

# WOMEN'S ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

## LET'S ACT TOGETHER

### SEMINAR FOR JOURNALISTS

7-8 MARCH 2017

## PROGRAMME

Tuesday 7 March 2017

Room ASP 05E002, Altiero Spinelli building



Interpretation in EN, FR, DE, ES, LT

13:45 **Arrival and registration**

14:30 **Welcome**

*Jaume Duch Guillot*, Director General for Communication and EP Spokesperson

14:45 **Opening**

*Vilija Blinkeviciute* (S&D, Lithuania), Chair of Women's Rights and Gender Equality Committee

15:15 **Keynote**

*Rebecca Amsellem*, PHD in cultural economics, Sorbonne University of Paris

« **Titre** »

*Hélène Langevin-Joliot*, Director emeritus of research at the CNRS (Centre national de la recherche scientifique)

« **Marie Curie, les femmes et la science** »

16:15 **The gender pension gap**

*Discussion and Q&A*

*Constance Le Grip* (EPP, France), Rapporteur on the gender pension gap, Member of the Women's Rights and Gender Equality Committee

*Jolanta Reingarde*, Programme Coordinator, Research and Statistics, European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE), Vilnius

*Adriana Cerretelli*, journalist, Il Sole 24 ore

**Moderator:** *Cheryl D. Miller*, Founder, Digital Leadership Institute, and CEO, Zen Digital Europe

17:15 **Closing remarks**

Parlamentarium, Willy Brandt building



18:00 **Opening of the exhibition "Eleven women facing war" by Nick Danziger**

*Name*, EP Vice President in charge of Communication (*tbc*)

Participants will be guided to the Parlamentarium

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Wednesday 8 March 2017

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09:30 **Women in political and economic decision-making**

*Discussion and Q&A*

*Ernest Urtasun* (Greens/EFA, Spain), Rapporteur on equality between women and men in the European Union in 2014-2015, Member of the Women's Rights and Gender Equality Committee

*Gina Miller*, Founder of the True and Fair Campaign, United Kingdom

*Hanna Birna Kristjánsdóttir*, Chair of the Executive Board of Women in Parliament and former Minister of Interior of Iceland

*Sibylle Bassler*, Editor-in-chief, ZDF Mona Lisa, Germany

**Moderator:** *Paula Fernández Hervàs*, Head of Media Intelligence, European Parliament

10:45 **Work-life balance**

*Discussion and Q&A*

*Vilija Blinkeviciute* (S&D, Lithuania), EP Co-Rapporteur on creating labour market conditions favourable for work-life balance and Chair of the Women's Rights and Gender Equality Committee

*Tatjana Zdanoka* (Greens/EFA, Latvia), EP Co-Rapporteur on creating labour market conditions favourable for work-life balance, Member of the Employment and Social Affairs Committee

*Mary Collins*, European Women Lobby

*Holly Baxter*, Deputy editor, Independent Voices

**Moderator:** *Iris Walter*, Official, Media Services, European Parliament

12:00 **Closing remarks**

12:15 ◆◆◆ End of seminar ◆◆◆

## CONTACTS IN THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT



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If you experience problems upon arrival, you can call this number, which is available for the duration of the event: +32.498.98.14.33.

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# WOMEN'S ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT LET'S ACT TOGETHER SEMINAR FOR JOURNALISTS 7-8 MARCH 2017

**Wednesday 8 March 2017**

**Room JAN 2Q2, József Antall building** ◆◆◆ **Interpretation available**

- 15:00 **Interparliamentary Committee meeting**  
- **"Women's economic empowerment: let's act together"**
- 18:30 Co-organised by Women's Rights and Gender Equality Committee and National Parliaments

**Members' Restaurant, ground floor, Altiero Spinelli building** ◆◆◆

- 18:45 **Award ceremony for the EU Prize for Women Innovators**  
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- 19:45 The European Commission awards four prizes to the most innovative women entrepreneurs

**Thursday 9 March 2017**

**Room JAN 2Q2, József Antall building** ◆◆◆ **Interpretation available**

- 09:00 **Interparliamentary Committee meeting**  
- **"Women's economic empowerment: let's act together"**
- 12:30 Co-organised by Women's Rights and Gender Equality Committee and National Parliaments

◆◆◆ **End of programme** ◆◆◆

# WOMEN'S ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

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### SEMINAR FOR JOURNALISTS

7-8 MARCH 2017

#### BACKGROUND

##### **Seminar for journalists**

On and around International Women's Day, the European Parliament press service is organising a seminar for journalists titled "Women's economic empowerment: let's act together". The aim of this networking event is to generate a debate between key media actors and leading MEPs and invited experts.

##### **Initiatives by the European Parliament**

###### ***The Pension Gap***

Ahead of the vote in plenary, this report calls for a comprehensive, far-reaching strategy to address the gender pension gap. Most pension entitlement systems are based on lifelong earnings. Hence, pay inequalities and the traditional distribution of family roles limit women's ability to make pension contributions. Statistical tools such as wage mapping can determine how the gap is formed and help gaining better understanding of the issue. These findings could lead to a more targeted policy framework.

###### ***Work-Life balance***

In a recent own-initiative report, the European Parliament has urged the Commission to propose legislation on a comprehensive work-life balance package. An effective work-life balance promotes economic growth, competitiveness, overall labour market participation, reduction of the risk of poverty, and intergenerational solidarity. It addresses the challenges of an aging society and positively influences birth rates in the EU.

###### ***Women's economic empowerment***

An upcoming report by the European Parliament will propose actions and tools for improving the economic empowerment of women, by creating conditions conducive to a greater participation of women in the economy: tackling the gender pay gap, introducing quotas, reducing gendered division of care and family responsibilities thereby improving work-life balance, and introducing wage mapping.

###### ***Raising awareness***

In 2016, Nadia Murad and Lamyia Haji Bashar, who survived sexual enslavement by the so-called Islamic State and are now raising awareness for women afflicted by the terrorist group's violence, received the European Parliament's Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought. The two Yazidi women are advocates for their community and for women surviving sexual enslavement by the self-proclaimed Islamic State.

In 2014, Dr Denis Mukwege, gynaecologist and founder of Panzi hospital in Bukavu/Democratic Republic of the Congo, received the Sakharov Prize for standing up for women's rights and helping victims of sexual violence in a conflict where rape is used as a weapon of war.

In 2013, the European Parliament awarded its Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought to Malala Yousafzai, who later received the Nobel Peace Prize, in acknowledgement of her brave fight for access to education for all children.

##### **The European Parliament supports human rights.**

*Call the seminars team: +32.498.98.14.33*