



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DG Justice

Legal Seminar - Equality Law: What kind of Equality?

29 November 2013

Courtyard Marriott Hotel

Avenue des Olympiades 6, Brussels

From 9.00 Participant Registration (in the Foyer, first floor)

Plenary Session	Athens ballroom
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Chair: **Ms. Isabelle Chopin** – Deputy Director of the Migration Policy Group and Content Manager and Deputy Coordinator of the European Network of Legal Experts in the Non-Discrimination Field (Belgium).

09.30 – 10.00 Introduction – Mr. Aurel Ciobanu-Dordea, Director for Equality, Directorate-General for Justice, European Commission.

10.00 – 11.00 Keynote speech – Mr. Jean-Guy Huglo, Judge at the Judiciary Supreme Court (the French Supreme Court for civil and criminal matters).

11.00 – 11.15 Coffee Break

Morning Workshop Sessions

11.15 – 12.45

1 –Update on the Court of Justice of the European Union Case Law

The workshop will discuss recent developments in the case-law of the Court of Justice of the European Union in the field of non-discrimination and equality, referring specifically to recent important judgments and their impact on equality and anti-discrimination legislation on the national level. The European Network of Legal Experts in the Non-Discrimination Field recently published a thematic report on this issue and its findings will be presented so as to enrich the discussions.

Room: **Athens Ballroom**

Chair: **Ms. Biljana Kotevska** – LL.M., Program Director of the Human Rights Program at CRPRC Studiorum, think-tank, Skopje; National Expert for the European Network of Legal Experts in the Non-Discrimination Field (Macedonia (FYR)).

Speakers: **Mr. Colm O’Cinneide** – Reader in Law, University College London (UCL); general rapporteur, European Committee on Social Rights (the United Kingdom).

Ms. Iustina Ionescu – Practising Human Rights Lawyer(Romania) and National Expert for the European Network of Legal Experts in the Field of Gender Equality (Romania).

2 – Equal Pay

The principle of equal pay for equal work or work of equal value is firmly embedded in EU law. However, women in the EU earn around 16% less per hour than men and workers with precarious contracts are often not entitled to pay elements available to workers with permanent contracts. The enforcement of the equal pay principle is thus of paramount importance. This workshops will discuss relevant case law of the CJEU and practices at national level.

Room: **Sydney**

Chair: **Prof. Sylvaine Laulom** – , University Lumière Lyon 2, IETL (Lyon Institute for Labour Studies) and National Expert for the European Network of Legal Experts in the Field of Gender Equality (France).

Speakers: **Prof. Ann Numhauser-Henning** – Lund University, Faculty of Law and National Expert for the European Network of Legal Experts in the Field of Gender Equality (Sweden).
Prof. Csilla Kollonay Lehoczky – Central European University, Budapest (Hungary).

3 – Disability Discrimination

The workshop will discuss recent developments and current trends as regards the prohibition of discrimination on the ground of disability, focusing in particular on the need for protection against discrimination on grounds of disability beyond the field of employment and addressing issues related to reasonable accommodation and accessibility

Room: **Barcelona**

Chair: **Mrs. Corina Demetriou** – Lawyer and Legal Researcher with expertise on non-discrimination, Nicosia; National Expert for the European Network of Legal Experts in the Non-Discrimination Field (Cyprus).

Speakers: **Mr. Alvaro Oliveira** – Legal Officer, European Commission, DG Justice, Equal Treatment Legislation Unit (Belgium).
Ms. Maria Ventegodt Liisberg – Team Leader (disability), PhD, Danish Institute for Human Rights, Copenhagen (Denmark).

4 – Positive Action (including Quotas)

This workshop will discuss different forms of pro-active and positive action measures. The Gender Network has published a report on this issue, including information on quotas. The pending proposal of the Commission on improving the gender balance among non-executive directors of company boards will be examined as well.

Room: **Antwerp**

Chair: **Prof. Linda Senden** – Professor of EU Law at Utrecht University School of Law and member of the Executive Committee of the European Network of Legal Experts in the Field of Gender Equality, (The Netherlands).

Speakers: **Ms. Mirella Visser** – LL.M, Managing director of the Centre for Inclusive Leadership, International Business Executive and Board Member (The Netherlands).
Dr. Lynn Roseberry – Associate Professor, Copenhagen Business School (Denmark).

5 – Housing

The workshop will examine the specific issues related to discrimination in the field of housing, including the general trends of discrimination, for instance on the grounds of disability and race/ethnic origin as well as the specific issues of discrimination against Roma and the Traveller community. The European Network of Legal Experts in the Non-Discrimination Field recently prepared a thematic report on this issue and the findings of this report will be presented so as to enrich the discussions.

Room: **Atlanta**

Chair: **Ms. Orlagh O'Farrell** – Member Designate of the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission; Independent Equality Consultant; Member of the Community Legal Resource Network and The European Network of Legal Experts in the Non-Discrimination Field, Dublin (Ireland).

Speakers: **Dr. Julie Ringelheim** – Senior Researcher with the Belgian Fund for Scientific Research (FNRS) and Professor of Human Rights Law at Louvain University (Belgium).

Ms. Sue Lukes – Independent expert in the fields of migration, equality and service provision, including housing; co-author of the Integrating cities/Eurocities toolkit on anti-discrimination. (the United Kingdom).

12.45 – 14.00 Lunch

Afternoon Workshop Sessions

14.00 – 15.30 Workshop Sessions 1-5 (Same topics as morning sessions)

15.30 – 16.00 Coffee Break

Closing Session

Athens Ballroom

Chair: **Dr. Susanne Burri** – Utrecht University School of Law, Coordinator of the European Network of Legal Experts in the Field of Gender Equality (The Netherlands).

16.00 – 16.15 Two short newsflashes by a) Netherlands Institute for Human Rights; b) Equinet

16.15 - 16.30 Summary workshop proceedings - Dr. Susanne Burri.

16.30 – 16.45 Closing – Mr. Andreas Stein, Head of Unit for Equal Treatment Legislation, Directorate-General for Justice, European Commission.

16.45 Cocktail