

**CEE NETWORK EVALUATION MEETING**  
**-Budapest, 25/26 November 2016-**  
**R E P O R T**

1. **The meeting** was organized by the CEE Network Budapest Office and back-to-back to the Tancsics/FEPS workshop on social-democracy. CEE Network AC members participated at the workshop. Special thanks go to the CEE Network Board member and PESW President, Dr Zita Gurmai for the excellent organisation of the meeting.
2. **Participants:** CEE Network Advisory Council members and/or their representatives. Since the CEE Network is a member of PESW the participation of PESW (President and Advisor) was most welcome and useful for cross-fertilisation and mutual empowerment. The participation of the communications manager of SDP Poland was also welcomed as a possibility to expand CEE Network activities in the CEE region.
3. The meeting was preceded by a panel discussion on Violence against Women and a manifestation to mark VAW international action.



4. **Agenda<sup>1</sup>:**
  - i. Stocktaking – CEE Network 2016 activities, achievements and results
  - ii. 2017 joint workplanning, initiatives, activities and working arrangements (including discussion and reality and challenges regarding gender equality in the region)
5. **Agenda Item 1: -Stocktaking – CEE Network 2016 activities, achievements and results - Discussion and Conclusions**

**Information was provided on the implementation of the Olof Palme 2016 project with the following activities:**

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<sup>1</sup> Annex 1: Agenda



### **Korcula School – financed through the Olof Palme project and PES**

- i. A pre-School brainstorming meeting of leaders of PES, PESW, SIW, Board CEE Network was held. It resulted in a common analysis and vision of the current international situation and possibilities for socialdemocratic response, especially in terms of women's empowerment and activism;
- ii. diversity of participants beyond women's forums featuring different aspects of the refugee and migrant crisis;
- iii. substantive discussion;
- iv. more men are now participating at the School;
- v. scholarship was provided to two students from Croatia;
- vi. Visibility was ensured– especially HRT TV feature and in the most read magazine „Nacional“

### **Capacity Building**

- i. Campaigning capacity building was provided– campaigning (Vienna/Belgrade/Zagreb);
- ii. Support to individual forums and NGOs was provided e.g. SMER Slovakia, SDUM, SDP B&H, on EU accession in B&H, DS and LSDV on elections in Serbia.
- iii. Electronic toolkit format is under preparation and will be shared with participants for further consultation

### **Newsletter and communication**

- i. Expansion of social networks (Facebook: 559 likes; Twitter: 237 followers; Around 10 K on average impressions)
- ii. Newsletter – three issues of the newsletter “Progressive Men and Women on the Move for Gender Equality”(June, Korčula School, reference newsletter) were prepared and were well received.

### **Partnerships**

- i. Individual NGOs – cooperation with the civil society community in the region was continued
- ii. PES, PESW, SIW – more active engaged of the CEE Network in these organisations has resulted with a number of concrete initiatives and opportunities for cooperation and mutual support
- iii. NATO CSAP – CEE Network is now a member of CSAP for a two year mandate<sup>2</sup>
- iv. UfM – established contacts with UfM and follow-up discussions on cooperation between women from the Northern and Southern countries of the Mediterranean
- v. UNDP/UN Women - CEE Network is a partner to UNW/UNDP and other international organisations in the organisation of the regional conference on gender equality to be held in Budva, 12/13 December 2016. <sup>3</sup>

### **Management:**

- CEE Network regional office was successfully moved to Zagreb and is housed at the SDP Croatia HQ
- CEE Network has now five interns in Zagreb
- Participants were provided with a 2016 budget run down (allocations and expenditures)

<sup>2</sup> Annex 2: Ljubljana Office Report

<sup>3</sup> Annex 3: NATO CSAP brief

Report was also provided on the activities of the Ljubljana Office<sup>4</sup> and particularly the implementation of the project funded by the LP Westminster Foundation and the regional seminar in Ljubljana:

- i. The seminar was well attended with young women
- ii. It was a value added to the implementation of the Regional Platform
- iii. It engaged participants in a broader political issues in the region (and beyond) and the activities of political parties
- iv. As a result a Viber group was established for follow-up

Participants congratulated the CEE Network on the 2016 activities and results especially in terms of its expansion and outreach. The Korčula School has become a flagship and the „brand“ should be maintained with strong potential for further development. Partnerships that have been forged in 2016 also signal potential for growth as well as outreach and influence and should be developed in 2017.



