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### **Civil Society Dialogue**

## EU-TR CIVIL NETWORK FOR WOMEN IN POLITICS STUDY VISIT BROCHURES















#### **EU-TR CIVIL NETWORK FOR WOMEN IN POLITICS**

EU-TR Civil Network for Women in Politics Project aims to provide communication and collaboration between European and Turkish NGOs that are mostly interested with women participation and representation in politics, women rights and issues. In accordance with these aims, in the leadership of Women and Democracy Association, FEMYSO from Belgium and COJEP from France conduct this project for establishment of civil network for women. Within the context of project issues that are dealt with are women's representation in politics, lobbying and increasing their visibility in public sphere.

The project is financed by EU and Republic of Turkey. EU-TR Civil Network for Women in Politics Project starts in 15 October 2015 and ends in 15 October 2016. Within that period, there are 3 activity groups. The first activity group is establishment of civil network between NGOs in Turkey and Europe. In the framework of this activity, study visit and networking event are organized. The second activity group is sharing information and experience of NGOs. In order to achieve that, a website is designed. It is a tool for communication and transfer of knowledge and experiences from one NGO to another. The third activity group is know-how transfer. Within that activity group, workshops and symposiums are orginized.

In the context of project, study visit, networking event, workshops and symposium, curriculum development, designing a website to maintain communication between NGOs and final lobbying event will be organized. Study visit and networking event is organized in Brussels/Belgium; workshops and symposiums are in Istanbul/Turkey and final lobbying event is organized in Strasbourg/France. As a result of project, a website is established for NGOs to share their experiences and knowledge. Website contributes to maintenance of communication and collaboration between NGOs, after the project ends.

## NGOs in NETWORK

KADEM HEKVA FEMYSO IKADDER KARAMAH COJEP KAYÇAD ENAR AKDER UKADER FEMMA HAZAR EFOWM

### WOMEN AND DEMOCRACY ASSOCIATION KADEM

Women and Democracy Association (KADEM), is a non-governmental, civil women organization, founded in 8th March 2013 on a mission to achieve legal, democratic and social developments about women's rights, by establishing a collective consciousness in society and empowering women's active participation in socio-cultural, economic and political life to build a strong and vibrant society to contribute to the sustainable development and strengthening of democracy, the rule of law and respect to human rights and fundamental freedoms through protection of women's rights. Since then, KADEM has grown with its international perspective and gender justice approach strongly expressed throughout the academia and national and international media and achieved a great deal in increasing awareness on women's rights. On the other hand, KADEM specifically works for combating multiple forms of discrimination against women based on gender and other factors in different areas such as domestic violence in private spheres, honor killings, early marriages, violence in public spheres stemming from false religious-based practices or prejudices and mobbing as a violence in working life. Besides, KADEM works for providing substantial increase in political representation of women in parliament, local governments and educational activities for women's legal, social, cultural and economic rights to increase their effectiveness in society.



## AKDER (DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION)

AK-DER is a human rights organization that was founded on February 15, 1999 by women In Turkey who were deprived of their rights to education and work because of the ban on headscarf. The founders of AK-DER comprised of female students, doctors, lawyers, teachers, academicians and civil servants. They all had personally experienced discrimination and had to give up on their education, work life and career.

AKDER aims to prevent all human rights violations and discriminations, to promote public awareness in this field, to remove all kinds of obstacles particularly to women's rights to education, work, and a carrier, to educate its members about human rights issues, to increase the awareness of relevant authorities

AKDER's main missions are to identify legal and social obstacles in the way of women's exercising personal rights. To guide and provide help for all people exposed to discrimination, to help regain the rights of people exposed to discrimination through legal process.



#### COJEP (COUNCIL FOR JUSTICE, EQUALITY AND PEACE)

COJEP is an international NGO, based in Strasburg. COJEP has official branches in 15 European countries and represented in 22 countries. COJEP works in collaboration with the NGOs from 50 countries and primarily works in the field of human rights, democracy, law, justice, peace, fight against all forms of racism, xenophobia, violence, intolerance and discrimination, intercultural dialogue and citizenship. COJEP is a member of United Nations Economic and Social Council and has a participatory status OF THE European Parliament. Its aim is to promote the improvement and development of intercultural, intra-community and ethnic relations and exchanges in the European Union and in the world and also to advocate youth policies in Europe. COJEP works for a social and multicultural Europe and for equal rights, freedom of movement, the right and access to work, the right of establishment and to vote for immigrants.

COJEP conducts studies and research on issues related to youth, women, environment, sustainable development and international solidarity in Europe and the world. COJEP represents its member associations within the European and international institutions and organizes actions in the field of youth, women's rights, awareness of the environment, sustainable development and international solidarity in Europe and the world. Concerning the public that the activities are intended for, COJEP primarily name young people from disadvantaged areas as well as isolated groups of immigrants and people in difficulties issued from immigration.

