The #womensvoices project

- Migrant, undocumented asylum seeking and refugee women and girls
- Sexism and stereotypes
- Violence against women and girls
- Women, peace and security
EWL past advocacy work

- EWL campaign on women asylum seekers in 2000
- Practical advocacy guide on asylum and gender, EWL and Asylum Aid, 2007: “Asylum is not gender neutral”

EN-GENDERING THE EUROPEAN ASYLUM SUPPORT OFFICE

Amnesty International’s END FGM European Campaign, the European Women’s Lobby and ILGA-Europe recommend the integration of a gender perspective into the work of the European Asylum Support Office

MAY 2011
EWL past advocacy work

- EWL Beijing+20 Year of Action: September 2015 dedicated to women and armed conflict
- EWL webinar including discussion on the “refugee crisis” based on EWL statement
Open letter to EU decision-makers in light of the European Council on migration

The refugee crisis in Europe from a feminist perspective

Posted on 8 October 2015
WRC work

- Greece and Macedonia, Nov. 2015
- Slovenia and Serbia, Dec. 2015
- Germany and Sweden, Feb. 2016
EWL past advocacy work

CSW60 side event
Tuesday 15 March  •  10.00am – 11.30am
Baha’i International Community Offices, 866 UN Plaza
(First Avenue opposite Beekman Towers)

Displaced Women and Girls: The Price of Gender

Julie Ward, Member of the European Parliament
Abigail Osmond, NAWO YWA
Francisco Yermo, Action Aid
Meera Khana, Guild of Service
Hollen Apila, FEMNET
Hattie Beck, NAWO YWA
Pierrette Pape, European Women’s Lobby
Marcy Hersh, Women’s Refugee Commission

RSVP: admin@nawo.org.uk

✓ Written statement to CSW60
✓ Organisation of and participation to side events on refugee and displaced women and girls, at CSW60

Supported by: EBBF, European Association of Woman Lawyers, Rosita Memorial Fund, Guild of Service
EWL work on violence against women and girls (VAWG)

- EWL Observatory priority on the Istanbul Convention
- EWL campaign against sex trafficking and prostitution
- EWL position ‘Engendering peace’ (2010)
- Intersectionality
European Network of Migrant Women

EWL-ENoMW work on violence against migrant women and stereotypes, since 2008

ENoMW calling for: ratification of Istanbul Convention, gender mainstreaming of asylum and answers to violation of rights, implementation of UNSCR1325
European and international contexts

- European Agenda for Migration
- Discussion on the EU asylum system (reviewing Dublin)
- Action Plan on Integration
- European consensus on humanitarian aid: gender dimension included (para 2.5)
- European Parliament resolution on the situation of women and girls refugees and asylum seekers, March 2016

- UN and human rights instruments (like UNHCR guidelines, etc.)
- CSW60 recommendation on gender perspective in WHS deliberations (para m)
- 5 Core Commitments of UN high-level roundtable on women and girls in light of WHS
- World Humanitarian Summit (WHS), May 2016, Istanbul
The #womensvoices project

- **Raising awareness** on the situation and needs of women and girls fleeing conflict and travelling through Europe
- Calling for Member States and EU responsibility and due diligence to **prevent, protect and answer to all forms of male violence** faced by women and girls refugees and asylum seekers
- Demonstrating **how gender-blind asylum policies have an impact** on women’s and girls’ ability to escape or denounce male violence

From conflict to peace?

**Women’s and girls’ voices on the move**

#womensvoices
The #womensvoices project

January-April: meetings with key players in Brussels, and stakeholders mapping

March: constitution of EWL follow-up group, discussion on the questionnaire

March-April: consultation of EWL members on EWL questionnaire

19 April: #womensvoices Forum with key players, Brussels

May: EWL recommendations based on Forum outcomes & questionnaires
The #womensvoices project

2 June: EWL high-level event #womensvoices, Brussels, Swedish Perm. Rep., 4-6pm

- EU Commissioners Jourová and Stylianides
- UN High Commissioner for Refugees
- EU Trio Presidency
- Testimony from refugee women
- EWL-WRC-ENoMW recommendations
EWL #womensvoices questionnaire

✓ The ideal situation – framing a collective vision of the change we want to see

✓ Violence against refugee women and girls – developing recommendations, calling for due diligence and measures
  . Policies in the country (Istanbul Convention, measures on VAWG, measures for refugee women & girls, UNCSR1325)
  . Situation on the ground, in terms of reality of VAWG, human resources, services, spaces

✓ Asylum policies – developing recommendations based on information of asylum processes
EWL #womensvoices Forum

→ To complement the answers of the questionnaires

**Issue 1: Violence against refugee women & girls**
- Plenary presentation by experts of the EWL Observatory on VAW
- Group discussion on good practices to end VAW
- With: EWL members / DG Justice / PICUM / UN Women / FES / Germany

**Issue 2: Reality from the ground**
- Plenary presentation by the Women's Refugee Commission
- Group discussion on our best model for protection of refugee women & girls
- With: EWL members / DG ECHO / UNHCR / WRC / Caritas / OSF

**Issue 3: Engendering EU asylum policies**
- Plenary presentation by Asylum Aid UK
- Group discussion on strategies to engender asylum policies
- With: EWL members / DG Home / Asylum Aid UK / EPIM / Sweden
Group 1: Violence against refugee women and girls

→ Recommendations

Ideal situation

Obstacles

Good practices

Challenges

Violence faced by refugee women and girls
Group 2: Reality from the ground

- Human resources
- Services
- VAWG
- Spaces

→ Check list
Group 3: Engendering EU asylum policies

Gender actions or indicators

→ Indicators map
THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

www.womenlobby.org
@Europeanwomen