



## **CEE Bulletin on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights**

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### **BURNING ISSUE**

#### **Poland to consider a total ban of abortion**

Two bills on abortion, both submitted through citizen's petitions, were debated in the Sejm, the Polish parliament on Thursday, September 22nd. The day after, Friday September 23<sup>rd</sup> a vote was taken on both of them. The first one entitled the "Stop Abortion" bill, aiming to introduce a total ban on all abortions would criminalise women who have an abortion with sentences of up to five years, was sent for further consideration to a parliamentary commission, following support from 267 MPs. 154 MPs voted against and 11 abstained.

The second bill, entitled "Save the Women" proposed to liberalise the current, already highly restrictive, law on abortion. It would permit abortion until the 12th week of pregnancy. Additionally, it called for sexuality education, broad access to modern, state reimbursed contraception and other elements of reproductive health care. It was defeated by a majority vote on the first reading by 230 MPs. 173 MPs voted to send the bill to a commission, and 15 abstained.

Krystyna Kacpura, Executive Director of the Federation for Women and Family Planning, said: " Polish women have today lost the rest of their reproductive rights. The discussion in Parliament regarding these bills was outrageous. Certain members of Parliament claimed that Poland will be the beginning of a new pro-life civilization. They expect that other countries will follow. Women's rights have been completely rejected and held in contempt by them" ([read an article by Krystyna Karystyna in the Guardian](#)).

Additionally, the Sejm also sent to further proceedings draft legislation practically eliminating in vitro procedure.

ASTRA, ASTRA Youth, YouAct and CHOICE for Youth and Sexuality have prepared a statement to draw attention on the stand of Polish government complying with its human rights obligations towards the women of Poland. Endorsed by over 50 non-governmental organizations this statement was presented to Members of the Polish Parliament on September 22nd and widely shared on social media.

This [Joint Statement and Call for Action for the Polish Parliament to Examine the Right to Access to Safe and Legal Abortion](#) urges the government in Poland to dismiss the "Stop Abortion" draft bill and to take immediate steps towards the realization of:

1. Women's reproductive rights by ensuring the fulfillment of access to safe and legal abortion services nation-wide for all women in Poland without stigmatization, discrimination, intimidation or victimization of women requiring these services;
2. Relevant monitoring of number and conditions of illegal abortions;
3. Ensuring access to sexuality education and broad access to modern contraception in order to prevent unwanted pregnancies.

A series of protests is currently taking place in all cities in Poland and also abroad.

On September 18<sup>th</sup> there was a major national demonstration "Not a Step Further – Save the Women" against the "Stop Abortion" bill, in which thousands participated. In the days leading up to the vote, on social media people in Poland sent photos of themselves dressed in black, as a statement of protest, and this trend continues and grew into a widespread social movement "**The Black Protest**" will have its peak momentum on October 3<sup>rd</sup> – the day that **Polish women are going on a strike as a sign of protest**. Inspired directly by Icelandic women who went on strike in 1975, this is happening strictly in reaction to the Polish government's attempts to further tighten the already very restrictive law on abortion. It is a completely grassroots initiative, people are discussing possible activities and potential moves via internet, planning protests and street actions across Poland but also in other cities (Reykjavik Paris, London and many more).

#### [FACEBOOK EVENT](#)

How can YOU support? Please show your solidarity with Polish women fighting for their basic human rights in the middle of Europe in XXI century by posting photos of yourself in black clothes with hashtag #solidaritywithpolishwomen, #czarnyprotest, #blackprotest.

The European Parliament will hold a debate on the status of women's reproductive rights in Poland Wednesday, October 6th. The debate is initiated by ALDE Group – Liberals and Democrats in the European Parliament and Socialists and Democrats Group in the European Parliament. The Polish Prime Minister, Beata Szydło, already criticised this initiative claiming that the „European Parliament is simply starting to lose credibility.” ([source](#)).