Cojep has a wide experience of leading international projects, taking in account those that have been supported by the European Commission (such as learning session on Islamophobie in 2009)



#### EFOMW (EUROPEAN FORUM OF MUSLIM WOMEN)

European Forum of Muslim Women is active in European Commission. EFOMW works on Muslim women in different areas such as training, communication, advocacy, awareness campaigns, it works for changing the negative common impression of Muslim women in European Society. This understanding imprisons women within a pejorative framework.

EFOMW is one of the member of the European Year of Citizens Alliance, 2013. In order to mark the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the European Union Citizenship, 2013 has been designated as the "European Year of Citizens". The European Forum of Muslim Women (EFOMW) joined the European Year of Citizens Alliance (EYCA) to defend a participatory, inclusive and active citizenship, specifically on Muslim women. This Alliance is composed of fifty European NGOs and aims to develop and to defend proposals for citizenship to the European institutions which tend to define the European citizenship in a an individual rights-based approach. Their aim is to encourage dialogue between all levels of government, civil society and business at events and conferences around Europe.



#### **KARAMAH**

KARAMAH, Muslim Women Lawyers for Human Rights, is a U.S.-based non-profit organization that derives its name from the Arabic term "karamah", which means dignity. KARAMAH's vision and mission are informed by the view that a just society values the informed participation of its members through the pursuit of knowledge, access to opportunities, and equity among all "children of Adam", regardless of gender or other differences. Through education, legal outreach, and advocacy, KARAMAH contributes to the understanding and promotion of human rights worldwide, particularly the rights of Muslim women under Islamic and civil law.

KARAMAH envisions a world in which all human beings, regardless of gender or other differences, enjoy their God-given right of dignity. We believe that through education, women will be empowered to transform archaic, culture-based interpretations of women's status in Islam, to the betterment of themselves and their communities.

KARAMAH believes that a rich education is the steadiest path to eradicating ignorance and prejudice, which are major factors in denying people their dignity and liberty.

KARAMAH's primary mission is to educate both Muslims and non-Muslims about the just, gender equitable foundation of Islam. In particular, KARAMAH's mission is to provide the community with Islamic jurisprudence that emphasizes gender equity and encourages intellectual growth, conflict resolution and leadership development. We couple this education with advocacy and legal representation that promote our core value: that dignity is God-qiven.



#### **ENAR**

ENAR aims to achieve full equality, solidarity and well-being for all in Europe. We want to allow all members of society, whatever their skin color, ethnicity, sex, gender, religion, disability, age or sexual orientation, to participate and be included in society.

Our take on this? We combat racism and discrimination based on color, ethnicity, national origin, nationality, religion, culture, language or legal status.

We envision a vibrant and inclusive society and economy that embrace equality and diversity and the benefits of a racism-free Europe.

Unequal treatment and discrimination against people because of their skin color, religion, culture, nationality, legal status or ethnicity result in poorer job opportunities and greater obstacles in accessing health, housing, education and services. Not to mention the more serious consequences of various forms of racism: physical and verbal violence against ethnic and religious minorities and migrants, which not only impact individuals but also entire communities.

These inequalities have a negative impact on the whole of society. Discriminating and excluding talented individuals result in a huge waste of talents and skills, especially at a time when we need to harness our collective full potential to get out of the present economic downturn.

We have decided not to let this go unchallenged: we break down structural barriers and policies that limit migrants' and ethnic and religious minorities' opportunities to participate fully in society and have, ultimately, a damaging impact on the well-being of all European residents.



#### **FEMYSO**

FEMYSO is the de facto voice of Muslim Youth in Europe and is regularly consulted on issues pertaining to Muslim Youth. It has developed useful links with the European Parliament, the European Commission, the Council of Europe, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), the United Nations and a host of other significant organisations at the European and international level.

With nearly 50 million Muslims in Eastern and Western Europe, there is an obvious need for Muslim youth across Europe to have a voice at the European level. FEMYSO is a platform which enables co-operation between Muslim youth from all the different countries and cultures within Europe.

FEMYSO envisages a Europe in which Muslims take pride in their identity and contribution to society. We work for a future in which Muslims are an equal part of the fabric of European society, contributing positively and constructively to the common good. FEMYSO promotes respect between cultures and faiths and has built strong partnerships at a European level with other faith organisations, for the benefit of all youth.

Our trainings and activities focus on embedding positive ethics of active citizenship, social harmony and respect for human rights, equality and justice within all youth. We believe the diversity of Europe is its strength, and we must all work together to build a peaceful, prosperous and inclusive Europe for all.



#### **FFMMA**

Femma is a socio-cultural organization of, by and for women. Femma works around emancipation and Femma applies the four main tasks of the socio-cultural work: meeting, formation, action and advocacy. We promote equal treatment, equal rights and better integration for migrant women in Brussels.

With Femma intercultural we want to develop an initiative for women as a model for the democratic and harmonious coexistence of people of different cultural origins. Empowerment, self-reliance, citizenship, bottom-up work are the important keywords through our work.



## HAZAR (EDUCATION, CULTURE AND SOLIDARITY ASSOCIATION)

HAZAR Association is a Non-Governmental Organization established by women in istanbul in order to contribute women to take active role in social life and participate in decision making mechanisms by strengthening them via education for the sake of establishment of a well-balanced social structure in which equity and justice are governed, in international, local and private areas.

