



MIGS NEWS

A publication by the Mediterranean Institute of Gender Studies (MIGS)
MIGS is a non-profit NGO affiliated to the University of Nicosia

Editorial

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the latest issue of MIGS news! In this issue you will find the latest activities of our team including new projects, events, lobbying and advocacy activities, new publications, as well as new faces.

MIGS is involved in two new projects, including a project funded by EEA Cyprus NGO Fund aimed at raising awareness and promoting gender equality among youth in Cyprus and a project on empowering migrant women in accessing and advocating for their rights in partnership with the European Women's Lobby (EWL), and in cooperation with Action for Support, Equality and Anti-Racism (KISA). MIGS has also become the first Cyprus national coordinator of the Gender Media Monitoring Project, the largest global study on the representation of women in the media coordinated by the World Association for Christian Communication (WACC).

We are particularly happy to make available our Annual Report 2008 which highlights MIGS project and activities throughout the year, particularly in the areas of violence against women, including trafficking in women for sexual exploitation, and women and migration.

As a result of MIGS intensive lobbying for equal representation of women and men in political decision making and its active support for the EWL 50/50 Campaign for Parity Democracy, MIGS has recently published a report on the representation of women candidates to the European Parliament in print media in Cyprus and published a series of articles in the press both prior to and after the MEP elections in June 2009.

Finally, we would also like to draw your attention to the END FGM- European Campaign that seeks the adoption of a definitive strategy to end female genital mutilation. We strongly urge you to support the campaign by signing the petition available on the new campaign website at www.endfgm.eu!

Happy reading from all of us at MIGS and we look forward to your comments and suggestions.

MIGS Team

Table of Contents

[New Projects](#)
[MIGS Events & Activities](#)
[Lobbying & Advocacy](#)
[MIGS Publications](#)

[MIGS Representation](#)
[Announcements](#)
[Faces @ MIGS](#)
[Who We Are](#)

46 Makedonitissas Ave., P.O. Box 24005, 1700 Nicosia - Cyprus,
Tel. +357 22351276, Fax. +35722353682; email: info@medinstgenderstudies.org
Website: <http://www.medinstgenderstudies.org>

[>Back to Table of Contents](#)



New Projects

Youth Alert - Theatre in the Promotion of Gender Equality Awareness for Young People



The Mediterranean Institute of Gender Studies [MIGS] received funding from the EEA Financial Mechanism and the Norwegian Financial Mechanism to implement a project entitled: 'YOUTH ALERT: Theatre in the Promotion of Gender Equality Awareness for Young People'. The project partners are: the Cyprus Family Planning Association (www.cyfamplan.org) and the Rooftop Theatre Group (www.rooftoptheatregroup.org).

The main aim of the project is to raise awareness and critical thinking on gender [in] equality and gender socialization among young people while providing them with a forum to become actively involved in addressing these issues using creative and innovative methods including theatre.

For more information please visit our website [here](#).

Global Media Monitoring Project (GMMP)



MIGS is the new national coordinator of the Global Media Monitoring Project (GMMP), coordinated by World Association for Christian Communications (WACC). The GMMP is the largest global study on the representation of women in the media. Within this framework, MIGS will participate in a global monitoring/research project where media monitors all over the

world collect data on selected indicators of gender in their local news media on one particular day of the year, following specified guidelines. As a result, MIGS will produce a national report that will then be used by WACC to compile regional and global reports. The global report will be presented at the 54th session of the CSW meeting in New York, for the Beijing +15 Review.

You can find more information about the project on www.whomakesthenews.org. For the list of national coordinators please click [here](#).

Equal Rights, Equal Voices: Migrant Women in the EU

MIGS, in partnership with the European Women's Lobby (www.womenlobby.org), and with the support of the European Programme on Integration and Migration (EPIM) of the Network of European Foundations for Innovative Cooperation (NEF), is implementing a project within the framework of the project "Equal Rights, Equal Voices: Migrant Women in the EU".

Within this framework, MIGS in cooperation with KISA - Action for Support, Equality and Anti-Racism (KISA) will organize a capacity building workshop aimed at empowering migrant women and initiate the development of a migrant woman organization that could, in future, act as the Cyprus national platform for the European Network of Migrant Women. The activities will take place on the 20-21 December 2009 within the framework of International Migrant's Day on the 18 December. For more information please visit our website [here](#).



