“Towards a New Gender Contract: Implementing gender equality in times of crisis”

Over the last two decades, gender equality has dropped off the European agenda. The recent publication of the European Gender Equality index revealed that Europe has made very little progress over the last ten years with a score of only 66.2 out of 100. Women continue to experience gender discrimination as evidenced by the gender pay and pension gaps, under-representation in decision-making and violence at home and in the workplace. The European Federation of Public Service Unions is fully committed to gender equality and made it one of its top priorities. In 2017, the EPSU Executive Committee adopted a resolution and a Roadmap, detailing concrete actions, on Gender Equality and Women’s Rights. In this context, the EPSU is organizing an international conference, which aims at identifying the key elements that must be in place for a new gender contract based on equality and non-discrimination. The conference will bring together trade unionists, international organizations, European institutions and researchers in order to define key policies which help to eliminate gender inequalities and discrimination.
DRAFT AGENDA

7-8 February 2018
Prague, Czech Republic
Venue: Hotel Olsanka

Interpretation: EN, CZ, FR, DE, ES, RU, SV (Active)

DAY 1

Registration starts at 8h00

Morning session: 9h00-13h00

Welcome by Jan Willem Goudriaan – EPSU General Secretary, Gloria Mills – President of the Women’s and Gender Equality Committee/European Federation of Public Service Unions (WGEC/EPSU) and Mgr. Michal Novák – Representative of the deputy for management of the administration and social policy, Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs

Panel 1: Gender Pay and Employment Gaps
Chair: Alexa Wolfstädter, Vice-President, Women’s and Gender Equality Committee/European Federation of Public Service Unions (WGEC/EPSU)

“Closing the Gender Pay Gap”: Presentation by Richard Pond, European Federation of Public Service Unions (EPSU)

Comments from:

- Lionel Fulton, Labour Research Department (LRD)
- Manuela Tomei, Director, International Labour Organisation /The Equal Pay International Coalition (ILO/EPIC)
- Héctor Casado López, Deputy Director-General for Labour Relations, Ministry of Finance and Public Administration

Q&A

Conclusion by the chair/facilitator

Coffee break 11h15-11h45

Panel 2: Rebalancing Work and Family Life
Chair: Jan Willem Goudriaan, European Federation of Public Service Unions (EPSU)
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“Work-Life Balance: A crucial pre-condition for gender equality and quality employment,” Cinzia Sechi, Senior Gender Advisor, European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC)
Roundtable discussion with the participants and exchange of good practices – participants contribute with their experiences in the work place and existing rights.

Conclusion by the Chair/facilitator

LUNCH BREAK

Afternoon session: 14h30 -17h30

Panel 3: Valuing Public Care Services
Chair: Luca Scarpiello, European Federation of Public Service Unions (EPSU)

“Investment in Public Care Services in Times of Crisis” – Dr Jerome De Henau, Senior Lecturer in Economics The Open University

Comments from:

- Viktória Szucs, BDDSZ
- Jiří Horecký Ph.D., President of the Union of Employers of the Czech Republic and Vice-President of the European Federation of Social Employers

Q&A
Conclusion of the Chair/facilitator

Coffee break 15h30-16h

Panel 4: Violence against Women and Reproductive Rights
Chair: Kalle Liivamägi, Vice-president, Women’s and Gender Equality Committee/European Federation of Public Service Unions (WGEC/EPSU)

“Reproductive Rights – the never-ending battle for equality” – Muriel Marcilloux, FNME-CGT

Comments:

- Daniela von Wantoch-Rekowski, Ver.di
- Marina Davidashvili, Senior Policy Officer, European Parliamentary Forum (EPF)
- Renée Jeryd, Kommunal

Q&A
Conclusion by the Chair/facilitator
Day 2

Morning session: 9h00-12h15

Panel 5: Gender Mainstreaming
Chair: Barbara Helfferich, European Federation of Public Service Unions (EPSU)

“Gender mainstreaming and collective bargaining: the potential and the challenges in moving towards a new gender contract that tackles structural gender inequalities” – Jane Pillinger, Researcher

- Barbara Limanowska, Senior Gender Mainstreaming Expert, European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE)
- Randi Røvik, Adviser, NUMGE

Coffee break 10h30-11h00

Conclusion: “Towards a New Gender Contract: Recommendations and Summary of the Contributions” – Gloria MILLS

End of Conference