

An initiative by the City Councillor for Women's Issues Sandra Frauenberger

[ **Fem** *Cities* ]

## **International Conference**

FemCities – European cities networking for gender equality

**Date** 6 December 2007  
**Venue** MOYA (Museum of Young Art),  
Löwelstraße 20, 1010 Vienna  
**Time** 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Frauen<sup>MA57</sup>  
Stadt  Wien

### Objective

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Cities are important actors in the field of women's and gender policies. In signing the European Charta for Equality between Women and Men in Local Life, many cities have committed themselves to develop and implement gender equality policies.

On an initiative of Vienna City Councillor Sandra Frauenberger, the exchange between European cities and the co-operation on women's and gender issues will be given fresh impetus through the enlargement of the women's network **FemCities**. Originally, **FemCities** was a co-operation venture between Central European cities, mostly in Austria, Hungary, Slovakia and the Czech Republic. Ten years after the network's launch, **FemCities** is again to expand and win new partners, particularly in Western, Southern and Northern European cities.

In the context of the international campaign "16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence" and the Council of Europe's campaign against domestic violence, the conference to be held on 6 December addresses domestic violence and trafficking in women as essential urban issues for an international exchange of best-practice models. However, this conference is also to provide opportunities for an improved agenda-setting process for further co-operative and networking activities.

Vienna's Executive City Councillor for Women's Issues, Sandra Frauenberger, and the Municipal Department for the Promotion and Co-ordination of Women's Issues therefore invite representatives from European municipalities, as well as other gender experts, to discuss best practices on urban women's and gender policies and to work on the future role of the network **FemCities**.

## Programme

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**05.12.07**

**Evening**

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**8.00 p.m. Welcome reception**

(drinks and food will be served) Rathauskeller/Lanner Saal

**Anica Matzka-Dojder** Member of the Vienna City Council

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**06.12.07**

**Morning**

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**8.30 a.m. Registration**

**9.00 a.m. Welcome address**

**Sandra Frauenberger**

Executive City Councillor for Integration, Women's Issues, Consumer Protection and Personnel

**Introduction**

**Marion Gebhart**

Municipal Department for the Promotion and Co-ordination of Women's Issues

**9.30 a.m. Keynote address Workshop A: Domestic Violence**

**Heinz Drobesch**

Director of Parliamentary Administration of the State Parliament of Styria, Legal Adviser in Gender Affairs

**9.50 a.m. Keynote address Workshop B: Trafficking in Women**

**Helga Konrad**

International Consultant on Combating Trafficking in Human Beings

**10.10 a.m. Coffee break**

**10.45 a.m. Workshops (parallel)**

**Workshop A: Domestic Violence Presentations & discussion**

**Madla Cechová / Anna Horínová** Persefona, Brno

**Barbara Michalek** 24-hour Women's Emergency Hotline, Vienna

**Workshop B: Trafficking in Women Presentations & discussion**

**Katjusa Kodele / Mateja Demsic** Ključ Center / City of Ljubljana

**Ulrike Gatzke** KOOFRA, Hamburg

12.15 p.m. **Plenary**

Presentation of the results from workshops A and B

12.30 p.m. **Buffet lunch**

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**06.12.07**

Afternoon

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1.30 p.m. **Keynote speech on the “Role of Cities for Gender Equality”**

**Diane Bunyan**

Consultant for the Council of European Municipalities and Regions

2.00 p.m. **Plenary FemCities**

Presentation of the women’s network FemCities: General aspects, idea, objectives & structure

**Siegrun Herzog** and **Petra Ziegler**

Europaforum Wien

2.30 p.m. **Working Groups**

The future of the women’s network FemCities:

operational aspects, relevant topics, commitments & first recommendations

4.00 p.m. **Coffee break**

4.30 p.m. **Concluding plenary**

Presentation of results and conclusions from the working groups

Executive summary for an “agreement on the next steps to take”

5.00 p.m. **Close**

### Topics

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#### The conference will focus on three main topics:

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##### The Role of Cities in the Field of Domestic Violence

Against the backdrop of the international campaign “16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence” and the Council of Europe’s campaign against domestic violence, challenges for the agenda of the cities in the field of domestic violence will be discussed.

What challenges do cities face?

What possibilities do they have?

What kind of policies do they develop?

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##### The Role of Cities in the Field of Trafficking in Women

European cities are increasingly confronted with the problem of trafficking. Based on best-practice examples, potentials for future activities of cities to fight trafficking will be identified and discussed.

How are cities affected?

What challenges do they face?

What can cities do by themselves, where do they have to co-operate (national, European level)?

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##### The Future of the City Network FemCities

In a first step, future orientations and possibilities of the network will be discussed together with potential partners from other European cities; topics as well as options for creating an EU-wide co-operation of municipalities will be developed.

#### General aspects

Why do we need a city network working on women’s issues?

What are the relevant topics?

What kind of goals can be achieved?

What is the value-added of this network?

#### Operational aspects

What type of network should be created?

Assessment of needed resources (human and financial)

What are potential EU co-funding sources?

Definition of initial commitments

Outline of a work plan

## Conference Organisation

### Host

Municipal Department for the Promotion and Co-ordination of Women's Issues (MA 57)  
 Friedrich Schmidt-Platz 3 | 1082 Vienna | T + 43 1 4000-83 533  
 www.frauen.wien.at | frauen@m57.magwien.gv.at

### Conference organisation

Europaforum Wien – Centre for Urban Dialogue and European Policy  
 Rahlgasse 3/2 | 1060 Vienna | T + 43 1 5858510-0 | F + 43 1 5858510-30  
 www.europaforum.or.at | femcities@europaforum.or.at

### Conference language

The working language will be English.

### Conference venue on 6 December 2007

MOYA – Museum of Young Art | Löwelstraße 20 | 1010 Vienna  
 (opposite Vienna City Hall, between Burgtheater and Café Landtmann)

### Venue of evening reception on 5 December 2007

Rathauskeller, Lanner Saal | Rathausplatz 1 | 1010 Vienna  
 (the restaurant “Rathauskeller” is located in Vienna City Hall)

Both venues can be reached by public transport:  
 tram 1, 2, D (stop “Burgtheater/Rathausplatz”),  
 Underground U2 (stop “Rathaus” or “Schottentor”),  
 U3 (stop “Herrengasse”)



### Registration

The conference is free of charge; we kindly ask for registration by 28 November 2007;  
 please fax the attached registration form to + 43 1 5858510-30 or e-mail it to femcities@europaforum.or.at.

### Hotel accommodation

Attention: Vienna is highly booked in December, therefore please let us know by **16 November** if we can organise accommodation for you. Please use the attached form for your hotel reservation.