PROJECTS: "Wo/Men for Women" Project, Turkey's Covered Truth; Headscarf Ban Field Research, Mom Hold My Hand.



## HEKVA (WOMEN EDUCATION AND CULTURE FOUNDATION)

Women Education and Culture Foundation was set in 1988 by 49 philanthropic women who believe that the key to success lies in sustaining civil society consciousness which as a result will decrease social conflicts and polarities, will encourage social peace and justice, will create synergy arising from cooperation and collaboration of the NGOs.

HEKVA works to achieve an educated and multicultural society where poverty is no longer an issue, the balance between our social values and the time-imposed need for change is achieved.

HEKVA's mission is to secure people in poverty become self-sufficient, to prepare the ground for our target people to have access to cultural and social wealth, to foster civil society and aid consciousness in public which will help to reduce conflict and polarization in the society.

PROJECTS: Children are "our future" Project, Women Handicraft Marketplace Project (KÜP), School for Women Project, Equal Opportunity for Development, School for Women Project.



## iKADDER (ISTANBUL WOMEN AND WOMEN'S INSTITUTES)

IKADDER was founded by the women who serves the society in various areas and volunteer woman foundations' presidents and members in 2006. Our association is the meeting point of the organizations thinking global to social problems and developing original solutions for them.

A world based on respect to diversities, consists of sustainable peace, prosperity and happiness wide spreading, non-governmental organizations that can solve the problems with collaboration and solidarity.

It aims to develop solidarity, collaboration among NGOs and consultation models for NGOs and foundations. İKADDER studies on elevating of status of volunteer woman institutions, women and families.

PROJECTS: The Project on Defending against Drug Addiction for Families and Young, the Project on Supporting and Developing of Woman NGO, Family Focused Tracking and Assessment Media Project, NGOs Are Looking for Leaders of the Future Project

KAYÇAD (ASSOCIATION OF SOLIDARITY FOR WOMEN EXECUTIVES AND EMPLOYEES) KAYÇAD works for protection of the rights of women, development of economic and social status of women, protection of the status of women in society and business life, prevention of women to be considered as substitute and silent labor force, ensuring the protection of the labor of the women, consideration of the rights of other disadvantaged groups.

PROJECTS: Training of Entrepreneurship for 505 Women, General Assembly for Women Executives and Employees of Turkish World, Project for Promoting Gender Equality in Research and Innovation (Horizon 2020 - EC), Employment Oriented Trainings for Disadvantaged Groups, Empowerment of the Women Employees in Turkey by Struggling with Bullying at Work Places (UNDEF)



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## UKADER (INTERNATIONAL FAMILY AND WOMEN ASSOCIATION)

In 1996, the ULAK Group has been founded in order to boost the status of women and family in international arena and brought together under the roof of Rainbow Istanbul Women's Organizations Platform. Our group was reorganized in 2011 under the name of International Women Initiative for Dialogue (IWID-UKAD) with the status of an initiative group. It has identified its main field of activity as "economic, social and cultural studies" on perception of women and family issues. In this regard, it has initiated its international networking activities by establishing dialogue between individuals/institutions who are working towards the same end. In 2013, IWID turned its legal status into an association and acquired the name of International Women and Family Association.

Our mission is to get involved in activities at national and international level through building common ground for cooperation and consultation –especially in economic, social and cultural life- among people, agencies and institutions, universities and non-governmental organizations that through a similar perspective with our vision.



## ACTIVITIES

KADEM

#### NETWORKING EVENT WITH THE NGOS

Networking event was organized in 24th of February. KADEM, HEKVA, HAZAR, AKDER, UKADER, İKADDER, KAYÇAD, COJEP, FEMYSO, PLURIELLES, KARAMAH, EFOMW, COJEP. COLLECTIVE TETE, TERRAIN FEMININE were the NGOs participated to this event. After the welcome speeches, the program of the whole event is explained and all NGOs presented themselves.

Speed networking aims to create a close relationship among NGOs in a short period of time. By the use of speed networking, a close relationship which was the main goal of the networking event was fulfilled between NGOs from Turkey and Europe.

In the first introductory part of the speed networking, all representatives introduces their NGOs including their studies interest, project, future expectation, vision and mission. NGO representatives have given a short presentation of their NGOs and mentioned the issues their NGOs mostly interested in and discussed the new methods and strategies to develop NGOs. In the second part of speed networking, certain concepts such as gender equality, justice, violence, femininity, lobbying and cooperation of NGOs are discussed in each groups. The final part of speed networking includes presentations of concepts that each groups have chosen and discussed. In the last question and answer part of the event, the issues are enhanced, the methods and the strategies to deal with issues are debated.



### EU-TR CIVIL NETWORK FOR WOMEN IN POLITICS PROJECT STUDY VISITS

During Belgium visit totally 6 NGOs and official institutions have been visited. While FEMYSO, Action CNE FEMMES, ENAR, AMAZONE are NGOs have been visited; Yunus Emre Institution and European Social and Economic Committee are official institutions.

