



World Forum  
for  
**Democracy**  
Council of Europe, Strasbourg

IN



PROGRAMME

# GENDER EQUALITY: WHOSE BATTLE?

19 > 21 November 2018

#CoE\_WFD



## Programme overview

### Monday 19 November

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Artistic event  
and welcome words  
by the organisers

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12.30-15.00 *Lunch break*

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Women and power:  
moving towards 50/50

16.30-17.00 *Break*

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Time to stop sexism, discrimination  
and violence against women!

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Blue restaurant,  
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(upon invitation)

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Women, Security and  
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Reporting from the labs and  
ceremony  
for the Democracy Innovation  
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12.30-13.00 [Closing Performance](#)

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<sup>1</sup> Detailed description of labs and roundtables at the end of this document

## Partners

The World Forum for Democracy is organised by the Council of Europe in partnership with the City of Strasbourg, the Region Grand Est, the Conseil départemental of Bas-Rhin and the French Government.

**Thorbjørn JAGLAND**, Secretary General of the Council of Europe

**Jean-Baptiste MATTÉI**, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of France to the Council of Europe

**Jean ROTTNER**, President of the Region Grand Est

**Frédéric BIERRY**, President of the Conseil départemental of Bas-Rhin

**Roland RIES**, Mayor of Strasbourg

## Patronage

The World Forum for Democracy is placed under the high patronage of **Emmanuel MACRON**, President of the French Republic.

# Gender equality: Whose battle?

## CHALLENGE

In 1918, courageous women formed women's rights movements to challenge their exclusion from public and political life. In many countries, their bravery won them the right to increased democratic participation. Nearly a century later the #MeToo movement brought into sharp focus the pervasive extent of violence against women in all walks of life. But must we wait another century for the next seismic shift in the way that women are perceived and treated? Or is now, with global consciousness raised, a moment to assess what more must be done?

The **World Forum for Democracy 2018** will be dedicated to **gender equality and women's rights**. It will focus in particular on women's public, political and economic participation and on combating violence against women in the wake of #MeToo.

The World Forum for Democracy is a unique platform for political decision-makers and activists to debate solutions to key challenges for democracies worldwide. By identifying and analysing experimental initiatives and practices, the Forum highlights and encourages democratic innovations at grassroots level, and their transfer onto a systemic level in order to strengthen the foundations of democratic societies. The Forum thus contributes to the evolution of democracy and the development of more participatory and inclusive structures and institutions. This is a moment to think big and make change.

## GOALS

The Forum is divided into plenary sessions, consisting of lively debates between the audience and personalities from politics and public life about the political perspectives and living conditions now and in the future. There are also labs, which are the heart of the Forum. This year, they aim to address specific issues related to gender equality and are formed of initiatives from all around the world.

## FORMAT

Carefully selected following an open call, the initiatives and labs overall will deal with the variety of experiences women face and will present evidence of the work which contributed to the strengthening and protection of women's rights, as well as balanced participation of women and men in public life and decision making. At the end of the Forum session, the **Democracy Innovation Award** is given to the most popular initiative featured in the labs.

A meeting of the members of the **Participatory Democracy Incubator** of the Forum will be held to consider and develop new ideas on ways to scale up democratic innovation to the systemic level and nurture an active community of democratic innovators.

In order to reach out to a wider range of contributors and enrich the debate, the Forum welcomes the organisation of "satellite events" by universities renowned in the sphere of political studies and international relations, non-governmental organisations, municipalities and other institutions.

## Programme

### Monday, 19 November 2018

#### 9.30-10.45 **Time for Facts**

Council of Europe hemicycle - Interpretation FR/EN/RU

Moderator:

**Ms Claudia LUCIANI**, Director of Human Dignity, Equality and Governance, Council of Europe

Speakers:

**Ms Liri KOPAÇI-DI MICHELE**, Head of Violence against Women Division and Executive Secretary of the monitoring mechanisms of the Council of Europe

**Ms Therese MURPHY**, Head of Operations Unit, European Gender Equality Institute, on women's representation and participation in European politics and the economy

**Ms Annika SILVA-LEANDER**, heads the Democracy Assessment and Political Analysis (DAPA) Unit, which produces International IDEA's Global State of Democracy Report

**Ms Laura SILVER**, PEW Research Center, on the state of public opinion towards gender equality and democracy worldwide

#### 10.45-11.00 **Artistic event**

#### 11.00-11.30 **Opening session: Welcome Words by the Organisers**

Council of Europe hemicycle - Interpretation FR/EN/RU/ES

Moderator:

**Ms Annette GERLACH**, Journalist and TV host at Arte

**Mr Thorbjørn JAGLAND**, Secretary General of the Council of Europe

**Ms Marlène SCHIAPPA**, Minister of State for Gender Equality and anti-discrimination, France

**Mr Jean-Luc BOHL**, First Vice-Président of Région Grand Est, France

**Mme Catherine GRAEF-ECKERT**, Counselor, Department of Bas-Rhin

**Mr Roland RIES**, Mayor of Strasbourg

#### 11.30-12.30 **Keynote Speeches**

Council of Europe hemicycle - Interpretation FR/EN/RU/ES

Moderator:

**Ms Annette GERLACH**, Journalist and TV host at Arte

Speakers:

**Ms Dolores DELGADO**, Minister of Justice, Spain

**Ms Marlène SCHIAPPA**, Minister of State for Gender Equality and anti-discrimination, France

#### 12.30-15.00 Lunch break

#### 15.00-16.30 **Plenary session: Women and power: moving towards 50/50**

Council of Europe hemicycle - Interpretation: FR/EN/RU

Moderator:

**Ms Gabriella BATTAINI-DRAGONI**, Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe

Speakers:

**Ms Claude CHIRAC**, Vice-President of the Chirac Foundation, France

**Ms Farrah KHAN**, Manager, Consent Comes First, Sexual Violence Support and Education, Ryerson University, member of the Gender Equality Advisory Council for Canada's G7 Presidency

**Mr Philippe MUYTERS**, Flemish Minister for Work, Economy, Innovation and Sport, Belgium

#### 16.30-17.00 Break

17.00-18.30 **Plenary session: Time to stop sexism, discrimination and violence against women!**  
Council of Europe hemicycle – Interpretation FR/EN/RU

Moderator:

**Ms Liliane MAURY PASQUIER**, President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe

Speakers:

**Ms Feride ACAR**, President of the Group of Experts on Action against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (GREVIO), Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention)

**Ms Shiori ITO**, Journalist, Japan

**H.E. Rosemary McCARNEY**, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Canada to the United Nations and to the Conference on Disarmament

18.30-20.00 **Reception**, Blue restaurant, Council of Europe (*upon invitation*)

## Tuesday, 20 November 2018<sup>2</sup>

### 09.30-11.30 **First Series of Labs**

LAB 1: What if she runs? Better representation through higher female participation in elections

LAB 2: No pressure! How can political parties make parity a priority?

LAB 3: Is #MeToo the new model for women's rights campaigns?

LAB 4: Eradicating sexism and violence in political institutions: a matter of willingness, or design?

LAB 5: Activism vs. law: can greater awareness stop sexual harassment in the public space?

LAB 6: How to create safe spaces in cyberspace?

LAB 7: Will closing the gender gap in the economy lead to greater political equality?

### 11.30-13.00 **Roundtables**

Roundtable 1: Artificial Intelligence and gender (in-) equality

Roundtable 2: Do more films by women mean more women's films?

Roundtable 3: Women and migration: promoting successful integration and empowerment

Roundtable 4: Has democracy failed women? New democratic practices and women's participation

Roundtable 5: Taking action against violence against women and girls

Roundtable 6: National policy approaches to achieving gender equality

Roundtable 7: Feminist Investigative Journalism

Roundtable 8: Faith and Feminism – Can women gain greater power in religious communities?

