



REGIONAL FORUM

ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FOR THE UNECE REGION

13 – 14 MARCH 2024 | HYBRID EVENT | GENEVA & ONLINE

SIDE EVENT CONCEPT NOTE

Event title

Gender Sensitive Parliaments: Inclusive Institutions

Background and Rationale

This side event seeks to explore the potential of gender sensitive parliaments for building effective accountable and inclusive institutions for all. 2024 is being described as a ‘super election year’ where a majority of eligible voters in the region will have an opportunity to cast a ballot. With the subsequent new convocations of legislative institutions, what more can parliaments do to advance gender equality? How can parliaments better provide equal opportunities for women and men to hold office, influence decision making processes, and produce gender sensitive legislation? The side event will align with the SDG 16.7 target to "Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels". The side event aims to highlight good work on gender sensitive parliaments in the region with both practical and aspirational examples from Parliaments and tools which Parliaments can use.

This interactive dialogue will be co-convened by UN Women with the European Institute for Gender Equality and the Inter-Parliamentary Union and will bring together key stakeholders from regional institutions, governments, parliaments, civil society, and academia.

Session objectives and expected outcomes

The side event aims to highlight good work on gender sensitive parliaments in the region with both practical and aspirational examples from Parliaments and tools which Parliaments can use. Panellists engage in a discussion during the thematic session relevant to building gender sensitive legislative institutions in the region. The panel aims to identify concrete recommendations, innovative solutions, and good practice tailored to the needs of the region that informs the sharing of good practice and further tailored policy solutions.

Organizers

Lead organizers: UN Women Europe and Central Asia Regional Office; European Institute for Gender Equality; Inter-Parliamentary Union



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Agenda and Structure

Welcoming Remarks – Setting the Stage

- Elisa Fernandez, UN Women Deputy Regional Director for Europe and Central Asia
- Jolanta Reingarde, Deputy Head of Research and Policy Support Unit, European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE)
- An IPU representative

Panel Discussion- Gender Sensitive Parliaments: Inclusive Institutions

Moderator: UN Women ECARO

Discussants:

- *Milva Ekonomi, Member of Parliament, Albania*
- *Chiara Tamburini, Head of the Equality, Inclusion and Diversity Unit of DG PERS in the European Parliament*
- *Helena Argerich Terredas, Gender Equality Specialist in the Parliament of Catalonia, Spain*
- *Elena Anchevska, Gender Mainstreaming Reseacher, European Institute for Gender Equality*
- *Zeina Hilal, Manager of the Gender Partnership Programme and Youth Participation Programme, Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU)*

Individual remarks followed by moderated discussion with questions from the audience

Concluding Thoughts

List of Panellists

- *Milva Ekonomi, Member of Parliament, Albania*
- *Chiara Tamburini, Head of the Equality, Inclusion and Diversity Unit of DG PERS in the European Parliament*
- *Helena Argerich Terredas, Gender Equality Specialist in the Parliament of Catalonia, Spain*
- *Elena Anchevska, Gender Mainstreaming Reseacher, European Institute for Gender Equality*
- *Zeina Hilal, Manager of the Gender Partnership Programme and Youth Participation Programme, Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU)*

Sign-up / Registration Link

https://unwomen.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_QhBh5WlIRHyh5gYmPRBwEQ