



**Women, Families, Careers –  
Effects of the Pandemic on Work/Life Balance in the Visegrad Countries**  
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## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **“WOMEN, FAMILIES, CAREERS – EFFECTS OF THE PANDEMIC ON WORK/LIFE BALANCE IN THE VISEGRAD COUNTRIES”**

#### **International Conference**

**Date and Time: 8 March 2022, from 12:30 pm. to 18:00 pm.**

**Venue: Rubin Wellness & Conference Hotel in Budapest**  
(1118 Budapest, Dayka Gábor utca 3.)

Language of the conference: Hungarian and English

***The Association for Women’s Career Development in Hungary organized the International Conference entitled “Woman, Family and Career - The Impact of the Pandemic on Work-Life Balance in the V4 Countries” on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2022, on Women’s Day in the Wellness & Conference Hotel in Budapest in hybrid format with the support of the Visegrad Fund.***

Due to the distance rules of the pandemic, we could expect about 40 participants on the spot, including guests from the Visegrad countries and Hungary, but more than 100 people registered for the online event. Outside the V4 countries the event was also followed from Estonia, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, South-Africa, UK and the US.

The Conference was opened by **Andrea Ferenczi**, the founding president of the AWCDH, who also chaired the multiplying event.

In her opening, she thanked the Visegrad Fund that this was the second time that a project with their support could be realized. She emphasized that in this region we think about family policy similarly.

**Ewelina Stacherzak**, the project manager of the Visegrad Fund and **HE Tibor Bial**, Ambassador of the Czech Republic have also delivered opening speeches.

**Ildikó Modláné Görgényi** head of the Visegrad research presented the research based on the electronic survey and focus group research carried out in the V4 countries since November 2021.

Within the framework of our Project, we have examined the impact of the pandemic on four special groups of women (mothers with children, women who are planning a family, women over 50, and rural women), with relation to the labour market – she said.

Based on our research, credible experts, and good practices in the context of the V4 countries on the topic, AWCDH and their Partners hope to provide a well-founded background for decision makers regarding the impact of the pandemic on women, in particular with relation to the labour market.

On behalf of the V4 partner countries, **Prof. Jolanta Maćkowicz PhD** from the Pedagogical University of Krakow, **Ingrid Šurova**, Member of the Board of Business and Professional Women CR z.s, and **Ivana Kondášová** Director of the Association of Business Women and Managers, (on video) presented the results of the research in their countries.

With reference to the topic of the Conference, on behalf of the Hungarian partner organizations of the AWCDH, **Éva Horváth**, President of the Women Entrepreneurs’ Club of the Győr-Moson-Sopron County Chamber of Commerce and **Katalin Balla**, Policy officer of the National Association of Large Families – NOE also presented their activities.

Within the framework of the Stakeholder Forum, the representatives from the V4 countries presented Best Practices from their countries with the motto “*We identify the problems and challenges and thrive to offer viable solutions*”.

**Coordinator: Association for Women’s Career Development in Hungary**

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The “Best Workplace for Women” competition and award of the AWCDH was presented by **Katalin Hajós**, women in leadership and media expert. On behalf of 2 winners of the competition, Kata Adonicsné Püski Deputy Head of the Rector’s Cabinet at Semmelweis University and Éva Kiss, general manager of Karsai Holding Zrt. told the participants and followers of the conference about their excellent work which was acknowledged by the award.

**Ivana Kondášová**, Director of the Association of Businesswomen and Managers, sent a video presentation on best practice in work / life balance in Slovakia.

Regarding experiences in Best Work / Life Balance practices from Poland were posted on video by Nina **Gabryś**, Plenipotentiary of the Mayor of Krakow for Equality Policy and **Marta Sliwa**, Student of Pedagogical University of Krakow.

**Lenka Šťastná**, President and CEO (Business and Professional Women), presented the results of the Equal Pay Day in the Czech Republic.