13.00-14.30 Lunch break

### 14.30-16.30 **Second Series of Labs**

LAB 8: Can gender stereotypes be banned from the media?

LAB 9: Fighting trafficking in Human beings

LAB 10: Masculinities re-examined: are men the key to greater gender equality?

LAB 11: How can women use the law to fight gender-based violence?

LAB 12: Participatory democracy: a necessary boost for women's power?

LAB 13: Women's diversity: what are the interests of women of ethnic minorities and who represents them?"

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<sup>2</sup> Detailed agendas below

**16.45-18.30 Storytelling**

Council of Europe Hemicycle – Interpretation FR/EN/RU

*Two stories will be told at this session. One story falls under the theme of "Women's professional leadership in a religious setting" and the other under the theme of "discrimination and violence."*

*It is impossible to describe who the storytellers are in a nutshell as it will only be through the discovery of the story that the listeners will be able to grasp the essence of these people and their life experience. For the purposes of the programme an introductory title is therefore given to both. These titles are:*

**An African-American lesbian rabbi: An intersectional approach to navigating religious life and leadership**

**Child bride, survivor and mother of five**

18.30

**Awards ceremony for the Prix Régional de l'Engagement Démocratique** by Jean ROTTNER,  
President of the Grand Est Region

## Wednesday, 21 November 2018

09.00-09.30 **Addresses by outgoing and incoming Chairpersons of the Committee of Ministers**  
Council of Europe hemicycle – Interpretation FR/EN/RU

Speakers:

**Ms Marija PEJČINOVIĆ BURIĆ**, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of Croatia, outgoing Chair of the Committee of Ministers

**Mr Timo SOINI**, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Finland, incoming Chair of the Committee of Ministers

09.30-10.30 **Plenary session: Women, Security and Democratisation**

Council of Europe hemicycle – Interpretation FR/EN/RU

Organising partner: International Peace Institute (IPI)

Moderator:

**Mr Jean-Baptiste MATTÉI**, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of France to the Council of Europe

Introductory Keynote:

**Mr Zohrab MNATSAKANYAN**, Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs of Armenia

Speakers:

**Mr Yves LETERME**, Secretary General of International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA)

**Mr Adam LUPEL**, Vice-President, International Peace Institute (IPI), United States of America

**Ms Karin NORDMEYER**, President, UN Women National Committee for Germany

**Ms Naoko UEDA**, Deputy Director of the OECD Development Centre, Paris

10.30-12.30 **Reporting from the labs and Democracy Innovation Award**

Council of Europe hemicycle – Interpretation FR/EN/RU

Moderators:

**Ms Snežana SAMARDŽIĆ-MARKOVIĆ**, Director General of Democracy, Council of Europe with **Ms Anja OLIN-PAPE**, Representative of the Council of Europe Advisory Council on Youth

General Rapporteurs:

**Ms Drude DAHLERUP**, Professor of Political Science, Stockholm University, Sweden

**Ms Mala HTUN**, Professor of Political Science, University of New Mexico, United States of America

**Ms Lady NGO MANG EPESSE**, Women's rights specialist, TV journalist, Cameroon/France

The Council of Europe's Democracy Innovation Award is given each year to the most popular democracy initiative presented in the Labs, voted upon by the Forum participants.

Presentation of the Democracy Innovation Award and Closing Address by

**Mr Thorbjørn JAGLAND**, Secretary General of the Council of Europe.

12.30-13.00 **Closing Performance**



## DETAILED PROGRAMME OF LABS AND ROUNDTABLES – Tuesday 20 November

### 09.30 – 11.30 FIRST SERIES OF LABS

#### LAB 1: What if she runs? Better representation through higher female participation in elections

*Sponsored by the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities and the Region Grand Est*

Quotas have been established around the world to ensure that women candidates can run in elections. What's the right design? What are the structural barriers that hinder women from running in elections? How can we fight against these barriers? Does gender parity in terms of positions mean women have 50% of power?

*Room 9 - Interpretation: FR/EN*

Moderator:

**Mr Christopher YVON**, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom to the Council of Europe

#### **Life VOTE Mascote, ACT for SOCIETY Centre, Albania**

Today, patriarchal culture in Albanian society still restricts women's ability to vote. Especially in rural areas, women are excluded from decision-making within the family, which is solely reserved for men by tradition. That is why young women in rural areas do often pass on their electoral documents to their father, who fills it in on their behalf. Family voting is ingrained in family tradition, hindering women's influence on the political scene.

To draw attention to the problem, animators from the ACT for SOCIETY Centre created mascots and send them to weekly 'bazars'. Using a "Vote House" in order to engage the community to vote in the 'symbolic voting box', the animators try to engage with market visitors on the issue of family voting. The Project reached in total more than 18,000 persons with the ultimate objective to increase women's representation in political decision-making.

Presenter: **Ms Françeska MUÇO**, Act for Society Centre, Albania

#### **Women Democratic Leaders, Church Auxiliary for Social Action (CASA), India**

In rural India, women are often excluded from political decision-making, especially when they belong to the lower 'caste' still in place in the Indian society. This makes it for them extremely difficult to raise their voices and to show their competences to handle daily challenges in society.

Therefore, the initiative by the Church Auxiliary for Social Action (CASA) aims to encourage women to participate in the local self-governance system (the so-called "Panchayat Raj System"), by including them in daily decision processes. CASA's projects cover three objectives: increasing women's power in politics, in the economy – with a focus on women's contributions in the agricultural sector – and lastly, to combat violence against women.

Presenter: **Ms Joycia THORAT**, Project Officer, Church's Auxiliary for Social Action (CASA), India

Discussants:

**Ms Dusica DAVIDOVIC**, member of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities, Serbia

**Ms Bryony RUDKIN**, member of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities, United Kingdom

**Ms Aicha AYARI**, Program Coordinator of the program "Women Leaders of Tomorrow" for the Middle East and North Africa region and Euromed of the Belgian association AIM (Actions in the Mediterranean)

Rapporteur:

**Ms Léa PALAU**, Secretariat of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe

## LAB 2: No pressure! How can political parties make parity a priority?

Sponsored by the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR)

What are the processes through which candidates are placed high up on party lists for election, especially in those constituencies where candidates from specific parties have good chances of being elected? Can third parties take over the audit for political parties' respect of gender equality principles? Are the "old-boys-networks" of political parties so strong that new social movements should take their place? What can the public do to increase pressure on parties to bring more women into leadership positions and to defend policies that are representative of the diversity of women's interests?

Room 1 - Interpretation: FR/EN

Moderator:

**Ms Rósa BJÖRK BRYNJÓLFSDÓTTIR**, member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe's Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy, Iceland

### Gender Audits for political parties, OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR)

Women's persistent under-representation is not only an issue of women's rights or social justice, but a serious challenge to democratic policy making, legitimacy and quality of democratic institutions, and broader civic engagement. While many countries focus on legislative measures to achieve women's representation in political and public life, such as legal quotas and allocation of public funding to parties that support women's candidacy, insufficient attention has been paid to the role political parties themselves play in facilitating or hindering women's access to politics, even when political parties are considered as 'gate-keepers' to political participation, when it comes to political participation of women.

ODIHR developed the political party gender audit methodology, or "self-assessment", in order to assess internal political party processes, structures, and activities from a gender perspective, with the aim of identifying discriminatory practices and recommending ways for advancing women's political participation and gender equal party policies.

Presenter: **Ms Tiina KUKKAMAA-BAH**, Chief, Democratic Governance and Gender Unit, OSCE-ODIHR

### Bridging the gender gap by 2025,

Volt is a pan-European, progressive movement that stands for a new and inclusive way of doing politics.

