

CONCEPT NOTE

OSCE expert meeting on engaging men and boys to promote gender equality

24 November 2017

10:00 – 18:00

Meeting Room 533, Hofburg, Vienna

Background

The promotion of gender equality is a cross-cutting objective throughout OSCEs work in the political-military, economic-environmental and human dimensions. Still too often, however, it is conceived as an area related only to women.

Several initiatives have been taken in the past years to promote the engagement of men in advancing gender equality in the OSCE region. Since 2012, the OSCE has a MenEngage Network of Ambassadors who are committed to promoting gender equality within the OSCE, currently chaired by Ambassador Andrej Benedejčič of Slovenia. Several OSCE field operations organize national-level activities to involve men and boys in combating violence against women and promoting gender equality, in different ways. Globally, the work around the engagement of men and boys, masculinities and transforming harmful gender norms has gained prominence in the past years. This expert meeting will serve as a platform to take stock of global developments as well as activities and best practices from the OSCE region, in order to identify next steps for enhancing further the outreach and effectiveness of the OSCE MenEngage Network.

Objective

The objectives of the expert meeting are to:

1. Expose interested Delegations and Secretariat staff to global and regional approaches for engaging men and inspire them to get involved;
2. Exchange best practices, strategies and lessons learned on engaging men in combating gender-based violence and promoting gender equality;



3. Develop ideas to strengthen the OSCE MenEngage Network and identify ways forward for its members to strengthen programming and policy advocacy on gender equality in the OSCE region.

Target group

The expert meeting is open for OSCE Delegations, field operations, Institutions and the Secretariat. Male colleagues are in particular encouraged to participate in the meeting. Participants will also include experts from other international organizations, civil society, the global MenEngage Alliance and academia.

Language

The meeting will be conducted in English and Russian, with simultaneous interpretation provided throughout the meeting. During the working groups, the working language will be English.

Registration

Participants are kindly requested to fill in the registration form and to send it to elke.lidarik@osce.org, not later than 15 November 2017.

Badges may be obtained at the accreditation counter located in a temporary structure to the left of the main entrance to Hofburg Kongresszentrum on Heldenplatz (open from 8.30 to 13:30 during the Meeting) upon presentation of appropriate picture identification. All persons accredited to the OSCE will get access with their regular badges.

Visa

Participants, if required under the Austrian law, are asked to make their own arrangements for securing a visa for entering Austria.

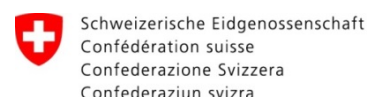
Please be aware that it might take up to 14 days to get the requested Schengen visa. Therefore, applicants are strongly advised to apply for visa well in advance.

Please note that it is NOT possible to have your visa issued at the Vienna International Airport upon arrival. Participants must be in possession of the appropriate identity documents for travel to Austria and medical insurance for the full duration of the intended stay.

Further details can be found on the Austrian MFA website www.bmeia.gv.at. In case OSCE's assistance for your visa application is needed, please send your request with a passport copy by e-mail to Ms. Elke Lidarik (elke.lidarik@osce.org).



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