



“The role of foreign policy in advancing gender equality: Addressing the challenges, pushbacks and obstacles faced by women”

**Conference organised by the
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cyprus
in partnership with the Council of Europe**

PROGRAMME

**26 October 2021
Hilton Hotel
Nicosia, Cyprus**

Hybrid conference



**REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

9:30 - 10:00 am

Arrival of participants

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Conference Moderator: Giorgos Ioannides, Head of Multilateral Affairs and International Organisations Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Cyprus

10:00 - 10:20 am

Opening remarks

Nikos Christodoulides, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Cyprus

Annita Demetriou, President of the House of Representatives, Cyprus

Bjørn Berge, Deputy Secretary General, Council of Europe

10:20 - 11:10 am

Session 1 - The role of multilateralism in the promotion of women's rights

Session Moderator: Dr Alexia Panayiotou, Associate Professor, University of Cyprus

Elvira Kovács, Vice-chairperson of the Sub-committee on Gender Equality of the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination, Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe

Stella Ronner-Grubačić, European External Action Service (EEAS) Ambassador for Gender and Diversity, European Union

Alia El-Yassir, Regional Director for Europe and Central Asia, UN Women

Discussion

11:10 - 11:30 am

Coffee Break

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11:30 - 12:30 pm

Session 2 - Promoting women's rights and gender equality through a feminist foreign policy

Session Moderator: Claudia Luciani, Director of Human Dignity, Equality and Governance, Council of Europe

Josie Christodoulou, Gender Adviser to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Cyprus
Delphine O, Ambassador, Secretary General of the Generation Equality Forum, France

Pascalie Grotenhuis, Ambassador for Women's Rights and Gender Equality, the Netherlands

Sofia Calltorp, Ambassador for Gender Equality and Co-ordinator of the Feminist Foreign Policy, Sweden

Discussion

12:30 - 2:00 pm

Lunch Break

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2:00 - 2:45 pm

Session 3 - Migration and global women's rights: the role of gender-sensitive foreign policies in the area of migration

Session Moderator: Vera Eloi da Fonseca, Chair of the Drafting Group on migrant women, Council of Europe

Katja Saha, Representative of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Salome Mbugua, Co-President, European Network of Migrant Women

Philippa Karsera, Acting Secretary General for EU Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Cyprus

Discussion

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Conference Moderator: Giorgos Ioannides, Head of Multilateral Affairs and International Organisations Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Cyprus

2:45 - 3:10 pm

Conclusions and the way forward

Constantinos Constantinou, Rapporteur of Session 1

Ioanna Demosthenous, Rapporteur of Session 2

Myrianthi Spathi, Rapporteur of Session 3

3:10 pm

Closing remarks

Claudia Luciani, Director of Human Dignity, Equality and Governance, Council of Europe