

## CINGO Committee Report – common format

**Committee name:** “NGOs as advocates for gender equality and women’s rights”.

**Date of report:** 25/09/2022

**Report author name and contact details:** Anita Schnetzer-Spranger, Bettina Hahne

*To encourage members to read all the committee reports and to share information effectively, please keep your free text sections short and focused on priorities activities and actions.*

**1. Committee Co-Chairs and contact email:**  
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Anita Schnetzer-Spranger, [schnetzer-spranger@gmx.de](mailto:schnetzer-spranger@gmx.de)

**2. Which INGOs are represented on the committee?**

Soroptimist International of Europe (SIE), Zonta International (ZI), European Council of Doctoral Cand. and Junior Researchers (Eurodoc), Ecumenical Forum of European Christian Women (EFECW), Femmes Chefs d’Entreprises Mondiale (FCEM), European Women Lawyers Association (EWLA), Federation of Catholic Family Associations in Europe (FAFCE), International Alliance of Women (IAW), EN-RE, European Centre of the International Council of Women (ECICW), European Buddhist Union (EBU), European Parliamentary Forum (EPF), Parents International (IPA), International Alliance of Women (IAW), International Council of Jewish Women (ICJW), Civilscape.

**3. Which Council of Europe committees and other activities is this committee mainly involved in**

GERs  
Gender Equality Division in cooperation with UN Women and WAVE: Combating VAW and DV, 14 Sept. 2022

**4. How has this committee linked with other CINGO committees in the last year?**

Action for Social Rights Committee: Webinars on The Revised Social Charter (March, June 2022); examples of NGO projects provided.  
Human Rights and Artificial Intelligence Com: HR and artificial intelligence (Jan. 2022)  
Civil Society Com. on the Rights of the Child: Parental Separation (June 2022)  
Migration Committee “Migrants, refugees, asylum seekers. Access to fundamental rights.” The committee participated in the survey set up by this committee and could suggest some relevant additions referring to the needs of women and girls

5. How can new members join the committee (please provide email address for expression of interest)?

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](mailto:bettina.hahne@fastmail.fm), [schnetzer-spranger@gmx.de](mailto:schnetzer-spranger@gmx.de), [sara.pilia@eurodoc.net](mailto:sara.pilia@eurodoc.net)

6. What else could CINGO Standing Committee and Secretariat do to support the work of the committee and the communications between your committee, other members of CINGO and other parts of CoE?

To develop a format which allows the committees to present their work to the other INGOs in a meaningful, concise way. More regular Zoom meetings with the committees as an "open forum", allowing INGOs to find partners for cross cutting actions (if needed).

Involvement and information on CoE bodies relevant for the work of the GE-Committee like contact to GREVIO, Committee of the Parties, Committee on Equality and Non Discrimination, Gender Equality Commission. The GE Committee recognizes the difficulties to attend sessions of the above-mentioned committee in times of the pandemic crisis. However, it would be of great help, if the committee would have access to the outcome of meetings/sessions to get a better overview on the status of the topics relevant for the INGO GE-Committee.

*Please continue to pages 2 and 3 to provide a report on key activities and objectives.*

**Activity and Outcomes Report – please choose up to 6 main topics/activity areas**

Key topic/activity	Summary of progress/impact in last 6 months	Current key issues	Plans for next 6 months
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1 Train committee members on the most relevant CoE standards/conventions on women's rights and violence against women, monitoring mechanism	Presentation of the Istanbul Convention, the Anti Trafficking Convention, parts of the Revised European Social Charter during committee meetings: 25/10/21, 26/11/21/	VAW, DV, Trafficking, women's rights and the legal basis of Gender Equality in the European Social Charter	Ongoing training and observing of situations in light of GE, Women's rights, Violence against Women and women in leadership
2 Make INGOs aware of the relevant convention, like the Istanbul Convention, to disseminate the legal instrument to inform citizens about their rights	Power point presentation during the GA April 2022, 6 <sup>th</sup> April	Ongoing training on issues concerning VAW and DV/GREVIO reports	Ongoing, to strengthen Committee members' knowledge and encourage them to disseminate information to their NGO
3 Sharing best practice and existing successful projects of committee members' INGOs	"Maternal mobbing" (FAFCE), "Database for Women in Supervisory Boards-Empowerment of women in leadership (FCEM), "Cost-project = reducing gender violence in academia" (EURODOC), "A module on Gender Equality to eliminate gender stereotypes and clichés – for children between 12 and 14 years old" (IPA)	Finding cooperation between Committee members' INGOs and reaching out to other INGOs interested in these topics for potential cross cutting topics	
4 Analyse target groups of the Committee's INGOs and needed tools and instruments to support effective advocacy action in their INGO	Disseminated a questionnaire amongst the Committee's INGOs to get a clearer picture of the target groups and what is needed	Working alongside the results of the questionnaire, encouraging committee members to articulate problems to address their target groups	Ongoing.
5 Statements and position papers on situations that are critical for women	A statement on the situation of women in Ukraine.	Raising awareness on the situation of refugee women and the risk of sexual and gender-based violence. Call for women's full and meaningful inclusion in peace talks and	Observing the situation on Ukrainian refugee women and to call for their wellbeing.  In addition, a position paper will be published on the

		humanitarian processes.  The consequences of the COVID restrictions are analyzed presently.	consequences of COVID on gender equality
6 Analysis of opportunities and difficulties of project work on the implementation of the CoE Conventions by the different NGOs	Several successful and not so successful projects by our NGOs were presented and discussed. Weak points and strong points were identified, which depended on the structure of the NGO.		This study will be continued, as it is one of the objectives of this committee to provide a summary on the impact that different NGOs can possibly have.

**Is there anything else you would like to share with CINGO members and the CINGO Standing Committee?**

This committee is different from other INGO committees, most of which are contributing with recommendations and suggestions on specific topics to the essential work of the CoE.

This Committee is directed inwards in support of the members of the Conference: Its purpose is to enable INGOs to fulfil their participatory tasks as members of the Conference in promoting the Council of Europe's ground-breaking international treaties in their NGOs and in civil society. And in doing so, contributing to the substantial work of the Council of Europe as advocates for human rights.

It seeks to elaborate concrete ways how NGOs can be instrumental for a full implementation of the Council of Europe's conventions in their own countries.