Through its "Bridging the Gender Gap by 2025!" initiative, the movement puts forward innovative and bold policies to implement once in elected positions, and adopted internal rules and guidelines to ensure gender balance and equality within. Being present in more than 30 European countries, having founded eight political parties and planning to contest elections across the continent, Volt is in a unique position to tackle gender discrimination in all spheres of society across the continent.

Presenters: **Ms Colombe CAHEN-SALVADOR**, co-founder and European Policy Lead at Volt Europa, Switzerland and **Ms Zuzana STRUHAROVA**, Social Equality Facilitator at Volt Europa, London, United Kingdom

### FeminIndex: Measuring Gender Issues in the Public Agenda, Economía Femini(s)ta, Argentina

Economía Femini(s)ta is an NGO from Argentina whose mission is to raise awareness about the multiple forms of gender inequalities through the creation and dissemination of data, statistics, conceptual content - data visualisations, didactic videos, articles, etc. - in a format that is oriented to the broadest possible audience. In 2017, it launched an online survey asking each Congress candidate about their position on five different topics of the gender agenda: political participation, LGBTTTIQ rights, feminist economics, gender-based violence, and reproductive rights. . The 'FeminIndex' is the result of this process. It aims to inspire and inform citizens, politicians and media in Argentina on gender issues.

Presenter: **Ms Mercedes D'ALESSANDRO**, President of Economía Feminista, United States of America

Discussant:

**Ms Tània VERGE MESTRE**, Associate Professor, Departament de Ciències Polítiques i Socials, Barcelona, Spain

Rapporteur:

**Mr Ben FREEMAN**, Secretariat of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities, Council of Europe

## LAB 3: Is #MeToo the new model for women's rights campaigns?

Before #MeToo, women's rights groups have fought for over a hundred years for gender equality. What works when campaigning for women's rights? How can digital and offline tools be combined to mobilise citizens and sensitise elected officials? What language to use to convince sceptics of gender equality?

*Room 3 - Interpretation: FR/EN*

Moderator:

**Ms Alexandra ADRIAENSSENS**, Project Director at the Directorate for Equal Opportunities in the Ministry of the Wallonia-Brussels Federation and member of the Gender Equality Commission of the Council of Europe

#### **Abolition of Article 522 on rape marriage, ABAAD – Resource Center for Gender Equality, Lebanon**

ABAAD - Resource Center for Gender Equality is a non-profit, non-politically affiliated, non-religious civil association founded in 2011 with the aim of promoting sustainable social and economic development in Lebanon and the MENA region through equality, protection and empowerment of marginalised groups, especially women.

"A White Dress Does Not Cover the Rape" was a national campaign launched by ABAAD that aimed to abolish Article 522 of the Lebanese Penal code, which exonerates rapists if the perpetrator marries the victim. This campaign was supported by the Minister for Women's Affairs, who said the law was like something "from the Stone Age." The campaign mobilised public awareness to strengthen legislations to protect women and girls from sexual violence and exploitation in Lebanon, and to spur social norms change to adequately respond to sexual violations. This resulted in a historical vote of the Lebanese parliament repealing article 522 on 16 June 2017. This victory for women and girls' rights in Lebanon takes place in a regional context where similar legislations are being challenged one by one.

Presenter: **Ms Aseel NAAMANI**, Director of Programmes, ABAAD – Resource Center for Gender Equality, Lebanon

#### **Strajk kobiet (Polish Women's Strike), Poland**

Strajk kobiet is a coalition of women's rights groups, pro-democracy initiatives and individuals mobilising through social media, joined by thousands of activists in at least 50 cities around Poland. Their first rally in 2016 was called the "Black Monday protest" and saw women dressed in black from all over Poland marching in the streets to demand the abolition of harmful abortion legislation.

Presenter: **Ms Marta LEMPART**, Co-founder Strajk Kobiet, Poland

#### **Enough Campaign, Oxfam, Global**

Oxfam is a confederation of 20 non-governmental organisations and works in 90 countries. It strives for a just world without poverty.

The "Enough" campaign is an Oxfam led campaign that has sparked a movement against violence towards women and girls, to address negative social norms in their specific contexts. It is situated in over 30 countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, and in the Pacific Area. The Enough campaign aims to change widely accepted and harmful social norms that too often justify violence against women and girls to ones that promote gender equality and non-violence.

The campaign brings people of all genders, ages, and backgrounds together, to transform the normal. It works to challenge and make us reflect on one's behaviour, supports ordinary people to speak out against violence and present alternatives to harmful norms. Social media campaigns, art, music, workshops and positive aspirational messages encourage people to think and talk about harmful social norms and the potential damage they can do.

Presenter: **Ms Faides TEMBA NSOFU**, Programme Manager for Women's rights, Oxfam, Zambia

Discussant:

**Ms Cécile GRÉBOVAL**, Programme Manager, Gender Equality Division, Council of Europe

Rapporteur:

**Ms Tanja KLEINSORGE**, Head of the Secretariat, Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe

#### **LAB 4: Eradicating sexism and violence in political institutions: a matter of willingness, or design?**

*Sponsored by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE)*

Political institutions were designed and have evolved in a time when demands for gender equality were little understood. Delegates in parliaments around the world testify of sexist behavior in political institutions. What are the root causes? How can this be stopped and how can institutions be designed in a way that ensures parity in decision-making and stops discrimination against women?

*Room 8 - Interpretation: FR/EN*

Moderator:

**Ms Zita GURMAI**, member of the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, Hungary

##### **Addressing sexism, harassment and violence against women in parliaments in Europe, Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe/Inter-Parliamentary Union**

The IPU and PACE are carrying out a joint survey on sexism, harassment and violence against women in parliaments in Europe. This study aims at identifying, documenting and defining the problem as it is experienced by both female members of parliament and female parliamentary staff. It will contribute to raising awareness on the need to address this issue and present concrete measures taken by parliaments to ensure that they are respectful, safe and free from gender-based violence.

The lab will provide a forum for discussion on the need to prevent violence against women in parliaments and actions which can be taken to this end. The lab represents an opportunity to present the results of the PACE-IPU study and to discuss steps to be taken to protect more women from gender-based violence.

Presenter: **Ms Susan KIHKA**, President of the Parliamentarian Women's Bureau of the IPU

##### **It's Time: Addressing Sexual Violence in Political Institutions, Young Women's Leadership Network, Canada**

The Young Women's Leadership Network is a non-profit organisation dedicated to fostering young women's civic and political leadership within Canada's democratic institutions through a non-partisan, anti-oppressive, trans-inclusive feminist approach. Its Executive Director Arezoo Najibzadeh has been the leading voice on the conversation around sexual violence in Canada's democratic institutions within the past three years.

Three months of research and collaborations with survivors of sexual violence and experts in the gender-based violence sector, revealed that 80% of women who experience sexual violence either leave democratic/political institutions or decrease their involvement. As a result, a wide range of resources and educational opportunities for democratic institutions aimed at politicians, candidates, volunteers, and political staff was put in place.

Presenter: **Ms Arezoo NAJIBZADEH**, Cofounder, Executive Director, Young Women's Leadership Network, Canada

##### **Justice for All, Syrian Women's League, Syria**

The Syrian Women League (SWL) is a democratic, feminist, non-governmental organisation, established in 1948, and striving to achieve its vision and goals in a secular democratic Syrian state that is based on equality between citizens, women and men; societal peace; full equality between women and men in their human rights; the abolishment of all kinds of gender based discrimination and violence; and observing the principles of human rights, rule of law, and sustainable peace.