## REGIONAL UPDATES

### Restrictions in the law on abortion in Armenia

Just this month the Armenian Government introduced several changes in the law on abortion without any consultations with civil society and other medical or women's groups. Abortion remains accessible until the 12th week yet a separate provision is added to the Article 10 of the Law on Reproductive Health and Rights, which bans sex-selective abortion from 12th to 22nd week of pregnancy. A mandatory 3 day waiting period had been added in the same Article. During this time a gynecologists will provide the woman with information on abortion.

The approach of the Armenian Ministry of Health is quite worrying as one of its representatives confidently stated that the Ministry aims to prevent women from performing abortions with the use of this new 3 day waiting period. At the same time the Ministry claims that these new legal changes will not question the right and access to legal abortion.

The Women's Resource Center published a statement on the issue, it is available [here](#).

Changes in the law accepted on 29.06.2016, in Armenian, can be found under [this link](#).

Source: [Women's Rights Center](#), [Women's Resource Center](#), [Society Without Violence](#)

### Ukraine sets its priorities as part of sustainable development

Ukraine continues to work on the prioritization of Sustainable Development Goals for the country. In particular, Ukraine needs to adapt these goals, identifying priorities for years 2016-2030, as well as indicate relevant targets and develop reliable indicators for monitoring of the achievements. The National Consultation Meeting on SDG adaptation for Ukraine was held in July 2016, in Kyiv. The event was organized by the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade with support of the UN system in Ukraine. Government representatives, scientists, civic society leaders and UN agencies representatives participated in the meeting.

The aim of the event was to encourage the achievement of a common understanding and evaluation of sustainable development and their relevance in the context of national development of Ukraine. In particular, during the consultation the following issues were discussed: Sustained economic growth and employment; Equitable social development; Efficient, accountable governance and justice for all; Environmental sustainability and capacity building for sustainable recovery.

After the official part of the event, participants have joined groups to discuss specific objectives, identifying appropriate tasks and indicators. Due to the fact that representatives of the Women's Health and Family Planning Charity Foundation have joined the Consultation, the issue of reproductive health and family planning were included into the list of the tasks to Goal 3. Good Health and Wellbeing with appropriate evaluation criteria, and implementation of new Program "Reproductive health of the nation" for the period 2017-2021 was listed as one of the ways to achieve these objectives.

A series of local consultations is planned. The first regional consultation on the localization and adaptation of the SDG already took place on July 20, 2016 in Dnipro city. A number of similar events will be held in other cities of Ukraine.

Source: [Women's Health and Family Planning](#)

### **10 Days of Action in Croatia**

PaRiter is an association for human rights and citizen participation from Rijeka, Croatia. PaRiter started a new project in 2016: a manifestation dedicated to women's rights, especially women's reproductive rights: "10 days of action against the collapse of women's reproductive rights".

The manifestation connects a couple of dates: National day against Violence Against Women (September 22nd), International Contraception Day (September 26th), Global Day of Action for Safe and Legal Abortion (September 28th) and International Day of Non-Violence (October 2nd).

This years' topic are the CEDAW recommendations that were given to the Croatian Government in July 2015. These recommendations have not yet been implemented. The articles on SRHR are in the focus of the campaign: PaRiter is informing the community trough various activities on those recommendations. A [petition](#) has been launched and signatures are being collected for the Government to implement those recommendations. At the International Contraception Day a prominent gynecologists spoke about contraception and its aspects on women's empowerment at a radio broadcast. Furthermore, they have collected stories on abortion and have put out a [virtual mural for 28th of September](#). Other activities include a roundtable on the topic of keeping the government accountable trough activism and academia and an information booth in the city.

This campaign builds on the fact that women's rights in Croatia have been decreasing since the 1990s and that [a couple of health organizations and the Church organized a seminar for doctors on women's health](#) and Canon law on 16-18 September. This gathering was organized under the patronage of the Croatian President.