The visited NGOs shared their experiences in the field of women's rights and mentioned the problems encountered by women in social life and politics in Europe. In these study visits, the primary topics mostly emphasized were; human rights, racism and discrimination, violence against women, Muslim youths in Europe, Islamophobia, citizenship, gender pay gap and the problems of women workers. After the study visit to the NGOs, the official institutions were also visited and the general overview to the whole visit and questions were debated. The policies of Economic and Social Commission and how the Commission influences policies of European governments were debated. The solutions were discussed on the human rights related problems in socio-cultural, economic and political spheres. In these study visits, political agendas in Europe and Turkey and agendas of NGOs on women issues, relationship between European NGOs and European institutions have been analyzed.





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## Civil Society Dialogue **EU - TR CIVIL NETWORK FOR WOMEN IN POLITICS PROJECT**



24 - 26 FEBRUARY 2015, BRUSSELS civilsocietydialogue.org















#### **WOMEN IN POLITICS WORKSHOPS**

As part of the project "EU-TR Civil Network for Women in Politics", a workshop was organized on April 28, 29, 2015 in Hurry In Hotel, Istanbul.

Based on the parallel aims, in the workshop conducted by KADEM in Istanbul on April, 2015, there were 5 parallel sessions that each of sessions dealt with 5 specific topics. The main topics discussed in the workshop were; Lobbying and advocacy, Barriers (political, social, economic, etc.) on women's participation in politics, policies and measures to prepare, encourage and support women representation and participation in political life, CSO communication, common policy development and advocacy, information and experience sharing methods, the main issues on political agendas of EU and Turkey on women's issues and participation in politics.

In each session, there were representatives from 7 NGOs including politicians and academicians. At the end of workshop, moderators and reporters prepared a report to be present in the symposium organized on April 30, 2015.





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# Civil Society Dialogue EU - TR CIVIL NETWORK FOR WOMEN IN POLITICS PROJECT

















#### WOMEN AND POLITICS SYMPOSIUM, ISTANBUL

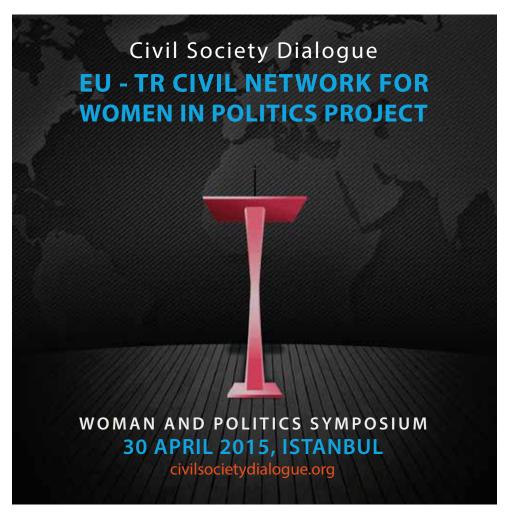
The Women and Politics Symposium was organized on April 30, 2015 in Istanbul Commerce University in order to provide strategies to address the barriers faced by women in participating politics. NGOs from Turkey and Europe participated to the symposium to exchange ideas on the issue of women's political participation and representation, after a two-day workshop. Women and Politics symposium was also organized in order to present the result reports of the workshop.

The symposium was held in order to find new strategies to increase the visibility of women in politics and to find the good examples to solve the problems faced by women to participate in politics. From France, Belgium and Europe, totally 14 NGOs representatives, academicians, politicians, journalists and participants of various civil society organizations were attended the symposium. The main topics of the sessions were; Obstacles in women's participation in politics, strategies for women's participation participation. The final report of the symposium including the strategies and methods to overcome women's issues were declared to the public. The report also publicised in the project web site and an extended version will be compiled in a project book to be presented to members of the European Parliament in Strasbourg in a lobbying event in September 2015.





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## REPORTS

KADEM

#### STRATEGY OF WOMEN AND POLITICS WORKSHOP REPORTS

#### 1 ST REPORT

Issues: Lobbying and advocacy, influencing policy agendas and policies, lobbying in the EU Institutions. comprehension of and effectiveness in EU political arena

EU Civil Society Dialogue EU-TR Women in Politics held in the framework of the Civil Network project 'Women and Politics' themed workshop be held at the lobby desk lobby what matters discussed above. Participants to be agreed upon by civil society organizations and all the issues related to child brides, Promotion of Women's Political Participation, Gender Inequality in the workplace, mobbing, and especially Muslims difficulties faced by women in minority positions, has come to the fore. However, the main problem is not the lack of laws, there are laws that prevent discrimination in the implementation of distress and on the idea of unity that does not serve the purpose of the legislation was reached. Therefore, to obtain a more important place on the European agenda and decision-makers to target these shortcomings the European Parliament Lobbying has been envisaged for member states to encourage applications.

The best method of making a collective lobbying for the elimination of these difficulties has been agreed may be. However, before implementation, prior to the establishment of civil society to identify common ground and begin the necessary work, it is intended to be performed in a workshop where the various education. The concrete results of this workshop is a joint white paper on the preparation and lobbying representing the views of all participants are expected to form the basis of this book.