The "Justice for all" -initiative aims to ensure the rights of Syrian women to participate in the discussion and adoption of transitional justice programs in Syria and to integrate the gender dimension into the mechanisms to be selected after national consultations. The main goal of this initiative is to enable a group of Syrian activists to recognise the concept of engendering transitional justice mechanisms in the context of democratic transition in Syria.

Presenter: **Ms Sawsan ZAKZAK**, Co-ordination Committee Member, Syrian Women's League, Syria

Discussant:

**Ms Alice BARBIERI**, Gender Equality Rapporteur for the Youth sector and member of the Advisory Council on Youth of the Council of Europe

Rapporteur:

**Ms Maria-Elena KISYOVA**, Secretariat of the Istanbul Convention Monitoring Mechanism, Council of Europe

### LAB 5: Activism vs. law: can greater awareness stop sexual harassment in the public space?

Several countries have started to legislate on sexism in the public space. What are women's experiences and how can they benefit from laws against sexual harassment and sexism? How does violence against women in all its forms impact their personal and professional development? What are ways for women and other discriminated groups to gain their rightful place in the public space?

Room 5 - Interpretation: FR/EN/RU

Moderator:

**Ms Caterina BOLOGNESE**, Head of Gender Equality Division, Council of Europe

#### Yalla Let's Bike, Syria

Traffic in the Syrian capital Damascus can become harsh, especially by car. When in 2014 Sarah Zein decided to opt for using her bike instead, she was confronted with astonishment of bystanders and verbal sexual harassment. That was the start of the "Yalla Let's Bike" initiative, which aims to defy traditional gender roles and to promote cycling as an eco-friendly mode of transport.

Yalla Let's Bike aims at spreading bicycle culture in Syria among the youth, men and women of all backgrounds with particular emphasis on reducing the gender gap in bicycling and encouraging girls and women to pedal without any attempts of harassment in public space

Presenter: **Mr Mohamad AL-KAWATLI**, Project manager, 'Yalla Let's Bike' initiative

#### Gender Equality through Sports, Shooting Touch, Rwanda

Shooting Touch is an international non-governmental organisation that promotes the game of Basketball as a tool for education and empowerment of youth at risk, as well as women located in rural areas of Rwanda. , by promoting equal access to physical activity and wellness, providing health and educational services, and motivating communities to create social change and wellness.

In the last six years, "Shooting Touch" has built five basketball courts, creating safe spaces to improve physical and mental health where it is needed most. This initiative uses the basketball to provide 350 at-risk Rwandan women with increased access to physical activity, healthcare, job trainings, and leadership skills to challenge male-dominant socio-cultural norms.

Presenter: **Ms Chloe ROTHMAN**, Programme Director, Rwanda

Discussant:

**Ms Karin NORDMEYER**, Chair, UN Women National Committee for Germany

Rapporteurs:

**Ms Laurène THIL**, Gender Equality Division, Council of Europe

**Ms Valentine JOSEPHANS**, Secretariat of the Istanbul Convention mechanism (GREVIO), Council of Europe

## LAB 6: How to create safe spaces in cyberspace?

The digital space holds the promise of achieving stronger and more diverse citizen participation in politics. Despite existing data gaps, there is a growing evidence of the need to regulate sexist and violent behaviour online. What are women's experiences on the internet? How does violence against women in the cyberspace impact their personal and professional development? What are ways to render the cyberspace more accepting of diversity? Can we get rid of sexist online hate speech? Should women create more safe spaces to avoid sexist and violent behaviour online?

Room 2 - Interpretation: FR/EN

Moderator:

**Ms Laima JUREVICIENE**, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Lithuania to the Council

### #HerNetHerRights I and II, European Women's Lobby, Belgium

The rise of online violence against women and girls (VAWG) has denied women autonomy over their own bodies and voices in cyberspaces, causing not only severe social implications on their online and offline lives but also on their financial resources. Online VAWG often also has lifelong consequences in terms of mental and physical health and well-being. #HerNetHerRights I was a six-month project led by the European Women's Lobby (EWL) to analyse the current state of online VAWG in Europe and to create a safer, more inclusive web for all women and girls.

In 2018 and 2019 in the run up to the European Elections, '#HerNetHerRights II: Prevent, Protect, Promote' will have a focus on supporting female candidates for the 2019 EP election, recognising both the need for more women in political leadership, and the prevalence of women politicians being targeted online with the aim of silencing their voices

Presenter: **Ms Asha ALLEN**, Policy and Campaigns Director, United Kingdom

Discussants:

**Ms Karen ROSS**, United Kingdom, Professor of Gender and Media, Newcastle University

**Ms Chiara TOMASI**, Public Policy and Government Relations Analyst, Google

Rapporteur:

**Mr Giorgio LODDO**, Secretariat of the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe

## LAB 7: Will closing the gender gap in the economy lead to greater political equality?

*Sponsored by the Conference of INGOs of the Council of Europe and the Département of Bas-Rhin*

There is strong evidence that incentives for women's economic empowerment stimulate the economy as a whole. Less understood are the effects of women progressively taking up leadership roles and/or becoming entrepreneurs, and of equal working conditions being established for men and women, on general democratic practice. The lab will identify the conditions for a strong ecosystem for female employees to thrive, and will analyse the linkages between economic and political power, as well as its prospects to promote active citizenship.

*Room 11 - Interpretation: FR/EN*

Moderator:

**Ms Anne NÈGRE**, Chair of University Women of Europe and Vice President of the Council of Europe's Conference of INGOs, France

### **Talent naar de top, Talent to the Top foundation, Netherlands**

The "Talent naar de top" (TndT) is a foundation with a social mission, namely, to achieve greater talent and diversity in the boardroom and senior management. It was established in 2008 by the Dutch Ministry of Economic Affairs, the Dutch Ministry of Education, Culture and Science, civil society, VNO-NCW and the Social and Economic Council of the Netherlands. Its goal is to increase the percentage of women in top positions in Dutch organisations. TndT developed the Talent to the Top Charter: an employers' code to make a voluntary commitment for an effective and sustainable gender diversity policy. This approach is based on the belief that change must come from within. Employers must recognise the need for more women at the top and transform this view into policy that works for their organisation. Commitment, target setting and annual monitoring are at the core of the initiative. Since 2008, over 260 organisations and companies have signed the TndT employer's code.

Presenter: **Mr. Dirk HAMAKER**, Advisor, Netherlands

### **Fearless Futures, United Kingdom**

"Fearless Futures" is an educational not-for-profit organisation. Their "Design for Inclusion"- programme provides participants with a powerful learning opportunity that:

- Facilitates participants' critical thinking & learning;
- Builds a community that is deeply cognisant of inequalities and commonalities among their lived experiences; and
- Develops the tools to re-imagine power relations, build up collective power and grow leadership for transformation.

To date the "Design for Inclusion"- initiative has delivered a 3.5 day programme to senior professionals at Facebook, Hyperisland, Comuzi, M&S, Goldman Sachs, Global Witness, Accenture and many more.

Presenter: **Ms Sara SHAHVISI**, Director of Programmes, United Kingdom

### **Cercle InterElles**

The initiative is a "network of networks" that aims to foster professional equality, gender-balanced conditions and performances in technological and scientific companies. They draw their experiences from activities in companies such as Air Liquide, Canon, Engie or IBM.

Network members share common objectives such as to promote women's access to positions of responsibility, career development and a balanced professional and personal life, and to share good practices, promote bridges and exchanges with other networks and associations. The "Cercle InterElles" facilitates focused group discussions and makes use of videos and role-plays to make lived experiences more tangible for participants.

