



EUROPEAN WOMEN'S
LOBBY
EUROPEEN DES FEMMES

**European Strategy and Advocacy Workshop with refugee and migrant women:
Open space session, Organized by WIDE+, 14h-18h, 14 November 2016 Brussels**

This session will give (self-)organized refugee/migrant activists an open space to voice priority issues and concerns about women's human rights in the process of migration, asylum seeking and integration in the host country. It will provide the opportunity to together develop strategies for protection and advocacy of migrant and refugee women's rights and needs; and to build alliances for joint actions and future co-operation.

Programme

14.00-14.15 Welcome and Introduction

Introduction: **Christa Wichterich**, WIDE+ conference organizer and coordinator of the final conference statement.

The message from participants to the conference „Movements, Borders, Rights? Feminist Perspectives on Global Issues in Europe“ held on 24 and 25 October to which this meeting is a follow up, was very clear: “Discourses on migrants and refugees should be governed by the human rights paradigm instead of being framed by a rhetoric of threat, security and prevention”. It calls for strong alliances to advocate together for better protection of women's human rights.

14.15-15.45 Plenary Panel Discussion “Advocating for the Rights of female refugees/migrants”

Moderator: **Gea Meijers**, WIDE+ Project coordinator

Speakers:

Stella Ismail, African Sky, the Netherlands;

Mina Jaf, Women Refugee Route, Denmark;

Lamy Hennache, commission “women and Gender” in the African diaspora council of Switzerland;

Trifa Shakely, writer/Red Cross, Sweden;

Marchu Girma, Women for Refugee Women, UK.

followed by reflections from:

Catherine Briddick, Asylum Aid Women's project Advisory Committee, UK;

Grusa Matevzic, Hungarian Helsinki Committee;

Marijana Savic, Atina, Serbia.

Key Questions: What are the most burning issues or concerns raised by female refugees/migrants? And what can the organizations gathered in this meeting do together in order to help enhance the rights of female refugees and migrants? To achieve this, what are the steps of action?

15.45-16.00 Break

16.00-17.00 World Café “brainstorming on ideas to work together”

There are 5 café tables to give participants a chance to network, express interest in topics and strategies, and come to collective action points.

17.00-18.0 Plenary Reflection “Bringing our ideas together”

Moderator: **Jelena Lenggenhager**, facilitator of the WIDE+ working group on migration and gender.

Methodology: a person from each group briefly summarizes max 1-3 key items of each café and there is a brief plenary reflection.



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