



Conference Announcement and Call for papers

Three-Day International Conference

**"Ways of Implementing the EU Directives on Violence against Women, Children and Youth:
Good Practices and Recommendations"**

20th–22nd March 2009

Ljubljana, Slovenia

Keynote speakers:

Liz Kelly, Prof. Dr., London Metropolitan University (GB)

Monika Schröttle, Prof. Dr., University of Bielefeld (GE)

Jeff Hearn, Prof. Dr., Hanken School of Economics (FI)

Organised by:

University of Ljubljana

Faculty of Arts

The conference is part of the international project "Ways of Implementing the EU Directives on Violence against Women, Children and Youth: Good Practices and Recommendations" founded by the European Commission. An expert group in Ljubljana is preparing an analysis of changes in legislation concerned with violence against women, children and youth in 10 EU Member States in the time period from 1991 to 2006. The research is based on questionnaires answered by 8 partner organizations for Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia. The goal is to detect good practices and prepare recommendations for the improvement of the implementation of the EU policy against violence.

The conference will provide a platform for interdisciplinary debate for NGO activists, researchers, policymakers and other experts working in the fields of **domestic violence, sexual violence, trafficking in persons, sexual harassment and other forms of violence against women, children and youth** from the European Union, EU candidate countries and countries included in the European Neighbourhood Policy.

CALL FOR PAPERS

Experts interested in presenting a paper should send a short CV with professional background and an abstract (150 words) of the proposed paper to Mrs. Tina Romih (daphne@ff.uni-lj.si). A group of experts will validate the proposals and make the final selection. Paper propositions should be submitted by no later than 7th January 2009.

We welcome papers on the following themes:

1. Trends in combating sexual violence against children and minors

Evaluation of policies, legislative and other measures in combating sexual violence against children and minors.

- Penalisation of perpetrators of violence.
- Register of perpetrators: pros and cons.
- Restriction of parental and custody rights of perpetrators.
- Programs for re-socialization of perpetrators.
- Programs for rehabilitation of victims.
- Searching for new preventive measures.

2. Violence against children and minors: Awareness raising and providing help

The role of different institutions in combating violence against children.

- Providing information on the issue of violence in schools and kindergartens.
- Providing support to victims of violence in educational, health and social care institutions, by the police and prosecutors.
- Cooperation among institutions in the process of providing help.
- Motivating the employees in different institutions to take a more active role in the process of awareness raising.
- The role of NGOs in awareness raising and providing help to the victims.

3. Violence against women: Recent changes and developments in legislation

Presentation of changes in criminal and civil law and police acts since 1991.

- Measures of punishment of the perpetrator of violence (penalization, recognizing aggravating circumstances, etc.).
- Measures to coordinate and connect measures and agencies' procedures (linking different legal frameworks, systematic interagency co-operation).
- Measures to assist and protect the victims of violence.
- The absence of connection between protective and criminal legislation.
- Empowerment of special vulnerable groups.
- Victim as actor or promoter of change in the actions against violence.
- The rights-based approach.

4. Services for victims of violence and EU recommendations

Implementation of recommendations for providing quality services for victims of violence (hotlines, shelters, crisis centres, etc.

- Implementation of EU recommendation (number of beds in shelters and crisis centres, 24-hour toll-free helpline, etc.).
- How to reach EU standards (gender budgeting, grassroots movement – good practices)?
- Do the EU recommendations correspond with practice?
- Involvement of NGOs in providing support.
- Free legal help (legal measures to provide legal aid and their effectiveness (women's advocacy, special laws)).
- Implementation of a proactive approach (good practices and models).

5. Trafficking in persons: Putting victims in the foreground

Legislative and other obstacles to providing help to victims of trafficking in persons.

- Impacts of framing trafficking in migration and organised crime.
- Conditioning of support, help and legal stay with cooperation with state authorities.
- Reflection period for victims in the EU: A helpful measure or a closing door to better solutions?
- Granting security to victims.
- Short-term residence permit in praxis.
- Successful reintegration of victims.

6. Policymaking: Towards better involvement of interested stakeholders

Involvement of NGOs, state institutions, international institutions, researchers, lobbying groups and others in the process of decision-making.

- Cooperation of NGOs and state institutions in policymaking.
- Role of the obligatory and non-obligatory EU recommendations in policymaking.
- Relationship between theory and practise.
- Recourse mobilisation theory and political opportunities.

7. Information and communication technologies: New chance for violence?

(Ab)use of information and communication technologies for violating women and children.

- New technologies – new forms of violence.
- Mobile phones, the Internet and other technologies used by perpetrators to abuse, harass, stalk, intimidate and to perpetrate violence; how to tackle the problem.
- Violence and media; violence in media.
- How to protect children and minors from violators approaching them through new technologies.

8. Marginalized groups and violence

How do public authorities address the issue of violence when it comes to women of ethnic or other minority backgrounds?

Are there any policies in place and what are the practical implications? The focus will be on policy documents and strategies underlying this type of violence and the implication at the national and local levels.

- Providing services for victims.
- Cultural diversity, human rights and punishment of the perpetrators of violence.
- How to involve ethnic and migrant communities in combating violence?
- Forced marriages and "honour"-related violence.
- Sexual violence in armed conflict situations.
- Double discrimination.
- Legal protection of vulnerable groups.- Coercive sterilization and other violations of reproductive rights.

CONFERENCE LANGUAGE

English

CONFERENCE FEE

EUR 25 (includes 3 meals and refreshments)

PARTIAL COVERAGE OF EXPENSES

Partial coverage of travel expenses (up to EUR 400) and accommodation (3 nights) is available for 8 participants with particularly good and interesting paper propositions from Albania, Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Egypt, Georgia, Israel, Jordan, Kosovo, Lebanon, Libya, FYR Macedonia, Moldova, Monte Negro, Morocco, Occupied Palestinian Territory, Romania, Serbia, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey and Ukraine. Partial coverage of travel and accommodation expenses is also available for a limited number of participants from Slovenia. Interested experts should indicate this in their paper proposals.

PAPER SUBMISSION AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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PROJECT'S WEBSITE

<http://www.ff.uni-lj.si/fakulteta/ziff/DAPHNEeng/default.htm>

Please be so kind and spread this information among people who might be interested in attending the conference.