MIGS Events & Activities

Educators' Training Course in Human Rights Education: Building Inclusive Environments in Cyprus



The Directorate of Youth and Sport of the Council of Europe through its Youth Programme on Human Rights Education funded a National Training Course in Cyprus entitled 'Educators' Training Course in Human Rights Education: Building Inclusive Environments in Cyprus'.

MIGS was one of the collaborating institutions in the implementation of the training course along with the PRIO Cyprus Centre, the University of Nicosia and the Centre for the Study of Migration, Inter-ethnic and Labor Relations. MIGS was specifically responsible for the thematic workshop on gender equality and gender-based violence.



The training course was conducted between the 6th and 10th of July 2009 at the University of Nicosia and attracted Greek and Turkish Cypriot participants from a variety of professional backgrounds namely teachers of primary and secondary education, youth workers, trainers in non-formal education and people working or volunteering in organizations that undertake educational programmes for young people.

For more information please click [here](#).

End FGM European Campaign



MIGS has partnered with Amnesty International Ireland for a campaign that aims to echo the voices of women who have undergone mutilation and those at risk. Along with our partner organizations in numerous EU member states, END FGM- European Campaign seeks the adoption of a definitive strategy to end female genital mutilation (FGM) and to

provide protection to women and girls who flee their countries for fear of being mutilated.

The campaign aims to ensure that the European Union protects the rights of women and girls who have been subjected to, or are at risk of female genital mutilation through a supportive legal framework, a trained health sector and developed community services. Already, numerous organizations from almost all EU member states have declared their support to this campaign.

Please support the campaign by signing the declaration of intent here!

<http://www.ipetitions.com/petition/declarationofsupport/index.html>

To learn more, simply visit the website for the END FGM European Campaign

www.endfgm.eu.



Lobbying and Advocacy

Within the framework of our lobbying and advocacy activities, MIGS regularly issues press statements and press interventions on key policy areas.

MIGS Press Statement on Sexual and Reproductive Rights

MIGS press statement in relation to a case involving the removal of ovaries of a 37 year old woman without her consent. Available [here](#).

Press Statement on Violence in the Family

Press statement by MIGS in relation to the continuing increase of cases of violence against women in the family in recent years. Available [here](#).

Letter to Politis Newspaper

MIGS letter of complaint to Politis Newspaper with regard to an unacceptable article in the same paper, reporting a case of violence against a woman third-country national with an accompanying cartoon depicting the violence. Available [here](#).

Press Statement on Trafficking in Women in Cyprus

Press statement by the Cyprus Women's Lobby, of which MIGS is a member, in response to policy measures taken by the Government in the fight against trafficking in women for sexual exploitation, particularly in relation to the entry visas for women to work in high risk establishments. Available [here](#).

DID YOU KNOW THAT...? As part of its objectives and advocacy work, MIGS often works with media professionals and disseminates information through all types of media. You can view all the media articles which mention MIGS and its work on our website at [MIGS in the Media](#)

MIGS Publications

MIGS Annual Report 2008



MIGS has published its Annual Report highlighting the main activities of the Institute in 2008. The MIGS Annual Report contains information on MIGS projects and activities in the areas of Violence against Women including trafficking in women for sexual exploitation and Women and Migration.

You will also find information on MIGS representation in Europe as well as details on our lobbying and advocacy activities on a number of key issues in relation to gender equality and women's rights.

The report is available in electronic format [here](#).

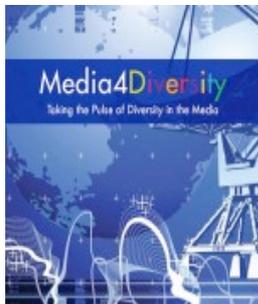


Media Report: Representation of women candidates during the European Parliament Elections 2009

MIGS recently completed a study to examine the quantity and quality of media representation of men and women political candidates in the election campaign for the European elections of June 2009 as well as during the few days following the election results. Two major newspapers in Cyprus were examined in the report.

For the executive summary of the media report please visit our website [here](#). For the full report please click [here](#).

