

Activities of the Project

- a) Mass media's stakeholders', youth representatives' and male and female politicians' (from each country) active engagement in a fruitful discussion about possible barriers and obstacles affecting women's and young people's N&E citizenship;
- b) The development of an integrated strategy for engaging women and young people in N&E Citizenship and Participation;
- b) The inauguration of the IWP campaign "*Increasing Women's Participation*"; the announcement of a win competition for the production of films and TV advertisements around women's and youth's participation in N&E policy and the organization of animation and empowerment workshops for women aspiring to a career in N&E policy making;
- c) Organizing a press conference in each country;
- d) Establishing the Women in Politics Association;

- e) The establishment of an online communication portal focusing on Women's representation in European Decision Making and the most recent developments in Europe and the on-line gathering of opinions about Europe and European citizenship;
- f) Better understanding of the different voters' attitudes, reasoning of their decisions, and trends that occur when men and women vote for the N&E Parliament elections;
- g) The generation of participatory policy proposals.



More information at the project's website:

www.womensparticipation.com

Commitment to Democracy through Increasing Women's Participation (CODE - IWP)



COMMITMENT TO DEMOCRACY
Increasing Women's Participation



Co-funded by the
Europe for Citizens Programme
of the European Union



*Aiming at the continuous encouragement
and increase in the participation of women
as voters and as candidates in both the
National & European elections and
political life*

Description of the Project

Parliaments are the most important floors for the implementation of Gender Equality, Women's Empowerment, and (male and female) voters' sensitization towards equality and towards the social profits from valuing women's contribution to National and European (N&E) development and progress.

The low percentages of women's participation in the European Parliament according to the 2014 elections indicate that short term measures and campaigns just before the elections are not as efficient as was expected. This project aims the continual encouragement of female participation and, more specifically, in the increase of women's participation as voters and as candidates in both the N&E elections and political life.



Specific Aim of the 'Europe for Citizens Programme' targeted by the Project

Encourage democratic and civic participation of citizens at Union level, by developing citizens' understanding of the Union policy making-process and promoting opportunities for societal and intercultural engagement and volunteering at Union level.

Objectives of the Project

- 1) Bring together and engage youth representatives, media stakeholders, politicians and researchers from each country in the analysis of the existing barriers to participation in European Policy Making and in the preparation of an integrated strategy for increasing youth and female participation in N&E decision making bodies;
- 2) Provide face-to-face and online animation training for women who aspire to a career in N&E politics;
- 3) Provide online workshops and participatory semi-

nars for voters, men and women, from a variety of social and professional groups for promoting equality, equity and democratic participation;

4) Build an electronic forum and website, linked with the electronic social media, for promoting the aim and objectives of the project;

5) Establish an on line tool for gathering the citizens' opinions;

6) Produce a short TV film for advertising the campaign and the project's aims;

7) Establish a European Network for Women in Politics (EUNWPOL) for sustainable volunteer engagement.

Partnership

Cyprus, Portugal, Finland, Latvia, Lithuania

**University of Cyprus, Professor Mary Koutselini
(Coordinator)**

University of Porto, Professor Helena Araújo

University of Oulu, Dr Mervi Heikkinen

**Riga Teacher Training and Educational
Management Academy, Professor Sandra Rone
Lithuanian University of Educational Sciences,**

Professor Irena Zaleskienė

