



CONFERENCE

Advancing women's health and gender equality in Eastern Partnership's countries

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Towards more parliamentary engagement

DRAFT AGENDA

Friday 22 September 2017 - 10:30-17:30
Parliament of Azerbaijan - Baku

The Conference is jointly organised by the Parliament of Azerbaijan, the Euronest PA Committee on Social Affairs, Education, Culture and Civil Society, the European Parliamentary Forum on Population and Development and the United Nations Office in Azerbaijan.

10:00-10:30 *Arrival and registration*

10:30-11:10	Opening session
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10:30-10:40 **Welcome and introduction**
Mrs Bahar MURADOVA, Vice-Speaker of the Parliament of Azerbaijan

10:40-10:55 **Opening statements**
Mrs Ulrika KARLSSON, President of the European Parliamentary Forum on Population and Development (*TBC*)
Mr Georgi PIRINSKI, MEP, Co-Chair of the Euronest PA Committee on Social Affairs, Education, Culture and Civil Society
Mr Ghulam ISACZAI, United Nations Resident Coordinator in Azerbaijan

10:55-11:10 **Key-note speech**
H.E. Mrs Mara MARINAKI, EEAS Principal Advisor on Gender and on the implementation of UNSCR 1325 on Women, Peace and Security, European External Action Service (*TBC*)

11:10-12:30	Session 1 - Progress and challenges of implementing policies for women's health and gender equality in Eastern Partnership's countries
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The session will address progress factors and challenges for improving women's health and gender equality, the varying approaches and different contexts of Eastern Partnership's countries. It will raise key issues covered by the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 3 and 5, including women's access to sexual and reproductive health care and information, the fight against gender discrimination and elimination of all forms of violence against women.

Moderator: **Mr Georgi PIRINSKI**, MEP, Co-Chair of the Euronest PA Committee on Social Affairs, Education, Culture and Civil Society

Speakers:

Mr Karl KULESSA, United Nations Population Fund Country Director (*TBC*)

Deputy Minister of Health of Azerbaijan (*TBC*)

Mrs Hijran HUSEYNOVA, Chair of the State Committee for Family, Women and Children Affairs, Azerbaijan

***** Family photo *****

12:45 -14:15 *Lunch at the Milli Mejlis, 1st floor, "Winter Garden" (on invitation only)*

14:15-15:30	Session 2 - Parliaments' responsibilities, practices and actions towards achieving UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 3 and 5 on women's health and gender equality
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Speakers will share their experience and exchange practices on the role of parliaments, as legislators and policy-makers, in advancing policies aimed at improving women's rights and health. The discussion will cover interactions between parliaments, executive powers and stakeholders in legislative and budgetary processes, monitoring of laws' implementation

and public expenditure of relevance to the SDGs 3 and 5. It will also address the support to advocacy practices and campaigns aimed at transforming society on the path towards gender equality.

Moderator: **Mr Ahliman AMIRASLANOV**, Chairman of the Committee on Health of the Parliament of Azerbaijan

Speakers:

Ms Lena LUYCKFASSEEL, Programme Director, International Planned Parenthood Federation - European Network

Mr Huseyn HUSEYNOV, Secretary General, National Coordination Council on Sustainable Development in Azerbaijan

Mr Neil DATTA, Secretary General of the European Parliamentary Forum (TBC)

15:30 -15:50 *Coffee/tea break*

15:50-17:15 Session 3 - Perspectives for enhancing parliamentary engagement towards UN Sustainable Development Goals 3 and 5 and beyond

The speakers will share reflections on ways to build long-term policies tackling the issues posed by women's health and gender equality and how parliaments can more effectively contribute to them. The discussion will address proposals and recommendations to the UN competent bodies for advancing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, with regards to women's health and gender equality.

Moderator: **Mrs Malahat IBRAHIMGIZI**, MP, Parliament of Azerbaijan, Co-Chair of the Euronest PA Committee on Social Affairs, Education and Civil Society

Speakers:

Mr Ziyad SAMADZADE, Chairman of the Committee on Economic Policy, Industry and Entrepreneurship of the Parliament of Azerbaijan

Representative of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (TBC)

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17:15-17:30 **Concluding remarks**

Mrs Malahat IBRAHIMGIZI, MP, Parliament of Azerbaijan, Co-Chair of the Euronest PA Committee on Social Affairs, Education, Culture and Civil Society

<i>Interpretation in English, Azerbaijani and Russian is available during the conference (TBC)</i>
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