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Working together for a Europe free from violence

CLOSING EVENT FOR EEA AND NORWAY GRANTS PROGRAMMES 2014–2021 ADDRESSING DOMESTIC AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

INTERNATIONAL SYNERGY NETWORK CONFERENCE, EFTA HOUSE, AVENUE DES ARTS 19H, 1000 BRUSSELS, BELGIUM, 20–21 JANUARY 2025

SEE ON THE MAP

Day 1

Monday, 20 January 2025

12:30–13:30 Registration at EFTA House

13:30–15:00 High-Level Opening of the Conference

Moderator:

Jeremy Moakes, Head of Digital communications and Editorial Division, Directorate of Communications, Council of Europe.

Welcome:

Even Eriksen, State Secretary Ministry of Justice and Public Security, Norway.

Cultural Performance **Aurora Juliane**, artist from Bodø, Norway.

Opening Speech:

Ragna Fidjestøl, Managing Director, EEA and Norway Grants, Financial Mechanism Office.

Keynote Speeches:

THE 2024 EU-WIDE SURVEY ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN.
Sami Nevala, Project Manager at Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA) of the Violence Against Women Survey.

SURVIVOR AND VICTIM PERSPECTIVES.
Wanja J. Saether, Director, Crisis Centre in Salten, Norway.

High-Level Panel on European Cooperation:

Marja Ruotanen, Director General of Democracy and Human Dignity, Council of Europe.

Ingrid Schulerud, Special Adviser, Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Closing Speech:

Rita Grigalienė, Vice-minister of Social Security and Labour of the Republic of Lithuania.

15:00–15:30 Break

15:30–17:15 Policies Coordinated

Moderator:

Lene Nilsen, Head of Policy Analysis, Norwegian Ministry of Justice and Public Security.

Keynote Speech:

Sylvia Walby, Professor of Criminology, Royal Holloway University of London, on the importance of coordination in policy development.

Presentations and Panel Conversation:

Roberto Olla, Head of Human Dignity and Gender Equality Department, Council of Europe, on coordinating bodies under the Istanbul Convention.

Virginia Gil, Director of the Aspacia Foundation, Spain, on integrated policies.

Dr. Viliana Pilinkaitė Sotirovič, Center for Equality Advancement, Lithuania, on the 7P model as a comprehensive response to gender-based violence: insights from research and the practice of NGO activism.

Sheena Keller, Senior Sector Officer, EEA and Norway Grants, Financial Mechanism Office (online), on the rights and needs of Roma women.

Line Nersnæs, Policy Director, Norwegian Ministry of Justice and Public Security, on cross-ministerial cooperation for a comprehensive and coordinated policy.

Reflection Time.
Closing Conversation.

20:00 Conference Dinner

The Dominican Hotel
Rue Léopold / Leopoldstraat 9, 1000, Brussels, Belgium

SEE ON THE MAP

Day 2

Tuesday, 21 January 2025

09:00–09:30 High-level Opening of the Second Day

Moderator:

Lene Nilsen, Head of Policy Analysis, Norwegian Ministry of Justice and Public Security.

Welcome:

Anders H. Eide, Ambassador of Norway to EU.

Opening Speeches:

Kristján Andri Stefánsson, Ambassador of Iceland to Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg and San Marino and Head of Mission of Iceland to the European Union.

Zuzanna Rudzińska-Bluszcz, Undersecretary of State, Ministry of Justice Poland.

Closing Speech:

Even Eriksen, State Secretary Ministry of Justice and Public Security, Norway.

09:30–10:45 Prevention

Moderator:

Jenna Shearer Demir, Programme Advisor, Gender Equality Division, Council of Europe.

Keynote speeches:

Lisa Colizza, Legal Officer DG JUST, Gender Equality Unit, on the new EU directive and other EU measures to end violence against women.

Nicholas M. Spetsidis, Project Coordinator, Union of Women Associations of Heraklion, Greece, on Women's Observatory for Violence against Women in Crete and the European Network for the Work with Perpetrators of Domestic Violence.

Ingeborg Larsen, Senior Advisor, Sami Parliament, on targeted efforts to prevent and combat violence and abuse in Sami communities.

Questions and Answers.

Small Group Discussions (in tables) with guiding questions: Lessons learned from EEA and Norway Grants projects (2014–2024) from Bulgaria, Cyprus, Estonia, Greece, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, and the Czech Republic.

Reporting back on main points from each table.

10:45–11:00 Break

11:00–12:30 Protection & Support

Moderator:

Jenna Shearer Demir, Programme Advisor, Gender Equality Division, Council of Europe.

Keynote speeches:

Anna Mazurczak, the Chancellery of the Prime Minister, Minister for Equality, Poland.

María Egeland Thorsnes, Policy Director, head of secretariat of the Norwegian Public Commission on Rape, on the critical role of comprehensive support services for victims of sexual violence.

Carmen Niculescu, National Agency for Equal Opportunities between Women and Men in Romania, on better responses to sexual violence, including coordinated intervention.

Questions and Answers.

Small Group Discussions (in tables) with guiding questions: Lessons learned from EEA and Norway Grants projects (2014–2024) from Bulgaria, Cyprus, Estonia, Greece, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, and the Czech Republic.

Reporting back on main points from each table.

12:30–13:30 Lunch

13:30–14:15 Prosecution

Moderator:

Jenna Shearer Demir, Programme Advisor, Gender Equality Division, Council of Europe.

Keynote speeches:

Eygló Harðardóttir, Lead on Crime Prevention at the Office of the National Commissioner of Icelandic Police, on what we can do to prevent offenses and repeat offenses as well as improve investigations of offenses.

Anne Siv Åvitsland, Assistant chief of Police, National Police Directorate Norway, on experiences with Barnahus.

Questions and Answers.

Small Group Discussions (in tables) with guiding questions: Lessons learned from EEA and Norway Grants projects (2014–2024) from Bulgaria, Cyprus, Estonia, Greece, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, and the Czech Republic.

Reporting back on main points from each table.

14:15–14:45 Break

14:30–15:00 Emerging Issues Addressed by the SYNERGY Network

Moderator:

Lene Nilsen, Head of Policy Analysis, Norwegian Ministry of Justice and Public Security.

Presentations:

ONLINE AND TECHNOLOGY-FACILITATED VIOLENCE.
Dr. Jennifer Clarke, Programme Director, Active Citizens Fund Greece.

PROTECTING REFUGEE, MIGRANT, AND ASYLUM-SEEKING WOMEN AND GIRLS AGAINST VIOLENCE – RECOMMENDATION OF THE COE COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS.
Cécile Gréboval, Programme Manager Gender Mainstreaming, Senior Gender Equality Advisor, Gender Equality Division, Council of Europe (online).

Questions and Answers.

15:00–16:00 Conference Closing

Moderator:

Lene Nilsen, Head of Policy Analysis, Norwegian Ministry of Justice and Public Security.

Panel discussion on key takeaways from the conference and advice for future European cooperation to prevent and combat gender-based and domestic violence:

Anita Fjeldsæter, Head of Priority Sectors Unit, EEA and Norway Grants, Financial Mechanism Office.

Senada Šali, Legal Director European Roma Rights Center.

Jenna Shearer Demir, Programme Advisor, Gender Equality Division, Council of Europe.

Melanie Hyde, WHO European Office for Investment for Health and Development.

Rachel Eapen Paul, International Expert and Former GREVIO Member, Norway.

Hilde Knotten, Head of Policy Analysis, Norwegian Ministry of Justice and Public Security.

Closing Speech:

Sandra Remeiklienė, Deputy Director of Central Project Management Agency, Lithuania.

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