

EUROPEAN WOMEN'S LOBBY FOR A FEMINIST EUROPE

Another world is
on her way. On
a quiet day I
can hear her
breathing.

- Arundhati Roy



Zsofi Lang Illustration

25 YEARS OF
FEMINIST
ACTIVISM
ACROSS EUROPE & BEYOND
29.05.2015



**EWL = the largest coalition for
women's rights in Europe**



Our vision

EWL envisions a society in which women's contribution to all aspects of life is recognised, rewarded and celebrated - in leadership, in care and in production; all women have self-confidence, freedom of choice, and freedom from violence and exploitation; and no woman or girl is left behind.



EUROPEAN WOMEN'S
LOBBY
EUROPEEN DES FEMMES





Positive developments & opportunities

- **Women and girls in Europe are now present in all spheres of society:** in education and employment, in political and business decision-making, expressing their views as artists, journalists, researchers, or community leaders.
- **A new generation of young feminists** is mobilising widely.
- **Some men are engaging** in the feminist movement, to support women's organisations' demands.
- **Feminist economists** are challenging the current system we live in, by proposing new ways of measuring wellbeing and protecting our planet and the next generations.



Challenges and threats

- The **myth of “equality being already there”** in Europe prevents gender equality from becoming a standalone goal for the EU. Weakening of institutional mechanisms for women’s rights, dilution into “diversity/equality”.
- **EU policies don’t transform into change**, because of a lack of political will, of a lack of systematic gender mainstreaming in all areas, and a lack of strong architecture for gender equality.
- The **recent climate of austerity** reinforces the idea that women’s rights are “the icing on the cake”.
- **Financial cuts** are threatening the very existence of women’s organisations and other anti-discrimination organisations.



Challenges and threats

- **Attacks of ultra-conservative, anti-feminist and religious groups**, who systematically call gender equality into question and use religion, tradition or culture to legitimate violations of women's rights.
- The **2014 European elections and recent national elections** brought more populist and misogynist decision-makers, directly threatening policies for women's rights & minorities.
- **Some governments increase controls on NGOs and citizens**, withdraw political space, or 're-register' NGOs, as an excuse to control or reduce funding and creating competition amongst NGOs. Attacks on female human rights defenders / activists.



Challenges and threats

- **The neoliberal system and the consumer society are impacting detrimentally on women's and girls' empowerment**, by commodifying their body and sexuality and perpetuating gender stereotypes throughout all spheres of society.
- **Stereotypes** are still prevalent in all spheres of society: toys, education, labour market, media... They impact on women's and girls' health, legitimise violence and everyday sexism, convey restrictive messages about women's role in society.
- We are worried to see that **the cult of individualism** has become so widespread that structural violations of women's rights are not taken seriously. "The personal is political"!

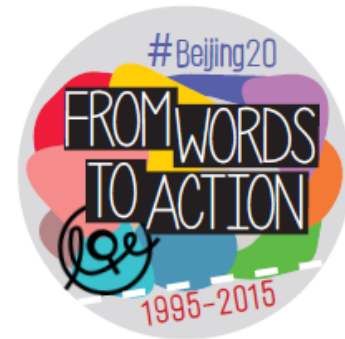
EWL demands for a feminist Europe



- ✓ **Commit, Accelerate, Invest!**
- ✓ We call on all member states and all intergovernmental institutions to walk the talk!
- ✓ It is 21st century: all women and girls in Europe should enjoy their full human rights.

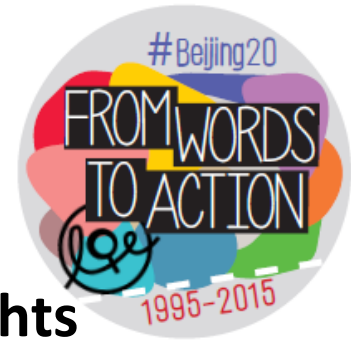


EWL demands: Commit!



