discuss the role of civil society in ensuring women's full and equal participation in peace-building and conflict resolution.
- **We participated in the "Stand Speak Rise Up"** to End Sexual Violence in Fragile Environments conference in Luxembourg where our president, Akila Radhakrishnan, spoke on a panel focused on existing gaps in the UN and international criminal systems.



**"GJC's involvement at the United Nations, especially at the UN Security Council, provides innovative legal perspectives on addressing accountability for sexual and gender-based violence and continues to move the needle forward on global sexual and reproductive health and rights."**

— Pablo Castillo-Diaz, Policy Specialist at UN Women



# Program Highlights



## April

- In April, The UN Security Council passed resolution 2467 on Women, Peace, and Security. We countered US efforts to eliminate all language on sexual and reproductive health and rights and made sure the resolution did not erode hard fought gains we've made over the past decade.
- Our staff called for accountability for sexual and gender-based crimes committed against the Rohingya and Yazidi at high-level conferences hosted by Yale University and American University Washington College of Law.
- Bring Back our Girls NYC co-founder, Dr. Mojúbàolú Olúfúnké Okome, discussed the fifth anniversary of Boko Haram's kidnapping of 276 Chibok girls in Nigeria on our podcast, That's Illegal!



## May

- Alongside the UN Security Council debate on the Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflict, we hosted a panel discussion about the role of gender in genocide.
- Our president, Akila Radhakrishnan, joined Patricia Viseur Sellers and Christine Chinkin to discuss the value and practice of analyzing international crimes using a gendered lens for the launch of the London School of Economics' new Gendered Peace Project.

**“GJC has long prioritized centering local women’s voices and has worked with women’s activist groups on the ground in Burma to provide legal interpretations and advocacy training, which has equipped these groups to be able to navigate UN bodies and governmental systems.”**

**Razia Sultana, Founder, Rohingya Women Welfare Society**



## June

- In June, the Trump administration released the US government’s latest strategy on women, peace, and security. Our response highlighted how the strategy’s objectives are directly undermined by current US policies.
- We called on the International Criminal Court to ensure that crimes committed against women and girls were not left behind in the Prosecutor’s investigations, especially any into the Rohingya genocide.
- Amidst unprecedented attacks on sexual and reproductive health and rights, we published a factsheet on why humanitarian aid policies must explicitly include abortion services.



**“The failure of any concrete action in the West to prevent and punish Myanmar’s genocide is a sobering appraisal of the vulnerability and anemia of the West’s rules-based international legal order.”**

**Grant Shubin, GJC Legal Director, Letter to the Editor, The Washington Post**





GJC staff and partners met with Baba Galleh Jallow, Executive Secretary of the Truth, Reconciliation and Reparations Commission, in The Gambia to discuss strategies to advance justice and accountability.

“

*The Global Justice Center provides an important, feminist perspective in accountability efforts for genocide. Without GJC’s incorporation of a gender lens in preventing and punishing mass atrocity crimes, we will not see true justice for women and girls.*

— Simon Adams, Executive Director, GCR2P

## Workshop on Women, Peace and Security: Strengthening the Agenda Against Conflict-Related Sexual Violence



July

August

September

*US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo announced the formation of a new “Commission on Unalienable Rights” at the State Department. We immediately challenged the new commission as another assault on the international system in service of the Trump administration’s regressive agenda.*

**We engaged with key expert bodies in Geneva**, including the World Health Organization, the UN’s Fact-Finding Mission on Myanmar, and the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, to provide expert legal analysis and targeted recommendations for strengthening sexual and reproductive health and rights and advancing justice for sexual and gender-based violence.

*The UN Fact-Finding Mission on Myanmar released a report documenting and analyzing sexual and gender-based violence committed by the country’s military. The report is the mission’s first thorough examination of gender-based crimes in Burma.*

**We co-authored an open letter to UN Member States** urging them to show leadership and commitment to issues of gender, equality, and peace ahead of the UN General Assembly and Sustainable Development Goals Summit.

**Our president, Akila Radhakrishnan, and Simon Adams**, Executive Director of the Global Center for the Responsibility to Protect, spoke about worldwide efforts to get justice for the Rohingya on our podcast, *That’s Illegal!*

**We traveled to The Gambia** to meet with Attorney General and Minister of Justice, Abubaccar M. Tambadou, and other senior officials, to discuss efforts to hold Myanmar accountable under the Genocide Convention.

