



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
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Swiss Confederation

Federal Department of Home Affairs FDHA
Federal Office for Gender Equality FOGÉ

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

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GENDER EQUALITY COMMISSION (GEC)

Conference

“Towards guaranteeing equal access of women to justice”

15-16 October 2015
Kursaal Congress Centre
Kornhausstrasse 3
Bern, Switzerland

Draft Programme

**ORGANISED BY THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH
THE SWISS FEDERAL OFFICE FOR GENDER EQUALITY
(FOGÉ)**

Thursday, 15 October 2015	
8.15 – 9.00 am	Registration of participants
Opening Session Moderator: Mr Sergiy Kyslytsya (Chairperson of the Council of Europe Gender Equality Commission, Ukraine)	
9.00 – 9.40 am	Opening remarks by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Mr Alain Berset, Head of the Federal Department of Home Affairs, Switzerland ➤ Representative of the CoE (tbc)
Session 1 – Setting the scene: women’s access to justice in Europe Moderator: Ms Kira Appel (Vice-Chairperson of the Council of Europe Gender Equality Commission, Denmark)	
9.40 – 10.00 am	Keynote speech: Access to justice in Europe Ms Francois Tulkens (Member of the Scientific Committee of the EU’s Fundamental Rights Agency, former judge and vice-president of the European Court of Human Rights)
10.00 – 10.20 am	An overview of progress and challenges to guarantee women’s equal access to justice [speaker to be confirmed]
Session 2 – Standards on women’s access to justice: progress and challenges Moderator: Ms Antje Wunderlich (Member of the Gender Equality Commission, Germany)	
10.20 – 10.40 am	The European Convention on Human Rights: the case-law of the Court Ms Helen Keller (Judge, European Court of Human Rights)
10.40 – 11.00 am	The Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence [speaker to be confirmed]
11.00 – 11.20 am	CEDAW’s work on a General Recommendation on Women’s Access to Justice Ms Patricia Schulz (Member of CEDAW, Switzerland)
11.20 – 11.40 am	Discussion
11.40 – 12 pm	Coffee (& networking) break

Session 3 – Barriers to women’s equal access to justice	
Moderator: Mr Charles de Vries (Member of the Council of Europe Gender Equality Commission, The Netherlands)	
12 – 12.20 pm	Tackling judicial stereotyping Ms Veronica Birga (Chief, Women's Human Rights and Gender Section, Research and Right to Development Division, Office of the UN High Commissioner on Human Rights)
12.20 – 12.40 pm	Tackling discrimination Mr Walter Kälin (Professor at the Law Faculty in Bern University, Director of the Swiss Competence Centre for Human Rights)
12.40 – 1 pm	Discussion
1.15 – 2.30 pm	Lunch break
2.30 – 2.50 pm	Legal and procedural barriers Ms Jackie Jones (President, European Women Lawyers Association)
2.50 -3.10 pm	Socio-economic and cultural barriers: the work of PICUM on access to justice for undocumented women Ms Rian Ederveen (Stichting LOS, member of the Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants - PICUM)
3.10 – 3.30 pm	Discussion
3.30 – 3.50 pm	Coffee (& networking) break
Session 4 – Good policies and practices to facilitate women’s access to justice	
Moderator: Ms Karine Lempen (Member of the Council of Europe Gender Equality Commission, Switzerland)	
3.50 – 5.30 pm	- [country x] M ... - [country x] M ... - Mr Aner Voloder, Lawyer, Office for Gender Equality of the Municipality of Zurich, Switzerland [country x] M ... [country x] M ...
5.30 – 6 pm	Discussion
Reception offered by the Swiss authorities	

Friday, 16 October 2015	
Session 5 – Tools to improve women’s access to justice: the work of other international organisations	
Moderator: Ms Käthlin Sander [tbc] (Member of the Council of Europe Gender Equality Commission, Estonia)	
9.00 – 9.20 am	Indicators to measure women’s access to justice Ms Teresa Marchiori (Consultant, UN Women)
9.20 – 9.40 am	Judicial training to promote women’s access to justice M ... (Organisation of American States)
9.40 – 10 am	Discussion
Session 6 – The role of national equality and human rights bodies and civil society in promoting women’s access to justice	
Moderator: Mr Dragan Knezevic (member of the Council of Europe Gender Equality Commission, Serbia)	
10.00 – 10.20 am	The role of equality bodies in supporting women’s access to justice Ms Anne Gaspard (Executive Director, European Network of Equality Bodies - Equinet)
10.20 – 10.40 am	Building the capacity of young lawyers to protect women’s rights Ms Genoveva Tisheva (Director, Women’s Human Rights Training Institute, Bulgaria)
10.40 – 11 am	The role of civil society in supporting women’s access to justice Ms Glenys de Jesús Checo (Legal & Advocacy Director, Women’s Link Worldwide, Spain)
11 – 11.20 am	Questions and Discussion
11.20 – 11.40 am	Coffee (& networking) break
Closing session	
Moderator: Moderator: Mr Sergiy Kyslytsya (Chairperson of the Council of Europe Gender Equality Commission, Ukraine)	
11.40 – 12.00 pm	Conclusions and recommendations [<i>General Rapporteur</i>]
12 – 12.30 pm	Closing remarks by: ➤ Ms Sylvie Durrer (Director, Swiss Federal Office for Gender Equality) ➤ Representative of the Council of Europe (tbc)