

Equal opportunities in (Applied) Maths: paths, issues and perspectives

AMASES50

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Profile of MSc in Mathematics in Italy, 2025

	Total	Male	Female
Number of MSs in Maths	1157	585	572
Final Mark (average)	109.7	110	109.3
Age at Degree	26.2	26.0	26.3
Delay Index	0.7	0.6	0.7

(Data Processing from AlmaLaurea database for 2025)

The situation is almost the same for male and female students:
it is not possible to say that «Women are not gifted for maths»!

A few considerations....

We need a change in the sociological perception of **STEM disciplines as unfit for women** and of **women as unfit for STEM disciplines**

We have to **think over these issues since childhood**:
STEM identity shapes between 6 and 8 years

Primary school is crucial: INVALSI test shows that the gender gap in mathematics score originates between II and V year of primary school

Gender gap in science



GENDER GAP IN SCIENCE

A Global Approach to the Gender Gap in Mathematical, Computing, and Natural Sciences: How to Measure It, How to Reduce It?

Q SEARCH

Project

A Global Approach to the Gender Gap in Mathematical, Computing, and Natural Sciences



Work packages: goal and results

Description of the methodologies and goals of the three tasks within the project



Book, booklets, publications

Book and booklet, publications, promotional materials and archives of the project



Gender Gap in Mathematics, Gender Gap in Africa

Comparison between Mathematics and all Sciences, and also between Africa and the World



Organization

List of the working groups, committees and boards involved in the project



International
Science Council



International
Mathematical
Union
(IMU)



INTERNATIONAL UNION OF
PURE AND APPLIED CHEMISTRY



IUHPST
International Union of History and
Philosophy of Science and Technology



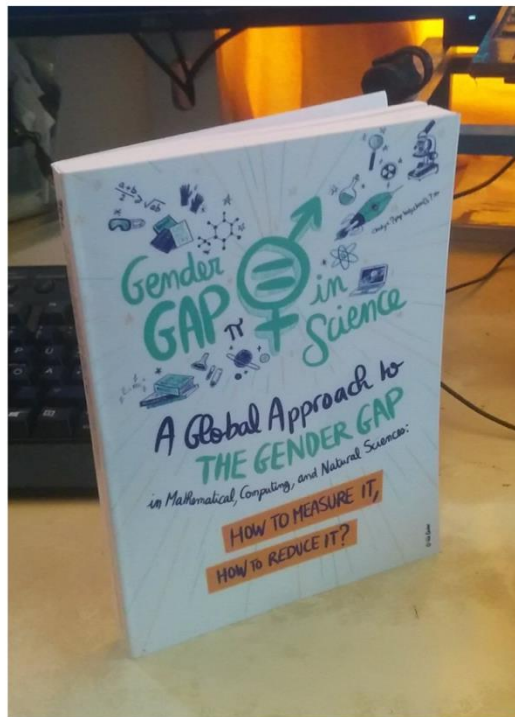
Gender
InSITE



A Global Approach to the Gender Gap in Mathematical, Computing, and Natural Sciences: How to Measure It, How to Reduce It?

PROJECT BOOK & BOOKLET

[https://zenodo.org/
record/3882609](https://zenodo.org/record/3882609)



GENDER GAP IN SCIENCE BOOK

*A Global Approach to the Gender Gap
in Mathematical, Computing, and
Natural Sciences: How to Measure It,
How to Reduce It?*

The **Gender Gap in Science Book**
(final report of the project) has been
finalized in 2020 and can be found
online [here](#). A paper copy can be
ordered through many retailers
worldwide, e.g. on [Book Depository](#).
See more [here](#).

What can be done
for young women in
(Applied) Math?

Encourage them to study Math disciplines in Economics
(and to choose academic career), especially when this kind
of subjects goes **against the expectations of their family**

A subject with **high gender segregation drops talents**
because it does not include all smart interested people

**Give visibility to women in math applied to society also in
public life:** interviews on TV or newspapers, database for
experts, (in 100esperte economics and finance are
underrepresented)

Offer **female models** in universities, research center, learned societies, particularly in **representative roles**

Support (young) women both by **peer network** and by **mentoring** of researchers and professors at higher career level (EWM mentoring program, local programs)

Pay attention to **publication policies**: it has been proved that they are not **gender neutral**, indeed they tend to favour men

(Ex-post) **rewards** for departments or disciplines which **hire or promote more women than average**

Provide help services, particularly for non-tenured staff
(grants to ease moving for RTT, caring supplementary grants, fellowships for re-establishing careers after a break)

Maternity is not THE issue: there are not billions of childless women in MATH, ECON or SECS areas which are full professors!

