“Inequalities, Social inclusion and Rights”
UNECE Regional Conference
“Enabling choices: Population priorities for the 21st century”

Milena Kadieva
Managing Director of Gender Alternatives Foundation
www.genderalternatives.org
Member of ASTRA – Central and Eastern Europe
Women’s Network for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights

Session 1: Equality, equity, social inclusion, rights and advancement of ICPD agenda in the region

• Panelists
• Discussion on the understanding of inequality
  - gross domestic product
  - differences between countries
  - differences within countries
Session 2: “Successes and Challenges in Implementing the ICPD PoA as a Rights-Based Instrument for Addressing Inequalities and Enhancing Social Inclusion”

- **Successes in the region:** reduced maternal mortality; increased access to contraceptives; increased longevity; advanced access of young people to information and services; progress in decriminalizing abortion and homosexuality; increased strong and vocal role of civil society organizations.

- **Challenges in the region:** direct discrimination against women; persistent lack of comprehensive sexuality education; limited or no access to high-quality abortion services; unacceptably high levels of violence against women; low level of knowledge about human rights; not effectively executed laws; underfunded national mechanisms for human rights protection.

- **Shared concern:** harmful attitudes and stereotypes related to gender are still prevalent in the region.

Session 3: “Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women”

- Family policies and gender equality
- Division of household labor
- Policy responses
- Re-emergence of restrictive pro-natalist policies
- Gender-based violence
Session 4: “Inequalities and Vulnerable Groups”

- Young people
- Older persons
- People with disabilities
- Migrants
- Sex workers
- Orphaned children
- Ethnic minorities

Thank you for your attention!

Gender Alternatives Foundation
Bulgaria
Plovdiv – 4000
38, 4 yanuari street
entr. B, fl. 2, apt. 3
www.genderalternatives.org
office@genderalternatives.org
GSM: +359 885 712 984