

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Strasbourg, 14 December 2016

GEC (2016) November Report

**GENDER EQUALITY COMMISSION
(GEC)**

10th meeting

REPORT

I. Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda

In the absence of the Chair on the first day of the meeting, the Vice-Chair opened the meeting and welcomed the participants.

- *The GEC adopted the agenda as it appears in Appendix I to this report, and the list of participants is attached at Appendix II.*

II. Election of Chair and Vice-Chair

The election of Chair and Vice-Chair took place in line with Resolution CM/Res(2011)24 on intergovernmental committees and subordinate bodies, their terms of reference and working methods.

- *The GEC elected Eva Fehringer (Austria) as Chairperson, and Charles Ramsden (United Kingdom) as Vice-Chairperson, for one year as from 1 January 2017.*

III. Exchange of views with Nils Muižnieks, Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe

The Vice-Chair welcomed the [Commissioner for Human Rights](#) to his second exchange of views with the GEC. In advance of the exchange, the Commissioner had distributed a [document outlining his work on women's rights and gender equality](#) (available on the GEC website). During the exchange he gave more detailed information about these topics which were the focus of many of his country visits, as well as about addressing women's sexual and reproductive rights during his forthcoming visit to Ireland (21-25 November 2016). He informed the members about his intention to prepare a Human Rights Comment on this topic. In the discussion that followed, the Commissioner stressed the need to combat the misleading interpretations of the word "gender" and misconceptions around the terms "gender ideology" and "gender theory" – often used as motivation to prevent the signature and/or ratification of the Istanbul Convention. The difficulty of religious influence surrounding gender equality was also discussed and the Commissioner pointed out that legally binding standards of the Council of Europe, such as those condemning hate speech, must be applied and respected by everyone. On the subject of women refugees', the Commissioner stressed the importance to fight against the sexual abuse of women in refugee camps and added that the Group of Experts on Action against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (GREVIO) of the Council of Europe should work extensively in this area.

- *The GEC welcomed the Commissioner's willingness to co-operate with the members on topics with which he could assist in the member states.*

IV. Council of Europe Transversal Programme on Gender Equality

1. Gender Equality Strategy 2014-2017

a. Follow-up to the conference “Are we there yet? Assessing progress, inspiring action – the Council of Europe Gender Equality Strategy 2014-2017”, 30 June – 1 July 2016, Tallinn, Estonia

The Vice-Chair expressed the GEC’s thanks and appreciation to the Estonian authorities for hosting the conference. She introduced the draft report of the conference and informed the members that the information therein would be used as the basis for preparing the next gender equality strategy. The Secretariat informed the members that a draft strategy would be prepared before their April 2017 meeting, possibly covering six years. The members were invited to send in their proposals for themes and areas which they wished to be included in the discussions about the next strategy.

- *The GEC adopted the [report of the Tallinn Conference](#) and took note of the plans for the preparation of the next gender equality strategy*

b. Draft Annual Report on the implementation of the Gender Equality Strategy

The Secretariat informed the members that the draft annual report had been prepared as in previous years and had taken into account the contributions from 36 member states about the national activities and measures towards the achievement of the objectives of the gender equality strategy.

- *The GEC adopted the [2016 annual report](#) and agreed to transmit it to the Committee of Ministers, subject to some updates to be made.*

c. Objective 1 - Combating gender stereotypes and sexism

- Follow-up to the meeting (15 November) to discuss the preparation of a draft recommendation on combating sexism

The Vice-Chair, who had also participated in the meeting on 15 November along with 14 other national representatives, said that the meeting had been very interesting and provided a good basis for further discussion. The Secretariat gave a summary of the meeting and the discussion which had taken place about the scope of the draft recommendation, the procedure and the proposals which had been discussed. She outlined plans to have a meeting of the drafting committee on 2-3 March 2017. There was consensus among the participants that important issues for this meeting would be to discuss a definition of sexism, to explore the links between sexism, discrimination and violence, and to identify the tools needed to address sexism. The participation costs of 15 member states could be covered by the Council of Europe subject to availability of funds in 2017. While there was no strict time limit for the adoption of a draft recommendation by the GEC, the Secretariat said a preliminary draft should be available for the April 2017 GEC meeting, taking account of the discussions and work of the drafting committee in March 2017.

