

Workshop: ‘Towards gender-sensitive media coverage of violence against women and femicide/feminicide: challenges and opportunities for the cooperation between the Latin American and the EU region’

Date: 9th November 2018

Time: 11:00 – 16:00

Venue: Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung European Union
Rue du Luxembourg 47-51, 1050, Brussels

Introduction

Globally, violence against women (VAW), and femicide as its most dramatic expression, represent a threat for women and society in general as well as a major public health problem. International mechanisms such as CEDAW, Belém do Pará and Istanbul Convention recognise the key role of media in shaping the advancement on women’s rights and the construction of social perspectives on VAW. In fact, news coverage of VAW and femicide can contribute to raising public awareness and condemning violence. However, it often reproduces stereotypes and thereby perpetuates discrimination against women. Although progress in terms of journalists training, self-regulation, the creation of journalistic codes of ethics, and media monitoring can be recorded, a lot still needs to be done considering the emerging fundamentalist discourses as well as the global backlash against women’s rights.

Objectives

The purpose of the workshop is to exchange, discuss and identify best practices in the promotion of gender-sensitive media. The workshop will give representatives from civil society, the media sector, regional and international mechanisms on VAW from the EU and the Latin American region the opportunity to present their research, experiences and projects.

Participants will be invited to jointly develop ideas on how to build and strengthen a process for the cooperation between the EU and Latin American countries and actors. Taking into account the common but also different regional challenges and circumstances, the workshop seeks to be a first step towards a successful collaboration. Finally, main findings of the debate including the best practices and challenges of and for the ongoing actions will be further developed in the form of concrete proposals for cooperation projects.

Agenda

WELCOME NOTES

Patricia Jimenez, Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung European Union, Head of Global Dialogue Programme

- Objectives of the workshop

Dubravka Simonovic, UN Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences

- Brief introduction to the role of media in the presentation of VAW and femicide

HOW TO REPORT ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND FEMICIDE/FEMINICIDE?

Main Questions: What are the steps for including a gender perspective in news coverage of VAW and femicide cases? How could media be used as a tool to help organizations and authorities to raise awareness and implement programs on VAW?

Facilitator: **Patricia Jiménez**, Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung European Union, Head of Global Dialogue Programme

Speakers:

Mariana Carbajal, Journalist at Página/12 (Argentina). Expert on gender-sensitive journalism

Adriana Benjumea, Director of Corporación Humanas, Colombia

LUNCH

BUILDING COLLABORATIVE FRAMEWORKS TO END VAW AND FEMICIDE/FEMINICIDE

Main Questions: How to enable cooperation between women's organizations, authorities, private sector and media in practice? What should be expected from the role of the State?

Facilitator: **Ana Martinez Fernandez** for Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung European Union

Speakers:

Tatiana Rein Venegas, Principal Expert MESECVI, Chile

Asha Allen, Policy and Campaigns Officer, European Women's Lobby (tbc)

Natalia Gherardi, Executive Director of the Latin American Group for Gender and Justice (ELA)

NEXT STEPS: OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE BI-REGIONAL COOPERATION

Main question: What are the opportunities and steps to build a process for bi-regional cooperation between EU and Latin American actors?

Facilitator: **Gaby Koppers**, Advisor on International Trade (INTA) and on Latin American issues, Greens/EFA EU Parliament

Speakers: **Luz Patricia Mejía**, Technical Secretary of MESECVI

END OF WORKSHOP