

WOMEN FORGING LASTING PEACE

Annual Conference of the Council of Europe Gender Equality Commission



Olena Shevchenko is a prominent Ukrainian women's and LGBTI rights activist, serving as the chairwoman of the NGO Insight and co-founder of the feminist movement - Women's March in Ukraine (Marsh Zhinok).

She advocates for marginalized communities, including LGBTQI individuals and women from vulnerable communities, while challenging discriminatory laws. In 2021, Shevchenko was awarded the Human Rights Tulip by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs for her pioneering human rights work. The following year, she and Insight received the Prix international de la ville de Paris for

the Rights of LGBTI+ People.

Named Women of the Year by The Times in 2023, Shevchenko highlighted the increased vulnerability of women and LGBTQI people during the war in Ukraine, pointing to widespread discrimination, sexual violence, and gaps in humanitarian aid. She remains a powerful advocate for human rights in Ukraine.

Today Insight, under her leadership, has become a visible and significant player for advocacy both nationally and internationally.

Olena is a Board member of ILGA-World, serving as Treasurer

In December 2025 Olena Shevchenko was elected as a Co-chair of EL*C (EuroCentralAsian Community)