Presenter: **Ms Catherine LADOUSSE**, Cercle InterElles, France

Discussant:

**Ms Rosa María SÁNCHEZ-YEBRA ALONSO**, Vice-Governor of the Council of Europe Development Bank

Rapporteur:

**Mr Kevin BROWN**, Directorate of Legal Advice and Public International Law, Council of Europe

## 11.30-13.00 - ROUNDTABLES

### RT 1: Artificial Intelligence and gender (in-) equality

Organising Partner: Council of Europe Directorate of Information Society and Action against crime, Directorate General of Human Rights and Rule of Law  
 Room 5 - Interpretation: FR/EN

Moderator:

**Mr Yannick MENECEUR**, Directorate of Information Society and Action against crime, , Council of Europe

Speakers:

**Ms Antoinette ROUVROY**, Permanent Research Associate, University of Namur, Belgium

**Ms Chiara TOMASI**, Public Policy and Government Relations Analyst, Google

**Mr Frederik ZUIDERVEEN BORGESIU**, Researcher at LTS Law, Science, Technology & Society, VUB Free University of Brussels, Belgium

Rapporteur:

**Ms Aliisa SIIVONEN**, Media and Internet Governance, Council of Europe

### RT 2: Do more films by women mean more women's films?

Organising Partner: Eurimages (Council of Europe)  
 Room 1 - Interpretation: FR/EN/RU

Moderator:

**Ms Francine RAVENEY**, Project Manager Eurimages specialising in gender equality and Head of PR (founder and former director) for the European Women's Audiovisual Network, Council of Europe

Speakers:

**Ms Anca DAMIAN**, director, writer, producer, Romania

**Ms Lina KAMINSKAITĖ-JANČORIENĖ**, Lithuania

**Ms Anna SERNER**, Chief Executive Office of the Swedish Film Institute, Sweden

**Ms Marianne SLOT**, film producer, Denmark

Rapporteur:

**Ms Susan NEWMAN-BAUDAIS**, Secretariat of Eurimages, Council of Europe

### RT 3: Migrant women: promoting successful integration and empowerment

Organising Partner: Network of the Council of Europe's Schools of Political Studies  
 Room 6 - Interpretation: FR/EN

Moderator:

**Ms Despina SYRRI**, Director, Civic school of Political Studies in Greece and President of Symβiosis, Thessaloniki

Speakers:

**Ms Chadia ARAB**, CNRS Research Fellow, University of Angers, France **Ms Marcelle BUGRE**, Project Development Manager with the Foundation for Shelter and Support to Migrants, Malta

**Ms DANKA PETROVIĆ MATANOVIĆ**, International co-operation and EU Integration Advisor, Ministry of Interior of Montenegro; Alumna of the Council of Europe's School of Political Studies in Montenegro

Rapporteur:

**Mr Denis BRIBOSIA**, Secretariat of the Committee of Ministers, Council of Europe

### RT 4: Has democracy failed women? New democratic practices and women's participation

Annual meeting of the Incubator for Participatory Democracy  
 Room 8 - Interpretation: FR/EN

Moderator:

**Mr Anthony ZACHARZEWSKI**, President, The Democratic Society

Speakers:

**Mr Robert BJARNASON**, member of the Incubator for Participatory Democracy, Iceland

**Mr Thomas GARRETT**, Secretary General, Community of Democracies, United States of America

**Ms Vanessa LISTON**, member of the Incubator for Participatory Democracy, Ireland

**Ms Petra DE SUTTER**, Chairperson, Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, Belgium

Rapporteur:

**Ms Francesca LIONETTI**, Secretariat of Intercultural Cities, Council of Europe



### RT 5: Taking action against violence against women and girls

Organising Partner: Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie (OIF)

Room 2- Interpretation: FR/EN

Moderator:

**Ms Salimata NDOYE**, Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie, France

Speakers:

**Ms Julienne LUSENGE**, Director, Fund for Congolese Women (FFC), Democratic Republic of Congo

**Ms Hortense LOUGUE**, Executive Director, Association D'appui et d'Eveil Pugsada (ADEP) Burkina Faso

**Ms Rabéa NACIRI**, Professor, member of the Consultative Council of the network "Women's learning Partnership" and of the Bureau of the Superior Moroccan Council for education, formation and scientific (tbc), Democraticresearch, Democratic,Morocco

Rapporteur:

**Ms Laura DONATI**, Secretariat of Intercultural Cities, Council of Europe

### RT 6: National policy approaches to achieving gender equality

Room 9 - Interpretation: FR/EN

Moderator:

**Ms Simona GRANATA-MENGHINI**, Deputy Secretary to the Secretariat of the Enlarged Agreement on Democracy through law (Venice Commission), Council of Europe

Speakers:

**Mr Alan BOWMAN**, Minister-Counsellor and Deputy Head, Mission of Canada to the European Union and Permanent Observer of Canada to the Council of Europe

**Ms Sopio JAPARIDZE**, Assistant to Prime Minister on Human Rights and Gender Equality Issues and Chair of the Inter-Agency Commission on Gender Equality, Violence against Women and Domestic Violence, Georgia

**Ms Lenita FREIDENVALL**, Special Adviser and Deputy Head for the Gender Equality Division at the Ministry for Health and Social Affairs, Sweden

Rapporteur:

**Ms Evrydiki TSELIU**, Gender Equality Division, Council of Europe

### RT 7: Feminist Investigative Journalism

Organising Partner: Open Democracy

Room 7 - Interpretation: FR/EN

Moderator:

**Ms Claire PROVOST**, editor of Open Democracy 50.50 (moderator/chair), Italy

Speakers:

**Ms Maria SANZ DOMINGUEZ**, 50.50 women's rights & economic justice fellow, Paraguay

**Ms Lidia KURASINSKA**, freelance journalist covering Eastern Europe and the Balkans, Poland

**Ms Laila MALIK**, Association for Women's Rights in Development (AWID), Canada

**Ms Claudia TORRISI**, freelance journalist and 50.50 columnist, Italy

Rapporteur:

**Mr Guillaume LOISEAU**, Electoral Assistance Division, Council of Europe

### RT 8: Faith and Feminism – Can women gain greater power in religious communities?

Room 3- Interpretation: FR/EN

Moderator:

**Mr Andrew BRADLEY**, Director, Office of International IDEA to the EU

Speakers:

**Ms Suriani KEMPE**, Musawah Programme Manager, Malaysia

**Ms Hajnalka JUHASZ**, member of the Hungarian PACE delegation and politician of the Christian Democratic Party

**Ms Zuzanna RADZIK**, Theologian and author, Warsaw, Poland

Rapporteur:

**Ms Amanda LUISE**, Secretariat to the Council of Europe Development Bank

## 14.30-16.30 - SECOND SERIES OF LABS

### LAB 8: Can gender stereotypes be banned from the media?

*Sponsored by the City of Strasbourg*

Through their reporting, the media actively shape opinions, attitudes and ideas. Integrating a gender equality perspective in this area is therefore a powerful tool to induce social changes. How do the media promote gender equality in societies with inequalities that are deeply rooted within their social fabric? How can monitoring mechanisms be linked with regulatory bodies to ban stereotypes from the media?

*City Hall (9 Rue Brûlée) - Interpretation: FR/EN*

Moderator:

**Ms Nawel RAFIK-ELMRINI**, Deputy Mayor of the City of Strasbourg, France

#### **The Appropriate Communication Techniques for Development (ACT), Egypt**

Founded as an NGO in 1990, "Appropriate Communication Techniques for Development" (ACT) has started working in marginalised areas and governorates of Upper Egypt, where cultural traditions are biased against women, and where patriarchal relations are dominant, in addition to extreme poverty and ignorance. Its main goals consist in fighting violence against women, strengthening and building capacities of non-governmental organisations, media institutions, media persons and journalists to create mechanisms and strategies, in order to confront this violence as well as a violence-free society that achieves welfare, that respects human rights for both men and women and believes in equality and democracy as a path towards sustainable just development.