### Steps to be taken to create awareness within the framework of this study will be as follows:

- 1) All information collection and bring a report to be shared with other stakeholders about the issues they want to express whether an in-depth research in their respective fields of other civil society organizations in the network, including my particular KADEM.
- 2] Employees working in the framework of appropriate and similar targets in the EU can be done at a later stage in the lobby with other civil society organizations, research centers, universities and so on. Investigation and identification of stakeholder institutions.
- 3) Do their work to form a coalition with other stakeholders in carrying out visits to several studies, including by the network, and as long as their gathering all the information about the issues they want to express as was done in the first Article and reporting
- 4) Organized a workshop brought together stakeholders and their consequences on all stakeholders to a consensus in this study will form the basis of lobbying thought a 'white book' preparation. The steps to be taken during the workshop are provided as follows:

- a. The creation of basic infrastructure strategy
- b. The creation of an information pool
- c. EU legislative process, the functioning of the EU institutions, report writing and receiving basic education lobbying
- d. Establishing an agenda and roadmap
- e. The preparation of action plans
- f. Establishing a communication scheme involving the key information and data
- g. Power / Network Mapping to work with stakeholders in making the division of labor
- h. ensuring communication between stakeholders through an online platform
- i. The creation of a coordination team to coordinate the writing of the White Paper
- 5) white paper, which will be the output of this workshop will include messages and information to be used for lobbying. [What ?, we want to change what's wrong?]
- 6) Bet the lobby in the European Parliament, will be able to do the same axis of all stakeholders using the white paper and the following steps will be taken to the lobby:
- a. Investigation of the European Parliament and target detection:
- i). AP and MP of their websites, (speeches, statements, legislative proposals, stance in voting etc..)
- ii). Determination of the relevant Parliamentary Committee on the Rights of the subject and Gender Equality Women's Rights and Gender Equality Committee)
- iii). Related Inter Group (ex: anti-racism and diversity, Children's rights, Freedom of religion and be life and religious tolerance, Youth Issues)
- iv]. Investigation determined the agenda of the parliament and to identify the issues of concern in the near term, the discourse of development in accordance with their frames. Lawmakers will also be made to increase the visibility of the work arrangement will ensure that the issue of ownership of the proxy.
- v]. These studies will attempt to be as a result of the first stage of the preparation of a short list and proxy support which will communicate about transition.
- vi]. After this stage, the deputy, will be contacted with a custom-designed process for each proxy. Basic principles for the regulation of relations and communication will be:
- 1] May contribute to the solution of attorney so that they can make arrangements to issue ownership
- 2) Information concise and presented them in a good way
- 3) The correct knowledge and expertise to meet the needs of Attorney
- 4) Honesty and sincerity
- viii). The above mentioned proxies will be contacted 1on1 with each passing principle. There can be used a variety of methods taking into consideration the preferences and personality structure of the Proxy.
- 1) Official Methods (e-mails, letters, invitations, etc.)
- 2) Informal methods (meeting in the event, using intermediaries, etc.)

The short list is the verbatim interviews with each European Parliamentary lobby to raise awareness about the issue under study will be done. However, to achieve tangible results in the shorter term, in one of a matter of AP deputies will understand common on patronage, others have speakers / participants that they of an international conference organization and NGOs, universities, ensuring the participation of various groups such as think tanks and it spread to a wide audience in the communication strategy set out in the framework of the workshop will be healthy for the first step in the EU.

#### **2 ND REPORT**

Issues: Barriers (political, sociological, economic, etc.) on women participation in politics and their effect on the political status of women, ways to overcome these barriers

In this session workshop psychological, educational, cultural and political barriers as women face various problems they were tabled.

Ensuring equitable representation and equal opportunities for men and women in politics, To increase the number of women in decision-making, To raise the status of women in social life and to find an efficient solution to reducing the number of outside participation in politics important point.

Women's social, economic and political participation of women and education in order to ensure representation of both quantitative and qualitative increase in order to overcome the barriers they face in political life, it is emphasized the implementation of training and advisory programs.

Management bodies, local authorities, promotion of gender equity in public management mechanisms and a variety of programs and mechanisms for them to be more sensitive to gender differences in the institutional policy on, as well as women's changing discriminatory laws on political participation issues and gender should be produced and implemented.

Ensuring social conscious about women's issues is one of the important issues again. The campaign will be conducted with the support of NGOs to provide social conscience, as the criterion of transparency in decision—making processes and the development of policies taken by the civil network will be possible to mobilize on these issues.

Specifically, the objectives and policies to produce active policies for women; make women active in political parties and elections not only as voters take part in the selected candidates, the protection of women's rights and political participation should be encouraged.

The politics of gender stereotypes in order to ensure a balanced gender distribution, the society must change the angle of view on the responsibility of men and women problematic task. Starting from childhood on changing the perception of social change in the mentality of men and women inside if possible.

Another necessary change is to provide financial support for women. The women of working hours for women between family and work life must be set to ensure balance.

Women in politics created an environment without gender issues on arrangements to facilitate increased participation and child care will be effective.