MIGS project selected among 30 top initiatives promoting anti-discrimination and diversity in Europe



MIGS project [Gender, Conflict and the Media: Working Toward Egalitarianism and Peace](#) has been selected among the 30 top initiatives promoting anti-discriminating and diversity across Europe. The selection was made within the framework of a study conducted by the Media Diversity Institute, Internews Europe and the International Federation of Journalists (IFJ), and commissioned by the European Commission.

The Study on Media & Diversity identified over 150 initiatives by, or about, the media that counter discrimination and promote diversity, across Europe. From the 150, 30 selected examples have been included in the final publication together with analysis and recommendations for future action based on the research.

The publication entitled 'Media4Diversity - Taking the Pulse of Diversity in the Media' is now available to download [here](#).

DID YOU KNOW THAT...? MIGS has updated its Glossary of Gender-related terms. To download the glossary please visit: <http://www.medinstgenderstudies.org/?p=20>



MIGS Representation

EGGSI - Network of Experts in Gender Equality, Social Inclusion, Health and Long-term Care

Susana Pavlou, Director, is a member of the Network of Experts in Gender Equality, Social Inclusion, Health and Long-term Care. In this capacity, Susana drafted two reports in 2009, a national report on gender inequalities in health care and a national report on gender and active inclusion policies. For more information please visit <http://www.eggsi.irs-online.it/>.

ATHENA3 Annual Meeting

Christina Kaili, Project Administrator, attended the Annual ATHENA3 (www.athena3.org) meeting that brings together 80 institutes in the interdisciplinary field of Women's and Gender Studies. The meeting took place in conjunction with the 7th Feminist Research Conference, in June 4-7, 2009 in Utrecht. Christina actively participated in the Working Group 3A on Strengthening the Societal Impact of Women's Studies, where participants presented and discussed SWOT analyses of gender equality policies.

Seminar on Abortion, University of Cyprus

Christina Kaili, Project Administrator, attended the seminar entitled 'Abortion in the Cyprus Context', which took place at the University of Cyprus on the 25 June 2009. The event was part of a series of activities organised by the University of Cyprus with the aim to encourage public dialogue on human rights issues. The seminar was organised by the NGO A.M Human Action in cooperation with the Department of Social and Political Sciences, University of Cyprus.

Seminar on EU Directive on Equality of Access to Goods and Services

Susana Pavlou, Director, attended the seminar on the implementation of the European Directive on Equality of Access to Goods and Services, organized by POGO Women's Association and the Cyprus Commissioner of Administration. The seminar took place on the 19 June 2009 and gave a general presentation of the European Directive, its content and its scope.

Third Annual Conference "Mediterranean Voices" - Granada, Spain

Anna Zobnina, Research Associate, attended the third annual conference Mediterranean Voices that took place in Granada, Spain on 6-10 July 2009. The conference aimed at bringing together the women's organizations and activists from different countries of the Mediterranean region in order to exchange information and build and expand women's movement networks of the Mediterranean region.

Annual WAVE Conference

Susana Pavlou attended the Annual WAVE Conference that entitled "Stop Violence against Women and Children" took place on 24-26 September 2009 in Vienna Susana was moderator of the workshop on 'Strategies to End Impunity of Sexual Violence against Women'.



DID YOU KNOW THAT...? *MIGS published a number of articles in the print media in relation to gender equality and equal representation of women and men in the European Parliament.*

"Ποιό είναι το Φύλο της Δημοκρατίας;"

[Politis 03/05/2009](#)

Article written by MIGS with regard to the underrepresentation of women in political life in view of the European elections 6 June 2009. The article also includes information on the EWL 50/50 Campaign for Parity Democracy.

"Support gender rights with your MEP vote"

[Cyprus Mail 24/05/2009](#)

Article with reference to the EWL Gender Audit Report analyzing, from a gender equality perspective, the manifestos of the European political parties in light of the European elections in June 2009.

"Ισότητα των Φύλων εν όψει των Ευρωεκλογών"

[Phileleftheros 4/06/09](#)

MIGS open letter to candidate MEPs highlighting key gender equality issues in view of the European Parliament and asking them to state their position on these issues.

