

FRA-Equinet meeting on combating violence against women

9 December 2014

Venue: Hotel Bloom, Rue Royale 250, 1210 Brussels

BACKGROUND

The FRA survey on gender-based violence against women (published in March 2014) collected data on the extent, frequency and severity of violence against women in the EU, including data on women's access to and experience of police, healthcare and victim support services. The survey results provided much-needed, nuanced evidence for policy makers, practitioners and NGOs at the EU and national level for the development of policies and other measures to combat violence against women. The results also enable comparisons of the extent of violence against women in different Member States. This meeting is an opportunity to discuss how to use the results of this work at the national level.

This meeting is part of Equinet ad-hoc initiative on violence against women, which was created to enable interested equality bodies to exchange knowledge and expertise, and to network with key stakeholders in the field of violence against women. The initiative was established for 2014, but the aim is to provide a basis for a long-term cooperation between equality bodies and key actors at European and international level.

OBJECTIVES

The meeting will provide a platform for exchanges, between equality bodies and with key partners, on the possible role for equality bodies in the eradication of violence against women.

This event aims to:

- Present data on violence against women (VAW) from the FRA Survey and discuss how it can be used at the national level.
- Present and discuss available international and European standards and tools on VAW, existing challenges and barriers and ways forward.
- Facilitate the exchange of knowledge, good practices and expertise on violence against women.
- Encourage networking between participants, and future cooperation between equality bodies and key actors at European and international level.



FORMAT

The event will consist of:

- **plenary discussions**
- **small group discussions**

DRAFT PROGRAMME

Moderator of the meeting: *Anne Gaspard, Executive Director, Equinet*

Plenary session I, meeting room 2

8.30 - 9.00	Registration and coffee
9.00 - 9.20	Welcome by FRA and Equinet
9.20 - 10.00	Tour de table: what do I need from this meeting? What can I offer to this meeting?
10.00 - 11.00	Presentation of the FRA survey on gender-based violence against women, <i>Joanna Goodey, Head of Freedoms and Justice Department, FRA</i>
11.00 - 11.15	Coffee break

Small group discussions I, meeting rooms 4 and 5

11.15 - 12.45	Small group discussions focussing on sharing experiences and good practices on: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Awareness-raising and training, including cooperation with national authorities and civil society, facilitator: <i>Carina van Eck, Commissioner, Netherlands Human Rights Institute</i>• Tackling violence against women in the context of multiple discrimination, facilitator: <i>Stefania Minervino, Development Officer, Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission</i>
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There will be two rounds of 45 minutes' discussions.

12.45 - 13.45	Lunch
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Plenary session II, meeting room 2

13.45 - 15.00 European and international actors – their work on violence against women in view of possible collaboration with equality bodies and national human rights institutions at the national level

- *Emilie Jarrett and Anne van Nistelrooij, European Commission*
- *Therese Murphy, European Institute for Gender Equality*
- *Colette de Troy, European Women’s Lobby*
- *Carolina Lasen-Diaz, Council of Europe*
- *Jakob Schneider, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women*

15.00-15.15 Coffee break

Small group discussions II, meeting rooms 2, 4 and 5

15.15-16.30 Small group discussions with the representatives of the European and international organisations as hosts to discuss possible concrete cooperation activities

This session will be in a “world café” format. Participants will form five small groups which will rotate every 15 minutes from one table to another each table being hosted by one European/international organisation.

16.30-17.00 Conclusions and closing of the meeting