Entered into politics to be a role model in the society, economy are important steps for the change of successful women to be reflected in the various campaigns in the media of their life stories to the change of society women perception and women's political participation that prejudice and negative opinions could find a place in the world.

Government and politics of lobbying to be made to political parties and to show sensitivity to gender in decisions is another important step in ensuring equality of opportunity.

#### 3 RD REPORT

Issues: Policies and measures to prepare, encourage, supports, women representation and participation in political life

Women constitute half of the population is not sufficiently involved in decisions about their own lives, representing a democratic order can not imagine missing the healthy operation. Representation of women in political life, the problem is a problem of democratic legitimacy beyond a women's rights issue. Be shared between men and women in political life, this share, balance, equality, justice must be observed. Gender disparities must be seen as the main reason of existence in politics should not be used as a reason for exclusion from politics.

The workshop in this direction "the representation of women in politics and to ensure the participation in political life to support policies and measures" recommendations are summarized in the table entitled.

The duty of the state to recognize the importance of women's representation on the path to democracy and peace, the promotion of gender-sensitive approach throughout society and to ensure the participation of women in all spheres of life is not in active work. These efforts, reorganization revised the law in the country, the creation of a healthy way of the constitutional and legal framework for the participation of women in public and political space is also included.

The provision of public funds to enable women's equal and fair representation, gender-sensitive approach to the curriculum and the preparation of the curriculum is to educate all levels of government on this basis.

More and different areas of women's political representation of women as a result of the process of determining the identity of the voice of women in negotiations and policy-added opportunities will be captured. This is why the participants in politics and decision-making mechanisms, fair, inclusive and sensitive manner to allow the representation of different female identity politics should be produced.

Located in the work to strengthen women candidates, advocacy campaigns that promote women's representation in politics and political parties to nominate women as an element of pressure on employees and strong relationships with non-governmental organizations should be established and cooperation plant.

Policy development, discussion techniques, information and communication networks, advocacy, public speaking, leadership, strategic planning, confidence building and financial resources in areas such as providing special campaign targeting women's needs should provide training.

Inclusion of the provisions of the way to operate in a way that will allow political parties to access my men and women equal opportunities to the position reached with the selection of this line with the revision of legislation and affirmative action policies should be maintained in an efficient manner.

By analyzing the electoral system and its constitutional and legislative procedures by considering their impact on the political participation of women, it is necessary to eliminate the barriers in front of women through legal reforms.

High Judiciary Council of Higher Education, the High Council, the constitutional bodies, etc., universities, senior representatives of public institutions, and other appointments to decision-making mechanisms must be created to ensure gender balance in Access.

#### Political parties suggestions:

- · Party program in gender-sensitive, making arrangements to contain the different needs of women and the establishment of a monitoring mechanism of the implementation of these regulations.
- $\cdot$  The Party leader and pioneer position in decision-making and ensure the representation of women in certain diversity
- · Show the candidate list of female candidates and female candidates for top positions, including the region can nominate selected, revising the appropriate mechanisms to improve the position of women candidates and elected
- · Women in party politics, party leadership selection and nomination of women to contribute to the arm, allowing the ground to no party, or education and provide financial support to the commission or the council. Issues related to women's issues women to these rules, information networks, advisory tools debate issues, policymaking and advocacy skills to enable them to develop their facilities are required to submit.

Considered as a disadvantaged social group of women to increase their participation in political life, increasing the effectiveness of decision-making; basic civil rights, the functioning of the decision-making process at local and national levels, processes must follow for their rights and to ensure that they have information about their facilities and services offered; Strengthening leadership capacity; the creation of political awareness and interest to women; they live in the city, increasing the sense of belonging and social cohesion for the country; community awareness should be created to encourage the involvement of women in decision-making processes to destroy and negative perceptions about the participation of women in general.

This mentality transformation and realize the media to support the participation of women in political life should be used as a lobbying tool. The bride with elected and appointed women in the political, administrative and masculine shape an understanding of politics to talk about the fair and equal representation in all decision-making bodies should be questioned state of the law. Which tend to establish hegemony, and toll-intrusive, it is necessary to redefine the competitive framework shaped politics. Because the representation of women in political life and participation in determining the boundaries of pre-drawn rather masculine than feminine identity in the political attitude of the assumption is that politics are masculinis in other words. Instead of understanding that the identity of the woman being disadvantaged in terms of political subject, women in politics pave the way for democracy represented by the difference is a requirement of freedom and human rights.

Incomplete and inadequate representation of women in politics and decision-making, represented a meaning beyond numerical terms and a lack of participation. Increasing the numerical presence of women in politics should not be considered only as a necessity to ensure justice and equality. Politics in the women's perspective and women's side of the women with the visibility of experience will be able to destroy prejudices about political responsibility can not be undertaken by the discrimination of gender on the other hand that the community of law, to eliminate the reflection of the economic and political dimensions, will enable the necessary changes.

#### **4TH REPORT**

Issues: CSO communication, common policy development and advocacy, information and experience sharing methods.