<sup>4</sup> Annex 4: UNDP/UNW Conference brief





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## 6. Agenda Item 2: 2017 CEE Gender Network Workplan – Discussion and Conclusions

An engaged and active discussion was held on the 2017 workplan with AC teams being formed for its implementation. The discussion included information on individual WF activities that are of relevance to the CEE Network 2017 workplan.

### **Korčula School –**

- **Dates:** 25, 26, 27 August 2017
- **Venue:** Korčula or Cavtat tbd. With the caveat that the Korčula School brand be maintained and that there is a connection with the new (albeit temporary) venue
- **Topic:** “Gender equality in intergenerational dialogue – learning and empowerment”
- **Back-to-back-** with Rainbow Rose (25/08/2017) –topic “Lessons learnt and good practice from gender and LGBT activism” and European Forum SD study launch (27/08/2017)
- Stipends to be provided for two students/young participants
- Ljubljana Office offered to provide basket balls as a special prize

### **Capacity building/empowerment**

- Ljubljana follow-up on the Westminster project tbd.
- Launch of electronic toolkit – with participation of AC members and a focal point network. A webinar to be held on its structure and preparation process.
- WF were asked to provide interns (internet based and on specific topics)
- Follow-up with UNDP on Budva conference outcomes (project)

### **Outreach/Communications**

- PES Activists – follow-up with PES and development of an activist network
- Viber/or similar to be restructured for moderated discussions or webinars on specific topics
- Newsletter to be further developed
- CEE Network website would be useful but the existing “gender equality” chapter in the European Forum website should also be maintained for broader impact
- 2016 Publication will be completed focusing on progress and most salient articles on gender equality to be provided by WFs

### **Follow-up/potential:**

- Follow-up with the Olof Palme Center and the European Forum to organise a meeting of SD foundations dedicated to gender equality initiatives and project for better coordination and to maximise available resources and provide more robust impact.
- European Forum/Solidar on cooperation with CSOs and Tus
- European Forum on party leaders meeting
- Progressive Alliance - Mediterranean initiative



## Annex 1

# **BUDAPEST EVALUATION SEMINAR**

## **25/26 November 2016**

### **Draft Agenda**

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#### **Objective:**

- i. Taking stock of activities and what has been achieved, challenges and situational analysis
- ii. Joint workplanning 2017

#### **Participants:**

- i. CEE Network for Gender Issues Advisory Council
- ii. CEE Network for Gender Issues International Board

