



INFORMATION ON PROGRESS IN REGARDS TO THE COMMITMENTS MADE AT THE GLOBAL LEADERS' MEETING ON GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

Pledge: „Prompt the application of the Framework Strategy for the Implementation of the Istanbul Convention; prevention of and fight against domestic violence“

A high-level international Conference on “Monitoring the implementation of the Istanbul Convention ” took place in Sarajevo. Methodology was adopted for monitoring of the implementation of the Convention, including the methodology for data-collection.

Gender Equality Agency of BiH signed with the „Safe Network BiH“, a coalition of civil society organizations, including all nine safe houses in BiH – a Memorandum of Understanding for the addressing in partnership gender-based violence in BiH.

In the Federation of BiH a web-based domestic violence database has been put into operation. In order to draw the public attention to the problem of femicide, the First Regional Conference on Femicide was held in Banja Luka.

Ministry for Human Rights and Refugees of BiH introduced a budget-line for grants to the NGOs, and international donors have committed funds (USAID 750,000 USD and Swedish SIDA 1,5 mil USD) to combat gender based violence.

Pledge: support for the women victims of sexual violence in conflict

Criminal Code of BiH was harmonized with the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, as to recognize the persecution on “political, racial, national, ethnic, culture, religious, gender and other ground” as a criminal act against humanity. The Court of BiH issued two verdicts deciding that in addition to the jail-time, the perpetrators are obligated to the awards for the nonmaterial damage.

The Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees of BiH has re-initiated the discussion on the State Law on Torture and started the creation of a working group to revise the current draft.

Pledge: greater inclusion of women and reduction of labor market segregation

Both BH entities passed new Labor Laws in 2015 prohibiting discrimination on the basis of marital status, family obligations and pregnancy such as overtime work for pregnant women, mothers of children younger than 3 years of age and specifying that at the beginning of their employment workers cannot be asked for information on their family/marital status or pregnancy.

Capacities of women for entrepreneurship, marketability and self-employment have been raised through the Project “Social, Entrepreneurship and e-Inclusion of Women 40+”.

In the Federation of BiH differences in maternity allowance still exist, based on the canton in which mother lives and the sector in which she is employed, while in the RS Labor Law regulates the question of child support by setting up a Public Fund for the Protection of Children RS.