



EUROPEAN WOMEN'S
LOBBY
EUROPEEN DES FEMMES



EWL CONFERENCE

“Her future – Intergenerational Solidarity from a Gender Equality Perspective”

Budapest, 11 May 2012 – 14.00 – 18.00

Hotel Benczur – Benczur u. 35 – 1068 Budapest

European Year for Active Ageing and Solidarity between generations 2012 provides an excellent opportunity for the European Women's Lobby to look at women's rights and gender equality from a life-cycle perspective. The intergenerational perspective is useful for understanding how the different responsibilities of women and men in the EU shape their respective conditions throughout the life-cycle. This particularly applies to their contributions to society and how these are valued. The aim of the conference is to re-affirm women's rights and gender equality throughout the life-cycle as a political priority by stimulating debate and by generating concrete political recommendations.

The issue of solidarity between generations has become more pressing due to the combined demographic, economic and increasingly social crisis facing Europe. As a response to these issues the way in which European societies organise daily life with regards to work, pay, pensions and care is undergoing rapid and fundamental changes. In the current political climate austerity measures cripple vital social infrastructure with serious implications for women's rights and gender equality for current and future generations. We want to change this trend and make sure that women's rights and gender equality are taken into account.

In a life-cycle perspective one topic of particular importance to gender equality is care: Having a child in Europe still challenges women disproportionately and, increasingly, the needs of an ageing population is maintaining women in caring roles. This limits women's economic and professional independence in the short term and has long term repercussions in terms of pensions and an increased risk of poverty and social exclusion as they age.

The European Women's Lobby's annual conference 2012 will launch our call for holistic, responsible and sustainable solutions for both present and future generations of women and men. To this end the conference will provide a life-cycle perspective on two main issues: economic independence and the transmission of values, expertise and knowledge which previous generations have used to pave the way in securing women rights and gender equality, for diverse groups of women. The conference will finish with the presentation of the EWL Manifesto on intergenerational solidarity from a gender equality perspective, developed on the basis of consultation with the EWL members.



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Conference Programme

14:00 Welcome address

Brigitte Triems, President of EWL

Video message to the EWL from the European Commission

Laszlo Andor, Commissioner responsible for employment, social affairs and inclusion

14:20 Keynote Speech

Diane Elson, Economist at University of Essex, UK specialised in care economics

Introduction of a gender sensitive life-cycle approach from an economic perspective

- **Moderator: Alexandra Jachanova Dolezelova**, EWL Vice President

14:45 Panel One *"The mirror of our lives: from pay to pensions"*

Video: "Close the gender pay gap" by the European Commission

Speakers:

- **Platon Tinios**, Economist at University of Piraeus, Greece
- **Katalin Kevehazi**, Economist, member of the Board of the Hungarian Women Lobby, Director of the Foundation Well-Being
- **Moderator: Alexandra Jachanova Dolezelova**
- Debate with participants

15:45 *Coffee break*

16:15 Panel Two *"Her Future: Solidarity between generations"*

Speakers:

- **Women with disabilities - Ana Pelaez Narvaez**, European Disability Forum
- **Migrant Women - Migrant Women's Network** (TBC)
- **Margit Vildlyng**, KVINFO's Mentor Network
- **Moderator: Eva Fager**, EWL Vice President
- Debate with participants

17:30 Presentation of EWL Manifesto

"Reaffirming women's rights and gender equality from a life-cycle perspective"

- **Presentation and concluding remarks: Brigitte Triems**, EWL President

18:00 Closing of the Conference



This conference is supported by the European Union Programme for Employment and Social Solidarity - PROGRESS (2007-2013). For more information see:
<http://ec.europa.eu/progress>