**Organiser:** CEE Network Office, Budapest

<b>Friday, 25 November 2016</b>	
10:00 am – 3:00 pm	FEPS meeting. <b>Venue: Akadémia Klub (1051 Budapest, Széchenyi tér 9.)</b>
3-5 pm	FEPS/PESW/CEE Network: “Violence against Women”
5-7:30 pm	CEE Network Evaluation meeting
	<b>Opening remarks:</b> Zita Gurnai, President, PESW, Member CEE Network International Board
	<b>Session 1:</b> Stocktaking – CEE Network 2016 activities, achievements and results <b>Moderator:</b> Emina Abrahamsdotter, PROFFS, CEE Network Board member <b>Introduction:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Daša Šilović, Chair, CEE Network</li> <li>ii. Sonja Lokar, Executive Director, CEE Network Ljubljana</li> <li>iii. Lovorka Marinović, President CNI, CEE Network Regional Project Manager</li> </ol> <b>Discussion</b>
<b>Saturday, 26 November 2016</b>	
9:15am-10:30 am	<b>Session 2:</b> Reality and Challenges <b>Moderator:</b> Tamara Tripić, Vice-President, Democratic Party of Serbia
10:30 am – 12:30 pm	<b>Session 3:</b> 2017 joint workplanning, initiatives, activities and working arrangements <b>Moderator:</b> Marta Sziget Bonifert, CEE Network International Board Member (tbd) <b>Introduction:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Daša Šilović, Chair, CEE Network</li> <li>ii. Sonja Lokar, Executive Director, CEE Network Ljubljana</li> </ol> <b>Communication strategy and networking</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Antonija Petković, CEE Network Regional Communications Manager</li> </ol> <b>Discussion</b>
12 – 12:15 pm	<b>Wrap up</b> Zita Gurnai, President, PESW, Member CEE Network International Board
12:15 pm	Lunch and departure of participants

**Annex 2:** CEE Network for Gender Issues, Ljubljana Office

**- LP WF cooperation and projects –**

1. Ljubljana Office has a long term sporadic and in the last 6 years more systematic cooperation with the LP WF from 2001. This cooperation has covered very different projects, such as Youth Can Do It regional seminars in the Balkans in 2001-2, regional conference on the implementation of the SC Resolution 1325 done in Ljubljana in 2007, to the initial seminar for cooperation with Arab spring women in Istanbul in 2011. CEE Network Ljubljana Office also served as consultancy in the process of putting together LP WF initiated SD Women's Academy for Africa.
2. From 2009 till 2013, LP WF supported our coaching of the young promising SD activists from Ukrainian Institute for Democracy and Social Progress - their women's network as well as their young SD Platform for Ukraine. Both developed rather well. Women's group became a backbone of the broad national women's coalition for the enactment of the quotas in 2012, than a women's forum of the SD Platform which would most probably grow into a serious new SD party in Ukraine. Now this group of young SD is capable of direct cooperation with LP WF and independent political work in Ukraine. Tragic armed conflicts and their repercussions in Ukraine slowed down their development very much, but as the armed conflict is becoming permanent, and is poisoning any democratic and economic development of the country, their ability to become the first voice for restoring peace with negotiations, might grow. To get more information, please, look into their publication: SD Digest, Issue №3, April 2016 or their Facebook:
3. From 2012 – 2014 CEE Network Ljubljana Office and LP WF experts have been jointly developing so called Tha'era Network, operating in four Arab spring counties: Lebanon, Morocco, Tunisia and Egypt. This Network deliberately adopted the model of our CEE Network to their special circumstances. It prepared a serious analyse of the women's needs in their countries and parties, started to organise regional seminars (like the one in Alexandria in 2014), and solidarity actions like the one in getting justice for the young Egyptian socialist feminist, killed in Egypt by the policeman. Tha'era has become totally independent from our direct involvement in 2015. To see more. Please, check: <https://www.facebook.com/pg/Tha2era/about/>
4. In 2014 Mija Javornik developed and got the support of the LP WF for the pilot mentoring programme in three regions: European East – Ukraine, Moldova, Georgia; four Arab countries – Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt and Lebanon and 6 SEE countries – Slovenia, Croatia plus Western Balkan Countries (without Albania and Kosovo). The programme started to give initial results everywhere, but tragic political developments in Lebanon (refugee crises) in Egypt (military took over their Arab Spring), Tunisia (our sister party Ettacatol lost its place in the parliament), led to the reduced continuation of this project in Arab countries, giving us the opportunity to work with more focus on the gender aspects of the youth and women's organisations within our sister party ([Socialist Union of Popular Forces](#) (*Union Socialiste des Forces Populaires*, Al ittihad alishtiraki lilqowati ashaabia) in Morocco. In July of 2016 in Rabat, we had a very successful training of women activists preparing to run or to help those who would run for the seats in national elections in October 2016. At the same time we held a preparatory meeting with youth for the follow up of this mentoring programme if approved in 2017. The party survived with huge loss of the votes. It has lost two thirds of the former number of the seats and is now looking for the support, especially to women and youth organisations, in order to recover from this heavy defeat. Our mentoring programme for the East countries is still on the halt with unclear interest of the donor to continue.



