2022 Korčula School Think Tank

Korčula, 25-26 August 2022

 Transforming Politics through a Gender lens – Recover, Restart, Retool 2022

PROGRAMME

Overarching topic: "Hard Political Choices Call for Imperative Ideological Responses"

Crosscutting topic: "Gender Equality and Sexual and Reproductive Rights in the crux of the Ideological Divide"

Hybrid (in person/ZOOM)

About 2022 Korčula School Think Tank

The Korčula School has a think tank and informal format. It fosters a free, open, and substantive debate among participants. For the benefit of our stakeholders, the meeting will be recorded and livestreamed (unless otherwise specified), with note takers. Recommendations and political messages from each session will feature, without attribution, in the final report. The meeting will be in English, and some sessions will be livestreamed and recorded.

The Korčula School Think Tank gathers women and men leaders from South Eastern Europe and beyond to discuss political, economic, social and cultural aspects of gender equality, as well as women's political leadership in the broader context of social democratic and progressive politics. The School, which is held annually, has become a recognised think tank due to its innovative, open, progressive, substantive and gender disaggregated approach to equality, democracy, human rights, social justice and overall transformative politics.

The 2021 Korčula School reviewed the developments since its session in 2020 and, under the title of "Recover, Restart, Retool 2021" – Crosscutting topic: Rethinking Gender Equality", discussed the longer-term strategies to build a more sustainable, resilient, socially just and equitable model of recovery and to promote gender equality. (2021 Report: https://ceegendernetwork.eu). The 2022 Korčula School is a continuation of this discussion.

Big political and ideological shifts cause big political and ideological, often, uncontrollable actions. Being complacent on the progressive and socialdemocratic side is not an option. It is an imperative, history teaches us. The world, Europe and the region is today still plagued by the impact of the Covid 19 pandemic. The Russian invasion of Ukraine and the ensuing war has further exacerbated the situation on all fronts – social, political, economic, military with serious ramifications for Europe. The Western Balkans are again coming to focus as an unstable region, discussions around EU accession have accelerated, in-country politics remains divisive and socialdemocratic parties are grappling externally with the current challenges and internally with their own positioning and alignment.

The 2022 Korčula School discussions will focus on the current political and ideological moment in the region; on the positioning of socildemocratic parties and potential for their individual in-country and regional action, on how to address the rising authoritarianism and right wing conservativism. As Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban has spelled out in his twelve point right wing methodology¹, at the centre of this ideological divide, or rather right wing ideological assault, lies gender equality, sexual diversity and reproductive rights. The latter will be given a special session in order to identify the best socialdemocrative and progressive responses, as well to discuss the course of action particularly in view of the Regional Socialdmeocratic Gender Equality Platform signed in 2015. Basically, progressive, socialdemocratic principles and values are under assault in a complex political, economic and social environment.

The 2022 Korčula School Think Tank is organised with the support of the Olof Palme International Center and in cooperation with PES/PES Women, the Foundation for European Progressive Studies (FEPS), SOLIDAR, FES, the European Forum for Democracy and Solidarity.



¹ https://telex.hu/english/2022/05/19/cpac-hungary-begins-with-orban-sharing-his-recipe-for-success

Part I (Thursday, 25 August 2022) – Partnerships and specific issues (Venue: Centar za kulturu, Korčula)

- i. **Participatory Democracy are we there politically:** in collaboration with PESW.
- ii. Sustainable development a comprehensive package for Europe: in collaboration with FES
- iii. Gender pay gap challenges and in-roads in collaboration with FEPS
- iv. Inclusivity and social justice in collaboration with Solidar

Part II (Friday, 26 August 2022) – Politics, ideology and socialdemocracy in the region (Venue: Centar za kulturu, Korčula)

- i. European integration, Ukraine crisis and Regional trends a political and geostrategic discussion – addressing the geopolitics and potential instability, peace and security, authoritarianism and the right vs progressives and socialdemocrats, the ideological and political divide, dealing with corruption and corrupt practices
- **ii. Country politics and trends** the region is fragile; many elections have taken place; outcomes have not always been favourable for the progressives and socialdemocrts; what is the political vision for the future
- iii. Socialdemocracy present and future in the region progressive and socialdemocratic parties' strategies, tactics, political priorities, political choices and alliances, party capacities and strengthening
- iv. Gender equality, sexual and reproductive rights at the crux of the ideological divide – review of political positioning, forms of response (political/ideological) and the activities of women's forums (analysis done by CEE Gender Network and FEPS), regional gender equality platform review

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Saturday, 27 August 2022 morning – CEE Gender Network Board and Advisory Council meeting (Venue: Hotel Marko Polo, Korčula)



	Wedne	esday, 24 August		
Arrival of pa	rticipants and cocktails			
	Thurs	sday, 25 August		
8:30-9:45	Registration and coffee			
9:45-10:15 am	Opening	 Sabina Glasovac, Vice President SDP Croatia Zita Gurmai, President PESW (ZOOM) Nika Silić Maroević, Mayor of Korcula Town Dasa Šašić Šilović, Chair CEE Network for Gender Issues, President European Partners for the Environment 		
	Part I – Partner	ships and specific issues		
10:15 am – 11:45 am	PESW/CEE Gender Network Roundtable I Participatory Democracy– are we there politically?	 Lana Prlić, Vice President SDP Bosnia and Herzegovina. MP Biljana Stojković, professor University of Belgrade and presidential candidate in Serbia's last elections Laeticia Thissen, Policy Analyst for Gender Affairs, FEPS Nino Tsilosani, Chairperson of Georgian Dream - Democratic Georgia Party Women's Organization (ZOOM) Jure Zubčić, county councilor for Zadar and president of the county SDP Croatia Moderator: Zita Curmai, Precident PESW 		
		Moderator: Zita Gurmai, President PESW (ZOOM)		



