

FemCities Conference 2016

Women in political decision-making positions at local level

17 - 18 November 2016, Luxembourg

Centre Atert, Rue Atert, L-8005 Bertrange

Programme

Wednesday, 16 November 2016, evening

Arrival

Welcome tour through the old town of Luxembourg

Thursday, 17 November 2016, 8.00 – 16.15 / 21.00

Simultaneous translation provided

8:00 Registration/ Welcome café

9:00 **Opening speech**
Lydia Mutsch, Minister for Equal Opportunities

Welcome

Mayor of Bertrange, Frank Colabianchi

President of Conseil National des Femmes du Luxembourg (CNFL), Janine Reuland-Schneider

FemCities, Andrea Mautz, Deputy head of Women's Department Vienna (Austria) / FemCities coordination

Keynote

Tackling prejudices and traps – Successfully handling clichés and prejudices in media by women in politics – with a special focus on women who are mayors

Monique Leyenaar, Professor of Comparative Politics, Radboud University of Nijmegen, Netherlands

10.30 Coffee break

11.00 **European Charter for Equality of women and men in local life: Promotion of women in local decision making positions in Sweden, Luxembourg and Serbia**

Jaimie Just, CEMR (Council of European Municipalities and Regions)

Amelie Tarschys Ingre, SALAR (Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions)

Nicole Jemming, REGA (*Réseau national des chargé-e-s à l'Égalité de chances entre femmes et hommes*)

Rozeta Aleksov SKGO (Standing Conferences of Towns and Municipalities of Serbia)

Discussion

12:30 Lunch break



14:00 – 16.00 Panel discussion with women mayors of European Cities

Majlinda Bufi, Mayor of Roskovec (Albania)
Michaela Höflsauer, Mayor of Lend (Austria)
Simone Massard Stitz, Mayor of Sandweiler (Luxembourg)
Angelika Schwarzmann, Mayor of Alberschwende (Austria)
Christine Schweich, Mayor of Mondercange (Luxembourg)
Jelena Trifunovic, Mayor of Svrlijig (Serbia)

Facilitation Claude Wolf (journalist and member of CNFL)

Closing of first conference day

16.15 – 21.00 *Networking excursion to Schengen, the small wine-making village that gave its name to the famous border-free European Area Agreements*

Friday, 18 November 2016 9.00 – 14.00

Consecutive / whisper translation provided

8:30 Welcome café

9:00 – 11.30 Introduction to topics in workshops / world café

“World café” – Tools for empowerment – how to increase gender equality efficiently in decision making on political level

Participants will have the chance of in-depth discussions in small groups at different desks. Participants will have the possibility of at least three “rotations” to other desks after 20 minutes of discussions and knowledge exchange.

Topics for in-depth discussions and practice exchange:

1. Networking a well known tool for empowerment – How to efficiently increase gender equality in decision making on local level
2. Structural measures by the state and/or by political parties (quotas, women's votum etc.) Would they be useful?
3. Decision for candidature – how networks and structural measures can support?
4. Language: Dealing with killer phrases, prejudices, „trolls“ and sexist attacks; use of gender sensitive language and its effects?
5. Gender experts in city administrations – how can they support?
6. Cooperation with NGOs

Wrap-up session of the conference

11.40 – 12.00 FemCities networking

Current and planned topics and projects – exchange on interests and needs
FemCities Danube Region
Planning of next conference

12.00 Closing of conference

12.00 – 14.00 Farewell lunch