

EU and Gender
Study Trip to Brussels
Brussels, 23-26 February, 2009

*organized by Heinrich Böll Stiftung – Regional Office in Warsaw in cooperation with
Office in Brussels*

The EU gender equality strategy has been implemented in the Region of CEE countries since the enlargement in May, 2004. It provides also a reference point for the EU neighbouring countries such as Ukraine. Even though there is quite good or satisfactory national legislation on equal treatment of women and men and the institutional governmental mechanisms to implement gender equality at the national level, there are still some barriers which hinder progress in the field of gender equality and gender justice. In 2007-2009 the HBF Regional Office in Warsaw has planned to develop gender analyses which will contribute to diminish identified deficits and gaps in the implementation of EU gender equality policies and standards at the national as well as at the European level.

The aims of the study trip to Brussels are as follows:

- to present the results and outcomes of the national reports on gender sensitive education which were developed in 2008 by HBF partner organizations from Czech Republic, Poland, Slovakia and Ukraine (publication “Gender Issues 2008”);
- to gain knowledge about the last developments in the field of gender equality policies at the EU level
- to explore how the EU structures and institutions function (e.g. Women’s Rights and Equal Opportunities Committee in the EP) and how they can be used to strengthen implementation of EU gender equality strategy at the national level.

Meetings with the Commission’s representatives, MEPs, representatives of gender equality institutions and the European women’s NGOs aim to address the following questions:

- What are the recent achievements and developments of the EU women’s and gender policies?
- What is the state of affairs of a new anti-discriminatory directive?
- How can we assess the ending terms of the European Commission and the European Parliament from the gender perspective?
- What gender priorities should be highlighted in the forthcoming years?
- What are the priorities and objectives of the European women’s organizations and how they can strengthen cooperation with women’s NGOs from the respective countries?

Working language of the event: English.

AGENDA

23 February (Monday)

	Arrival of the participants
16:30 – 16:30 -	Greeting
	Introduction round of the participants and organizations they represent
	Introduction to the agenda of the event

Venue: HBF EU Regional Office in Brussels, 15 rue d'Arlon

18:30 -	Restaurant Le Hemispheres, rue Leopold 29
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24 February (Tuesday)

Venue: Amazon Center, 10 rue de Méridien

11:00 – 13:00 –	Meeting with Malin Björk, Program Director, European Women's Lobby: Introduction to the EWL's activities and gender assessment of EU antidiscriminatory policies
13:00 – 14:00 -	Lunch in the Amazon Center
15:00 – 16:00 -	Presentation of the outcomes of the national reports on gender sensitive education and discussion on gender sensitive education
16:00 – 16:15 -	Coffee Break
16:15 – 18:00 -	Meeting with Krzysztof Śmiszek, a representative of EQUINET – European Network of Equality Bodies
18:30 -	Dinner in the restaurant in the Amazon Center

25 February (Wednesday)

9.30 -	Meeting point in the European Parliament
10:00 – 11:00 –	Meeting with Joachim Denkinger, Deputy Secretary General, Greens/ EFA Group, the European Parliament

Venue: the European Parliament

11:00 – 11:45 –	Visiting the European Parliament
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11:45 – 12:00 –

Coffee break

12:00-13:30 -

Meeting with Vula Tsetsi, Secretary General,
Greens/ EFA Group, the European
Parliament

13:30 – 14:30 –

lunch

Venue: the European Parliament

15:00 – 16:00 –

Closing session, evaluation

*Venue: HBF EU Regional Office in Brussels,
15 rue d'Arlon*

19:00 -

Restaurant de Seul

26 February (Thursday)

Departure of the participants