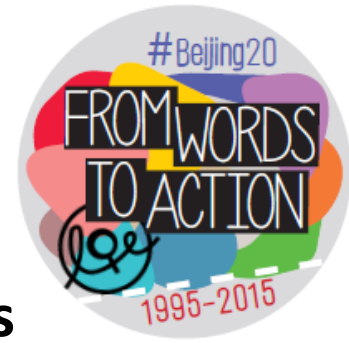
- **COMMIT to the realisation of women’s human rights!**
- Reaffirm your commitment to all interconnected and universal human rights, including CEDAW and the Beijing Platform for Action, and systematically ensure a women’s rights perspective in all policies.
- Reaffirm your commitment to existing United Nations & CoE agreed language and instruments on women’s rights and equality between women and men, including the Cairo Programme of Action (on sexual and reproductive rights) and the 1949 UN Convention (on prostitution and trafficking).

EWL demands: Accelerate!



- **ACCELERATE** the implementation of all women’s rights instruments (the Beijing Platform for Action, CEDAW, regional and national laws and programmes).
- Keep women’s rights on the highest level of the political agenda, at all times, including by strengthening institutional mechanisms for women’s rights.
- Elaborate comprehensive and ambitious strategies to realise women’s and girls’ rights which should not only develop and implement legislation, but also make a concrete change in mentalities and values.
- Make sure that all policies are designed to not leave a single girl or woman behind.

EWL demands: Invest!



- **INVEST in women's and girls' rights, and in women's organisations.**
- Ensure that national & regional (CoE) budgets include increased dedicated investment to secure women's rights.
- Equally include women's organisations and experts in all regional & global discussion on all issues, and in your national delegations to the intergovernmental meetings.
- Abide by your duty to develop democratic societies and civil dialogue, and protect all human rights activists.
- Deliver a new model for development and peace, with women's and girls' rights, and feminist economics and values at its core.

▶▶ EWL's VISION

We believe in a Feminist Europe.

We want a holistic, transformational socio-economic vision, based on well-being, equality, social justice, and a powerful voice against women's poverty. We envision a culture in which women enjoy equal rights and participation in reimagined power and decision-making structures, in which all forms of violence against women has been eliminated, and women have been liberated from all forms of oppression. We envision a society in which women's contribution to all aspects of life is recognised, rewarded and celebrated - in leadership, in care and in production; all women have freedom of choice, self-confidence, and freedom from exploitation; and no woman has been left behind.

EWL STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK 2016-2020

▶▶ EWL's MISSION

We are a credible source of expertise and experience on equality between women and men, women's rights and equality between women and men, representing the diversity of the women's movement across the European Union. We represent an inclusive, confident, loud, independent feminist voice and bring real women's voices into the EU political arena. We build consensus and mobilise our members' collective experience to work on major issues affecting women, to realise women's rights, equality between women and men and social justice. We act as a catalyst connecting different actors and organisations to bring change at EU level.

▶▶ EWL's 5 KEY PRINCIPLES

Women's rights are Human Rights (non-negotiable and indivisible)

Solidarity

Autonomy

Inclusion

Participation

▶▶ EWL's 6 CORE VALUES

Equality between women and men

Dignity

Diversity

Justice

Peace

Respect

8 strategic aims to achieve our vision!

1620

OUR FUTURE
STARTS NOW!

The text 'OUR FUTURE STARTS NOW!' is written in a bold, purple, hand-drawn font. It is surrounded by several green icons and arrows: a target symbol above 'FUTURE', a double-headed vertical arrow above 'OUR', a circular arrow to the left of 'STARTS', a dotted circle below 'STARTS', a female symbol to the right of 'STARTS', a female symbol to the right of 'NOW', a double-headed horizontal arrow below 'STARTS', a double-headed horizontal arrow above 'FUTURE', and a staircase arrow to the right of 'FUTURE'.

