



DRAFT PROGRAM

Step it up for Gender Equality

2018 Progressive Youth Forum

Brussels, European Parliament, 30.01 - 1.02 2018

Tuesday 30 January

Individual arrivals in Brussels and hotel check in at: Auberge de Jeunesse Jacques Brel (Youth Hostel - shared rooms)

15:45 -16:00 Accreditation to the European Parliament - **Meeting Point at the entrance of the Parliamentarium Museum** esplanade Simone Weil, place du Luxembourg

16:00 - 17:45 Group Visit to Parliamentarium

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/visiting/en/brussels/parlamentarium>

Transfer to S&D Group meeting Room JAN 4Q2

18:00 -19:30 Attend the **S&D Group Meeting** and watch the **Debates - Group photo**

Free evening

Wednesday 31 January

08:30 Welcome to the EP - Accreditation - entrance: Atrium building - Rue Belliard

- **Meet S&D Members of the European Parliament Vilija Blinkeviciute (FEMM Chair, LT), Iraxte Garcia Perez, FEMM coordinator (ES):**
Presentation of the S&D Group priorities on Women's Rights and Gender Equality and Interactive discussion
 - **How to lobby?** European Women's Lobby
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11:45 - 13:00 - Lunch break

13:00 - 14.30 - PUBLIC EVENT: “Challenges to sexual and relationship education in Europe”

Selected young participants will speak in the podium, followed by an interactive discussion with stakeholders, S&D MePs and policy makers and NGOs. The event will be web streamed. In cooperation with High Ground <http://www.highgroundalliance.eu>

15:30 - 16:30 How to apply for EU funding for Youth Projects? European Commission

16:30 - 17:30 - Meet a MeP : participants are hosted in selected offices

19:00: Informal Dinner with civil society representatives

Thursday, February 1st

09:30 - 12:30

FOUR WORKSHOPS IN PARALLEL

- **Group 1 - Host : S&D FEMM**

My body, my choice (focus on mobilization for access to contraception and safe and legal abortion)

Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights -SRHR cover among other sex and relationship education, access to contraception and to safe and legal abortions, treatment of sexually transmitted diseases and the tackling of sexual violence. Currently four EU member states criminalise abortion, while pre- and post-natal health services are hit due to the crisis. A Barometer of Women's Access to Modern Contraceptive Choice in 16 EU member states also highlights that women's access to modern contraceptives varies significantly. Significantly, very few national policies have improved, and alarmingly in most countries, the situation has stagnated, or even worsened, over the past few years. The discussion will focus on how to support sexual and reproductive health and rights in the context of a conservative backlash,

with a focus on creative skills and exchange of communication strategies from national experiences.

- **Group 2 - Host : PES Women**

Gender Equality and Cyber empowerment

How to guarantee the freedom of speech of women and LGBTI in the digital age and the context of a severe religious, socially conservative or extreme backlash on the slow progress made by the fight for gender equality, which translates into violence, harassment, cyber stalking and cyber bullying. The political debate online is too often over-dominated by men expressing strong opinions while women prefer to stay aside and remain almost invisible. Some communities are organising in order to systematically exclude women, such as the online gaming community where some are trying to recreate a man's club. This, however, is also the sign that women are making their way into all corners of the internet, meeting some resistance, but also breaking grounds.

- **Group 3 : Host YES and FEPS**

Women in Science - A Millennial perspective

Close your eyes and picture a renowned scientist. Odds are high that you probably weren't thinking of a woman. Such gender stereotypes are still a reality. Although seven out of ten girls show an interest in science, only two out of ten will pursue it as a career. In an age where economic growth, social and environmental sustainability go hand in hand with science literacy, all citizens should be able to face science-related challenges – and this goes not only for future scientists or engineers. Education is key for social change and for the achievement of fundamental human rights and empowering Millennial in future-oriented fields.

Join an exciting workshop with FEPS and YES to debate the feminisation of certain subjects in academic curricula, gender stereotypes and tell us how Progressives can be the ones to empower Millennial young women to pursue career opportunities in science and technology education.

- **Group 4 : Host Rainbow Rose**

The European lesbian* movement: what movement is needed to give ensure visibility to Lesbians in the public sphere?

After the successful European Lesbian* Conference (ELC) in Vienna on 6-8 October 2017, Rainbow Rose (LGBTI Network of the Party of European Socialists), the workshop will discuss: how important is it to have a dedicated structured Lesbian* movement in Europe? How to best fight for LBT rights within the LGBTI community? Is there a need for a specific movement within LGBTI community? How the ELC can fit with the feminist movement? The interactive workshop will start with a quick historical game on the lesbian and trans movement, followed by an exchange of views with key member of the ELC conference and other LGBTI actors in Europe to talk about lesbian movement in Europe among others.

12:30 - 14:00 Sandwich Lunch

All workshops convene in plenary

- **14:00 - 15:30 : Host Global Progressive Forum**

Young people as gender equality global ambassadors: from words to actions

The GPF workshop *Young people as gender equality global ambassadors: from words to actions* will focus on **an interactive training with 3 young feminists from various parts of the world.**

Our 3 guests, young women active in their communities with various issues of gender equality, will conduct **small group practical trainings** to encourage young people to deliver change in their own country. The trainings will be based on exchange of best practices and concrete tools to build an advocacy campaign on gender equality issues.

The workshop will also aim at presenting gender equality fights from various part of the world to EU young participants to the workshop, and allow the creation of synergies between their fights.

The workshop will be introduced by Enrique Guerrero Salom MEP, GPF Co-Chair.

- **16.00 - 17.00 Conclusions and looking ahead - Meet Zita Gurmai, PES Women President**

End of Program - flights back on Friday