



Making laws work to end violence against women and girls Bucharest (Romania), 12-14 June 2017

Regional Conference for Central and Eastern Europe jointly organized by the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), the Romanian Chamber of Deputies, Global Rights for Women and Vital Voices

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. VENUE, DATE AND PROGRAMME

The Conference will be held from 12 to 14 June 2017 in the Parliament of Romania (Palace of Parliament), Avram Iancu Hall, Level P1. Access to the Conference venue is from the official entrance located on Constitution Square (entrance C1), where all badges and Conference documents should be collected.

2. PARTICIPATION

The Conference will bring together for the first time delegations consisting of **parliamentarians, non-governmental advocates, and legal government officials** (i.e. law enforcement, prosecutor, judge, and policymaker) who are responsible for creating, adopting or implementing laws on domestic violence or sexual violence. Participants will come from the following Central and Eastern European countries: Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Georgia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Montenegro, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey and Ukraine.

Each parliament is invited to send three participants maximum from both sexes and reflecting the political representation within parliament. It is recommended that designated parliamentarians be persons working directly on gender equality and violence against women issues in parliament. Each Parliament is also invited to include in its delegation a legal government official who has played a role in implementing laws on ending violence against women.

Non-governmental organizations that are part of Global Rights for Women and Vital Voices' network are also invited to send a maximum of four participants, consisting of NGO staff and legal government officials that have worked together in the past to improve the response to violence against women in their country. The list of NGOs invited to attend as part of the GRW and Vital Voices networks is found in Annex 1.

3. CONFERENCE GOAL

The goal of the conference is to empower national actors - parliaments, governments, and civil society organizations - to work together to adopt and effectively implement violence against women laws, prioritizing victim safety and offender accountability. The conference goal builds on the acknowledgement that multi-sectoral cooperation is a prerequisite to ensure that women are protected and offenders are held accountable.

4. CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

- Keynote speeches by renown international experts and interactive panel discussions of international and regional standards and best practices on ending violence against women and girls
- Segments in plenary to exchange knowledge and promote the sharing of innovation
- Break-out sessions and learning tracks
- Meetings in-country delegations to develop a common national working plan to ensure women's easy access to support services, protection, justice and recovery

5. DOCUMENTS

Participants will receive copies of the resource persons' presentations as they become available. To the extent possible, the conference Secretariat will make available background documentation on the topics under discussion for the information of participants. The Secretariat will strive to make these documents available in English and, where possible, also in Russian and Romanian.

Participants wishing to distribute relevant documentation to their colleagues will be required to provide it in sufficient quantities and place it on a table set aside for that purpose in front of the Avram Iancu Hall.

6. WORKING LANGUAGES

Simultaneous interpretation will be provided into and from English, Russian and Romanian.

Please note that only one additional interpretation booth is available for delegations that wish to speak in any other language. Delegations that wish to use interpretation facilities are kindly requested to inform the organisers no later than 15 May 2017. They should provide their own interpreter; the additional booth will be reserved on a first-come-first served basis.

7. REGISTRATION

Participants are requested to complete and return the enclosed Registration Form **no later than 5 June 2017**, to the following addresses:

<p>Parliament of Romania Romanian Chamber of Deputies Protocol: Ms. Daniela Ghiță Email: protocol@cdep.ro; dghita@cdep.ro Tel: +40214141484 Fax: +40214141954</p> <p>General Directorate for Foreign Affairs: Ms. Ioana Bâgneanu Email: ipu@cdep.ro Tel: +40214141990 Fax: +40214142149</p>	<p>With copy to: Inter-Parliamentary Union 5, chemin du Pommier case postale 330 1218 Grand-Saconnex Geneva, Switzerland Email: postbox@mail.ipu.org Tel: +41 22 919 41 50 Fax: +41 22 919 41 60</p>
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8. HOTEL ACCOMODATION AND RESERVATIONS

The Chamber of Deputies (Parliament of Romania) has made a block booking reservation for four nights (11, 12, 13 and 14 June) at the two hotels indicated below. Participants are kindly asked to complete the Hotel Registration Form and return it as soon as possible, and no later than **15 May 2017**. Reservations received after that date cannot be guaranteed and will be considered depending on room availability. Requests for hotel reservations will be treated on a first-come-first-served basis.

Parliamentarians and legal officials accompanying them are kindly asked to settle their bill directly with the hotel concerned.

Global Rights for Women and Vital Voices will cover accommodation costs in hotel 2 for up to four NGO staff and legal government officials' participants per country.

Hotels

<p>CONTACTS HOTEL 1 JW Marriott Bucharest Grand Hotel 90 Calea 13 Septembrie, 050726, Bucharest Email: reservations.bucharest@marriott.com; bianca.tirdel@marriott.com; mhrs.buhro.dos@marriott.com; mhrs.buhro.sales.mgr4@marriott.com Tel: (40 21) 403 2000 Fax: (40 21) 403 2001</p>	<p>CONTACTS HOTEL 2 Golden Tulip Victoria Bucharest Hotel 166 Calea Victoriei, 010096, Bucharest Email: sales@goldentulipbucharest.com Tel: + 4021 212 55 58 Fax: +4021 212 51 21</p>
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9. TRAVEL, ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE

All participants are kindly requested to arrange their transportation to and from Henri Coandă International Airport to their hotel.

Transfers for delegates between hotels 1 and 2, and the official conference venue and related events will be provided by the host parliament.

Parliamentarians participating in the conference and legal officials accompanying them should make their own travel arrangements and will bear the travel and other costs related to their participation.

Global Rights for Women and Vital Voices will make travel arrangements for up to four NGO staff and legal government officials' participants per country.

10. VISAS

A valid passport is required to enter Romania, except for nationals of EU countries, who may enter with a valid national ID card.

To obtain visas or further information on customs regulations, participants are advised to contact the embassy of Romania in their respective countries. The Romanian embassies situated in the participating countries will be advised to facilitate expeditious issue of visas to the delegates. For more information on this topic please visit: <http://www.mae.ro/en/node/2040>.

11. REGISTRATION AND INFORMATION DESK

A Registration Desk will be available at the C1 entrance and an Information Desk will be available to participants at the seminar venue, in front of the Avram Iancu Hall (level P1), from 12 to 14 June, according to the programme of the Conference.

12. SECURITY

The national authorities will take all the necessary security measures. Participants are required to wear their identity badges at all times while present at the seminar venue.

Participants are kindly required to show a valid ID (passport or identity card) when entering the Palace of Parliament. For security reasons, participants should be prepared for identity checks.

13. WEATHER CONDITIONS

For information on weather in Bucharest please see www.accuweather.com.

14. CURRENCY REGULATIONS

The local currency is the Romanian lei (RON). The exchange rate is about 4.6 RON = 1 EURO. Major international currencies can be exchanged at banks, currency exchange bureaus and hotels; most major credit cards are widely accepted.

15. MEDICAL FACILITIES

During the seminar, first aid facilities will be available at the venue. All other medical services and prescriptions will be at the participants' own expense.