

Online
13-18 July 2021

ODIHR's Advocacy School on Gender and Politics



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What is the Advocacy School on Gender and Politics?

Background

ODIHR is organizing its first Advocacy School on Gender and Politics to strengthen its engagement with and connect civil society organizations and women's movements in Central Europe, Eastern Europe and the South Caucasus.

This school will bring together around 25 young gender advocates to create a platform for exchange, networking and capacity building. It will also look to develop and initiate practical advocacy campaigns on women's political participation and gender equality in politics on national level.

Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, the format of the school will be "online only".

Course methodology

The curriculum is highly participatory and relies on a mixed-method of adult learning techniques including experiential learning, expert lectures, small group skills development and one-to-one coaching. The Advocacy School is specifically tailored to the civil society context. It provides the tools needed by gender advocates to maximise their personal and organisational impact for gender equality.

Participants

ODIHR's advocacy school is targeting young women and men (up to 35 years of age), gender advocates, active members of women's organizations, political foundations, mainstream human rights NGOs or non-formal civil society initiatives with a strong track record on advancing women's political participation and gender equality in politics in general. Participants are coming from the following countries: Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Georgia, Hungary, Lithuania, Moldova, Poland, Romania, Russia, Slovenia and Ukraine.

Course Objectives

The main goals of ODIHR's advocacy school are:

- to establish a multi-national platform for exchange of experience and knowledge on challenges, lessons learned and best practice among young gender advocates on advancing gender equality in politics
- to support young gender advocates to gain an in-depth overview of existing knowledge and findings from academic research on strategies for improvement of women's political participation and gender equality in politics, based on recent developments and work on the ground
- to help young gender advocates in identifying national advocacy priorities around advancing women's political participation and conceptualizing concrete advocacy campaigns
- to stimulate cross-border collaboration among civil society organizations and women's movements dealing with political participation and women's empowerment.

Practical Information and Contacts

Before the Advocacy School

Participants will receive an invitation with the link to the Zoom meeting prior to Advocacy School. Participants can only join by computer. They will not be able to participate from a telephone.

Plenary Room

Unless otherwise noted, all participants and experts will connect in the Plenary Room at the beginning of each day, and for various lectures and group discussions.

Break Out Rooms

Small group exercises and discussions will take place in Zoom break out rooms.

One-to-One Coaching

One to One Coaching will take place on a personalised zoom link. Each participant will receive the link from the School Facilitator Sonja Lokar.

Conduct of the Online Sessions

The plenary room can be joined 15 minutes before the indicated starting time. Participants are encouraged to log in early in order for their credentials and connectivity to be checked prior to the start of the meeting.

During plenary sessions, all participants should mute their microphone, except when taking the floor. Before doing so, participants are advised to raise their hand (click on a hand tool in Zoom). To the extent possible, please keep cameras on throughout discussions in plenary and break out room exercises in order to build rapport among the group.

Questions

Questions during the sessions can be also submitted in written form via the Chat function. However, participants are advised to rather raise their hand and engage in a direct discussion.

Contacts

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The Programme

	MORNING SESSION 9.00-12.00 CET	AFTERNOON SESSION 14.00-17.00 CET
13 July Tuesday		The beginning of a learning journey Gender equality in politics: What have we achieved?
14 July Wednesday	Public advocacy for gender equality in politics	Gender quotas and other affirmative measures: What works-- and does not work -- in practice?
15 July Thursday	Choosing your battle: Identifying advocacy priorities	How to transform institutions? Political parties
16 July Friday	Developing an advocacy campaign	How to transform institutions? Parliaments
17 July Saturday	Communications and influencing others	Politics in the community
18 July Sunday	What after the Advocacy School?	
18-30 July	One-on-one coaching sessions for interested participants by the School Facilitator	

Biographies: Advocacy School Team



Course role
School Facilitator

E-mail
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Sonja Lokar, sociologist by profession, freelance international gender equality expert from Slovenia. She has hands on experience as a reformer of her party, its organizational secretary, establisher and leader of its first women's wing, MP in socialist and first multi-party parliament of Slovenia, one of the initiators and leaders of the new women peace movement in pre-war Yugoslavia, executive director of the CEE Network for Gender Issues and Chair of the Stability Pact Gender Task Force, president of the European Women's Lobby in 2012. She co-organized several successful nation-wide advocacy campaigns in Slovenia, based on cross-cutting issue coalitions of women activists from all fields of public engagement, inter alia for the enactment of legislated quotas in the Slovenian Constitution and in electoral legislation. She co-authored Women-Can-Do-It training manuals, adopted from Norwegian Labour Party Women and developed the first tools for gender auditing of political parties, used in practically all Central Europe and South-East Europe transition countries for capacity building of future and existing women activists and politicians.



Course role
School Lecturer

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Mona Lena Krook, Professor of Political Science and Chair of the Women & Politics Ph.D. Program at Rutgers University, USA. She earned her Ph.D. in Political Science from Columbia University. Prof. Krook is a leading scholar in the area of gender equality and politics and the author of two standard books: “Quotas for Women in Politics: Gender and Candidate Selection Reform Worldwide” (2009), and “Violence against Women in Politics” (2020), both published by Oxford University Press. She is a regular collaborator of international organizations, including work with the National Democratic Institute to develop the #NotTheCost Global Call to Action to Stop Violence Against Women in Politics. Prof. Krook has been honoured for her pioneering research, receiving the Victoria Schuck Award and the George H. Hallett Award from the American Political Science Association. Her work has been published in world-leading journals, like the British Journal of Political Science, Comparative Political Studies, Comparative Politics, the European Journal of International Relations, the European Journal of Political Research, the Journal of Politics, Perspectives on Politics, Political Research Quarterly, and Politics & Gender, among others. Learn more at www.mlkrook.org



Course role

School Trainer on Advocacy Campaigning

E-mail

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Aleksandra Galonja, is a monitoring, evaluations and learning (MEL) and organizational development expert with more than 15 years of experience in rights-based development programmes, strategic planning, and capacity building with national, regional, and international civil society organizations and government institutions. As a feminist activist and professional, Aleksandra supported the establishment and development of numerous civic initiatives and organizations dedicated to the promotion of social justice and equality. Aleksandra has authored guides and conducted research on masculinities, social inclusion, violence against women, gender mainstreaming and other important issues. She holds two BA degrees, one in Serbian language and literature, and a second one in Communicology.