11:45 am -1:00 pm	FES/CEE Gender Network Roundtable II Sustainable development – a comprehensive package for Europe	 Raymond van Ermen, Executive Director European Partners for the Environment (ZOOM) Marta Szigeti Bonifert, Member, CEE Gender Network Board, Board Member of the European Partners for the Environment Sandra Krpan, Deputy Mayor of Rijeka, WF SDP Croatia Moderator: Mojca Kleva Kekuš, General Secretary University of Primorska, Progresiva Slovenia, Board Member FEPS, Member CEE Gender Network Board
Light Lunch		
2:30 pm – 4 pm	FEPS/CEE Gender Network Roundtable III Gender pay gap – challenges and in-roads	 Nebojša Paunović, Adviser, Office of the Ombudswoman for Gender Equality Olgica Lola Milojević, gender equality consultant, Serbia Sanja Biježančević, Member Main Board SDP, President Regional SDP Croatia for Osijek Baranja County Martina Naumovska, member of the Executive Board of SDUM WF and adviser in the Cabinet of the Deputy Prime Minister of North Macedonia for European integration Moderator: Laeticia Thissen, Policy Analyst for Gender Affairs, FEPS
Coffee		
4:15 pm- 5:30pm	Solidar/CEE Gender Network Roundtable IV Inclusivity and social justice	 Goran Radosavljević, Professor, Director FEFA Institute, Belgrade, VP Social Democratic Party Serbia Tamara Tripić, Member CEE Gender Network Board Andrea Casamenti, Policy Advisor, Solidar (ZOOM) Visar Ymeri, Institute for Social Sciences, Priština Moderator: Snežana Vančevska Kaleska, MP North Macedonia





	Frida	ay, 26 August	
Part II – Politics, ideology and socialdemocracy in the region			
9:30– 10:45 am	Session 1: European integration, Ukraine crisis and Regional trends – a political and geostrategic discussion	 Tanja Fajon, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Slovenia, MEP and President of SDP Slovenia (ZOOM) Ranko Krivokapić, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Montenegro (ZOOM) Maria João Rodrigues – President FEPS (ZOOM) Radmila Šekerinska, former Minister of Defense of North Macedonia, former Vice- President SDUM Moderator: Daša Šašić Šilović, Chair CEE Gende Network, President European Partners for the Environment 	
Coffee			
11:00 am – 12:15 pm	Session 2: European integration, Ukraine crisis and Regional trends – a political and geostrategic discussion	 Nermin Nikšić, President SDP Bosnia and Herzegovina (ZOOM) Romina Kuko, Deputy Minister of Interior Albania, President City Board of Tirana, International Secretary SP Albania Siniša Hajdaš Doncić, Vice President SDP Croatia, MP Pier Virgilio Dastoli, President, Movimento europeo Italia (ZOOM) Moderator: László Andor, Secretary General, FEPS 	



12:15pm- 1:30pm	Session 3: European integration, Ukraine crisis and Regional trends – a political and geostrategic discussion	 Ranko Ostojić, Vice President SDP Croatia, MPPia Locatelli, Honorary President SIW, International Secretary SP Italy, Member of Presidency PES, Member CEE Gender Network Board Jan Marinus Wiersma, Vice President EFDS (ZOOM) Nenad Čanak, President LSDVojvodina, Serbia (ZOOM) Moderator: Pavle Bogoevski, Executive Director, Progres Institut Skopje, North Macedonia, CEE Gender Network Board Member
Light Lunch	1	
2:30 pm -3:45 pm	Socialdemocracy - present and future in the region	 András Pulai, Director of Strategy, Publicus Research, Hungary Nataša Milojević, President FOSDI, Serbia Miroslav Živanović, (ZOOM) Sabina Glasovac, Vice President SDP Croatia, MP Nataša Vučković, Executive Director, Center for Democracy Foundation Moderator: Andreja Katić, former Minister of Justice of Slovenia and Minister of Defense, President WF SDP Slovenia
Coffee		



4:00-5:15pm	Is gender equality a reality in socialdemocratic parties in the Western Balkans -a case study of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia	 Radojka Kraljević Olgica Lola Milojević Sanela Bašić Nataša Nelević Ana Chupeska (ZOOM) Moderator: Lovorka Marinović, President CNI and Member CEE Gender Network Board
7:30 pm	Reception	

	Saturday, 27 August	
9:00-11:30am	CEE Gender Network Board and Advisory Council meeting	
Light lunch and Departure		



NOTES:		

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2022 Korčula School Think Tank organized by



In partnership with







Until our next gathering, let the following thought follow us:

Progressive, left, socialdemocratic and socialist movements should organise, join hands, be strategic, active and clear in saying this should not be the world we live in and the world of our future.

Enough is enough!

THANK YOU! TO BE CONTINUED...

E-MAIL: ceegendernet@gmail.com FACEBOOK: https://www.facebook.com/CeeGenderNetwork TWITTER: @CEEGENDERNET WEB: ceegendernetwork.eu PODCAST: Klackalica / Seesaw