



EUROPEAN NETWORK OF MIGRANT WOMEN

Briefing: The European Network of Migrant Women – Who we are

Who we are

The European Network of Migrant Women (ENoMW) is a European network of non-governmental organizations which represents the concerns, needs and interests of migrant women in the European Union.

Our objectives

- To promote equal treatment, equal rights and better integration for migrant women in Europe.
- To provide regular input on all areas of EU policy development and implementation that have an impact on migrant women's lives.
- To help shape social policies and design action programmes addressing migrant women's specific needs
- To represent member's organisations and lobby for and with migrant women to have a stronger voice at the European level.
- To support migrant women's organisations and movements through information and trainings.

What we do

The different members of the network have been working more specifically on the following themes that are crucial to migrant women's integration:

- Employment e.g. AkiDwa and the Immigrant Council in Ireland organise regular stakeholders meetings with social partners, employers and the government to improve access to employment for migrant women in Ireland. FATIMA, in association with the East Midlands Development Agency, hosted a national seminar for migrant women and business and support agencies, to draw up gender guidelines for migrant women entrepreneurs.
- Health, including sexual and reproductive rights e.g. Maisha in Germany has been delivering health services for undocumented families in partnership with the city of Frankfurt. This initiative of culturally sensitive health services has been recognised as a good practice in Germany.
- Violence against women e.g. MONIKA in Finland delivers legal services and support, including shelters, for migrant women facing violence.
- Working conditions e.g. the Commission of Filipino Migrant Workers in the Netherlands has been working actively with the trade union for decent work for Migrant Domestic Workers, one of the main sectors of employment for female migrants.
- Participation in public and political life e.g. By bringing together existing migrant women's organisations in the different countries, the network aims at enabling migrant women's voices to be heard at the national and European level.
- Immigration, Integration and Asylum policies and legislation e.g. We have released an open letter to the Ministers attending the 4th Ministerial conference on Integration, Zaragoza, Spain, 15-16 April 2010.

Our participation as speakers in European and international conferences

Since 2007, the European Network of Migrant Women participated as speakers in the following European and international conferences:

- The European Women's Lobby conference "Equal Rights. Equal Voices. Migrant Women in the European Union", 19-21 January 2007.
- The Council of Europe debate on measures to improve the democratic participation of migrants, Strasbourg, 25 June 2008.
- The Third World Social Forum on Migration, Madrid, 11-13 September 2008
- The European Network Against Racism seminar on "Framing a positive approach to migration", Paris, 6-7 November 2008.
- The Network organised on 1 December 2008 with the European Women's Lobby a public high-level conference focused on "Integrating a gender perspective in integration policies: the way forward" with representatives from the European Commission, the ILO and the OCDE.
- The OSCE seminar on "Gender-sensitive Labour Migration Policies", Slovenia, 16-17 February 2009.
- European Integration Forum, 20-21 April 2009 and 12-13 November 2009.
- The Assembly of European Regions meeting of the gender observatory, Brussels, 28 May 2009.
- The UNIFEM conference on "Women and migration in Europe and the CIS", United Nations, Geneva, 4 November 2009.
- The Council of Europe conference on "Women and migration, including in the context of the financial crisis", Antalya, Turkey, 12-13 November 2009.
- Conference hosted by the Vice-Minister for European Affairs of Valencia, "Tackling gender based violence on the grassroots level", Valencia, Spain, 25 November 2009.
- Kvinno International Conference on mentoring and networking for migrant women, Copenhagen, 20-21 November 2009.
- Council of Europe conference on "Migrants and Violence against women in Europe", Paris, France, 10-11 December 2009.
- European Parliament Hearing, "Social integration of ethnic minority women", 7 April 2010.

Policy documents produced at the European level

- Amendments to the Council of Europe Resolution on measures to improve the democratic participation of migrants, May 2008.
- A Joint Statement with the European Women's Lobby on the European Pact on Asylum and Immigration (adopted by the French Presidency in October 2008) that was sent to all Justice and Home Affairs Ministers, September 2008.
- Regular input in relevant European Women's Lobby policy papers: As an associate member of the European Women's Lobby, network members provide regular advice based on their expertise to the EWL on the key issues to migrant women's integration and input in EWL policy documents (e.g. EWL answer to the JLS consultation on the Stockholm programme, December 2008).
- A factsheet on migrant women with the European Network Against Racism (ENAR) and the European Women's Lobby, February 2010.
- An article on "Reframing Immigration, Integration and Asylum from a Gender Perspective: Ensuring Gender-Fair Policies" for the European Social watch Report on Migration, to be released in November 2009.
- Open letter to the Ministers attending the 4th Ministerial Conference on Integration, Zaragoza, Spain, 15-16 April 2010.

- Gender-based guidelines to apply the Common Basic Principles from a gender perspective (based on 12 national consultations held in 2008), to be released in 2010.

Our structure

Our Organization is a non-profit organisation its purpose is to establish across Europe a democratic and effective network which represents the concerns, needs and interests of migrant women in the European Union. The European Network of Migrant Women has members organisations in 16 European countries.

The internal structure of the network is the following:

- **General Assembly:** The General Assembly of the European Network of Migrant Women meets once a year, decide on a programme of activities and elect a Board of Administration, including the chair of the network every second year.
- **Board of Administration:** The Board of Administration is composed of 7 elected members.
- **Working Groups:** The network has operational working groups to enable the network to develop such as the fundraising working group and 5 thematic working groups looking at key issues to the integration of migrant women: employment, violence against women, health, political and public participation and immigration and asylum policies.

Links with other European networks

The European Network of Migrant Women is an Associate Member of the European Women's Lobby. Individual members of the network are active members of the European Network against Racism, the European Anti-Poverty Network, the Black European Women's Council and the Fundamental Rights Civil Society Platform of the Fundamental Rights Agency.

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