**At a side event during the 74th UN General Assembly**, we stood alongside The Gambia’s Minister of Justice as he announced his country’s intention to sue Myanmar at the International Court of Justice for violations of the Genocide Convention.



# Global Justice Awards

On May 14, 2019, the Global Justice Center was thrilled to host the inaugural Global Justice Awards! We were in awe of, and thankful for, the more than 200 gender justice advocates, committed donors, and supportive partners who celebrated with us at Guastavino’s in New York City.



**ANUSHAY HOSSAIN**  
*Emcee*



**ARYEH NEIER**  
*Presenter*



**ABIGAIL DISNEY**  
*Feminist Voice  
Honoree*



**TINA TCHE**  
*Feminist Changemaker  
Honoree*



**"To young feminist lawyers  
— go to where they say you  
have no business. The time is  
urgent and you must take it."**

**PATRICIA VISEUR SELLERS,**  
Special Advisor on Gender to the International Criminal Court, received the first Janet Benshoof Global Justice Award in honor of GJC’s fearless founder. This landmark award was established to honor individuals who, like Janet, are relentless and uncompromising in their quest for justice and equality.



**TOP:** Global Justice Awards emcee Anushay Hossain and honorees Abigail Disney and Tina Tchen

**CENTER LEFT:** GJC board members Gretchen Freeman Cappio, Tracy Higgins, and Elisabeth Wickeri at the Global Justice Awards

**CENTER RIGHT:** Lauren Keller

**BOTTOM:** GJC friends and partners on Women, Peace and Security







Amb. Stephen Rapp speaks at an event with representatives of the Rohingya community on the International Court of Justice and its role in advancing justice and accountability for genocide.

*I want to congratulate the team at the Global Justice Center for carrying forward these very important lessons, that a gendered analysis on genocide and mass atrocity crimes are essential for achieving justice.*

*— Amb. Stephen Rapp*

*Visting Fellow at the US Holocaust Memorial Museum and  
Former U.S. Ambassador-at-Large for War Crimes Issues*

# Board of Directors

## Yalda Afshar

Obstetrics and Gynecology Clinical Instructor, and Fellow in Maternal Fetal Medicine at the University of California, Los Angeles David Geffen School of Medicine

## Gretchen Freeman Cappio (Treasurer)

Partner at Keller Rohrbach Law Offices, LLP

## Tracy Higgins (Board Chair)

Professor of Law at Fordham Law School and Co-Director of the Leitner Center for International Law and Justice

## Scott Jackson (Vice Chair)

President and CEO at Global Impact

## Viren Mascarenhas

Partner at King & Spalding LLP

## Jelena Pia-Comella

Managing Coordinator for the Global Action Against Mass Atrocity Crimes (GAAMAC)

## Shefali Salwan

Co-Founder and Head of Value Coaching at CEO.works

## Elisabeth Wickeri (Secretary)

Executive Director of the Leitner Center for International Law and Justice

## Board Emeriti

Renée Acosta	Lenora Lapidus	Anne Firth Murray
Laurie Ashton	Pamela J. Maraldo	Tamara Quinn
Robert Bason	John L. Washburn	Michael Sandler
Janet Benshoof	James W. Minow	Stephen Toben
Andrea Friedman	Stephen Murdoch	Justice Georgina Wood
David Keller		



# Our Financials

**Statement of Financial Position**  
**January 1, 2019 – September 30, 2019**

Assets	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 342,830
Unconditional promises to give	
Unrestricted	93,182
Restricted	252,082
Prepaid expenses and other assets	8,758
Security deposits	21,366
Investments	452,464
Property and equipment	<u>2,993</u>
Total Assets:	<u>\$1,173,675</u>

*\*To match our new fiscal year cycle, this report covers the nine-month period of January 1, 2019 - September 30, 2019.*



“  
**The patriarchy is not  
going to die easily.  
It’s going to go out with  
a lot of noise and fury.**