ACT is a founding member of the Arab network for monitoring the image of women and men in media, which targets mass media that would contribute to changing the mainstream culture in Arab societies by monitoring the image of men and women in media. The network acts upon the belief in justice towards women's issues, fighting discrimination against women, end injustice, establish equality, democracy, non-violence, transparency, gender, and respect for women's bodies based on international charters for human rights.

Presenter: **Ms Samah MANSUR**, Gender and media unit officer, ACT, Egypt

#### **Ukraine without sexism, Women's rights protection league, Ukraine**

The "Women's rights protection league 'Harmony of equal'" is a non-profit organisation, active in the seven regions of Ukraine and consists of volunteer activists, among them sociologists, scholars, gender experts, lawyers and journalists. The main goals of the organisation are attainment and protection of the social, economic, cultural and other rights of women in Ukraine, development of a society of gender equality, mutual respect and social partnership between men and women.

The "Ukraine without sexism"-initiative aims to reduce the amount of sexist content in visual advertising, media and statements of public figures by means of public monitoring. A network of inspectors monitors advertisements and media on sexism. Besides monitoring, educational meetings and communication confront the sexism issue.

The campaign has started in September, 2017 and has a permanent character. During the campaign's implementation 320 complaints on discrimination issue were sent to the State Committee for Consumer Protection, the Industrial Gender Committee for Advertising, the Ombudsmen, the National Council of Ukraine on Television and Radio Broadcasting. Ten advertisements have been considered as discriminatory and fines have been imposed.

Presenter: **Ms Oleksandra GOLUB**, Head of the Women's rights protection league, Ukraine

#### **Chiennes de garde**

The association Chiennes de garde fights against symbolic violences against women in the public space and in particular in the media. It regularly reports sexism in advertisements by filing complaints to a jury specialised in advertisement ethics (an entity of the authority of regulation of the advertisement profession).

The association is invited to present its arguments towards the jury at the same time as the incriminated advertisement. The jury then gives an advisory opinion. For the audiovisual medias the association regularly reports to the Superior Council of audiovisual gestures or words of a sexist nature from TV host. Stations or channels where they work are then sanctioned by the Superior Council. These sanctions can go as far as financial sanctions.

Once a year the association also rewards the "Ringard de l'année" ("Uncool of the year") who pronounced the most sexist words in the medias.

Presenter: **Ms Marie-Noelle BAS**, President, Chiennes de garde

Discussant:

**Mr Israël NISAND**, Gynecologist, France

Rapporteur:

**Ms Louise GUILLON**, Sciences Po Strasbourg, France

**Ms Magali MENNETEAU**, Sciences Po Strasbourg, France

## LAB 9: Fighting trafficking in Human beings

Room 8 - Interpretation: FR/EN

Women have been proven to be the main victims of human trafficking. What can governments, states and organisations do to prevent trafficking from occurring? What can be done to help the survivors to rejoin society and have access to education and employment? This lab will focus on ways to stop human trafficking as well as helping and empowering the survivors to ensure their reintegration and rehabilitation.

Moderator:

**Ms Corina CĂLUGĂRU**, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Moldova to the Council of Europe

### Women's rights without borders: cross-border areas in Europe facing prostitution, KBTASK, France

This Citizens' Initiative came into being on 8 March 2017 through the Franco-German platform "Women's Rights without borders" that gathered 64 signatories from the civic, academic, political and institutional sectors from both sides of the border. The underlying idea is to identify good practices from transnational co-operation activities that can then be taken up by other geographical areas with similar specificities.

Presenters: **Ms Rebecca BREITMAN**, Member of the Young democrats of Strasbourg, the European Movement of Alsace and the The Union of European federalist of Strasbourg, France and **Ms Mathilde KARCELES**, PhD student in Germanic studies, working on the feminisms and antifeminisms in France and Germany in the mass-culture around the 2000s, France

### Red Tra Sex, Argentina

RedTraSex is a Regional Community Network in Latin America and the Caribbean that was born in 1997 with the purpose of strengthening the National Organisations of Female Sex Workers (hereinafter NSWO) in the defence and promotion of the human rights of Sex Workers (hereinafter FSW) in the region. RedTraSex is made up of organisations from 14 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean, women sex workers and / or ex-sex workers through which we represent ourselves. With a direct reach of 30,000 MTS in the region. The RedTraSex represents female sex workers, of legal age and who voluntarily perform sex work.

The main working strategies developed by RedTraSex are:

- Strengthening the political and organisational development of the NSWO;
- Developing awareness and advocacy activities at the international, regional, subregional and national levels so that the voice, demand and agenda of sex workers reach decision-making spaces;
- Increasing awareness of the health sector, labour and human rights to improve the working conditions of sex workers in the region, from a gender perspective.

Presenter: **Ms Elena Eva REYNEGA**, Executive Secretary of Red Tra Sex

### Bagel Bejgl

Bagel Bejgl, a social enterprise with a dual purpose - opening up a space for women with the experience of human trafficking to find employment, but also to learn and acquire new skills that can contribute to their future employment opportunities. Our Bagel Bejgl is a part of the economic empowerment programme, and serves to encourage victims' economic independence, and simultaneously through the profit it earns enables long-term sustainability of NGO Atina's programme.

Presenter: **Ms Jelena HRNJAK**, Women's activist, Serbia

Discussant(s):

**Graziella PIGA**, Gender Expert, Italy

Rapporteur:

**Mr François FRIEDERICH**, Head of the Electoral Assistance Division, Council of Europe

## LAB 10: Masculinities reexamined: are men the key to greater gender equality?

Contemporary ideas and practices of manhood help men to stay on top of social hierarchies, taking advantage of privileges that men enjoy over women. Whereas the meaning of masculinity differs within cultural contexts, a strong unifying factor is that men tend to be raised to be assertive, strong, and decisive. They are trained not to experience or show neither weakness nor pain. Are they therefore more likely to rule over women or other men in politics, the public space and the economy? Paradoxically, the same privileges constitute a heavy burden for men who fear not to live up to expectations of manhood. Men's exercise of power over women is also at the heart of gender based violence. What initiatives can bring men to reflect upon this power and privilege? How can men in parliaments and courts, governments and business administrations be encouraged share power with women?

Room 9 - Interpretation: FR/EN/RU

Moderator:

**Ms Simone FILIPPINI**, Executive Director, Leadership4SDGs Foundation, The Netherlands

### Local Authority accreditation, White Ribbon, United Kingdom

White Ribbon UK is a registered Charity since 2005, and works with partner organisations offering them accredited status as involving men in challenging male violence if they comply with the required criteria. Accredited organisations include large city councils, (Manchester and Leeds), Large County Councils (Lancashire, Cornwall), police forces in the United Kingdom, fire and rescue services, housing associations and health authorities, universities, music venues and sports clubs.

White Ribbon UK's main mission consists of reducing violence against women and girls and its consequences by engaging men and boys as "change agents" to influence the way men think and behave. Its theory of change is predicated on the idea that men and boys can be encouraged to see violence prevention as "their issue too", and influence other men and boys not be part of the problem, and to be part of the solution.

Presenter: **Mr Chris GREEN**, OBE, President, United Kingdom

### Engaging Young Men to Prevent Gender-Based Violence Against Women, MAVA, India

Men Against Violence and Abuse (MAVA) has been registered in 1993 and is India's first organisation by men to stop and prevent gender-based violence and abuse of women and girls.