EWM 2026 General Meeting

University of Warwick August 31st-September 4th 2026

EWM 2026 General Meeting

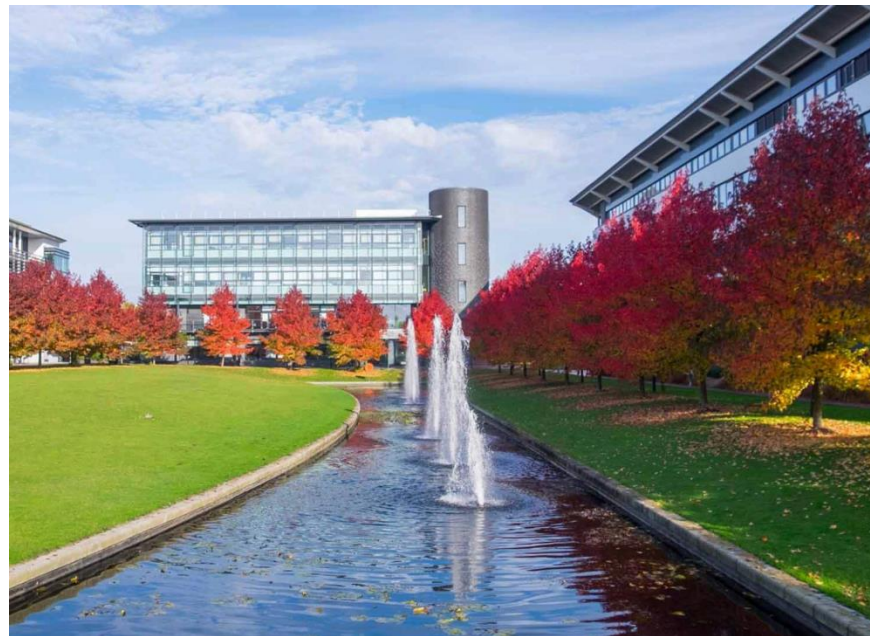
The 2026 General Meeting of [European Women in Mathematics](#) (EWM) will take place at the [Mathematics Institute](#) of the [University of Warwick](#) 31/8 - 4/9 2026. Save the date!

EWM is the main professional society for women in mathematics across Europe. The meeting is open to mathematicians of all genders and career stages.

This is the 20th EWM General Meeting, and we will celebrate EWM's 40th anniversary.

Plenary Speakers

- [Agnes Backhausz](#) (Eötvös Loránd University, Hungary)
- [Alessandra Celletti](#) (Rome, Italy)
- [Cristiana De Filippis](#) (Parma, Italy)
- [Elisenda Feliu](#) (Copenhagen, Denmark)
- [Laura Monk](#) (Bristol, UK)
- [Carola-Bibiane Schönlieb](#) (Cambridge, UK)
- [Masha Vlasenko](#) (Kyiv, Ukraine)
- [Jess Wade](#) (Imperial College, UK)



Jess Wade: Fixing the system, not the women

IMPERIAL

← all experts

ABOUT

PUBLICATIONS

RESEARCH



DR

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Mines, South Kensington
Campus, United Kingdom

[Collaboration Network](#)

BIO

Jess is a Royal Society University Research Fellow and Lecturer in Functional Materials at Imperial College London. Broadly speaking, her research considers new materials for optoelectronic, spintronic and quantum devices, with a focus on chiral molecular materials.

She was previously an Imperial College Research Fellow in SPIN-Lab at Imperial, which is led by Professor Sandrine Heutz. She worked as a postdoctoral researcher in the Fuchter and Campbell groups at Imperial College London, where she optimised these chiral systems such that can absorb/emit circularly polarised (CP) light for CP OLEDs and OPDs. For her PhD Jess concentrated on organic photovoltaics and the development of advanced characterisation techniques to better understand molecular packing under the supervision of Dr Ji-Seon Kim.

Outside of the lab, Jess is involved with several science communication and outreach initiatives. She is committed to improving diversity in science, both online and offline, and since the start of 2018 has written the Wikipedia biographies of women and people of colour scientists every single day.

Awards

FACULTY

- Faculty of Engineering

POSITION NAME

- Assistant Professor in Functional Materials

Physicist, she works to increase gender equality in STEM. Contributed to a campaign for the creation of Wikipedia articles on female academics; she wrote more than 2100 bios by 2024. British Empire Medal for services to gender diversity in science.

Thank you for your attention!