Source: [PaRiter](#)

## **National Campaign “Silence Is Not Golden” For Prevention and Combating Domestic and Gender-Based Violence in Bulgaria**

“Silence is Not Golden” is a project launched by Bulgarian ASTRA member - Gender Alternatives Foundation - and Partners. The project aims to address the wide-ranging manifestations of domestic violence using information as an instrument of protection against domestic and gender-based violence. Challenging the traditional patriarchal conceptions illustrated by the proverb “Silence is golden”, 7 organizations from all over the country/working in Sofia, Plovdiv, Razgrad, Yambol, Shumen, Svilengrad are going to illustrate how gender stereotypes stand in the way of the authentic friendship and personal growth and how little by little starting with sharing the problem, one could get out of the circle of violence and live a fulfilling and worthy life.

This campaign is unique because it unites young professionals that use different approaches but believe in the same cause. They are going to work together for prevention and tackling domestic and gender-based violence on local and national level. All organizations successfully graduated the Academy for women’s rights “FEMPOWER” in April 2016.

Participants in the Campaign are: Gender Alternatives Foundation – Plovdiv, “Deliorman 2014” Community Center – Razgrad, “Spodelenost” Center – Shumen, Bulgarian Helsinki Committee – Sofia, “Give a Book” Foundation – Sofia, “Umenie 2003” Community Center – Yambol, “Izida-Svilengrad” Sports club – Svilengrad. Project duration is 4 months (01.09 – 31.12.2016). Among activities are Coordination meeting of the participants in the Campaign in Plovdiv; Advocacy events in the different cities focused on gender-based and domestic violence issues, the ratification process of Istanbul convention; Street campaign with volunteers; Open days in different cities; Online campaign in social networks; Preparing a common “Call for action” for speeding up the processes of ratification of Council of Europe Convention 210 on prevention and combating violence against women and domestic violence; Press release to the local media. The project “Silence is not golden” is funded by Bulgarian Fund for Women.

Source: [Gender Alternatives Foundation](#)

## **Workshop Devoted to the Promotion of Coordinated Response to Domestic Violence Cases in Armenia**

Series of domestic violence trainings implemented by Women’s Rights Center were summarized with a workshop. It took place on September 15. Pedagogues, psychologists, social workers, policemen, students of the faculty of law and obstetrician-gynecologists participated in the workshop. The first part of the workshop was devoted to the official representatives’ presentation of situation on domestic violence as well as support and services provided by different structures to women victims of domestic violence and their children. The second part of the workshop was devoted to the group works. Participants discussed and proposed their professional solutions to the presented real domestic violence cases. Obstetrician-gynecologists separated failures of their colleagues to the presented cases and focused attention on the harmful effects of domestic violence on women's reproductive health and right.

Source: [Women’s Rights Center](#)

### **Women's rights organisations in Slovenia mobilise to keep the right to free contraceptives**

On September 15th the Executive Committee of the Public Health Insurance in Slovenia refrained from moving on with their proposal to end full coverage of hormonal contraceptives and make women to have to pay these treatments from their own pockets. This decision has been momentarily withdrawn after a big mobilisation of women's rights organisations in Slovenia.

In only six days, the Women's Lobby of Slovenia sent a public appeal to the national decision makers, gathered more than 7300 signatures from individuals, got the support of 42 civil society organisations and 5 parliamentary parties, alerted the public via crucial mainstream media, organised a protest in front of the headquarters of the Public Health Insurance. Despite of the vast opposition from the women's movement the Executive Committee of the Public Health Insurance wants to have a public discussion on the issue. However, no public discussion is needed on the issue as it already counts with the highest political consensus possible. The right to freedom of choice and the duty of the state to make the enjoyment of this right effective is a constitutional right in Slovenia since 1974.

