

Women Empowerment Conference

Protecting Girls: Reinforcing the Euro-Mediterranean cooperation
to protect girls against gender-based violence

29 June 2022

European Centre Jean Monnet, Lisbon, Portugal

Programme

(All times are Lisbon time zone UTC +1)

09:00-09:30 Registration

09:30-09:50 Opening remarks

- Ms Isabel Martinho, Political Advisor, European Commission Representation in Portugal
- Ms Pilar Morales, Head of the Council of Europe Office in Tunis, Coordinator of the Neighbourhood Policy with the Southern Mediterranean, Council of Europe *(online)*
- Dr. Sandra Ribeiro, President of the Commission on Citizenship and Gender Equality (CIG)
- H.E. Ambassador Afonso Malheiro, Executive Director of the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe

09:50-10:10 Keynote address on Girls' needs, challenges and aspirations *by* Ms Aryan Ashory, Global Girl Media *(online)*

10:15-11:45 Session 1: Investing in Prevention and Protection measures

Moderator: Ms Nabila Hamza, Sociologist, City Councillor and laureate of the 2019 North-South Prize of the Council of Europe, Tunisia

- **Protecting girls in the MENA region: role of education and challenges for refugees and migrant girls**
by Ms Muna Abbas, Country Director for Plan International in Jordan
- **Combating the digital dimension of gender-based violence against girls**
by Ms Marwa Azelmat, Digital Rights Expert, RNW Media, Morocco
- **Domestic implementation of multi-sectoral strategies to combat violence against girls**
by H.E. Ambassador Mona Omar Mohamed Attia, Rapporteur for the Committee on Foreign Relations of the National Commission for Women, Egypt
- **The national and local measures to combat girls' sexual exploitation**
by Ms Ohaila Shomar, General Director SAWA, Palestine* and Middle East and North-Africa regional representative of ECPAT international

11:45-12:30 **Focus on crimes committed in the name of so-called honour**
Presentation of the short film "Diana" by Ms Maysoon Khaled, Film director, Jordan

12:30-14:15 *Lunch break*

14:15-14:45 **Focus on the digital dimension of gender-based violence**
Presentation of the short film "Children's Game" by Ms Rim Medji, Filmmaker, Morocco (*online*)

14:45-16:15 **Session 2: Investing in cross-border and multi-sectoral cooperation**

Moderator: Dr Fatema Khafagy, Vice President of Egyptian Feminist Union, Member of Global Generation Equality Forum (the CSAG) and Co-Convener of Arab States Civil Society and Feminist Network

- **The civil society's cooperation to pursue advocacy efforts**
by Ms Amani Aruri, Youth Representative, KARAMA Network, Palestine*
- **The multi-lateral cooperation to protect children against sexual exploitation & sexual abuse**
by Ms Faouzia Chaabane Jabeur, President of SAWN Association, Tunisia (*online*)
- **At the intersection of age, gender and status: protecting the rights of girls in transit**
by Ms Vera Eloi da Fonseca, Coordinator of the Project Team on Intersecting Inequalities, High Commission for Migration, Portugal (*online*)
- **Regional cooperation: priorities, challenges and opportunities**
by Ms Fadia Kiwan, Director General of Arab Women Organization, Arab League

16:15-16:30 Wrap-up and conclusions by the North-South Centre

17:00-18:30 **Closing Seminar of the North-South Centre's Regional Grant Scheme**
solely for onsite participants

- Showcasing of promising initiatives in the field of combating and preventing gender-based violence and protection of victims

* This designation shall not be construed as recognition of a State of Palestine and is without prejudice to the individual positions of Council of Europe member States on this issue.

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