

Mentoring for 5♀/5♂



European Parliament Elections 2014
No modern European Democracy without Gender Equality!
A Political Mentoring Network for Women of Foreign Origin / Ethnic Minorities



EUROPEAN WOMEN'S
LOBBY
EUROPEEN DES FEMMES

Photo: Suste Bonnen; In partnership with:  With the financial support of:  

Interested in running for the European Parliament Elections in May 2014?

Join the EWL's European Political Mentoring Network for women of foreign origin or ethnic minority background!

Starting February 2013 until the European Elections in May 2014, the European Women's Lobby will coordinate a Political Mentoring Network connecting 8 to 12 women Members of the European Parliament from different political parties and countries with 8 to 12 women of foreign origin or ethnic minority background who are interested in running for the European Parliament Elections in May 2014.

How will it work in practice?

You will meet your mentor at least three times in person in Brussels, Strasbourg and/or in their home country between February 2013 and May 2014. Contacts will be maintained in the meantime via e-mail, telephone or Skype, based on an agreed frequency of interaction. Apart of your relationship with your mentor, you will have the opportunity to attend capacity-building sessions for communications skills, EU procedures and responding to populist and racist attacks. You will also have the opportunity to learn from the experience of other members of the European Parliament.

What are the conditions to join the Network as a mentee?

Mentees in EWL's European Political Mentoring Network are:

- Women with migrant background or from an ethnic minority living in the European Union;
- Already involved in politics at local, regional and/or national level;
- Eligible and interested in running for the next European Elections in June 2014;
- Committed to women's rights.

Please note that we will also consider applications of women interested in being part of a campaign team and/or are unsure about running themselves for the upcoming European Elections. Your mentor will be there to support you in your decision to run or not based on what you have learned through your partnership.

How can I join?

If you fulfill the conditions mentioned above, you can create your personal profile on our database at: <http://www.womenlobby.eu/signup/mentee>. You will be asked to attach your CV as well as a completed application form. If you are shortlisted, we will contact you for a personal interview to learn more about your motivation and expectations. Then, we will start the process of matching your profile with those of participating MEPs to find your "mentor soulmate".

Your travel, accommodation and subsistence costs will be covered by the EWL during your stays in Brussels, Strasbourg and/or the home country of the MEP (based on an agreement). Nevertheless, neither the mentees, nor the mentors are paid for their participation in the Network. This is a voluntary commitment that needs your full engagement but will for sure bring you far more than money!

What is mentoring?

Mentoring is the sharing of advice, personal experience and contacts. It is different from coaching, which involves a more closely structured relationship. Our project is inspired by the successful mentoring network set up by the Danish organisation KVINFO that brings together over 6000 mentors and mentees.

What is your role as a mentee?

Joining our network will require above all your active participation to create a proactive relationship with your mentor. The quality of your exchanges is the key factor for the success of this Network. The ability to listen, a desire to learn, openness and ambition are key to a successful mentoring duo/tandem.

What can you get out of being a mentee in this Network?

"For 6 months I had the opportunity to talk through things with someone who had many years of experience in politics. Pia made it easy for me to ask any question throughout the entire campaign period."

Vanessa, former mentee in KVINFO's political mentoring network

The aim is to provide you with a practical insight into European affairs, to help you to meet new people and to expand your political network, and to give you the tools to compete and to get a good position on the list of your political party for the next European Elections.

Who are the mentors?

Mentors are current women MEPs willing to share their advice and experience with you from different political parties and countries.

Interested?

Register by 11 February 2013 at: <http://www.womenlobby.eu/signup/mentee>

More information?

Contact: Amandine BACH, bach@womenlobby.org, +32 (0) 2 217 90 20

The EWL's Political Mentoring Network is developed in partnership with KVINFO and supported by a grant from the Open Society Foundations and the PROGRESS Programme of the European Commission. The European Women's Lobby (EWL) is the largest umbrella organisation of women's associations in the European Union (EU), working to promote women's rights and equality between women and men. EWL membership extends to organisations in all 27 EU member states and three of the candidate countries, as well as to 21 European-wide bodies, representing a total of more than 2000 organisations.