Source: [European Women's Lobby](#)

### **Capacity Building Training on Anti-discrimination and SOGI issues in Armenia**

Society Without Violence NGO (SWV), within the context of "Solidarity Network for LGBTI in Armenia and Georgia" project, conducted a successful 3 day capacity building training for CSOs to improve their knowledge about sexuality, SOGI, and anti-discrimination, The theme of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights was also thoroughly discussed; how LGBTI people face discrimination while trying to access health services for SRHR, how LGBTI people living with HIV face double discrimination, etc., and equip them with new skills for effective advocacy, meet like-minded colleagues, build networks and acquire skills on including LGBTI issues in the organization's agenda. The training took place on September 22-24, with a small group of 7 participants from CSOs from different regions. A second similar training will take place in October.

The end of training survey and the discussion that followed proved the vast improvement in the knowledge of the participants about the issues and problems faced by LGBTI people. There was also a positive change in the attitudes of the participants towards sexuality and LGBTI people.

Source: [Society Without Violence](#)

### **September 28 - Global Day of Action for Access to Safe and Legal Abortion**

In the past 30 years, women's rights groups have mobilized on 28 September, named *Global Day of Action for Access to Safe and Legal Abortion*, to urge their Governments to decriminalise the termination of pregnancy, end the stigma and discrimination around the practice and provide such services in a legal, safe and affordable manner.

Originally from Latin America and the Caribbean, 28 September, which commemorates the abolition of slavery for children born to slave mothers in Brazil, was renamed as the day of the 'free womb' and the movement spread to all the other regions in the world.

To learn more about the initiative and the 2016 campaigns please visit [Women's Global Network for Reproductive Rights](#) and the [International Campaign for Women's Right to Safe Abortion](#).

Some activities from ASTRA's members:

[Society Without Violence](#) from Armenia organized a public film viewing, in its office in Yerevan, of the movie "Citizen Ruth", which tells the story of pregnant woman who unexpectedly attracts attention from those involved in the debate about the morality and legality of abortion. The film attacks the abortion debate as in itself being an unnecessary infringement on the bodily integrity of women. After the screening of the movie, the attendants held a discussion about the status of abortion in Armenia, the problem of sex-selective abortion and how to tackle it without infringing the rights of women, and the abortion debate in general.

[Women's Rights Center](#) from Armenia organized meeting-discussion devoted to the Global Day of Action for Safe and Legal Abortion. Women victims of domestic violence, Women's Rights Center's staff and volunteers participated in the meeting. The core of the meeting was the dissemination of more information on women's reproductive health and rights. Women mentioned the lack of their awareness and knowledge on the issue of reproductive and sexual health and rights. They highlighted it as a base of healthy family. Women were encouraged to take care of their reproductive health and to apply for doctor's consultation as well as to choose safe abortion method in case of terminating unwanted pregnancy.

Krystyna Kacpura, Executive Director of the [Federation for Women and Family Planning](#) from Poland participated in a panel organized by the [Sexual Rights Initiative](#) in Geneva during the 33rd session of the UN Human Rights Council. The event was sponsored by the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Slovenia in Geneva. The panel shared different country experiences of advocating for safe and legal abortion, highlighted the human rights obligations of States to provide access to safe and legal abortion, and discussed opportunities to utilize HRC mechanisms to effect policy and legal changes at the national level. See the poster [HERE](#).

[H.E.R.A.](#) from Macedonia organized a debate under the slogan "My Body, whose choice?" together with the Youth Educational Forum (MOF), Tiiiit! Inc. and the Coalition "Sexual and health rights of Marginalized Communities" (all members of the Gender Platform). The event gathered prominent public figures and politicians and took place on Thursday, September 29th. It was open to the public and ended with a concert. The event was promoted on social media and gathered a lot of interest. For more information see the Facebook event [here](#).