**Abigail Disney**  
*Feminist Activist, Filmmaker, and Philanthropist*

**Statement of Activities**  
**January 1, 2019 – September 30, 2019**

<b>Changes in Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions</b>	
Revenue and Other Support	
Grants and contributions	\$ 441,916
Special event revenue	260,993
Less: Costs of direct benefit to donors	(75,569)
Net investment income	49,551
Miscellaneous income	2,500
Net assets released from restrictions	
Satisfaction of time and program restrictions	<u>149,146</u>
Total revenue and other support	<u>828,497</u>
Expenses	
Program Services	582,808
Management and general	85,856
Fundraising	<u>161,663</u>
Total Expenses	<u>830,327</u>
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets with Donor Restrictions	<u>(1,830)</u>
<b>Changes in Net Assets with Donor Restrictions</b>	
Contributions	-
Net assets released from restrictions	(149,146)
Gain (loss) on foreign exchange	<u>(2,936)</u>
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets with Donor Restrictions	<u>(152,082)</u>
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets	(153,912)
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	<u>1,310,550</u>
Net Assets, End of Year	<u>\$1,156,638</u>



# Our Supporters

Our work would not be possible without the generous support of our donors. We are proud to recognize members of our community who made gifts between January 1, 2019 and December 31, 2019.

Together, we are making positive change at the international level that diminishes the corrosive power of centuries of oppression and patriarchy and positive change at the individual level that transforms the everyday lives, health, and safety of women and girls.

## Trailblazer (\$150,000+)

Anonymous  
Wellspring Philanthropic Fund

## Game Changer (\$100,000+)

Anonymous  
Oak Foundation  
Open Society Foundations  
Brenda R. Potter  
Sigrid Rausing Trust

## Visionary (\$50,000+)

Amy P. Goldman Foundation  
  
Amy Goldman Fowler  
and Cary Fowler

## Champion (\$20,000+)

Laurie Ashton and Lynn Sarko  
Tracy Higgins and James Leitner  
Nion McEvoy and Leslie Berriman  
Robert and Maurine  
Rothschild Fund

## Defender (\$10,000+)

Roberta Buffett Bialek  
Abigail Disney  
Katie Hall and Tom Knutsen  
Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation  
Jerry Stouck and Mindy Buren

## Advocate (\$5,000+)

American Civil Liberties Union  
Hilary Bates and Jerome Simon  
Barbara Crane  
Kathryn O. Greenberg  
Eva Grove

Keller Rohrbach LLP  
Maria-Elena Kolovos &  
Brett Winton  
Alfred Meyer  
Paulette Meyer and David Friedman  
Thomas and Georgina Russo

## Leader (\$2,500)

Ward Benshoof  
John and Nancy Freeman  
Betsy Karel  
Mary McGowan Davis & Fred Davis

## Fearless Feminist (\$1,000)

Renee Acosta  
  
Anonymous (In Honor  
of Tejshree Thapa)  
Center for Health and  
Gender Equity  
Gretchen Freeman Cappio  
and Adam Cappio  
Global Impact  
Toby Golick  
Linda Greenhouse  
Kelly and Mike Halper  
Matthew Hix and Michael Nguyen  
Kathy Hormel  
Kristina Kallas and  
Jonathan Bellinger  
David Klein  
Eli Klein  
Richard Klein  
Olivia Kraus  
Thomas Layton and Gyongy Laky  
Elise and Michael Maizel

Pamela Maraldo  
Viren Mascarenhas  
Nora and Edward McAniff  
Maryanne Mott  
Michela Nonis  
Richard and Deborah Olson  
Jelena Pia-Comella  
Plankton Energy  
Dorothy and Peter Samuels  
Anthony Sandler and  
Nancy Bauman  
Benita and Robert Sandler

## Friend (\$500+)

Yalda Afshar  
Jane Curley  
Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg  
Kathy Halbower  
Michael Hirschhorn and  
Jimena Martinez  
Scott Jackson  
Leila Mokhtarzadeh and  
Jeremy Behmoaras  
Paulina Morales  
Sharon Nelles  
Liza Sica Nugent and John Nugent  
Stephen Rapp  
William and Terri Shubin  
Serra Sippel  
Joanna Smith  
Sarah Stein and Michael Cohn  
Danielle Stouck  
Jennifer Trahan  
Liliane Tuck  
Doug Wingo and Tim Legg