- *The GEC agreed that 15 members would participate in the drafting committee meeting(s) in 2017 with their costs covered by the Council of Europe. The first meeting would take place on 2-3 March 2017 (for 1.5 days).*

d. Objective 2 - Preventing and combating violence against women

- Presentation by Bridget O'Loughlin, Executive Secretary of the Group of Experts on Action against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (GREVIO) about current issues

The Vice-Chair welcomed Bridget O'Loughlin who informed the members about the current activities of GREVIO which included the ongoing monitoring process as regards Austria and Monaco, the first two parties to the Istanbul Convention to be evaluated. She also spoke about the dialogues with the national authorities, which is an innovation among Council of Europe monitoring of conventions. The [presentation](#) is available on the GEC website.

- Presentation by Taina Riski, Programme Advisor, Equality and Human Dignity Department, about co-operation activities

The Vice-Chair welcomed Taina Riski who informed the members about co-operation activities in the area of violence against women funded by contributions outside the ordinary budget of the Council of Europe (e.g. Norway Grants). The [presentation](#) is available on the GEC website.

- *The GEC took note with interest of the information provided by*
 - *Bridget O'Loughlin, Executive Secretary of the GREVIO, on the ongoing monitoring process in the first two parties to be evaluated (Austria and Monaco); and*
 - *Taina Riski, Programme Advisor in the Equality and Human Dignity Department, about co-operation activities in the field of violence against women and gender equality, funded by different donors.*
- Update by the Secretariat on current and future publications

The Secretariat informed the participants about the [latest publications](#) in this area, which are all available on the GEC website, as well as plans to produce a paper on Articles 8&9 of the Istanbul Convention and a factsheet on access to justice for women victims of violence.

e. Objective 3 - Guaranteeing equal access of women to justice

- Regional Project on "Improving women's access to justice in five EAP countries"
 - Follow up to the regional conference "Strengthening Judicial Capacity to Improve Women's Access to Justice" - 24-25 October 2016, Chisinau, Republic of Moldova

The Secretariat informed the participants about the activities that have taken place as part of this [project](#). These include the regional conference “Strengthening judicial capacity to improve women’s access to justice” which took place in Chisinau on 24-25 October, with the participation of the GEC members from the Republic of Moldova and Serbia as moderator and speaker, respectively. The conference gathered more than 80 participants. A conference report will be published on the dedicated webpage of the Gender Equality website shortly. In addition, the Secretariat informed the participants about the three meetings of the regional working group on the development of a training manual for judges and prosecutors on “Ensuring access to justice for women”; training seminars on women’s access to justice organised for judges and prosecutors at the National Institute of Justice of Moldova, and for judges at the Justice Academy of Azerbaijan. A second training in Azerbaijan is currently being organised for December 2016. The Secretariat invited participants to consult the [National studies on barriers, remedies and good practices for women's access to justice in five Eastern Partnership countries online](#). The [presentation](#) is available on the GEC website.

- *The GEC expressed hope on a positive outcome to the request for an extension of the project in 2017 which would allow the consolidation of results achieved and ensure sustainability in the long term.*
 - Update from the Secretariat about other activities in the area of access of women to justice

The Secretariat recalled recent co-operation with UN Women on this issue which included the preparation and publication of the [Framework for measuring access to justice including specific challenges facing women](#) (available on the GEC website) and the participation of a representative of UN Women as a speaker at the Chisinau conference, where she had indicated the willingness to continue co-operation with the Council of Europe on this important topic.

f. Objective 4 - Achieving balanced participation of women and men in political and public decision-making

- Third round of monitoring the implementation of CM Recommendation Rec(2003)3 on balanced participation of women and men in political and public decision-making

The Secretariat introduced the ongoing work on the monitoring of Rec(2003)3 on balanced participation of women and men in political and public decision-making. The two consultants working on the forthcoming analytical report gave a brief [presentation](#) of the preliminary findings of the replies to the questionnaire from 46 member states. They stressed that the findings reflected “general knowledge”. There was a quick overview of different areas (Lower/Single House, Regional Parliaments, junior and senior ministers etc.) mentioned in the document on the preliminary findings. The consultants focused on trends stretching from 2005 to 2016, since the first monitoring round of this Recommendation was conducted, and noted that a great deal of attention was given to quotas (and the distinction between gender quota laws and party quotas). The Secretariat pointed out that it was clear that the minimum threshold stipulated in the recommendation (40% representation of both sexes) had not been met, despite the progress made in certain areas. It was also stressed that

the results of the study may well impact the content of the next Council of Europe gender equality strategy. The discussion that followed the presentation focused on issues related to quotas (different forms of quota in relation to outcome, risk of overemphasising the role of quotas etc.) and the difference between parity as output, and quota as input. The importance of looking at “cultural aspects” and “normative change” as an alternative or complementary approach was also discussed.