## GLOBAL UPDATES

### **Statement by three UN experts for 28 September - "Unsafe abortion is still killing tens of thousands of women around the world"**

*Speaking ahead of the Global Day of Action for Access to Safe and Legal Abortion, a group of United Nations human rights experts\* called on States across the world to repeal restrictive abortion laws and policies, and all punitive measures and discriminatory barriers to access safe reproductive health services.*

*The experts also expressed their support for the call of several non-governmental organisations to make 28 September an official UN day for safe abortion worldwide, to urge Governments to decriminalise abortion and provide reproductive health services in a legal, safe and affordable manner.*

“In the twenty-first century unsafe abortion is one of the leading causes of maternal mortality and morbidity. According to the World Health Organization, about 22 million unsafe abortions take place each year worldwide and an estimated 47,000 women die annually from complications resulting from the resort to unsafe practices for termination of pregnancy.

Criminalisation of abortion and failure to provide adequate access to services for termination of an unwanted pregnancy are forms of discrimination based on sex. Restrictive legislation which denies access to safe abortion is one of most damaging ways of instrumentalising women’s bodies and a grave violation of women’s human rights. The consequences for women are severe, with women sometimes paying with their lives.

Restrictive laws apply to 40% of world’s population. In countries which prohibit abortion, women who seek health services in relation to the termination of a pregnancy, whether in order to carry out the termination or to seek medical care after a miscarriage, may be subjected to prosecution and imprisonment. Prohibition does not reduce the need and the number of abortions; it merely increases the risks to the health and life of women and girls who resort to unsafe and illegal services.

Evidence-based comprehensive sex education and the availability of effective contraception are essential to lower the incidence of unintended pregnancy, and hence to lower the number of abortions. Indeed, it has been demonstrated that countries where access to information and to modern methods of contraception is easily available and where abortion is legal, have the lowest rates of abortion. The possibility of accessing safe abortion remains essential. Unwanted pregnancies cannot be totally prevented since no contraceptive method is 100% effective, and women may be exposed to sexual violence.

(...) We urge States to repeal restrictive laws and policies in relation to abortion, which do not meet the international human rights law requirements and that have discriminatory and public health impacts, and to eliminate all punitive measures and discriminatory barriers to access safe reproductive health services. These laws and policies violate women’s human right to health and negate their autonomy in decision-making about their own bodies.

We cannot tolerate the severe violation of women's human rights on the basis of their sex and biological differences. We cannot tolerate the high incidence of women's and girls' preventable deaths resulting from maternity-related issues, including from unsafe abortion.

(...) We join our voices to the strong and brave ones of many non-governmental organizations which have called for safe abortion worldwide by requesting that 28 September be made an UN official international day on safe abortion."

(\*) The UN experts: Alda Facio, Chair-Rapporteur of the Working Group on the issue of discrimination against women in law and in practice; Dainius Pûras, Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health; and Juan E. Méndez, Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

Source: [United Nations Human Rights / Office of the High Commissioner](#)

## YOUTH

### **ASTRA Youth at 13th AWID International Forum**

13th AWID International Forum took place from 8th to 11th September 2016 in Costa do Sauipe - Bahia, Brazil. The theme of the Forum was Feminist Futures: Building Collective Power for Rights and Justice. The 13th AWID International Forum brought together approximately 1700 activists, allies and movements from over 140 countries across all regions of the world. There were over 200 speakers sharing the experiences, creative disruptions, and resistance of their movements in a variety of plenaries, cross-movement, umbrella and participant led sessions, and different arts and culture activities across the program.

ASTRA Youth representatives from Poland and Croatia actively participated in the pre-conference Young Feminist Activism Day. Also, ASTRA Youth held the panel discussion Healthy signposts on bumpy roads to safe futures: youth SRHR realities in Central and Eastern Europe, organized in cooperation with Youth Coalition for Sexual and Reproductive Rights, CESI (Center for education, counselling, and research) Croatia, and Society Without Violence, Armenia.

