

Girl Scouts of the USA and the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS)

WAGGGS Membership

Background Facts:

- In its [scouting magazine](#), GSUSA states that “Girl Scouts of the USA, and every member of it, automatically belongs to the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS).” (See page 13, paragraph 2 of [this document](#).)
- The [GSUSA website states](#) "The World Trefoil Pin shows that you are part of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS). All Girl Scouts age-levels (Daisy, Brownie, Junior, Girls 11-17, and Adult Girl Scouts) wear this pin on the left side of the uniform directly above the Membership Pin on the Insignia Tab."
- In their [lobbying activities](#) at the United Nations and elsewhere the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS) [claims to represent 10 million girls](#), which includes the [3.2 million members](#) of the Girl Scouts of GSUSA. ([Click here](#) to read WAGGGS' report on their participation in a UN youth coalition demanding that governments provide all girls with abortion, comprehensive sexuality education, and sexual rights.)
- Even though GSUSA is only one of 145 WAGGGS member organizations, about one-third of WAGGGS membership is comprised of members of the Girl Scouts of the USA.
- Girl Scouts can earn WAGGGS badges, for example the [Girl Scouts Global Action](#) Patch.

Funding of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS)

Background Facts:

- Girl Scouts of the USA funds WAGGGS activities in at least six ways:
 1. According to a GSUSA employee, GSUSA pays an assessment of about 44 cents per U.S. Girl Scout to WAGGGS each year. (In 2007 Girl Scouts of the USA made a ["membership quota payment"](#) of \$1,817,343 to WAGGGS.)
 2. GSUSA provides an annual payment to support each of [WAGGGS World Centres](#).

3. GSUSA encourages its Councils and members to contribute to the [Juliette Low World Friendship Fund](#) which uses 42 percent of its funds for “capacity building” of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts and 58 percent to support the international travel of Girl Scouts to WAGGGS trainings and UN conferences. (See chart on page 2 of this [document](#).)
4. In addition to requesting general contributions to GSUSA’s Juliette Low fund, on February 22nd of each year GSUSA encourages every U.S. Girl Scout (3.2 million) to celebrate WAGGGS World Thinking Day by contributing “at least one dollar” to the Juliette Low fund. (See page 2 of this [document](#).)
5. In both 2009 and 2010 [GSUSA granted \\$100,000](#) to WAGGGS from their Juliette Low World Friendship Fund. They also granted travel scholarships to WAGGGS.
6. The official uniform of Girl Scouts of the USA may include a [WAGGGS pin](#) (which is worn above Girl Scouts’ Membership Pin), and revenue from the sale of the WAGGGS pins is given to WAGGGS.