To ensure sustainable and strong institutional mechanisms for equality between women and men at EU level



CSW60

Commission on the Status of Women

14-24 March 2016

WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT | SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



FROM WORDS TO ACTION

1995 - 2015

20 years of the Beijing Platform for Action

A European Women's Lobby review of the activities of the European Union



We want an EU Strategy for equality between women & men because it's our future.



www.womenlobby.org
#ourfuture

To put an end to all forms of violence against women and girls and promote a society of peace, human security and dignity



18 MYTHS ON PROSTITUTION



Asylum is not gender neutral: the refugee crisis in Europe from a feminist perspective

[Brussels, 21 September 2015] Today is International Day of Peace. However, the persistence of war and conflicts globally urges us to redefine (...)



To challenge and change the culture of sexism and stereotypes and promote positive roles for women and men



THANKS TO THE BEIJING PLATFORM FOR ACTION

I HAVE THE RIGHT TO GROW UP FREE FROM STEREOTYPES

FROM WORDS TO ACTION
WOMEN'S RIGHTS ARE HUMAN RIGHTS

#Beijing20 @Europeanwomen www.womenlobby.org



SEMAINE DES FEMMES DE BRUXELLES - WEEK VAN DE VROUW BRUSSEL
OPENING NIGHT








THE EUROPEAN WOMEN'S LOBBY
CELEBRATES WOMEN'S DAY 2015

SCREENING OF
THIS IS MY HOME NOW
BY SADDIE CHOUA

Q&A followed by a reception

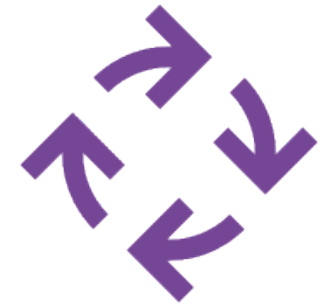
2 MARCH 2015 - 18:30
CINEMA GALERIES - BRUXELLES

Registration Egalité des chances 02/279 21 10 // egalitedeschances@brucity.be



Funded by the Progress Programme of the European Union

To promote the feminist transformation of a sustainable economy based on new economic models based on equality, well-being, care and social justice



To position women at the heart of political, social and economic participation and decision-making



European Women's Lobby MANIFESTO

European Parliament elections 2014

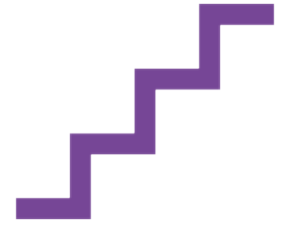
Act now for her future, commit to gender equality!

Women on Boards in Europe: Second Progress Report

Cracks in the glass ceiling or just a trick of the light?



To work together effectively at different levels and in different contexts



**To promote and debate diversity, advancing
consensus, and strengthen our collective
voice**



**European Call of Women's Organisations for COP21:
For a just, transformative and gender-responsive climate agreement!**

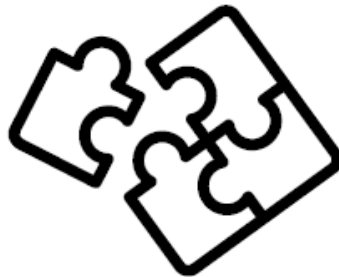


To raise more, better and sustainable funding for women



FINANCING FOR WOMEN'S RIGHTS

competition or cooperation?



IMPLICATIONS OF THE SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT GOALS AGENDA FOR
GLOBAL WOMEN'S MOVEMENT SOLIDARITY

JOIN US FOR A SESSION AT THE
13TH AWID INTERNATIONAL FORUM
SATURDAY 10 SEPTEMBER 2016
11:30-13:00 // ALA TERRA, BAHIA 3

WOMANKIND
WORLDWIDE EQUAL RESPECTED PROUD



AWID
AFRICAN WOMEN'S
DEVELOPMENT FUND



EUROPEAN WOMEN'S
LOBBY
EUROPEEN DES FEMMES

European
Women's
Lobby



Champions
for
Gender Equality
in Europe

loe
EUROPEAN WOMEN'S
LOBBY
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www.womenlobby.org