Course Role

School Co-ordinator

E-mail

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Saša Gavrić co-manages work on gender equality in political life and national gender equality mechanisms. Before joining ODIHR he was working for the OSCE missions in Kosovo and North Macedonia. He is one of the founders and the former Executive Director (2011-2016) of the Sarajevo Open Centre, one of the leading feminist human rights NGOs in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Saša is a passionate advocate and agent of change with 15 years of experience in cultural diplomacy, human and minority rights, gender equality and democratic governance in civil society organisations, bilateral agencies and international organisations. He has (co-) authored and (co-) edited around 50 articles, book chapters, edited volumes and advocacy reports, focusing on political systems of the Balkans, federalism, gender equality and democratic institutions. He holds a Master's Degree in International Relations and Diplomacy.

School Participants

Name and surname	County	Organization/ initiative	Job title/ function	Email Address
Maryam Majidova	Azerbaijan	Gender Hub Azerbaijan	Founder	majidova.maryam@gmail.com
Gunay Abbasli	Azerbaijan	Women for Development of Municipalities Public Association	Board Member	gunaygasimova@gmail.com
Zibar Huseynova	Azerbaijan	Azerbaijan-France Chamber of Commerce and Industry	Managing Director	zibar.huseynova@gmail.com
Olga Petrukovich	Belarus	Pact Belarus	Program Manager	olga.petrukovich@gmail.com
Vera Syrakvash	Belarus	YWCA Belarus/ She Decides	Member / Champion	verasyrokvash@gmail.com
Margarita Spasova	Bulgaria	Ekaterina Karavelova Foundation	Advocacy Officer	margarita.spasova@sheinbulgaria.org
Dorotea Šušak	Croatia	Centre for Women's Studies	Executive Director	doroteau6@gmail.com
Mirta Bašelović	Croatia	European Women's Lobby	Membership and Communications Assistant	mirtabaselovic@gmail.com
Klára Hlavačková	Czech Republic	Czech Women's Lobby	PR Specialist and Project Manager	klara.hlavackova@czlobby.cz
Lea Lepik	Estonia	McGill Women In Leadership	Co-President	krootl@yahoo.com
Margalita Shakarashvili	Georgia	EU for Gender Equality Reform Helpdesk Project	Country Expert	margaret.shakarashvili@gmail.com
Eteri Khanjaliashvili	Georgia	Helsinki Citizens' Assembly/ Georgian Civil Society National Platform	Representative at the Platform	etokhanjaliashvili@gmail.com
Emma Krasznahorkai	Hungary	Slovenska Filantropija/ Hungarian Women's Lobby		emma.krasznahorkai@gmail.com

Name and surname	County	Organization/ initiative	Job title/ function	Email Address
Eszter Debreczy	Hungary	PATENT (People Opposing Patriarchy) Association	Volunteer	debreczy.eszter@gmail.com
Beatričė Juškaitė	Lithuania	Women on Web		juskaiteb@gmail.com
Eugenia Iurco	Moldova	Communities in Action/ Women Democracy Network Moldova	President / Programme Coordinator	eugenia.iurco@yahoo.com
Katarzyna Katana	Poland	Empowering Children Foundation	Attorney-at-law	katarzyna.katana@gmail.com
Adela Alexandru	Romania	National School of Political and Administrative Studies/ FILIA Center	PhD student / Researcher & Community Development Facilitator	adela.alexandru.15@politice.ro
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Iryna Drobovych	Ukraine	Ukrainian Women's Congress	Director	iryna.bochar@gmail.com

About ODIHR

The Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) is an intergovernmental organization working for stability and democracy in its 57 participating States across North America, Europe and Central Asia. The OSCE's comprehensive concept of security includes three dimensions: political-military, economic-environmental and the human dimension. Human rights are fundamental to the OSCE's comprehensive concept of security, and the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) is one of the world's principal regional human rights bodies.

OSCE participating States have agreed that “commitments undertaken in the field of the human dimension of the OSCE are matters of direct and legitimate concern to all participating States and do not belong exclusively to the internal affairs of the state concerned” (Moscow, 1991). ODIHR is mandated to assist OSCE participating States to “ensure full respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, to abide by the rule of law, to promote principles of democracy and ... to build, strengthen and protect democratic institutions, as well as promote tolerance throughout society.” (Helsinki Document, 1992)

ODIHR was established in 1991 and is based in Warsaw, Poland. It employs nearly 150 staff from some 30 countries. ODIHR works in five broad areas: elections, democratization, human rights, tolerance and non-discrimination, and Roma and Sinti issues. More than 20 experts in the Democratization Department provide, *inter alia*, capacity building and advice on a broad range of human dimension commitments, including increasing the participation of women and young people in politics, strengthening parliaments and institutional mechanisms on the advancement of women, developing multiparty political landscapes, improving the integration of migrants and modernizing population-registration systems. Upon request by national institutions or other state actors, ODIHR also delivers legislative opinions on (draft) legislation, which are publicly accessible via the website legislationline.org.



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osce.org/odihhr