**Dr. Ágnes Szuromi-Kovács**, the managing director of the Family-Friendly Hungary Center Nonprofit Public Benefit Ltd., in her closing remark said:

*With my colleagues together we support that as many parents as possible could reconcile work and private life through several programs of the Family Friendly Hungary Center.*

**PLEASE WATCH THE RECORDING OF THE CONFERENCE  
AT THE FOLLOWING LINK ON YOUTUBE:**

<https://youtu.be/fW6swLe1o84>

**Further information:**

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*The Project is co- financed by the Governments of Czechia, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia  
through Visegrad Grants from International Visegrad Fund.  
The mission of the fund is to advance ideas for sustainable regional cooperation in Central Europe.*  
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**Encl.: Program**

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## **PROGRAM**

updated on 8th March 2022

### **WOMEN, FAMILIES, CAREERS – EFFECTS OF THE PANDEMIC ON WORK/LIFE BALANCE IN THE VISEGRAD COUNTRIES International Conference**

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#### **12:30 - 13:00 Registration**

#### **13:00 – 13:30 Opening, welcome**

*Ms. Andrea Ferenczi, President of the AWCDH, project manager of the Visegrad Project, Chair*  
*Ms. Ewelina Stacherzak, Project Manager, Visegrad Fund*  
*HE Mr. Tibor Bial, Ambassador of the Czech Republic to Hungary*

#### **13:30 – 13:50 Presentation of the Research**

on Women, Families, Careers – Effects of the Pandemic on Work/Life Balance in the Visegrad Countries  
*Ms. Ildikó Modláné Görgényi, adult education expert, head of research (video)*

#### **13:50 – 14:40 Introduction of our V4 Partners and their Research**

*Prof. Jolanta Maćkowitz, PhD Pedagogical University of Krakow*  
*Ms. Ingrid Šůrová, Managing Director, Member of the Business & Professional Women CR Presidium*  
*Ms. Ivana Kondášová director, Association of Businesswomen and managers (Video)*

#### **14:40 – 15:10 Introduction of our Hungarian Partners**

*Ms. Katalin Balla, Policy officer, National Association of Large Families – NOE*  
*Ms. Éva Horváth, president, Women's Entrepreneurial Club of Győr-Moson-Sopron County Chamber of Commerce and Industry (video)*

#### **15:10 – 15:30 Coffee break**

#### **15:30 – 16:55 Stakeholder Forum**

Presentation of “Best Practices” from the V4 Countries  
**“We identify the problems and challenges and thrive to offer viable solutions”**

*Moderator: Ms. Sütő-Nagy, international business development and marketing expert*

#### **15:30 – 15:55 The “Best Workplace for Women” Competition and Award - from Hungary**

*Ms. Katalin Hajós, “women in leadership” expert, representing AWCDH in the Best Workplace for Women Award Evaluation Committee*  
*Ms. Kata Adonicsné Püski Deputy Head of the Rector's Cabinet at Semmelweis University*  
*Ms. Éva Kis general manager, Karsai Holding Zrt.*

#### **15:55 – 16:15 “Best practices from Slovakia for Work/Life balance”**

*Ms. Ivana Kondášová director, Association of Businesswomen and managers (video)*

#### **16:15 – 16:35 “Best practices from Poland for Work/Life balance”**

*Ms. Nina Gabryś, Plenipotentiary of the Mayor of Krakow for Equality Policy (video)*

**Coordinator: Association for Women's Career Development in Hungary**



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*Ms. Marta Sliwa, Student of Pedagogical University of Krakow (video)*

**16:35 – 16:55 “Equal Pay Day in Czech Republic”**

*Ms. Lenka Šťastná, President, Founder and Manager of Business & Professional Women CR*

**16:55 – 17:15 Closing remarks**

*Dr. Ágnes Szuromi-Kovács, Managing Director, Családbarát Magyarország Központ  
(Family Friendly Hungary Center)*

**17:15 – 18:00 Networking, Sandwich buffet**

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