- *The GEC took note with interest of the preliminary findings of the third monitoring round of the implementation of the Committee of Ministers Recommendation Rec(2003)3 on balanced participation of women and men in political and public decision-making.*

g. Objective 5 - Achieving gender mainstreaming in all policies and measures

- Gender Mainstreaming in Council of Europe Activities

The Secretariat informed the members about the latest edition of the [document](#) summarising progress on gender mainstreaming in Council of Europe activities, which is available on the GEC website and will be updated again before the next GEC meeting.

- Presentation by Carlien Scheele, Senior Gender Equality Advisor, about her role regarding gender mainstreaming in the Council of Europe

The Vice-Chair introduced Carlien Scheele, Senior Gender Equality Advisor, who had been seconded to the Council of Europe from the Dutch authorities for two years. She informed the members about her responsibility for mainstreaming gender into all activities of the Council of Europe and asked the members to propose topics that could be mainstreamed.

- *The GEC took note of the work and activities of the new Senior Advisor on Gender Equality, about mainstreaming gender into all activities of the Council of Europe.*

- Presentation by Petya Nestorova, Executive Secretary of the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings about the 2nd round of monitoring concerning the gender dimension of trafficking in human beings

The Vice-Chair introduced Petya Nestorova who made a [presentation](#) (available on the GEC website) about the gender aspects included in the 2nd round of [GRETA](#)'s monitoring procedure. Since May 2014, GRETA has included a question about specific measures in each country about how they address the gender dimension of human trafficking and incorporate gender equality into the policies to prevent and combat trafficking in human beings and to protect and promote the rights of victims. Results have shown that more needs to be done to improve the situation of both women and girls, for example in relation to sexual exploitation, and for men and boys in relation to forced labour.

- Presentation by Javier Gomez de Agüero, Office of the Directorate General of Programmes (ODGP), of gender mainstreaming guidelines in co-operation in projects

The Vice-Chair introduced Javier Gomez de Agüero from the [Office of the Directorate General of Programmes](#) who presented the guidelines for gender mainstreaming in Council of Europe co-operation activities. These guidelines are aimed at ensuring gender mainstreaming in the planning and management of projects, during the implementation phase, in all communication and visibility activities, and throughout the monitoring and evaluation of the project. The [presentation](#) is available on the GEC website.

- Presentation by Sonia Parayre, Sports Division, of the Council of Europe-European Union joint project on “Balance in Sport”

The Vice-Chair introduced Sonia Parayre who made a presentation about the [Balance in Sport project](#) which is a joint project between the Council of Europe and the European Union. She also spoke about the final event of the project taking place in Strasbourg on 5-6 December at which the Belgian GEC member was going to speak. Ms Parayre’s [presentation](#) is available on the GEC website.

The Secretariat informed members of discussions in the Council of Europe Committee of Experts on Terrorism (CODEXTER) to integrate a gender perspective in its work, in particular the consideration the roles of women in Daesh and a possible conference in 2018. An exchange of views on this topic will take place in 2017.

- *The GEC took note of the presentations made by:*
 - *Petya Nestorova, Executive Secretary of the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings, about the gender dimension of the 2nd round of monitoring the implementation of the Anti-Trafficking Convention;*
 - *Javier Gomez de Agüero of the Office of the Directorate General of Programmes, about the integration of a gender equality dimension in co-operation projects; and*
 - *Sonia Parayre, Sports Division, about the Balance in Sport project which focuses on the identification and application of indicators on gender equality in sport.*

2. Co-operation with other sectors of the Council of Europe

- Exchange of views with Rob Linham, Chair and Rapporteur of the Drafting Group on Female Genital Mutilation and Forced Marriage (CDDH-MF) of the Steering Committee for Human Rights (CDDH)