MAVA's initiative aims to sensitise and mentor young men in their twenties to issues of gender, sexuality and masculinity, engage them in a wide range of activities and equip them with skills to communicate effectively with peers and other young men spreading messages on preventing gender-based violence on women. The initiative selects young men between 18 and 20 years studying in colleges and from varied socio-economic backgrounds and sensitizes them on gender issues using out-of-the box methods, enabling them to deconstruct toxic masculinity, self-introspect through a churn and reconstruct ideas about masculinity. The group of mentees, while being mentored by Team MAVA is trained to gradually communicate and engage fresh batches of male mentees using the tools they acquired.

Presenter: **Mr Harish SADANI**, Chief Functionary, Men Against Violence and Abuse (MAVA)

### Fighting gender-based discrimination resulting from patriarchal attitudes and related social norms, The Gambia

Tostan is a non-governmental and non-profit organisation with its headquarters in Dakar, Senegal. Its core business is the Community Empowerment Programme (CEP), which is a three-year human rights based, non-formal education programme that facilitates community-led development and social progress.

This programme includes information sharing in a non-judgmental, inclusive way to create open dialogue around issues of education, health, environment, governance, economic growth, and gender and social norms. Community members participate in structured adult and adolescent classes led by a trained facilitator. In parallel, communities create 17-member democratically-selected Community Management Committees (CMCs) trained in project management and social mobilisation skills by Tostan. These committees continue to lead development projects that are relevant to their community needs, long after the community has completed the Tostan programme.

Partners include the government of The Gambia through the Women's Bureau, local government officials, and local authorities including women associations and extension workers. Our primary partners are the communities we work in. Tostan is also supported by international organisations such as UNICEF, NORAD, and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

Presenter: **Mr Lamin S. FATTY**, Monitoring, Evaluation, Research, and Learning Focal Point, Tostan, Gambia

Discussant:

**Mr Robert FRANKEN**, Platform "Male Feminists Europe", Germany

Rapporteur:

**Ms Pénélope DENU**, Secretariat to the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe

### LAB 11: How can women use the law to fight gender-based violence?

One in three women experience violence simply because they are women. Laws and policies can provide the foundation for a coordinated and comprehensive approach to violence against women. The United Nations and the Council of Europe's Group of Experts on Action against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (GREVIO) note that while a unprecedented number of laws and policies against violence are now in place, implementation is still lagging behind. Which legal mechanisms successfully promote women's human rights and equal representation of women? What are existing legal gaps that need to be closed? Women around the world are mobilised to stand up for women's rights. What are their experiences and recommendations, and how can citizens contribute to implementing existing law frameworks?

*Room 5 - Interpretation: FR/EN*

Moderator:

**Mr Roeland BÖCKER**, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of The Netherlands to the Council of Europe

#### **Sem3i Sawtk (Get heard), Youth Empowerment Society (YES), Morocco**

Youth Society Empowerment (المجتمع المدني التمكيني في المغرب) in Arabic is an independent NGO based in Teflet (Morocco) aiming to create an educated micro-society of youth through experiences and skills exchange by spreading the culture of dialogue that consolidates the principles of democracy and gender equality.

وتك (Get Heard) is a Moroccan initiative that highlights rights and laws to protect women, and helps broadcast their stories to the world. It's implemented by YES (Youth Empowerment Society), led by Soufiyan Saaoudi with the support of IRI (International Republican Institute) in partnership with Code For Africa , 4shabab and other educational institutions based in Morocco. The initiative aims at introducing girls and women from different Moroccan cities to the national and international laws and regulations protecting them from sexual harassment, violence and extortion. It also uses its platform to teach them basic skills and techniques to produce their own podcast, in order to have a voice online to tell their stories.

Presenter: **Ms Fadwa KAMAL**, Trainer/Digital Expert, Get heard, Morocco

#### **Self-Representation of Women in Kenyan Courts, Federation of Women Lawyers, Kenya**

FIDA Kenya is a women's rights organisation established in 1985 with the main aim of providing free legal aid services to women and children in Kenya.

The initiative originated from the increased need for legal representation of women in court to access their various rights. FIDA Kenya modelled therefore a women friendly and empowering product to access justice, and empowers women to represent themselves in court. FIDA builds these women's legal literacy, prepares and serves the court documents and train them to speak in court. An average of 350 cases is filed per year with an 85% success rate.

Presenter: **Ms Teresa OMONDI-ADEITAN**, Executive Director, Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA), Kenya

#### **Italian academic network on the Istanbul Convention**

The network aims at promoting and developing teaching, training and research on violence against women and the Istanbul Convention, with a view to enhancing the expertise and knowledge of students, academics and current or future professionals

Presenter: **Ms Marina CALLONI**, Professor, Università Milano Bicocca, Italy

Discussants:

**Ms Agnieszka NOGAL**, Expert on feminism and human rights, Poland

**Ms Anna RIVINA**, Alumna of School of Civic Education of the Council of Europe, Co-founder and manager of the "No Violence" project, Russian Federation

Rapporteur:

**Mr David MILNER**, member of the Secretariat to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe

## LAB 12: Participatory democracy: a necessary boost for women's power?

*Sponsored by the Democratic Society, the Council of Europe's Incubator for Participatory Democracy, and the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe*

The lab will explore the effectiveness of (e-)participatory tools and their impact on including women in decision-making, within the existing constitutional framework of representative democracy. It will also look into the quality criteria for participatory democracy to succeed in representing diverse women's voices in the long term.

*Room 3 - Interpretation: FR/EN*

Moderator:

**Ms Meglena KUNEVA**, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the European Union Delegation to the Council of Europe

### **Le Agora di Messina, Democratic Society, Belgium and Municipality of Messina, Italy**

Until recently, democratic participation in the municipality of Messina was driven by a isolated events, without a systematic or longer-term vision. Political decision making was not supported by any means of the voices and experiences of local people needed.

The "Agora di Messina" initiative develops a programme of interconnected activities which seed participation at the heart of communities across Messina, working towards establishing a protocol for participation that supports independently-managed local democratic infrastructure. A key goal is to support the development of inclusive approaches involving women, young people and individuals at risk of exclusion.

Presenters: **Ms Francesca ATTOLINO**, Democratic Society, Italy

### **City of Ghent**

People from more than 150 different nationalities live in Ghent. Bringing citizens together to co-create the city and its policy is since long a priority.

From the mid-1990s on, women with Turkish and Moroccan roots organised 'tea-afternoons', moments to openly discuss topics like identity, participation and women empowerment. By now, this group has extended. More than 50 women and women's organisations form together Bar Univers'elle.

They informally meet in Bar Mitte, in Ghent's Museum on industry, labour and textiles and discuss topics like sexual diversity and gender identity (e.g. project beyond He/She) and organise activities such as a privilege walk (see: <https://www.facebook.com/INGentvzw/videos/643573825829513/>).

The aim of Bar Univers'elle is to bring women, half of Ghent's citizens, together to empower to voice of women in the city.

Presenter: **Ms Anja VAN DEN DURPEL**, City of Ghent, Belgium

Discussants:

**Ms Nina BJÖRBY**, Vice President for Democracy Assembly of the European Regions (AER) Chairperson of the Culture Committee in the Västerbotten Region

**Mr Stewart DICKSON**, member of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe, United Kingdom

Rapporteur:

**Ms Eliana CORACI**, Secretariat of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe

### **LAB 13: Women's diversity: what are the interests of women of ethnic minorities and who represents them?**

*Sponsored by the Council of Europe's Roma and Travellers Team*

Balanced participation and representation of women and men in public and political life, in public institutions, and among elected officials can be achieved if men feel engaged and work side by side with women in denouncing and breaking harmful cultural norms and practices.

In this lab we will use the innovative LEGO® SERIOUS PLAY® method to explore the unconscious assumptions that influence the behaviour of men and women. The method was created to enhance development and innovation by actually constructing purpose, vision, identity and goals. We will specifically work on identifying harmful cultural norms and practices as well as institutional, structural and legal barriers that hinder equal political participation of women of ethnic minorities, including from Roma and Traveller communities. We will conclude by building ideas/actions, individually and in teams, to remove or denounce the barriers identified.

