

47 member States

Albania
Andorra
Armenia
Austria
Azerbaijan
Belgium
Bosnia and Herzegovina
Bulgaria
Croatia
Cyprus
Czech Republic
Denmark
Estonia
Finland
France
Georgia
Germany
Greece
Hungary
Iceland
Ireland
Italy
Latvia
Liechtenstein
Lithuania
Luxembourg
Malta
Moldova
Monaco
Montenegro
Netherlands
Norway
Poland
Portugal
Romania
Russia
San Marino
Serbia
Slovakia
Slovenia
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
"The former Yugoslav
Republic of
Macedonia"
Turkey
Ukraine
United Kingdom

06.01.2010

Athens to host Roma women's international conference

Dates: 11 and 12 January 2010

Location: Athens, Greece (Zappeion Conference and Exhibition Centre)

Organised by the Council of Europe, the Greek Ministry of Interior, Decentralisation and E-Government, the Greek Inter-Municipal Rom Network (ROM Network) and the International Roma Women's Network (IRWN).

Description: Tackling the main challenges that Romani women and their communities face today will be the focus of an international conference in Athens on 11 and 12 January.

The conference, entitled "I am a European Roma woman", will discuss changing negative perceptions of Roma women in the media, eliminating harmful practices such as the early marriages and forced sterilization as well as promoting entrepreneurship and economic empowerment of Roma women.

The conference will bring together Roma women from 30 Council of Europe member states who will share experiences about their daily involvement in improving the social condition of their communities.

The speakers at the opening session will include Maud de Boer-Buquicchio, Council of Europe Deputy General Secretary, Nyamko Sabuni, Swedish Minister for Integration and Gender Equality, and a high-level representative of the Greek authorities.

A **press conference** is planned for **11 January at 10.30 am** at the Conference venue.

Special File on Roma and Travellers

Practical information:

- The whole conference is open to the press.
- Journalists may request interviews with participants and audiovisual information through the press officer below.

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