



Inclusion of men and boys in gender equality efforts

On the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the Council of Europe, the five Permanent Representations of the Nordic countries to the Council of Europe have the pleasure of inviting you to participate in a series of three events (2024 – 2025) around the issue of men, boys and gender equality. The project is supported and funded by the Nordic Council of Ministers.

This first of three seminars in the series “Calling men and boys into gender equality” aims to clarify and understand challenges faced by men and boys in Council of Europe member States and aims to increase knowledge about how men and boys perceive their role regarding advancing gender equality in a time of serious backlash.

Through three interactive sessions, we will discuss if and how stronger inclusion of men and boys in our gender equality efforts can contribute to the development of more effective and inclusive gender equality policies for all.

Time and place:

18 November from 5 PM to 6.30 PM, in Room 9 of Palais de l'Europe, followed by a reception in the Foyer of the Committee of Ministers hosted by the Nordic ambassadors to the Council of Europe.

The event will be live streamed for participants in member States.

Greetings and welcome remarks:

- Introductions by ambassador Helge SELAND
- Mr Erlend KALDESTAD HANSTVEIT, State Secretary, Norwegian Ministry of Culture and Equality
- Ms Marja RUOTANEN, Director General of Democracy and Human Dignity, Council of Europe

Session 1: Inclusion of men and boys in developing gender equality policies

- Mr Claus JERVELL, The Men's Equality Commission, Norway
- Ms Kira APPEL, Director of International Gender Equality, Department for Gender Equality, Danish Ministry of Environment and Gender Equality
- Mr Ralph KASS, 1st Class Executive Advisor, Ministry of Gender Equality and Diversity, Luxembourg

Session 2: Addressing harmful stereotypes, norms and bias about men and boys and their negative impacts

- Ms Stine HELDING RAND, Psychologist, Centre for Digital Youth Care, Denmark
- Mr Aleksandar DIMITRIJEVIC, MenEngage Europe

Session 3: Developments at the Council of Europe and the role of the organization in promoting gender equality

- Mr Ralph KASS, Chairperson of the Gender Equality Commission (GEC), Council of Europe
- Mr Edmunds CEPURĪTIS (Latvia, SOC), Chairperson of the Sub-Committee on Gender Equality, Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination, Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe

Comments by young voices:

- Mx. Anna Knobbout, Youth Advisory Council
- Ms. Roberta Bojang, Youth Advisory Council
- Ms. Frida Hellen, Intern, Norway

Q&A from the audience

Round up and introduction to the next seminars starting with “The Barbershop”

- Ambassador Ragnhildur ARNLJÓTSDÓTTIR, Iceland

Reception in the foyer of the Committee of Ministers

From 6.30 PM

Welcome by State Secretary Erlend KALDESTAD HANSTVEIT

Welcome by Ambassador Helge SELAND, Norway, on behalf of the Nordic ambassadors

Food and drinks

Contacts at the Permanent Delegation of Norway to the Council of Europe:

Ms Kari HAUGE RIISOEN, Deputy Permanent Representative: kari.hauge.riisoen@mfa.no

Ms Anita GHOLAMI, Advisor: anita.gholami@mfa.no

Ms Frida HELLEN, Intern: frida.hellen@mfa.no