



Let's make

Politics

female



Educational activities supporting  
women participation in public life



Education and Culture DG

Lifelong Learning Programme

2010-I-PLI-GRU06-114324

Grundtvig partnership

# Greek Report

---

Within the European project "Life Long Learning, action Grundtvig Partnership", titled "Lets make politics, female educational activities supporting women participation in public life", the NGO "AENAO" in collaboration with the Environmental Movement of Thessaloniki and its European partners from Poland, Finland, Czech Republic implemented the third meeting. The topic of the meeting was political campaigns and the event took place at the office of UNESCO in the Prefecture of Thessaloniki, Greece, on 5th, 6th and 7th of October 2011. (Due to strikes the Polish and Finish team had delayed arrivals.)

On the first day of the event the participants had the chance not only to break the ice by getting to know each other, but also to learn the culture, the habits and the political system of the countries of one another. They also gained information on how politics, concerning women, are in Greece and in Czech Republic.

On the second day Mrs Taka, general secretary of Unesco, presented the action plan of the organization and many of the activities that target to women empowerment, especially women in the Balkan countries and women from vulnerable groups. A fruitful discussion followed the presentation and afterwards the second guest of the event, Ms. E. Ioannidou, press representative of Green Wings, gave a lecture about sexism. Ms. E. Ioannidou focused on the stereotypes about women in politics and opened a very interesting discussion on how male in politics behave towards female politicians. Additionally, Ms. E. Ioannidou mentioned how many women are ignorant concerning politics and how small the representation of women is in the Greek Parliament, an unfairness that seemed to apply in other European countries too, such as in Czech Republic. During the discussion many questions were raised and many solutions were given, in order to reduce as much as possible ignorance, stereotypes and to raise the self-esteem and the self-confidence of female voters and politicians.

In the evening session the partners from Czech Republic, Ms.J. Smiggels Kavkova and Mrs Halka Jaklova, they explained, by presenting their "chicken campaign", how they tried to enhance women in politics and to activate male and female to vote for women.

Additionally the invited speaker of the event, Mr. Th. Xatzipantelis, professor of Applied Statistics, with Mrs Markaki, PhD student gave a presentation, on the topic "Who is affected and who affects: Family, Friends, Colleagues". By the statistical analysis of the presentation the participants learned how much people are affected by politics and how many are the ones who affect the others concerning political issues, such as voting.

On the third, and last day, the participants had the chance to visit the City Hall of Thessaloniki, where, after a small tour in the area, they were welcomed by Ms. M. Pasxalidou, the Vice Mayor of Youth Sports and Volunterism. Mrs Pasxalidou gave her own input on women representation in the political life. She analyzed her own experience and the goals she set as female representative in the public life. She accepted a lot of questions from the partners and they agreed to exchange experience and learn from each other.

In the afternoon the partners from Poland Ms. M. Sobanska, the Vice-President of Active Women Association, and Ms. A. Pawłowska, member of Women Party of Poland gave a presentation on "best practices and experiences from running electoral campaigns for female leaders", where they shared their own experiences as active females in politics. Later this day, Ms. E. Arnautovic talked about "How to do campaign in Finland as a foreign member" and Ms. A. Jungner-Nordgren elaborated on "How to do campaign in the capital of Helsinki". All the presentations, due to the fact that they concerned current issues and that they showed movements and ideas on how to raise a political campaign for women, raised a lot of interesting questions that led to a very fruitful discussion. Lastly, in the plenary session the partners from all countries participating concluded their points and arranged their next meeting.