



Annual seminar
WOMEN'S CITIZENSHIP RIGHTS
*Addressing women's rights within the 2013 European Year of
citizens context*

*Brussels, 28th May 2013
15:30 - 18:00*

*European Parliament
Altiero Spinelli Building
Room ASP 5G1*



*"We cannot build the European Union without citizens,
we can only build the EU with the people it is made for
and based on their ideas.*

*European citizenship is the cornerstone of EU integration.
Ever since it was first included in the Treaties in 1993, EU
citizenship has been evolving - but it is not yet mature:
people still face obstacles exercising their rights in
everyday life".*

*Vivian Reding EU's Commissioner for Justice, Fundamental Rights and
Citizenship*

In 1993, the Maastricht Treaty defined EU citizenship. In 2009, the European Union's Charter of Fundamental Rights became legally binding with the aim of reinforcing EU citizens' rights and increasing the citizens' dimension of the European project. Enforcing the Charter means placing fundamental rights at the heart of EU policies and concerns, in particular the legislative and decision-making work of the Commission, Parliament and the Council.

In the framework of the 2013 European Year of Citizens, dedicated to the rights that come with the EU citizenship, Aretusa Work Programme places the fight against gender violence, trafficking in human beings and sexual exploitation within the current debate on development and enforcement of EU citizenship and citizens rights.

The main purpose of the seminar is to support the exchange of information and promote dialogue between NGOs and other stakeholders to build "a fundamental rights culture" within the EU. The 2013 Year for Citizens and the 2014 elections to the European Parliament provide an opportunity to call MEPs and other decision makers to place in their political agenda the effective implementation of the principle of gender equality.

PROGRAMME

Welcome and opening remarks

15:30 - 15:45

Niccolò RINALDI, Member of the European Parliament

Women's rights and enjoyment of the EU citizenship rights

15:45 - 16:30.

Marcello D'AMICO, IRENE Association (Italy), Aretusa President

Alessandro MESSI, Patronato San Vincenzo (Italy), Aretusa Secretariat

Zoi SAKELLIADOU, European Commission, DG Justice, Office of the EU Anti-Trafficking Coordinator

Silvia COSTA, Member of the European Parliament (FEEM)

ROUND TABLE

Moderator: **Sophie JEKELER**, Samilia Foundation (Belgium)

Genevieve DUCHE, Amicale du Nid (France)

Katerina SIDOROPOULOU Research Centre of Women's Affairs (Greece)

Nora KASSA, Mona, Foundation for the Women of Hungary,

Beatrice MARIOTTI, SOLWODI (Germany)

Pierrette PAPE, the European Women's Lobby

Members of the European Parliament: Roberta Angelilli, Francesca Balzani, , Renate Weber, Cecilia Wikström

Contacts :

info.aretusa@gmail.com

www.aretusa.net

Dignity, freedom, equality, solidarity and justice: outlines for setting the political agenda

16:30- 18:00