"Έγιναν Βήματα προόδου για το 50/50"

[Politis 21/06/09](#)

Article written by MIGS evaluating the results of the European Parliament elections from a gender equality perspective.

Announcements

[EWL Statement on Women and the Financial Crisis](#)

The European Women's Lobby (EWL), the largest coalition of women's organizations in the European Union (EU), urges policy makers at all levels of decision making to recognize women's role in shaping the post crisis framework which, one year after the collapse of the financial markets, continues to ignore the gender impact of the crisis on the real lives of women and men. To read the EWL Statement click [here](#).

[EWL and EPAC-VAW Press Release on Trafficking in Women](#)

The European Women's Lobby and the European Policy Action Centre on Violence against Women have issued a press release in light of EU Anti-Trafficking Day stating that the increase\ trafficking in women due to EU tolerance for the prostititional system. Read the full press release [here](#).

[European GEAR Campaign](#)

The GEAR Campaign and civil society organizations around the world are working hard urging governments and their UN representative to create a strong, single UN gender equality entity. On 15 September 2009, the United Nations 192 member states unanimously passed a historic resolution that should enable the creation of a new UN



agency for women's rights. For more information visit the European Gear Campaign website [here](#).

Two new briefing papers from WIDE

“Harmonizing” EU Development Assistance: Implications for advancement of gender equality and women's rights in EU partner countries’ and ‘Engendering EU General Budget Support: gender responsive budgeting as a tool for fostering gender equality in EU partner countries’ are two new WIDE briefing papers, written by Lois Woestman. The purpose of these briefing papers is to contribute to the capacity building of women organizations and gender advocates, and promote their involvement in Aid Effectiveness processes. To download the papers please visit www.wide-network.org

EMHRN Gender Working Group launches new website

The Gender Working Group of the Euromed Human Rights Network (EMHRN) has launched its own website at www.gender.emhrn.org. The main aim of the ENHRN Gender Working Group is to contribute to the promotion of equality, human rights and democratic reform in the Euro-Mediterranean region through mainstreaming and institutionalizing a gender-based approach as a mechanism for achieving gender equality.

Teaching With Gender European Women's Studies in International and Interdisciplinary Classrooms

ATHENA3, the Advanced Thematic Network in Women's Studies in Europe, and the Graduate Gender Programme at Utrecht University together with the Centre for Gender Studies of Stockholm University are proud to announce the publication of the book series on learning and teaching in the interdisciplinary field of gender studies. To download the full-text publications please click [here](#).

Faces @ MIGS



Maria Angeli, Research Associate

Maria Angeli holds a BA degree in Sociology from Panteion University in Athens and a MA degree in Gender and Media from Sussex University in the UK. Her master's dissertation was based on intimate relations and whether they are becoming more equal and democratic or not. As part of her internship she worked for the Greek Foundation in the Genealogy Department. Her research interests include: gender media representation, media audiences, gender and politics and intimate relations.

Maria has been actively involved in MIGS work on gender and media representation and more specifically conducted the study on the representation of women political candidates in the prior to the European elections of June 2009. Maria is currently involved in the Global Media Monitoring Project (GMMP), of which MIGS is national coordinator.



WHO WE ARE

Maria Angeli, *Research Associate*

susana@medinstgenderstudies.org

Josie Christodoulou, *Policy Coordinator*
josie@medinstgenderstudies.org

Myria Vassiliadou, *Senior Research Associate*

Georgina Christou, *Research Associate*
georgina@medinstgenderstudies.org

Alexia Panayiotou, *Senior Research Associate*

Miranda Christou, *Senior Research Associate*

Anna Zobnina, *Research Associate*
anna@medinstgenderstudies.org

Zelia Gregoriou, *Senior Research Associate*

Christina Kaili, *Project Administrator*
christina@medinstgenderstudies.org

Susana Pavlou, *Director*

The Mediterranean Institute of Gender Studies is a non-profit NGO
affiliated to the University of Nicosia, Cyprus
46 Makedonitissas Ave., P.O. Box 24005, 1700 Nicosia - Cyprus,
Tel. +357 22351276, Fax. +35722353682; email: info@medinstgenderstudies.org
Website: <http://www.medinstgenderstudies.org>