



CONFERENCE OF INGOs
OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

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CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Terms of Reference - CINGO Committee Proposal Form

approved by the General Assembly on 10 April 2024

1. Name of Proposed New Committee:

GE-Committee "NGOs as advocates for gender equality and women's rights"

2. Name of proposers:

Committee Co-Chair Anita Schnetzer-Spranger

Committee Co-Chair Bettina Hahne

3. The INGO you represent: ZONTA International, Soroptimist International of Europe,

4. Your email address: schnetzer-spranger@gmx.de, bettina.hahne@fastmail.fm

5. Summary of the purpose of the committee: (no more than 100 words)

Gender Equality is a human rights issue and central to the protection of women's rights. It is an important policy goal of the Council of Europe (CoE) and a transversal matter.

The Committee's purpose is to contribute to gender mainstreaming, and to make the CoE conventions and standards in gender equality and women's rights known to the Committee members, the CINGO members and to civil society.

The Committee sees the advancement of gender equality as a joint task for all and everyone and seeks to join forces with other CINGO Committees to observe the gender perspective in the outcome of the Conference of INGOs.

6. Date of proposal: 04/03/2024

7. Are you seeking a new/changed mandate for an existing committee? Yes

If yes, what is the current name of the committee?

GE-Committee “NGOs as advocates for gender equality and women’s rights”

8. Proposed Committee Chair Name, INGO and email address

Co-Chair Bettina Hahne, Soroptimist International Europe, bettina.hahne@fastmail.fm
Co-Chair Anita Schnetzer-Spranger, ZONTA International, schnetzer-spranger@gmx.de

9. Every new committee must include members from at least 5 different INGO Heads of Delegation to CINGO and must have at least 7 members in total. Please list below the names and role of INGO representatives and any non-CINGO experts forming the new committee.

Heads of Delegation:

1. Anita Schnetzer-Spranger, ZI
2. Herminio Correa, IPA
3. Emmanuel Jacob, EUROMIL
4. Teresa Gerns, FAFCE
5. Henk Baars, EN-RE
6. Almut Bühling, FCEM
7. Anne-Marie Schott, EFECW

Committee members:

1. Anita Schnetzer-Spranger, ZI
2. Bettina Hahne, SIE
3. Teresa Gerns, FAFCE
4. Hugo Charles Castelli Eyre, EN-RE
5. Sara Pilia, EURODOC
6. Herminio Correa, IPA
7. Antonia Montanus, WWPEN
8. Anne-Marie Schott, EFECW

10. All CINGO committees should relate and contribute to the work of at least one significant workstream within the Council of Europe. Which Council of Europe committee/s of other activity/ies will your committee primarily contribute to?

Secretariat of the Istanbul Convention monitoring mechanism, GREVIO, GEC, Equality Committee, Youth Sector of the CoE, European Committee of Social Rights, European Social Charter.

11. How can new members find out about and join the committee?

The committee is focused on gender equality and women’s rights. INGOs with an interest in these objectives, be it priority or be it through cross cutting topics, are very welcome.

The Committee’s webpage provides an overlook on the Committee’s goals and objectives: <https://www.coe.int/en/web/ingo/ngos-as-advocates-for-gender-equality-and-women-s-rights>

Contact addresses: bettina.hahne@fastmail.fm, schnetzer-spranger@gmx.de, sara.pilia@eurodoc.net

12. Please summarise how the new committee contribute to and advance the priorities and influence of CINGO and Civil Society within the Council of Europe? (no more than 200 words)

Overall, the Committee seeks to contribute with valuable topics with an impact to the CoE.

1. Awareness raising and education for gender stereotypes and sexism in line with CM/REC (2019)1 on preventing and combating sexism. Training INGO members/civil society on this most important CoE tool to fight VAW and discrimination, which links concrete measures with the Istanbul Convention. Scopes: Advertising and media, employment, the justice sector, education, sports. Committee’s goal: Promote methods to combat sexism.
2. Elaborate on the question how to get men and boys involved to change the socially constructed roles, behaviours and attitudes. How to integrate perpetrators to prevent further violence. Committee’s goal: Provide valuable input to one of the GEC’s priority topic. In-depth study on the role of men and boys in gender equality policies.
3. Sexual and reproductive rights are enshrined in human rights law and a basic prerequisite for gender equality. Committee’s goal: Explore the CoE’s instruments and standards in this field and how they serve the wellbeing of women. Support NGOs in their standpoints, providing a tool.
4. Women in the workplace still face discrimination for grounds of pregnancy, known as “maternal mobbing”. Additionally women face obstacles to have a good work-life balance. Committee’s goal: Evaluation of the obstacles and identification of possible solutions in collaboration with CoE bodies.

13. Please provide an outline of the new committee’s work plan priorities for the first year (April 2024 – March 2025)

Council of Europe and/or CINGO priority topic/area of work	Committee objective/s	Summary of planned activities April – October 2024	Summary of planned activities November 2024 – March 2025
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<p>1. Gender stereotypes and sexism. CM/REC on preventing and combating sexism</p>	<p>Awareness raising and education for gender stereotypes and sexism. Promote methods to combat sexism</p>	<p>Training Committee members on the Recommendation and linking the measures with the Istanbul Convention</p>	<p>Defining the scopes and area of concerns, finding cooperation with other INGO Committee, addressing stereotypes and sexism in their topics.</p>
<p>2. How to get men and boys involved to change the socially constructed roles, behaviours and attitudes. The role of perpetrators in preventing VAW.</p>	<p>Give valuable input to one of GEC's priority topic to focus on the role of men and boys in gender equality policies to combat violence against women. In-depth study.</p>	<p>Evaluate GEC's study "The places of men and boys in women's rights". Link with the GEC.</p>	<p>Linking with the secretariat of the Istanbul Convention and GREVIO, evaluate NGOs' activities in this area.</p>
<p>3. Sexual and reproductive rights at the CoE's standards (Conventions, Recommendations etc.)</p>	<p>Develop a tool for NGOs to support them in their standpoints apart from given national laws.</p>	<p>Explore CoE instruments.</p>	<p>Seek cooperation with like minded INGO Committees and bodies at the CoE.</p>
<p>4. Women in the workplace. Evaluation of discriminatory practices on ground of pregnancy and other obstacles. Identification of solutions.</p>	<p>Awareness raising of "maternal mobbing" as a severe discrimination. Link with like minded bodies at the CoE working in the area of women and equal chances in the workplace. Adapt CoE instruments and standards to the needs of working women/mothers. Collaboration with the CINGO Social Rights Committee.</p>	<p>Collaboration with the European Social Charter and the Equality Committee, to link up for the high level meeting in summer. Planning an event with the Youth Sector. Present the initiatives/directives of the EU Commission on these topics in a document.</p>	<p>Side event during the PACE October session about work-life balance. Invite the European Social Charter to the INGO Conference to raise awareness of women and equal chances in the workplace.</p>
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14. Is there anything else you would like to share with CINGO members and/or the CINGO Standing Committee?