



Gender equality council
A Project funded by the European Commission



International Women's Day 2015

State of the Gender Equality in the Country Conference

Skopje, Holiday Inn, 9 March, 2015

Working Programme

- 09:00-09:30** **Registration**
- 09:30-10:00** **Opening**
HE Dime Spasov, Minister for labor and Social Policy
HE Martin Claucke, Head of Cooperation, EUD
HE Laurence Auer, Ambassador of France
HE Louisa Vinton, UN Resident Coordinator
Neda Korunovska, Reactor, Moderator
- 10:00-11:30** **The Impact of Women in Politics**
10:00-10:05 Neda Korunovska, State of play, presentation of new research findings, Reactor
10:05-10:10 Radmila Sekerinska, special measures the role of the political parties,SDSM
10:10-10:15 Daniela Rangelova, what is needed to move beyond the quotas VMRO-DPMNE
10:15-10:20 Teuta Arifi, addressing the needs of women on local level, DUI
10:25-10:30 Liljana Popovska, the role of the Parliament, DOM
10:30-11:30 Discussion, Chris Henshaw, NDI, Moderator
- 11:30-12:00** **Coffee break**
- 12:00-13:30** **Economic empowerment**
12:00-12:05 Damjan Zdravev, Economic wellbeing, presentation of findings, Reactor
12:05-12:10 Mladen Frckovski, MLSP, active employment measures
12:15-12:20 Sanela Shkrijelj, reflections from civil society
12:20-12:25 Gzime Fejzi , Manager (TBC)
12:25-12:30 Valensitna Dishoska, Association of business women
12:30-13:30 Discussion, Sabina Fakik, Moderator
- 13:30-14:30** **Lunch**
- 14:30-16.00** **Gender equality machinery**
14:30-14:35 Iskra Andreeva, state of play, author of shadow report
14:35-14:40 Mirdita Saliu, MLSP, State machinery and its efficiency
14:40-14:45 Jovana Trenchevska, Inter-sectorial Advisory group for equal opportunities
14:45-14:50 Marija Savovska, the Platform and the potential it offers, Родова Платформа
14:50-16:00 Discussion, Dominika Stojanova, UN Women, moderator
- 16.00-16.30** **Concluding remarks**

National Conference **Gender-equal Society: Status and Challenges**

The purpose of the conference is to assess the level of gender equality in the country. It will facilitate a discussion among all relevant stakeholders on key topics such as: political representation, economic empowerment and efficiency of the established mechanisms for gender equality in the country. The conference will also serve as a way to discuss civil society priorities and ways forward in achieving a more gender equal society.

Session 1 The Impact of Women in Politics

The aim of this panel is to evaluate the level of increase of women participation in politics and whether it has influenced politics in general and gender equality in particular. The panelist will try to identify current barriers and positive examples, and will also provide recommendations of how to increase gender equality in decision making processes.

Session 2 Economic Empowerment

The panel is focused on economic empowerment of women as a crucial condition for achieving equality in society. New research findings regarding the status of women on the labor market as well as findings regarding the protection of maternity and paternity at work will be presented. Furthermore, assessment will be provided as to how successful are the active employment measures in integrating women on the labor market.

Session 3 Mechanisms for Gender Equality

The legal framework on gender equality is also coupled with institutional mechanisms that should ensure equal opportunities in the country. Additionally, the Strategy for Gender Equality stipulates specific commitments made by the state that should advance the equality in the country. In light of the existing major gender gap, this panel will try to assess where the institutional framework has failed to provide results and what is giving results. Additionally, the panel will focus on the role civil society has played and what are the perspectives for the newly established Platform for Gender Equality.

Session 4 Concluding remarks

Moderators from each panel will present conclusions from their session focusing on the biggest challenges faced in the country and the recommendations for moving forward.

Working Language: Macedonian and English



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