The Vice-Chair welcomed Rob Linham who presented the mandate and work of the Steering Committee for Human Rights Drafting Group on Female Genital Mutilation and Forced marriage ([CDDH-MF](#)). He explained to the members that the CDDH-MF has been established because many countries are facing this issue for the first time, or tackling new related aspects for the first time, and there had been a strong desire to learn from one another. The Committee of Ministers had laid out three specific tasks for the CDDH-MF: produce an analysis of the legal situation at international level and in Council of Europe member states, prepare a guide to national good practices aimed at combating and preventing FGM, and to propose further actions for the Council of Europe in this area. There has been co-operation between the CDDH-MF and the GREVIO and GEC Secretariat, and Mr Linham stressed the importance of working together on common areas. In answer to

questions from members, Mr Linham said that the mandate of the committee did not include male circumcision and it was agreed that was a separate issue.

- *The GEC underlined the need for ongoing work to build on existing Council of Europe instruments and stressed the importance to continue appropriate co-operation with the GEC.*
 - Presentation by Urska Umek, Secretary to the Committee of experts on Media Pluralism and Transparency of Media Ownership (MSI-MED) of the draft feasibility study on media coverage of elections and gender equality

The Vice-Chair welcomed Urska Umek, who presented the work of the MSI-MED and also informed the members about a feasibility study that the Committee was preparing on media coverage of elections with a gender equality perspective. The study will analyse the representation by the media of women candidates as compared to male candidates and will focus on how journalists, commentators and anchors report about women candidates during electoral campaigns. An additional goal of the study would be to understand the reasons why the media coverage continues to treat women and men differently. The [presentation](#) is available on the GEC website.

- *The GEC agreed to send to the Gender Equality Unit any relevant information including studies, legislation, etc. on the media coverage of elections from a gender equality perspective, to be forwarded to the MSI-MED before the end of the year.*

V. Co-operation with international/regional organisations

- Exchange of views with Ambassador Mara Marinaki, Principal Advisor on Gender and on the Implementation of UNSCR 1325 on Women, Peace and Security, European External Action Service, European Union

The Vice-Chair introduced Ambassador Marinaki who informed members about her role to bridge the internal-external aspect of the policies of the EU on gender equality and the women's peace and security agenda. She said that the European Commission places a very high priority on these questions, including gender equality, empowerment of women, the role of women in achieving peace and security, etc. She also spoke about the large amount of work which the United Nations has already done in this area and about how a gender perspective had been integrated in each of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) within Agenda 2030. She highlighted that the role of women was to pre-empt negative responses and said that none of the work could be achieved without the help and co-operation between the EU and regional organisations, such as the Council of Europe. She spoke about the advanced consultations on the signature and ratification by the EU of the Istanbul Convention, which was well on track. In answer to questions, Ms Marinaki spoke about the general action plan and co-operation with other organisations such as OSCE. Ms Marinaki welcomed any concrete proposals for other areas of further co-operation.

- *The GEC agreed to pursue co-operation in areas of common interest, including preventing and combating violence against women, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and the women, peace and security agenda.*

- Exchange of views with Pierrette Pape, Policy and Campaigns Director, European Women's Lobby (EWL)

The Vice-Chair introduced Pierrette Pape who informed the members about the work of the European Women's Lobby (EWL), the largest umbrella organisation for women's rights in Europe, with member organisations in all 28 EU member states, as well as in Serbia, "the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia" and Turkey. One of its principal roles is to bring visibility to gender equality issues and to place them on the political agenda of the EU and in countries where they have members. In her [presentation](#), which is available on the GEC website, Ms Pape outlined the many challenges and threats facing women's rights and gender equality such as austerity measures, lack of political will to implement policies and effect change, attacks from religious, ultra-conservative and anti-feminists groups, as well as the prevalence of all forms of violence against women and of gender stereotypes in society. She described the different campaigns and activities undertaken by the EWL and stressed the need for all member states to commit to the realisation of women's rights, to accelerate implementation of all relevant instruments and to invest in women's rights and women's rights organisations. In the exchange which followed, members expressed their thanks for the various EWL activities and position papers, and agreed that the work carried out by the EWL need to be supported and continued.