 $\cdot$  An umbrella platform has to be established in order to provide a network for communication among NGOs

#### · Processes for this platform are:

- 1. Establishment of a website
- 2. Regular meeting with NGOs that all NGOs have to participate it regularly
- 3. Creating social consciousness between NGOs and other institutions and to affect policy there should be a communication network with media, government and society.
- 1) Website: the things that will be shared by website are information, activity plan of each NGOs, uploading photos, videos and articles or reports, membership to network and determining regional problems and promote local dynamics
- 2) Direct information sharing on NGO activities calendar, video, photo upload, membership platform, will be made by identifying regional problems sharing information in the website of the local dynamics.
- 3) Monthly Meetings: Meetings will be managed by a coordinator 6 months with a recurring choice. Public relations training will be given to NGOs in the first meeting and will be given a description coordinator. The purpose of the next 6 months to be determined. Every six months a new NGOs will be invited to the platform. Report to be prepared to influence government.

4] Public Awareness and Government Influence: with between media and NGOs, to ensure communication between the government and society are the priority. Effective use of social media and providing awareness of the press conference will be held jointly with the media. Several commissions established (such as social equality commission) to influence government policy.

#### **5TH REPORT**

Issues: The main issues on political agendas of the EU and Turkey on women issues and women's participations in politics.

#### In this section, 4 main topics are identified;

- 1. Participation and representation of women in politics
- 2. Women in labour and entrepreneurship/business
- 3. Violence against women
- 4. Women's presentation in the media/image of women

#### Women's Participation and Representation in Politics;

In Turkey or in Europe, there is not a legal arrangement that supports women not to participate in politics, actually. However, it is very easy to see that this is not implemented, in other words it is only theoretically existent, not in practice.

Women have been left destituted from participating in politics for many years because of traditional culture and traditional gender roles.

#### Why women are less numbered in politics?

- In patriarchal systems, women do not participate in public sphere and as a result, they cannot have sufficient economic resources. Therefore, they cannot achieve to participate in politics with their limited economic resources. Women do not have proper education compared to men.
- Division of labour in societies based on sex. There are particular jobs that women and men do, so there is a common belief that politics is men's work; women will not be successful in this sphere. Political culture: in societies, there is a very strict division of labour, women absolutely must be responsible for family and men are breadwinners. So it is much harder for people to vote for women.
- · Policies of political parties on women is another reason causes women's low participation and representation. Democratic system is also an important factor.
- · Political sphere is much masculinized, so women are expected to behave as men do. Thus, when they participate in politics, they believe that they will only be successful by acting as men.
- $\cdot$  Women are less interested in politics compared to men. This is also because of the widely-held opinion that politics is men's work.

#### In order to increase the participation of women in the parliament;

- · The dominant discourse should be changed
- · They should get sufficient education
- $\cdot$  Make women encourage to enter politics with their own point of views and they should be supported that they can be successful with their own identity.
- · It should be accepted that women and men are different in terms of genesis, so they deserve to transact equitable. They should not be expected behave in opposite of their natural sex. In accordance with acceptance of the differences between women and men in terms of genesis, the concept of division of labour should be restructured. When they engage in spheres which are supposed men's, they should not be expected to behave beyond their biological sexes. They should be there as women, strong women.

#### Women in Labour:

The concept of gender indicates that women and men are different from each other naturally, so this approach means women should be active in social and political lives without crossing with their genesis. Women are not be expected doing works as men do.

Why women are less numbered in public life (working life);

- $\cdot$  Necessary mechanisms that provide women suitable working conditions are not sufficient and this is the most important reason of women's low participation in working life.
- · Traditional gender roles.
- · Women's lack of knowledge about gender roles, especially women living in rural areas.

#### Problems which women face in working life;

- · Although there is not a discrimination based on sex with regard to matters of their entering into business and their continuation to work, there are examples of injustice in assignment of duties, removing women first from work, unacceptance of some occupations as women's occupations and paying low wages to women especially in unregistered employment.
- · Perception of division of labour that professions are distinguished as women's and men's professions. Therefore, women consent working in low-statued works. This brings back temporary working and social insecurity.
- $\cdot$  Women working in agriculture are paid very low or not paid, so they do not fall within social security.
- The main reason of severance of women from work is the problems that women face in reconciling family and working lives. They cannot show their capacity properly.

#### Violence against Women;

Violence against women is one of the most important problems worldwide. In 1993, a report on "Preventing Violence against Women" was accepted: violence against women based on sex was described as "deprivation of women from freedom arbitrarily. These actions distress women physically, psychologically or sexually in domestic and social lives.

Types of violence: Domestic violence: physical, sexual, emotional and economic violence.

