



Pre-Accession Actions Unit

Inter-parliamentary Seminar

**Organised in cooperation with the Committee on Women's Rights and
Gender Equality**

**POLITICAL PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN
IN THE WESTERN BALKANS AND TURKEY**

**with Members of the Pre-Accession Countries' Parliaments
and the European Parliament**

**Brussels
4 March 2015**

European Parliament, Altiero Spinelli Building, Room 5 G-2

PROGRAMME

4 March 2015

14.00-14.45 *Arrival and registration of the participants*

Co-chaired by Ms **Ulrike Lunacek**, MEP, Vice-President for the Western Balkans, and Ms **Gordana Čomić**, MP, Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly of Serbia

14.45-15.00 Opening of the inter-parliamentary conference : Welcome addresses

Mr. **Dimitris Papadimoulis**, MEP, Vice-President for Gender Equality and Diversity

Ms **Iratxe García Pérez**, MEP, Chair of the Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality

Ms **Liljana Popovska**, MP, Chair of the Committee on Equal Opportunities between Women and Men, Assembly of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

15.00-15.45 The importance of the media and education in promoting the participation of women in politics

Ms **Sirpa Pietikäinen**, MEP, Rapporteur (2012) on "Women in political decision-making - quality and quantity"

Ms **Maja Gasal-Vražalica**, MP, Member of the Gender Equality Committee, Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina

Ms **Anna Maria Corazza Bildt**, MEP, Member of the Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality

Debate

15.45-16.45 The under-representation of women in political positions: the situation in the enlargement countries

Ms **Norica Nicolai**, MEP, Shadow rapporteur (2013) on "Women's rights in the Balkan accession countries"

Members of Parliament from the enlargement countries (one speaker per Parliament; 5 minutes per speaker)

Debate

16.45-17.00 Coffee break

17.00-17.30 Improving the number of women in decision-making in the enlargement countries: Best practices from the region

Ms **Zvezdana Budimovic Savkovic**, Sandglass, Serbia

Ms **Igo Rogova**, Women's Network of Kosovo

Debate

17.30-18.00 The contribution of the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) to advancing the role of women in decision-making in the Western Balkans and Turkey

Ms **Viginija Langbakk**, EIGE Director

Debate

18.00-18.15 Closing remarks by the Chairs

19.00 Dinner offered by the European Parliament, Salon nr 5 (Members Restaurant)

(attendance only upon special invitation)

End of the conference