TOGETHER FOR A FEMINIST EUROPE



EN | FR

HOME NEWS OUR WORK MEMBERS LIBRARY TAKE ACTION ABOUT US FORUM

Asylum is not gender neutral: the refugee crisis in Europe from a feminist perspective

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



RECENT NEWS

EWL News

EWL & PwC joint event on Gender Equality in Business at the European Parliament 21 October 2015

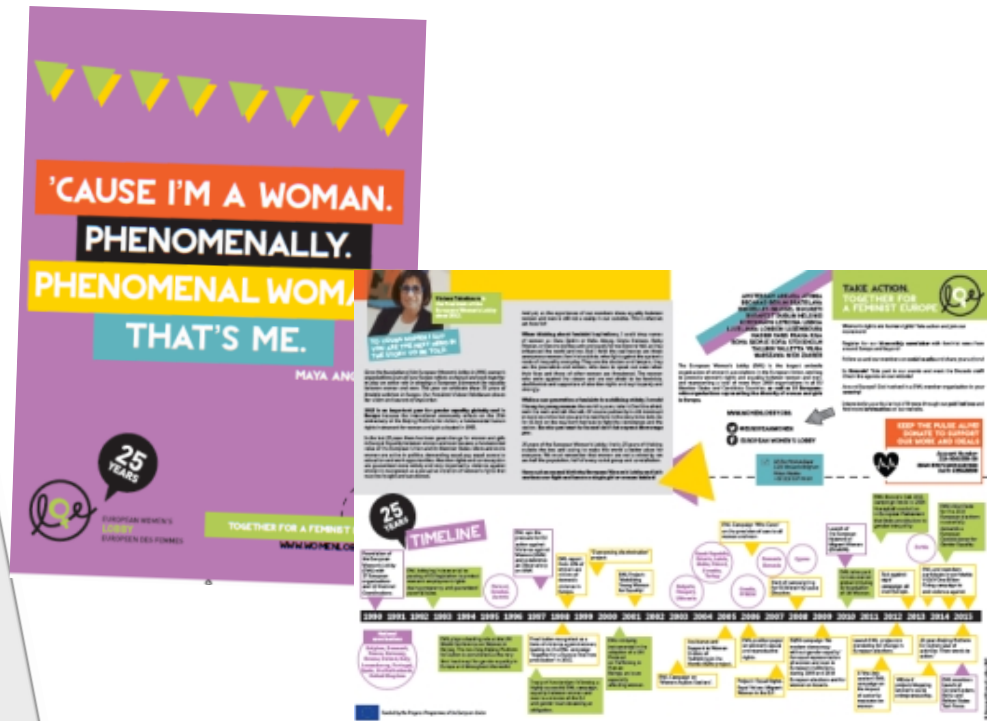
Posted on 15 October 2015 |

 
EWL & PwC invite you to a joint event on
Changing the game:

MEMBERS MAP



Publications



Synthesis Report: Mapping Women's Social Entrepreneurship in Europe

Download and read the full synthesis report of the WEstart research with comparative data analysis and Recommendations for Policy Makers.

[Download PDF](#)



[Open publication](#) - Free publishing

Mini Reports

Flip through a digital version of our six-page Mini Reports, focusing on the state of women's social entrepreneurship in Bulgaria, France, Hungary, Germany, Lithuania, Ireland, Italy, Spain, Sweden, and the UK.

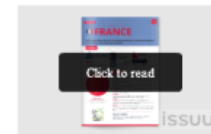
Bulgaria



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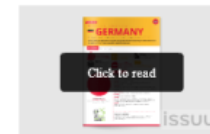
France



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Germany



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www.womenlobby.org

@Europeanwomen

The European Women's Lobby

Organisation Chart 2011