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5. On September 30-31, 2016, CEE Network Ljubljana Office, with the support of the LP WF, organised a regional consultation meeting of the prominent women activists and promising female youth activists from the Balkan sister parties in order to discuss how WFs and young women in Youth Forums could help their parties not only to become really gender equality sensitive, but also to climb out of the ideological crises and red numbers from the several last elections all over the region and to stop the process of their splitting and losing the last hope in internal skirmishes. From the LP WF the final evaluation of the outcomes will be done by the LP WF evaluator and trainer, Nan Sloan, while from our point of view, the prospects of the serious continuation of these efforts in sister parties are rather good, as several participating teams have informed their party leadership and membership of the outcomes of this consultation and on their own started a VIBER phone based activists group in order to jointly prepare for the 16 days of international activism against violence against women. One of the good outcomes of this consultations is that WF and YF in SD of Slovenia for the first time started to coordinate and cooperate their efforts regarding party policies on gender issues. It also served as a trigger of the renewal of the WF local organisations which were mostly dead for ages. This consultation based initiative to call for a regional meeting of our sister party male leaders is, thanks to Daša's lobbying in the PES, Forum and FEPS, a work in progress.
  
6. The prospects of our cooperation with LP WF in 2017 are rather uncertain. They are very much dependent on the internal developments within the LP and consequently within the LP WF, but also on the overall focus or neglect of the PES and SD foundations regarding more and more dangerous and politically fragile situation in the Western Balkans.

Report prepared by Sonja Lokar and Mija Javornik, Ljubljana, November 23, 2016

## Annex 3

### NATO CSAP -Brief-

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1. NATO has been developing its approach to implementing the UN Security Council Resolutions on Women, Peace and Security (WPS) since the adoption of the first NATO policy on the subject in 2007. This policy was revised in 2011 and 2014, and will be revised again in 2018. To steer implementation of its WPS policy commitments, in 2010 the NATO/EAPC adopted an *Action Plan for the Implementation of the NATO/EAPC Policy on WPS*. This was revised in 2014, and again for the period from June 2016 to June 2018. The NATO policy and action plan have been adopted by representatives of NATO's 28 member countries and 22 further partner countries that are members of the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council (EAPC). There are no systematic mechanisms requiring nations to report on their implementation of the NATO WPS Action Plan at the national level. Much relies on peer pressure between nations, and them learning from each other what works.
2. To more systematically draw upon the insights and expertise of civil society, the NATO Secretary General's Special Representative for WPS, Ambassador Mariët Schuurman, led the initiative to establish the Civil Society Advisory Panel on Women, Peace and Security (CSAP). The CSAP is NATO's first institutionalised mechanism for dialogue with civil society at the strategic and policy level. Integrating gender is thus seen within NATO as a matter of capability *and* credibility.
3. The CSAP's terms of reference outline that it is intended to:
  - Facilitate regular and systematic consultation and dialogue between civil society and NATO through an Annual Meeting
  - Provide a channel for civil society feedback and recommendations to NATO on matters pertaining to the WPS agenda and gender perspective and its implementation
  - Prepare recommendations to NATO with a view to enhance implementation and contribute to the revision of its WPS Policy and Action Plan
  - As appropriate, facilitate the establishment of local consultative mechanisms between NATO and women's rights groups, key leaders and other representatives from civil society, in areas where NATO and its partners are carrying out activities.
4. Membership of the CSAP aims to be geographically balanced, amongst civil society organizations and networks based and/or operating in NATO, Allied and Partner countries that have associated themselves with the 1325 Policy and Action Plan. Members are selected by the NATO Special Representative on WPS, after seeking recommendations from national delegations to NATO and international organisations. The CSAP includes members selected on the basis of their personal expertise, who participate in their personal capacity (the "Core Group"), and representatives of civil society organizations. The current members of the CSAP are at listed at Annex 1. Membership is fixed for a period of two years (from mid-2016) and is renewable.





