

Gender Studies, Heinrich Böll Foundation and Kateřina Jacques invite you to participate on a conference:

Women's Future on the Labour Market

Organizers: Gender Studies, Heinrich Böll Foundation, and Mothers Centres

Patron of the conference: Ms. Kateřina Jacques, a Green Party MP

Venue: New Town City Hall, Karlovo namesti 23, Praha 2

Date: October 25, 2007

The Czech Republic has a high level of women's employment: women account for nearly a half of the working population and, compared to the EU, they have longer working hours. On the other hand, the labour market features, for example, vertical segregation, which means that women or men are concentrated in particular branches of economy. This phenomenon is supported by stereotypes promoted in the upbringing and education process. Another feature of the labour market is horizontal segregation, which means that women's career growth is restricted by an invisible glass ceiling. Women continue to work double shifts, as it is them who are expected to combine their careers with family responsibilities. So what are women's prospects on the labour market? Is the modern and flexible labour market beneficial or detrimental to women? With the continued advancement of information technologies, flexibility is growing, which brings both opportunities and threats to women.

The conference will focus on four main topics: the European Union's strategies on women's employment, position of women on the Czech labour market, information and communication technologies and their influence on women's prospects on the labour market and the influence of female politicians on the position of women on the labour market. The conference will present the views of Czech experts, both men and women, as well as invited guests from Poland, Germany, Austria and EU institutions.



Sponsored by the European Union, GD Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities, Action Programme on Equality between Women and Men.

The organizer shall have sole responsibility for the contents of this conference; the Commission shall not be responsible and liable for the future use of the information contained therein.

Agenda:

Opening session (9.30-9.50):

1. Ms. Kateřina Jacques, a Green Party MP
2. Ms. Agnieszka Rochon, Director of Heinrich Böll Foundation Representative Office in Warsaw
3. Ms. Linda Sokačová, Strategy and Development Director, Gender Studies
4. Ms. Růt Kolínská, President of the Mothers Centres Network (to be confirmed)

(9.50-10.10)

Presentation of Report "Women in a Future Workplace" by Ms. Ewa Lisowska, Associate Professor, Warsaw School of Economics
Introduction of publication "ICT and Women"

Panel discussions:

1. The European Union's strategy on women's employment (10.15-11.25)

EU policies, the Lisbon strategy, the Roadmap for Equality between Women and Men, Flexicurity

Moderation: Ms. Alena Králíková, Gender Equality Expert, Gender Studies

Panel Speakers (to be confirmed):

Mr. Vladimír Špidla, EU Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities

Ms. Hiltrud Breyer, Member of the European Parliament, Member of Women's Rights and Gender Equality Committee, Green Party, Germany

Ms. Lidia Geringer de Oedenberg, Member of the European Parliament, Member of European Social Democrats and Polish Social Democrats

Mr. Milan Štěch, Chairman of the Czech-Moravian Confederation of Trade Unions

11.25-11.40 Coffee Break

2. Position of women on the Czech labour market (11.40-12.40)

Discrimination – analysing concrete discrimination cases and how they were dealt with and identifying how they should be dealt with in the future; How to persuade companies not to discriminate, working with companies; Flexible working arrangements → influence on women, e.g. part-time arrangements – advantages vs. drawbacks, working from home, job-sharing, compressed work week, men and equal opportunities, work-life balance etc.

Moderation: Nina Bosničová, Project Manager (About Equality with Companies), Gender Studies

Panel Speakers (to be confirmed):

Mr. Štěpán Jurajda, economist, CERGE-EI (The Center for Economic Research and Graduate Education of Charles University)

Ms. Petra Štěpová, Mothers Centre Dobříš

Ms. Hana Hašková, sociologist, Institute of Sociology of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic



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Ms. Hana Velíšková, HR Consultant, Czech Association for
Human Resources Development

12.40-13.40 Lunch

**3. Information and communication technologies and women's future on the
labour market (13.40-14.40)**

ICT and flexibility possibilities, threats and opportunities for women, new
technologies, growth of flexibility, business, education

Moderation: Linda Sokačová, Strategy and Development Director, Gender Studies
Panel Speakers (to be confirmed):

Ms. Lenka Simerska, Regional Co-Coordinator of Gender Evaluation Methodology
Project for Central and Eastern Europe, APC Women's Networking Support Program

Ms. Dana Běrová, former Minister of Informatics

Mr. Petr Draxler, Country Human Resources Leader, Czech Republic & SEA, IBM
Czech Republic

Ms. Claudia Neusseus, independent political consultant, Germany

**4. The influence of female politicians on women's position on the labour
market (15.55-16.15)**

Moderation: Kateřina Jacques, a Green Party MP

Panel Speakers (to be confirmed):

Ms. Brigid Weinzinger, Green Party MP in Austria

Ms. Anna Čurdová, a Czech Social Democratic Party MP

Ms. Vlasta Parkanová, Minister of Defense of Czech Republic, Christian Democratic
Party

Ms. Gabriela Hrabaňová, Roma Activist focused on gender equality and political
participation of Roma people

Ms. Lenka Bennerová, chairwoman of Czech Women's Lobby

Conclusion and Recommendations (15.55-16.15):

Recommendations for the future: Ms. Linda Sokačová, Strategy and Development
Director, Gender Studies

The conference will be interpreted from/into Czech, Polish and German

16.30-18.00 "Women and ICT": workshop related to lifelong learning in ICT for
women. Leader: Martina Kristová, IT specialist



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The conference is organised within the project “Fit for Gender Mainstreaming – Gender-sensitive Transcending of Borders between East and West” and in cooperation with the project “Family Friendly Company”.

The Project: “Fit for Gender Mainstreaming – Gender-Sensitive Transcending of Borders between East and West”

This EU-sponsored project (12/2006 to 02/2008) involves project partners from the European countries: Poland, Czech Republic, Austria and Germany. Based on cross-border qualification initiatives for multipliers and public events in all countries participating in the “East-West Dialogue” the goal is to advance gender mainstreaming strategies on a local level and enhance exchanges of experience and qualifications. The core approach is learning together in and from Europe.

Project Partners:

Heinrich-Böll-Foundation - Gunda-Werner-Institute for Feminism and Gender Democracy, Regional Offices Warsaw, Prague and Brussels
Network of East-West-Women (NEWW), Gdansk
Gender Studies o.p.s, Prague
Grüne Bildungswerkstatt (GBW), Vienna