The European Women's Lobby

Working together for women’s rights and gender equality in Europe

Pierrette Pape
EWL Interim Coordinator
Why a European Women’s Lobby?

✓ No real equality between women and men
✓ Discrepancies of legislation and reality
✓ Need for women’s organisations to ally, share information, develop common action
✓ Women’s voice and advocacy at European level
✓ Together, we can make a change!
The voice of women in Europe

- The largest umbrella organisation of women’s associations in the EU
- National co-ordinations in 31 European countries and 20 Europe-wide member organisations (migrant women, women farmers, women lawyers, trade unions, etc.)
- Concentrating on European level, but activities range from local to international level
- Aim to promote women’s rights and gender equality in Europe
EWL membership
Working with...

- European Parliament
- European Commission
- Council of Ministers
- Advisory Bodies
- European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE)
- Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA)

- **NGOs**: Social Platform, European Civil Society Contact Group
EWL secretariat in Brussels
Women and decision-making

- Members of the European Parliament: 35%
- Women in national parliaments: 22%
- Women in national government: 26%
EWL 50/50 Campaign:
No modern democracy without parity

www.paritydemocracy.eu
EWL European Political Mentoring Network 2013-2014
Immigration, Integration and Asylum
Women’s Diversity, Anti-discrimination
Economic and Social Policy from a feminist perspective

- Women earn an average of 18% less than men
- Women are four times more likely than men to work part-time
- 17% of women are at-risk-of-poverty
EWL Actions on socio-economic policies

- Gender pay gap
- Women’s pensions
The impact of austerity measures on women’s rights and gender equality

New EWL video clip:
An estimated one in five women has been a victim of domestic violence.

7 women die every day from male domestic violence.

9 out of 10 women in prostitution would like to exit prostitution but feel unable to do so.
EWL observatory on violence against women
#EndVAWInEurope

MAKE MY YEAR!

Act now to end violence against women in Europe.

Act against Rape!
USE THE ISTANBUL CONVENTION!
BRUSSELS’ CALL

HE WOULD HAVE SIGNED...

WHAT ABOUT YOU?

"THEY SAY THAT SLAVERY HAS DISAPPEARED FROM EUROPEAN CIVILIZATION. THAT IS INCORRECT. IT STILL EXISTS, BUT NOW IT WEIGHS ONLY ON WOMEN, AND IT IS CALLED PROSTITUTION."

Victor Hugo, 1862.

#Endprostitution
#brusselscalld
Our work at international level
A feminist appraisal of the situation of women’s rights in 30 countries looking both at legislation and statistical data regarding:

- Women in decision-making
- Women’s economic independence and care responsibilities
- Violence against women and women’s sexual and reproductive health and rights
2014: Challenges ahead

- Impact of the crisis and austerity measures on women and on women’s organisations (funding)
- Weakening/disappearance of institutional mechanisms for gender equality and women’s rights
- Climate of conservatism and anti-feminism
- Impact of neoliberalism & consumer society on women’s representations, roles and stereotypes
- Backlash against women’s rights, especially Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights
THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

www.womenlobby.org

@Europeanwomen