Side event

Politics, Power, Parity:

Towards a #NextGen Gender Equality in the Balkans and Eastern Europe

29 OCTOBER 2019
8:30-9:45 A.M.

Room XXII
Palais des Nations, Geneva

Background

Women's participation in policy- and decision-making is vital to accelerating the SDGs. New gender quotas and electoral codes have galvanized women's participation in politics and transformed the electoral landscape in the Western Balkans and Eastern Europe, as have welfare reforms in EU countries. While these are promising developments, there is an urgent need for greater political and civic engagement by feminist leaders in Eastern Europe and the EU to advance women in decision-making positions, confront the gender backlash trends spreading in parts of the region and trigger a dialogue about effective next-generation strategies for advancing gender equality.

About the event

The event will feature feminist political leaders, officials, and activists from the Western Balkans, Eastern Europe and the European Union in a strategic dialogue on accelerating gender equality in decision-making and countering gender backlash trends. Speakers will discuss the following questions:

- What are the key achievements and challenges to women's participation in decision-making?
- How can women leaders join forces to counter gender backlash trends?
- How can feminist leaders create a platform to advance a #NextGen Gender Equality?

GENERATION EQUALITY REGIONAL REVIEW MEETING
GENEVA | 29-30 October 2019

Leading organizations

- Women's Political Network, Montenegro
- Swedish Gender Equality Agency
- Administration of the Government of Georgia
- Gender Caucus of the Parliament of Ukraine
- Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, Armenia
- UNDP

Co-organizer

- Gender Centre NGO, Moldova

Agenda

Time	Activity
8:30 – 8:35	**Opening remarks**
8:35 – 9:15	**Moderated panel discussion** **Moderator: Yakin Ertürk**, Academic and Former UN Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women **Panelists** • **Marija Blagojevic**, Women's Political Network, Montenegro, and Advisor to the President of the Parliament of Montenegro • **Ismeta Dervoz**, Civil society activist in women's rights, non-discrimination and equality, Bosnia and Herzegovina • **Natalia Jaliashvili,** Head of Human Rights Secretariat, Administration of the Government of Georgia • **Larysa Kobelyanska**, Coordinator, Public Council on Gender Issues in the Equal Opportunities Caucus in the Parliament of Ukraine
9:15 – 9:35	**Discussion** **Lead discussant: Anna Collins Falk,** International Coordinator/Senior Advisor Swedish Gender Equality Agency **First intervention** • **Valentina Bodrug,** President, Gender Centre NGO, Moldova • **Olga Azatyan,** Advisor to the Minister of Labour and Social Affairs, Armenia
9:35 – 9:40	**Open Q&A**
9:40 – 9:45	**Closing remarks**