➤ *The GEC took note of the presentation by Pierrette Pape of the work of the European Women's Lobby (EWL) and expressed appreciation for the continued work of the EWL in the promotion of women's rights and gender equality in Europe.*

- Presentation of EIGE's new gender equality glossary and thesaurus by Christian Veske, Stakeholders Relations Coordinator, European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE)

The Chair welcomed Christian Veske who [presented](#) EIGE's work on updating its Gender Equality Glossary and Thesaurus. He mentioned that the lack of a solid lexical source on gender equality had led to the creation of the glossary. By highlighting the link between the glossary and thesaurus, he explained that the glossary was a tool to foster common understanding. The work had been conducted in partnership with Eurovoc, CDT and the Council of Europe. Future work will include translations, alignment with online databases and co-operation with external libraries. Mr Veske also presented the [thesaurus website](#) and gave practical information on how to use and understand the tool.

- Exchange of views with Pauline Chabbert, Founder of *Autrement Conseil, groupe Egae*, France

The Vice-Chair introduced Pauline Chabbert who made a [presentation](#) about the group's website "*Expertes Francophones*" which aims to make women visible in the media. The website was set up in partnership with *France Télévisions* and *Radio France* and started in 2013 as a national database. The website in France has been a success with over 2000 women experts and 600 journalists registered and 40% of the experts having been contacted by media. The website is being developed internationally in partnership with the *Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie* (OIF) and aims to give access to put in contact 5000 journalists with around 10,000 female experts, researchers, professionals and civil society

representatives in more than 50 Francophone countries. The second stage in the international expansion of the database will be to create a national website for each francophone country with national partners. In the discussion that followed, many members expressed their interest in the site and its usefulness and Ms Chabbert said that another objective of the group was to expand the database to include Anglophone countries and experts as well, and to eventually have sites in national languages.

- *The GEC expressed interest in the database of women experts developed to improve the visibility and participation of women experts in the media. It underlined the need for co-operation and co-ordination with other similar initiatives.*

- European Union gender equality agenda:
 - Dutch Presidency (January – June 2016)
 - Slovakian Presidency (July – December 2016)
 - Maltese Presidency (January – June 2017)

The representatives from the Netherlands, the Slovak Republic and Malta informed the members about their activities and results in the field of gender equality of their respective Presidencies of the Council of the European Union.

- Update on co-operation with the United Nations

The Secretariat informed the members about the [document](#) containing an overview of follow-up on progress in implementing the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development concerning Goal 5: “Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls”. The document would be updated at regular intervals and made available on the meeting website.

- Council of Europe side event during CSW61, New York

The Secretariat informed the members about the plans to organise a side event at the CSW61 in New York in 2017 in the field of sexism and sexist hate speech. In line with previous events, the side event may be organised in partnership with the member state holding the Chairmanship of the Council of Europe (Cyprus).

VI. Report of events attended by GEC members, experts and the Secretariat

The GEC took note of the written reports made by members of the GEC and the Secretariat about events at which they participated since the previous GEC meeting.

VII. Current and future activities at national level and at international level

- Presentation of the tool “Logib” by Steve Binggeli, Economist, Federal Office for Gender Equality of Switzerland

The Chair welcomed Steve Binggeli, who presented the Swiss programme to eliminate gender pay discrimination and the tool “Logib” ([presentation available on the GEC website](#)). Logib is a statistical self-test tool designed by the Federal Office for Gender Equality of Switzerland that companies of 50 or more employees can use, free of charge and anonymously, to measure whether they are complying with the provisions on equal pay for equal work between women and men. Based on a method developed during a wage discrimination case in 1996, Logib’s methodology has been validated by the Federal Supreme Court in 2013. Mr Binggeli explained that while a part of the gender pay gap can be explained by the number of years of training and professional skills acquired, a remaining overall gap of 8.3% between women’s and men’s wages for public and private sectors cannot be explained (2012 data). The gender pay gap is estimated at 7.7 billion (CHF) per year in Switzerland. The presentation was followed by an extensive exchange with the GEC and information about the methodology used in Luxembourg and Poland.

- *The GEC took note of the very informative presentation made by Steve Binggeli from the Swiss Federal Office for Gender Equality about the self-assessment tool LOGIB to measure the gender pay gap in companies.*
- *The GEC took note of the invitation for members to express their interest to Steve Binggeli as regards participation in an international workshop on “Logib” in 2017.*

- Council of Europe gender equality agenda:

- Estonian Chairmanship (May – November 2016)
- Cyprus Chairmanship (November 2016 – May 2017)

The representative from Estonia gave a brief overview of the events during the Estonian Chairmanship of the Council of Europe.