#### What to do in order to Prevent Violence against Women?

- · Dominant discourse should be changed
- · There should be effective punitive sanctions
- · There should not be any reduction in punishment of perpetrators

#### Women's Presentation in the Media;

There are important issues about women's perception in the media;

- · What women mean to media
- · What kind of profile women have in the eyes of the media
- · What are the effects of women's demonstration on the media on women psychologically and sociologically
- · How the media structures gender roles. How Women Emerges in the Media?
- · Being women is reflected as a disadvantage in the media, so this emasculates women's self-confidence.
- The media may be incentive to aggressiveness. In accordance with the statements of criminals, harassment and homicide are put into practice by drawing inspiration from TV series and newspaper reports.
- · Women as "sometimes a piece of meat to be exhibited on films and series 'courageous', sometimes a victim filling in a third page news as required" to the media. · Although the media is a patriarchal area, there are much more feminine images. Main problem is that visual priority of women forestalls other features. Unfortunately, this perception of woman emasculates her in eyes of men.
- $\cdot$  Women are usually displayed as victims of violence or sexual subjects in the media, they are not displayed with their achievements, capacities and abilities. (displayed with jealousy and greed).
- · Women identify themselves only with their women's profiles in the media. As a result of that, a mentality occurs which gives importance only to physical appearance more than personal characteristics.
- The weak and incapable perception of women in the media strengthens the idea that women will never escape from the situation in which they are positioned. As a result, they may give up to struggle for their rights.

The method of broadcasting of violence against women normalizes this problem. In these types of broadcasts women victims are much presented more than perpetrators. Because of broadcasting these types of issues much, an insensitivity and apathy may arise. Or maybe if there are much reports about violence against women, victims can easily express themselves.

## WOMEN AND POLITICS SYMPOSIUM REPORT EU-TR CIVIL NETWORK FOR WOMEN IN POLITICS: STRATEGY OF WOMEN AND POLITICS WORKSHOP

Primary obstacles to participation of women in politics: psychological, cultural, political barriers and obstacles in the field of education and the media. Types of these barriers can be classified as structural, environmental and qualitative. There are legal barriers, deficient implications and the problems arising from education system among structural obstacles. In environmental obstacles, we see that gender roles are imposed to children from the early ages. In terms of qualification, women are not supported by their families or political parties and also they have socio-economic differences.

One of the suggestions in order to make women participate in politics more is strengthening women by giving education and seminars in developing their qualifications and they should learn politics in the field incrementally. Another suggestion is that working hours should be rearranged and women politicians should be provided opportunity for child rearing. In order to change the mentalities, men should adopt women's problems as a social problem and we should struggle for distributing social roles more fairly. Another important suggestion is that different women identities should be quaranteed.

Lastly, among the NGOs which involve and carry out all these suggestions, official and unofficial formations oriented to participation of women in politics should be adopted.

In order to be successful in participation of women in politics, coalitions of NGOs should affect especially three fields. The most important of these is government policies. Governments should be encouraged in order to implement legal arrangements in practicing positive discrimination. Another field to be affected is political parties. Political parties should be applied pressures to give place women in decision-making mechanisms, party platforms, party constitutions, leadership positions and lists of candidates to be represented. Especially, party mechanisms should be formed in order to ensure representation of women; political parties should provide education and financial support for women's branch or commissions. Lastly, one of the most important fields to affect is he media. The media should support participation of women in politics, feature strong women identity and give more place to women candidates.

Social factors behind low representation of women in politics are adopting patriarchal social structure, not practicing theories in practical life and adopting masculine identity and discourse when participated in politics. In order to solve this problem it is suggested that legal infrastructure should be enhanced and positive discrimination codes for women should be implemented.

The conditions in which women stand should be changed in order to eliminate low representation of women and increase the number of women in political and public lives.

Another suggestion for solution is informing women about their legal rights, making changes in political parties and electoral systems in favour of women.

In field of the media, perception of women is not objective and visibility of women candidates is low. Therefore, this causes media to take part in disincentive position. Women leaders who can be effective in field of the media should be supported, the media should be informed about gender equality and the media should adopt the approach which is sensitive to gender in order to solve the problems favourably. It is necessary to connect NGOs and the media, government, society in order to provide social awareness between NGOs and another institutions and also affect politics. In this context, oriented to establishing connection between NGOs, building a platform is necessary. As part of this platform, creating a website and holding meetings every six months in which member NGOs will participate is foreseen.

It is aimed that the website which is created as part of this platform will share information like activity calendar, video, archive of photography and also determine regional problems for being functional. At the first meeting, NGOs should be given education about public relations and the platform should prepare notice which affects the government. The primary objective is to provide connection between NGOs and also connection between NGOs and the media, government and society. By efficient usage of the media and press conferences which are organized collectively, social awareness will be provided. It is also important to establish various commissions in order to follow lobby activities oriented to affecting government policies.

In context of all these workings, researches which will be made about the barriers to participation of women in politics should be reported and after determination of stakeholders like research centres, universities and the like, the coalitions should be established. A workshop should be organized and at the end of the workshop, a White Book which will be the basis of lobbying activities should be created. As part of this workshop, basic strategy, route map, action plan and information repository should be established and NGOs should be given education about EU legislative process, operation of EU institutions and lobbying activities. Besides, at this workshop a division of labour is necessary between stakeholders and connection should be provided by an online platform. By using the White Book it will be possible to lobby at European Parliament.

It will be important to organize an international conference in which one of deputies from European Parliament will be mentor and the others will be speakers and participators.

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