ASTRA Youth coordinator provided a brief introduction to the panel, discussing the general sexual and reproductive health and rights' situation in Central and Eastern Europe. She highlighted, that the region is unrecognized at the global arena and mistakenly perceived as having the same realities as Western Europe. Then, the panellists from Croatia, Armenia and Russia presented background SRHR situation in their specific contexts, providing local stories related to lack of realization of young people's rights. Activists touched upon burning SRHR issues, such as lack of access to SRH services in Croatia; sex-selective abortions and lack of CSE in Armenia; and HIV epidemics and violence against LGBTQ persons in Russia. They also addressed the emergence of anti-SRHR initiatives and their influence on laws and policies. Challenges faced by civil society and examples of successful campaigns were also presented. After the panel, the audience had an opportunity to reflect on the issues discussed by panellists and provide their remarks on youth SRHR.

Source: [ASTRA Youth](#)

### **Sexuality education to be provided in Kyrgyzstan**

A monitoring exercise conducted with UNFPA support showed that only 21% of schoolchildren receive information on sexual and reproductive health at school, and only 15% from their parents. 80% of parents said they wanted their children to receive sexuality education in schools. Many of them said they didn't know how to talk to their children about these sensitive issues. Lawmakers in Kyrgyzstan noticed this issue and argued that sexuality education should take place in schools. The issue has been under a huge debate. Health experts and youth leaders – including members of the organization Y-PEER, advocated for these issues to be included in school curricula, but some lawmakers were apprehensive.

Finally, on 21 May, Parliament passed a reproductive health law establishing a legal basis for introducing sexuality education classes in all schools. It was approved by a sweeping majority – 96 votes in favour, with just nine opposed. The law was signed by Kyrgyzstan's president, Almazbek Atambaev, on 4 July. The development was praised by health professionals, educators, youth leaders and parents.

Source: [UNFPA EECARO](#)

### **New sexuality education programme developed in Lithuania**

The working group of 29 people from very different organisations accepted the final version of new Sexual Education program on 10th of August that was approved by Ministry of Education and Science. The project includes three main subjects: education of health (physical activity, healthy nutrition, psychological health, etc.), education of sexuality (sexual identity, sexual orientation, tolerance, the prevention of risk sexual behaviour, contraception, etc.) and preparation for family (methods of planning, marriage, gender equality, pregnancy, needs of infant, etc.). Still there are some points that should be implemented but wasn't approved.

The program will be implemented in schools on 2017. Before the last meeting, young people gathered together near Ministry of Education and Science to show their needs: by holding electrical bulbs in their hands they were inviting working group members to stand for science based sexual education, not stereotypes or religious dogmas. The need of science based sexual education that will fulfil basic human rights were written on posters and discussed with journalists after the picket.

Photos from the events are accessible [here](#) and [here](#).

Source: [FPSHA](#)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### 2016 EuroNGOs Conference

In the past few years, the SRHR community has heavily engaged in the post-2015 process, which culminated in the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in September 2015, with its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The main aim of this year's EuroNGOs conference is to ensure that the SRHR community is ready to effectively engage in the implementation, follow-up and review of the SDGs, and strategically use them to advance our advocacy on SRHR in a global perspective. There will be panels with high-level speakers, global development experts and SRHR advocates as well as interactive discussions and workshops.

The 2016 EuroNGOs Conference "A Strong Start - Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in the 2030 Agenda" is hosted by [Le Planning Familial](#) and will take place in Paris on 4-5 October. Registration is already open with deadline of August 31<sup>st</sup>.

Source: [EuroNGOs](#)

## PUBLICATIONS

### New factsheet on abortion in Europe

Recent developments in Europe, in particular in Poland, have put the reproductive rights of women and girls under severe pressure. ASTRA Network, ASTRA Youth, You Act and CHOICE for Youth and Sexuality developed this factsheet that aims to raise awareness about women's and girl's rights to safe and legal abortion and to encourage the reader to engage in ongoing discussions about reproductive rights.