*Lobby of the Committee of Ministers – English only*

Moderator:

**Ms Gwendolyn ALBERT**, Human Rights Activist, Researcher and Translator, Journalist at Romea.cz in the Czech Republic

Discussants:

**Ms Ismeta DERVOZ**, former member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, journalist, Bosnia and Herzegovina

**Mr Orhan GALJUS**, Chair, EBU Roma Task Force Group and Chief Executive Officer of Radio Patrin, The Netherlands

Lego Facilitators:

**Mr Michel CLOOSTERMAN**, Business coach

**Ms Veronica FOUBERT**, LEGO® SERIOUS PLAY® certified facilitator

**Mr Kåre Bach KRISTIENSEN**, Managing Partner in Trivium

Rapporteurs:

**Mr Robert RUSTEM**, Secretariat of the Roma and Travellers Team, Council of Europe

**Ms Chrisoula ARCOUDIS**, Secretariat of the Roma and Travellers Team, Council of Europe

## Art Events

### 19 November 2018

10.45-11.00 Artistic event, Council of Europe hemicycle

#### **Luz Casal,**

Luz Casal is a well-known Spanish singer. She grew up in Boimorto, took singing, piano and ballet classes, and moved to Madrid to pursue a career as a musician.

She became famous in the early 1980s, and remained an important figure in Spanish pop music all through said decade and beyond, with her sound gradually maturing towards soft adult pop. She recorded a cover version of Étienne Daho's French language song "Duel au Soleil" in Spanish called "Un nuevo día brillará", which became a hit song. In 1992, she enjoyed great success with her appearance in the soundtrack of Pedro Almodóvar's acclaimed film *High Heels* singing Agustín Lara's theme "Piensa en mí".

#### **The High Rock Gospel Singers and Nathalie Gaodefroy**

Over the past 20 years, these singers have been discovering Gospel, a journey which began when they were children at HautePierre (literally High Rock), one of Strasbourg's more challenged districts. This group has become a musical reference point of the *a cappella* Gospel genre.

For the World Forum for Democracy 2018, they will pay tribute to the queen of soul, Aretha Franklin, who died in August. They will offer an artistic spectacle, followed by opera singer Nathalie Gaodefroy.

13.45-14.30 **Poets: What's your take?**

On the occasion of and in partnership with the World Forum for Democracy, the local association *Les Mots-Arts* is hosting an international poetry meeting. This meeting of poets from various backgrounds and countries aims to share in an artistic and informal way their livelihoods, mirroring the societal realities in different parts of the world.

Following the poetry recital, the audience will have an opportunity to exchange with the authors.

### 20 November 2018

10.00-18.00 **Ososphère**

The collaboration between Ososphère and the Council of Europe continues during the 2018 edition of the World Forum for Democracy with a workshop to create a radio and urban programme with the collaboration of Radio en Construction and the band "Conversion". All day long a space and an online radio station will be created simultaneously live and in situ. The Ososphère relies upon the Forum participants to broaden this workshop with their expertise, experiences and intuition.



18.45-19.45 **Poets: What's your take?**

On the occasion of and in partnership with the World Forum for Democracy, the local association *Les Mots-Arts* is hosting an international poetry meeting. This meeting of poets from various backgrounds and countries aims to share in an artistic and informal way their livelihoods, mirroring the societal realities in different parts of the world.

Following the poetry recital, the audience will have an opportunity to exchange with the authors.

## 21 November 2018

12.30-13.00 Musical Performance, Council of Europe hemicycle

### **Lúcia de Carvalho**

Lúcia de Carvalho was born in Angola and spent the later part of her childhood in Portugal. Music punctuated and nourished her daily life very early on. She left Portugal as a teenager and lived with a French family. Her artistic career began with dancing when she was 16, in the group "Bia de Assis et Som Brasil" performing traditional Brazilian music. She performed and learned with other Brazilian artists residing in France and during her travels in Brazil. She played in the biggest cities of Europe: London, Brussels, Paris, Cannes, Toulouse, Luxembourg, and Lisbon... Probing diversity and cross-fertilisation of cultures within her music, she reconnects with her Angolan roots and finds her identity as an artist, a woman and a citizen of the world. This human and artistic adventure has been immortalised in the documentary "Kuzola, le Chant des Racines".

*The Democracy Innovation Award presented by the Secretary General of the Council of Europe to the most popular initiative of the World Forum for Democracy is an original work by the artist **Ilana Isehayek**.*

Ilana Isehayek began her career as an artist in Canada before settling in France twenty years ago. Her origins and journey through life appear in her constant attention to the question of roots, travel, and cultures of origin and of adoption. One of her main preoccupations is creating a link between the past and the present, history and lived experience, defining the role of the public in the work, its appearance or its physical approach to a place. In paintings, sculptures or installations, she develops a very personal language.

*All plenary sessions will be illustrated live by the caricaturist and cartoonist **Laurent Salles**.*

Caricaturist and cartoonist, Laurent Salles was born in Nîmes in 1972. After obtaining a degree in Applied Arts, he joined the Art Deco Strasbourg in 1990 and made his debut on television when he was still a student. His sharp pen and his caustic humour were quickly noticed, particularly in the show "the SALLES Drawings", a weekly column of cartoons in the Alsatian regional news. Since 2010, his cartoons appear in the daily newspapers L'Alsace, Le Bien PUBLIC and JSL (Journal de Saône-et-Loire) and you can find him every month in the comic "Cucaracha, scholarly cockroach". In 2016, he joined international network of committed press cartoonists, "Cartooning for Peace".

## Satellite events

In order to reach out to a wider range of contributors and enrich the debate of the 2018 World Forum for Democracy, the following proposals have been selected as satellite events:

- *'New forms of participation in local democracy'*, 3-4 October 2018 (in the framework of the Democracy Week 2018), Albert Hirschman Centre on Democracy, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva, Switzerland;
- *'Women's rights protection in Ukraine'*, 12 October 2018, Law School of Ukrainian Catholic University, Lviv, Ukraine;
- *'Relearning Conversation as a Tool for Social Transformation'*, 20-23 October 2018, 2018 (under the theme of 'Civil conversation for peace building'), Philippines, by New York University Abu Dhabi and Unitarian Universalist Church of the Philippines;
- *'Gender Inequality and Electronic Democracy'*, 7 November 2018, Institute for Political Science, the Centre for Urban, Regional Innovation and Internet (URII at University of Münster) in collaboration with Centre for Adult Education (Volkshochschule), Münster, Germany;
- *'Women in the legal profession'*, 7 November 2018, Faculty of Law, Taras Shevchenko National University, Kyiv, Ukraine;
- *'Congrès trinational. Les femmes en politique dans le Rhin Supérieur'*, 8 November 2018, organisé par la Conférence du Rhin Supérieur à la Maison de la Région Grand Est - site de Strasbourg
- *'WEMIN project: a guide for the inclusion of migrant women'*, 9 November 2018, Maison des Associations in Strasbourg, Association européenne pour la démocratie locale (ALDA)
- *'Transidentity: a new gender equality issue for Europe'*, 14 November 2018, University Sciences Po Strasbourg, France;
- *'Speak out to find your way'*, 16 November 2018, Strasbourg, Association européenne pour la démocratie locale (ALDA)
- *'The value of gender diversity in innovation and business: entrepreneurship, academic research, economy, society and culture'*, 17 November 2018, Municipality of Reggio Emilia in co-operation with the Nilde Iotti Foundation, Italy;
- *'Women's role in peace-building'*, 19 November 2018 in Strasbourg by the Community of Democracies.