Seminar organised by the Gender Equality Commission in partnership with the Greek Presidency of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe

"Advancing Gender Equality: The role and situation for gender equality mechanisms in the context of COVID-19"

: PROGRAMME

: By video conference

: 21 October 2020





WEDNESDAY, 21 OCTOBER 2020

2:30 pm Opening Session – welcome remarks

Moderator: Snežana Samardžić-Marković, Director General of Democracy, Council of Europe

• H.E. Katerina Sakellaropoulou, President of the Hellenic Republic

- Kyriakos Mitsotakis, Prime Minister of the Hellenic Republic
- Miltiadis Varvitsiotis, Alternate Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Hellenic Republic
- Marija Pejčinović-Burić, Secretary General of the Council of Europe

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2:45 pm Session 1: Institutional mechanisms for gender equality: state of play and impact of the COVID-19 pandemic

Moderator: Charles Ramsden, Chair of the Gender Equality Commission of the Council of Europe, United Kingdom

- Barbara Limanowska, Gender Mainstreaming Programme Co-ordinator, European Institute of Gender Equality. *Indicators for institutional mechanisms and gender mainstreaming*
- **Katerina Sarri**, Professor at the School of Economic and Peripheral Studies of the University of Macedonia, Thessaloniki, Greece. *Gendered impacts of the 2008 financial crisis and COVID-19 pandemic: what lessons can be learnt?*
- **Brigitte Grésy,** President of the High Council of Equality between women and men, France. The experience of a national institutional mechanism for gender equality
- **Despina Syrri,** Director of the Civic School of Political Studies, Greece. *The specific impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on migrant women*

3:25 pm Interactive discussion with the audience

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3:40 – 3:50 pm *Coffee break*

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3:50 pm Session 2: Ensuring that recovery measures reinforce gender equality-related bodies and services

Moderator: Maria Nikoltsiou, Journalist, TV presenter and commentator, Greece

- Maria Syrengela, Secretary General for Family Policy & Gender Equality, Greece. *Violence against women: measures taken during the COVID-19 confinement period the Greek experience*
- **Janet Veitch,** Chair, Women's Budget Group, United Kingdom. *Linking economic recovery plans with supporting gender equality bodies and services*
- Alia El-Yassir, Regional Director, UN Women Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia. Voices of gender equality mechanisms on COVID-19
- Maria-Andriani Kostopoulou, member of the Group of Experts on Action against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (GREVIO). Strengthening support services for victims of violence against women
- Ana Maria Peláez Narváez, UN CEDAW Committee member, European Disability Forum Vice-President, Executive Vice-President of CERMI Women's Foundation, Spain. *Taking into account the needs of women with disabilities*

4:30 pm Interactive discussion with the audience

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4:45pm Closing Session

Moderator: Daniele Cangemi, Head of Human Dignity and Gender Equality Department, Council of Europe

Summing up

• Susana Pavlou, Rapporteur

Closing remarks

- Snežana Samardžić-Marković, Director General of Democracy, Council of Europe
- Maria Syrengela, Secretary General for Family Policy & Gender Equality, Greece

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