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5. The overall mission of the CSAP is to influence NATO's decision-making and activities to best integrate and reflect WPS priorities. Two major goals are: 1) to maximize the effectiveness of the CSAP and 2) to influence NATO policy and plans on peace and security.

**Goal 1** has two outcomes:

- i. to have a shared understanding of NATO structure, functions and policies related to WPS and
- ii. to effectively serve as a technical advisory group to NATO representatives.

**Goal 2** has three outcomes:

- i. providing civil society input NATO's upcoming revision of its Policy and Action Plan on 1325;
- ii. to influence other policies relevant to WPS;
- iii. to influence NATO members and partners to advance WPS within NATO.

6. Activities that may be of relevance to the CEE Network – identification of focal points:

- Collect good and bad practices as regards NATO engagement with local civil society organisations
- Inform local CSOs and women's organization in their own countries about the CSAP
- Develop suggestions as to issues upon which the CSAP might want to develop a position
- Review the infrastructure, structures and methodologies within NATO for WPS and gender training and education and the impact of NATO's WPS and gender training

7. Next meeting is scheduled for May 2017

8. Interactive website: [natocsap.slack.com](https://natocsap.slack.com)

## Annex 4

### BRIEF

Conference: “Advancing Gender Equality in the Western Balkans and Turkey”  
Budva, 12/13 December 2016

#### Background and context

1. **CEE Network is a partner of UNDP/UN Women and organisations below in the organization of a regional conference on achieving gender equality in the countries of the Western Balkans and in Turkey.** The conference will be held in Budva, 12-13 December 2016.
2. **CEE Network has participated in the conceptualization of the Conference.**

#### Participants

3. The conference will gather representatives of governments, parliaments, civil society from the region and regional and international organisations.

#### Objectives/topics

4. **The key objective is the creation of a Western Balkans Regional Gender Equality Platform for the Western Balkans and Turkey.** The platform will emphasize that countries aspiring to fulfil the EU gender equality standards must respect equality between women and men, have institutions guaranteeing and protecting women’s rights, and have strong supporting structures for the enforcement of the gender equality *acquis* and implementation of key legal instruments, in particular the Istanbul Convention, as well as gender equality targets as outlined in the SDGs and the Council of Europe Gender Equality Strategy.
5. **Strengthened political commitment for gender mainstreaming in policies**

#### Topics

6. The regional conference on gender equality in Western Balkans and Turkey will be an opportunity to take stock of implementation of gender equality standards including Istanbul Convention and role of national mechanism for gender equality to push this agenda forward.
7. The conference will examine critical regional priorities for gender equality such as: increasing women’s participation in political and economic decision-making; establishment of inclusive and gender-responsive employment and labour market policies; promotion of economic opportunities for women, particularly in emerging areas such as green jobs and renewable energy; and elimination of violence against women. These will be addressed also through the EU accession process requirements.

#### CEE Network for Gender Issues participation

8. The Network is a co-organiser of the Conference.
9. Sonja Lokar and Emina Abrahamsdotter will be speakers/panellists the first day. Lovorka Marinović will be part of CEE Network delegation. Ivan Nekić will provide communications support as part of the UNDP conference team
10. Daša Šilović has prepared the draft Declaration and will lead its finalization at the conference.
11. It is expected that, if there is a follow-up project on the implementation of the Conference Declaration the CEE Network will be a partner to UNDP.