The representative from Cyprus highlighted the [programme](#) and [priorities and objectives](#) of the forthcoming Cypriot Chairmanship.

VIII. Other business

The Secretariat informed the participants about the usefulness of the expertise form which many had already completed and returned. As a result of the information, two representatives had been identified to participate in events relating to the audio-visual sector and the sports sector, respectively. A reminder to those who have not yet completed the form would be sent following the GEC meeting.

The Secretariat reminded all members to confirm well in advance of the meeting whether or not they will attend. This will avoid problems concerning travel arrangements and administrative matters such as processing badges and having nameplates in the meeting room.

Because of the changes among the members of the GEC, the Secretariat has decided to create a “welcome package” for GEC members with information about the organisation of meetings, travel, participation at meetings, reimbursement, documents, etc.

The Secretariat informed the members about two documents that would be sent to them shortly for their action:

- a request for comments on a recommendation by the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities: 390 (2016) “Women’s political participation and representation at local and regional levels” adopted by the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe;
- a template for completion by all member states about activities to promote gender mainstreaming carried out in member states. A compilation of the replies would be prepared in time for publication before the GEC meeting in Prague in November 2017.

IX. Date and place of next meetings

The GEC agreed to hold its 11th meeting on 5-7 April 2017 in Strasbourg. Following an invitation by the Czech authorities, the GEC agreed to hold its 12th meeting in Prague on 22-24 November 2017. An event would be organised by the Czech authorities to coincide with the GEC meeting. More information would be made available at the April meeting.

Calendar of forthcoming events and meetings:

Council of Europe

Side event CSW61, New York – date to be confirmed

Drafting committee to prepare a draft Recommendation on combating sexism - 2-3 March 2017

Other organisations

13-24 March 2017 61st session of the Commission on the Status of Women, New York

X. Adoption of the abridged report of 10th GEC meeting (16-18 November 2016)

The draft abridged report of the 10th meeting was adopted for transmission to the Committee of Ministers.

Appendix I

AGENDA

- I. **Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda**
Draft Agenda *GEC(2016)OJ 2 Revised 1*
- II. **Election of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson**
- III. **Exchange of views with Nils Muižnieks, Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe**
- IV. **Council of Europe Transversal Programme on Gender Equality**
3. **Gender Equality Strategy 2014-2017**
- a. **Follow-up to the conference “Are we there yet? Assessing progress, inspiring action – the Council of Europe Gender Equality Strategy 2014-2017”, 30 June – 1 July 2016, Tallinn, Estonia**
Report of the Tallinn Conference *Oral presentation*
GEC(2016)9
- b. **Draft Annual Report on the implementation of the Gender Equality Strategy**
Activities and measures in member states towards the achievement of the objectives of the Gender Equality Strategy *GEC(2016)10*
GEC(2016)8
- c. **Objective 1 - Combating gender stereotypes and sexism**
- Follow-up to the meeting (15 November) to discuss the preparation of a draft recommendation on combating sexism
- d. **Objective 2 - Preventing and combating violence against women**
- Presentation by Bridget O’Loughlin, Executive Secretary of the Group of Experts on Action against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (GREVIO) about current issues
Oral presentation
- Presentation by Taina Riski, Programme Advisor, Equality and Human Dignity Department, about co-operation activities
Oral presentation

- Update by the Secretariat on current and future publications
Oral presentation

Latest publication

Paper on Article 11 of the Istanbul Convention *Publication (French version)*

e. Objective 3 - Guaranteeing equal access of women to justice

- Regional Project on “Improving women’s access to justice in five EAP countries”

Oral presentation

- Follow up to the regional conference “Strengthening Judicial Capacity to Improve Women’s Access to Justice” - 24-25 October 2016, Chisinau, Republic of Moldova

Oral presentation

Barriers, remedies and good practices for women’s access to justice in five Eastern Partnership Countries *Online version only*

- Update from the Secretariat about other activities in the area of access of women to justice

Oral presentation

Latest publication

Report of Bern Conference *Publication*

f. Objective 4 - Achieving balanced participation of women and men in political and public decision-making

