

BOARD CANDIDATE NOMINATION FORM - EQUINET AGM ELECTIONS 2017

Please return this form to:

Anne Gaspard
 Equinet Executive Director

By email: Anne.Gaspard@equineteurope.org
 or regular mail: Rue Royale 138, 1000 Brussels, Belgium

Deadline for nominations: 13th September 2017

Name of the Equality Body	Greek Ombudsman
Country:	Greece
Name of Candidate: <i>(First name SURNAME)</i>	Kalliopi Lykovardi
Position in the Member organisation:	Deputy Ombudsman for Equal Treatment
Contact Email:	equality@synigoros.gr
Telephone:	0030 213 1306795
Year of joining Member Organisation in your country:	2005

Please note that a candidacy form will only be valid with page 2 (overleaf) fully completed and accompanied by a CV/profile in English. Please hand-sign and date the form below.

The Secretariat will also need to receive a picture of the candidate (see page 4 of Elections guide).

Your CV/profile may contain only information that you deem relevant to the position of Board Member (e.g. professional experience) and is **NOT required to include personal data** (e.g. date of birth, personal address)

Date: 12/9/2017.



Signature of the candidate:

[Handwritten signature in blue ink]

Signature of the Head of the Organisation in case different from the candidate:

[Handwritten signature in blue ink]

My motivation for becoming a member of the Equinet Executive Board: *(please explain why you would like to sit on the Equinet Executive Board)*

My motivation to put forward my candidacy for the Equinet Executive Board is related to my expectation to contribute pro-actively to the function and planning of activities of the Network, building further on both objectives: a) further strengthening the value of Equinet at the national level, and b) further strengthening its position at the European level.

My main concern, as regards discrimination at national level is the deteriorating situation of the level of human rights protection due to economic, social and political crisis of the recent years and the impact that this situation has on equality. The main focus but also the challenge for my institution, is to explore ways and means through which the implementation and promotion of the principal of equal treatment would have credible and practical value and effects, even in this unfriendly for equality environment.

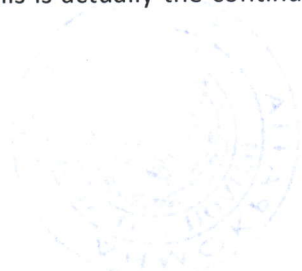
The Specific Department that has been established within the Greek Ombudsman by the end of 2016, in which I have been appointed as Deputy Ombudsman, along with the recent amendments of the national anti-discrimination law, is expected to give more impetus to the special mandate of the Ombudsman as equality body.

The contribution of Equinet to the above institutional perspective is valuable. The exchange of information, the identification of good practices, the insight knowledge into new methods and tools, the strategic approach of the capacities of equality bodies, the focusing on new policy developments, provide an interactive way for each equality body to reach its potential, adapting creatively this information at national level, in interaction with the progress achieved at the European level. Through this approach, diversity becomes rather the power than the barrier for the works of the Network, but also for the work of national equality bodies.

At the same time, at the European level, the challenge of achieving equality in practice is still at stake, despite the common framework of the Directives, the impact of specific policy initiatives and the partial progress in various countries. Thus, despite the progress achieved, the diverse needs, facts or barriers that national equality bodies are still facing, there is still a common European ground for change or improvement.

In this context, Equinet has a key role to play and all the prerequisites to influence European policies and initiatives through its expertise. The common authentic dedication of its members to the fight against discrimination, the fact that its members have institutional role on promoting equality, along with the professionalism that characterises the Networks' function and activities, provides the guarantees for fulfilling this key role.

My experience on discrimination issues and human rights protection at national level, along with the valuable experience gained through my active participation to Equinet activities and function since 2005 (as member of various working groups, as member of the Board, as member of the working team on various internal initiatives, as participant in various seminars and conferences), provide the background for a creative, pro-active contribution based on both experiences in interaction. This is actually the continuous personal challenge for my candidacy for Equinet Executive Board.



Kalliopi Lykovardi