[Click here to access the factsheet](#)

### Russian translations of two publications by the Center for Reproductive Rights

1. Mandatory Waiting Periods and Biased Counseling Requirements in Central and Eastern Europe: Restricting Access to Abortion, Undermining Human Rights, and Reinforcing Harmful Gender Stereotypes / Обязательные периоды ожидания и предвзятое консультирование в странах Восточной и Центральной Европы: Ограничение доступа к аборту, нарушение прав человека и закрепление пагубных гендерных стереотипов

The [Fact Sheet](#) (originally published in [English](#) in 2015) presents a comparative overview of the introduction of regressive legal and policy measures that impose mandatory waiting periods and biased counseling and information requirements prior to abortion and examines how and why they contravene international human rights standards and the World Health Organization's guidelines on safe abortion. It draws on the jurisprudence and recommendations of international human rights mechanisms, which have recognized that these barriers to legal abortion services undermine

women's human rights and have called for reform. The Fact Sheet also analyses the ways in which these barriers embody harmful gender stereotypes and exacerbate abortion stigma.

2. Whose Right to Life? Women's Rights and Prenatal Protections under Human Rights and Comparative Law / Кому предоставлено право на жизнь?: Права женщин и пренатальные гарантии в свете прав человека и сравнительного правоведения

The [Toolkit](#) (originally published in [English](#) in 2014) sets forth international and comparative legal standards for interpreting right to life protections. An emerging trend to extend a right to life before birth, and in particular from conception, poses a significant threat to women's human rights, in theory and in practice. These efforts, often rooted in ideological and religious motivations, are part of a deliberate attempt to deny women the full range of reproductive health services that are essential to safeguarding women's fundamental rights to life, health, dignity, equality, and autonomy, among others. The Toolkit identifies how relevant human rights, public health, and scientific evidence supports legal protections to guarantee women's rights as a crucial step in protecting the right to life and ensuring the health and well-being of women and their children.

## CALL TO ACTION

### Call for Papers: Disability and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights

Submissions: 1 October to 30 November 2016

The forthcoming issue of Reproductive Health Matters journal welcomes original research, personal experiences and critical analyses that address the current situation and future potential in SRHR of people with disabilities. The issue will be co-edited with Guest Editors Janet Price and Renu Addlakha, and will be produced in partnership with CREA.

Weblink <http://www.rhmjournal.org.uk/journal/call-papers>

### Job Opportunity

Reproductive Health Matters is hiring a Managing Editor/ Advocacy Officer. The deadline for applications is 9<sup>th</sup> of October.

Further information is available at <http://www.rhmjournal.org.uk/careers/>

ASTRA Network Members: Albania - Albanian Family Planning Association; Armenia - Society Without Violence; Armenia - Women's Resource Center; Armenia - Women's Rights Center; Azerbaijan - Center "Women and Modern World"; Belarus - Women's Independent Democratic Movement of Belarus; Bulgaria - Bulgarian Family Planning and Sexual Health Association; Bulgaria - Bulgarian Gender Research Foundation; Bulgaria - Gender Education, Research and Technologies; Bulgaria - Demetra Association; Bulgaria - Gender Alternatives Foundation; Bosnia and Herzegovina – Sarajevo Open Center; Croatia - B.a.b.e.; Croatia – CESI; Croatia - Women's Room; Georgia – HERA XXI; Georgia – Real People, Real Vision; Georgia - Women's Center; Hungary – PATENT; Kazakhstan - The Legal Center for Women's Initiatives "Sana Sezim"; Lithuania - Family Planning and Sexual Health Association; Latvia - Latvia's Association for Family Planning And Sexual Health; Macedonia - Association for emancipation, solidarity and equality of women; Macedonia – H.E.R.A.; Macedonia – Shelter Center; Moldova – Family Planning Association; Moldova - Reproductive Health Training Center; Poland - Federation for Women and Family Planning; Romania - A.L.E.G.; Romania - AnA: Society for Feminist Analysis; Romania - Euroregional Center for Public Initiatives; Romania - The East European Institute of Reproductive Health; Russia - Novogorod Gender Center; Russia – Russian Association for Population and Development; Slovakia – Pro Choice; Tajikistan – Gender and Development; Ukraine - Women Health and Family Planning; Ukraine - Charitable SALUS Foundation; Uzbekistan - Future Generation

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