- Third round of monitoring the implementation of CM Recommendation Rec(2003)3 on balanced participation of women and men in political and public decision-making

Introduction by Secretariat

Oral presentation by Consultants

Preliminary findings by the consultants

GEC(2016)11

g. Objective 5 - Achieving gender mainstreaming in all policies and measures

- Gender Mainstreaming in Council of Europe Activities

Oral presentation

4th edition of information document (October 2016)

Online version only

- Presentation by Carlien Scheele, Senior Gender Equality Advisor, about her role regarding gender mainstreaming in the Council of Europe

Oral presentation

- Presentation by Petya Nestorova, Executive Secretary of the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings

(GRETA) about the 2nd round of monitoring concerning the gender dimension of trafficking in human beings

Oral presentation

- Presentation by Javier Gomez de Agüero, Office of the Directorate General of Programmes (ODGP), of gender mainstreaming guidelines in co-operation in projects
Oral presentation
- Presentation by Sonia Parayre, Sports Division, of the Council of Europe-European Union joint project on “Balance in Sport”
Oral presentation

4. Co-operation with other sectors of the Council of Europe

- Exchange of views with Rob Linham, Chair and Rapporteur of the Drafting Group on Female Genital Mutilation and Forced Marriage (CDDH-MF) of the Steering Committee for Human Rights (CDDH)
- Presentation by Urska Umek, Secretary to the Committee of experts on Media Pluralism and Transparency of Media Ownership (MSI-MED) of the draft feasibility study on media coverage of elections and gender equality

V. Co-operation with international/regional organisations

- Exchange of views with Ambassador Mara Marinaki, Principal Advisor on Gender and on the Implementation of UNSCR 1325 on Women, Peace and Security, European External Action Service, European Union
- Exchange of views with Pierrette Pape, Policy and Campaigns Director, European Women’s Lobby (EWL)
- Presentation of EIGE’s new gender equality glossary and thesaurus by Christian Veske, Stakeholders Relations Coordinator, European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE)
- Exchange of views with Pauline Chabbert, Founder of *Autrement Conseil, groupe Egae*, France
- European Union gender equality agenda:
 - o Netherlands Presidency (January – June 2016)
 - o Slovakian Presidency (July – December 2016)
 - o Maltese Presidency (January – June 2017)

- Update on co-operation with the United Nations

Oral presentation

*Overview of follow-up on progress in implementing the United Nations 2030
Agenda for Sustainable Development*

Information document

- Council of Europe side event during CSW61, New York

Oral presentation

VI. Report of events attended by GEC members, experts and the Secretariat

GEC(2016)6

VII. Current and future activities at national level and at international level

- Presentation of the tool "Logib" by Steve Binggeli, Economist, Federal Office for Gender Equality of Switzerland
- Council of Europe gender equality agenda:
 - o Estonian Chairmanship (May – November 2016)
 - o Cyprus Chairmanship (November 2016 – May 2017)

VIII. Other business

- Expertise of the members of the Gender Equality Commission

IX. Date and place of next meetings

11th meeting: Strasbourg, 5-7 April 2017

12th meeting: Strasbourg, 22-24 November 2017

Calendar of forthcoming events and meetings:

Council of Europe

Date tbc

Side event CSW61, New York

Other organisations

13-24 March 2017 61st session of the Commission on the Status of Women, New York

X. Adoption of the abridged report of 10th GEC meeting (16-18 November 2016)

Appendix II

REPRESENTATIVES / REPRESENTANT-E-S

Albania / Albanie

Etleva SHESHI
Head of Gender Equality Sector
Department of Social Inclusion and
Gender Equality

Andorra / Andorre

Mireia V. PORRAS GARCÍA
Social Educator
Equality Policies Department
Department of Social Affairs Ministry of
Social Affairs, Justice and the Interior /
Éducatrice sociale dans l'équipe de prise
en charge intégrale de la femme victime
de violences liées au genre (EAID)
Ministère d'Affaires Sociales, Justice et
Intérieur

Armenia / Armenie

Karine SUJAYAN
Head of Human Rights and Humanitarian
Issues Division
Ministry for Foreign Affairs

Austria / Autriche

Eva FEHRINGER
Deputy Head International and European
Social Policy and Labour Law

Azerbaijan / Azerbaïdjan

Elgun SAFAROV
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