## Ally (<\$499)

Lucy Abrams  
Simon Adams  
Setareh Adelipour  
Paige Allston  
Sean Andre  
Omid Arabian  
Carole Basri  
Myra Batchelder  
Anuraag Baxi  
Rachel Behar  
Lika Behar Behmoaras  
Marley Bernard  
Elizabeth Bernstein  
Nishan Bhaumik  
Julieann Bornales  
Mercer Borris  
Evan Briggs  
Bastien Broda  
Sari Bibliowicz Broda  
Jodi Buren  
Tammy Buren  
Catherine Bye  
Gwenn Cagann &  
Ross MacIntyre  
Pablo Castillo-Diaz  
Nicole Ceercko  
Oisika Chakrabarti  
Deborah Chow  
Willem Cleven &  
Rachael Levy  
Sheilah Coffey  
Kimberly Cohen  
Katherine Comly  
Teresa Connor  
Bergen Cooper  
Jovana Crncevic  
Stephen G. Dobkin  
Walter Dresslar  
Alan Elsner  
Eric and Judy Erdheim  
Yasmine Ergas  
Michela Eshaghian  
Eliza Fairbrother  
Basma Fakri  
Jay Fastow &  
Alexsandra Davies

Anne Firth Murray  
Risha Foulkes  
Scott Garvey  
Jocelyn Getgen  
Jason Gohari  
Ariella Hakim  
Alexa Hansen  
Naomi Hansen &  
Daniel Giuffrida  
Kay Hedgepeth  
John Henn  
Elaine Herskowitz  
Danielle Hites  
Kaythee Hlain  
Amy Hsu  
Diane Rochelle Humke  
Hanna Ingber  
Alexsandra Insinga  
Stephanie Johanssen  
Diane Johnson  
Hayley Johnson  
Elz Jones  
Lauren Keller &  
Luca Urzi  
Susan Klein  
Geoffrey Knox  
Martha &  
Sergio Koreisha  
Kate Kroeger  
Audrey Kuehler-Oostra  
Sylvia Law  
Joey Lee  
Madeline Legg  
Marisa Lenger  
Sherry Leung  
Joanne Levin  
Alex Libin  
Areyeh Lipkis  
Sara Lubetsky  
Mary Luke  
Vivian Mamelak  
Nathalie Margi  
Jim Markisohn  
Andrea Marmon  
J. Paul Martin  
Michael Mazzullo  
Eileen McCarthy

Therese McGinn  
Claire McLeod  
Lisa Montabrun  
Dukki Moon  
Laurie Morganteen  
Aaron Morris  
Gisoo Movtady  
Shari Neissani  
Tiffany Nowell  
Alex Organ  
Robert Pennoyer  
Kelly Percival  
Jessica Pierson  
David Preminger  
Zach Press  
Sarah Redleaf  
Natasha Roland  
Eric Rosenzweig  
Ashley Roshanzamir  
Ann Rothschild  
Lynda Royce  
Jeremy Rye  
Christine Ryu-Naya  
Mojgan Saberi  
Jennifer Sager  
Jessica Sager  
Alex Sarver  
Melanie Sarver  
Ashley Sassouni  
Chelsea Sassouni  
Christina Scher  
Kelly Schreiber  
Jocelyn Schreier  
Amy Schulz &  
David Welo  
Leslie Shedlin  
Orna Simkhai  
Adele Simmons  
Samantha Levin Smith  
Shoshana Smolen  
Fleur Stanbrook  
Isabella Stanbrook  
Yahya  
Nancy Stearns  
David Stouck  
Barbara Strauss  
Tara Tabatabaie

Gabrield Taub  
Tina Tchen  
Tara Thara  
Lucky Tran  
Larry Troshynski  
Jordan Turchin  
Rachel Turchin  
Michelle Varat  
Nima Veiseh  
Carol Vergara  
Nicole Warshak Schloss  
Ellen Watlington  
Bobby Weisblatt  
Joan Weisblatt  
William Weisblatt  
Elisabeth Wickeri  
Maisie Wilhelm  
Beverly Winikoff  
Samantha Wynne  
Rebecca Yang  
Judith Yedidsion  
Soon-Young Yoon  
Joyce Yu

## Matching Gifts, In-Kind Donations, & Pro Bono Support

AmazonSmile  
Babeland  
Bite Beauty  
Forthave Spirits  
Global Impact  
HBO  
Pfizer Foundation  
Matching Gifts Program  
Open Society Foundations  
The Harry Frank  
Guggenheim Foundation

If we inadvertently left off your name,  
please contact Danielle Stouck at  
dstouck@globaljusticecenter.net





# Global Justice Center

Human Rights Through Rule of Law

11 Hanover Square  
Sixth Floor  
New York, NY 10005



*To learn more about the Global Justice Center, visit*  
[www.globaljusticecenter.net](http://www.globaljusticecenter.net)

info@globaljusticecenter.net  
212-725-6530