

DECLARATION OF COMMITMENT

We, the undersigned,

Guided by the principle that promotion of gender equality as a value is the responsibility of all actors in our societies;

Believing that full respect of women's rights and the continuous systematic efforts guided by the strategic approach towards gender equality are key pre-conditions to social and economic development;

Recognizing the progress in developing the legal and policy framework for gender equality in our countries, yet underlining the insufficient and ineffective law and policy enforcement in response to some of the key gender equality challenges spread across our countries,

Acknowledging the benefits and the visible effects of the mutual support, exchange of information and established links with the project Equality and Gender Mainstreaming Across Borders, supported by the EU in the framework of the IPA instrument for cross-border cooperation between Macedonia and Kosovo.

Declare our commitment

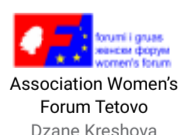
To continue the cross-border cooperation through establishment and further development of informal networking based on solidarity, equal valuing and respect of all its participating organizations,

To exchange information and resources and undertake joint initiatives towards:

- Supporting influential women's civic participation in the decision making processes;
- Changing patriarchal values and the traditional roles of women solely as mothers and housewives that limits their participation in the social, political and economic life of the local community;
- Advocating improvement of the basic infrastructure and social and health services that overburden women's daily life and preclude the fulfillment of their economic, social, political and other interests;
- Advocating employment policies that will enable overcoming of the persistent economic inequality of women, such as the high rate of economic inactivity, limited access to decent jobs, income inequalities and poverty during employment;
- Advocating effective policy and institutional response to the widely spread various forms of discrimination and violence against women in both public and private sphere;
- Advocating fair distribution of public resources, including for protection of women's rights and achieving gender equality.

In Skopje, 22.11.2016

Participating organizations and signatories



Kosovar Gender Studies Center Prishtina (Focal point for Kosovo)
Associations for advancement of gender equality Akcija Zdruzhenska Skopje (Focal point for Macedonia)