



EUROPEAN WOMEN'S
LOBBY
EUROPEEN DES FEMMES



ICMPD
International Centre for
Migration Policy Development



EUROPEAN NETWORK
OF MIGRANT WOMEN

Save the Date: Hearing at European Parliament entitled “Family Reunification Legislation in Europe: Is it Discriminatory for Migrant Women?”

15:00-18:30, 10 November 2011

The European Women's Lobby (EWL), the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) and the European Network of Migrant Women (ENoMW) are delighted to invite you to a **Hearing at the European Parliament entitled “Family Reunification legislation in Europe: is it discriminatory for migrant women?”**, on 10 November 2011.

Family reunification has been one of the major sources of legal immigration to the European Union over the last decades. According to Eurostat data almost 750,000 migrants arrived in EU Member States in 2010 for the purpose of family reunification. In mid-November, the **European Commission** plans to issue a **Green Paper on the Right to Family Reunification** in order to launch a debate on current EU legislation in this area (Directive 2003/86/EC). Following its assessment of the views expressed by stakeholders, the Commission will decide on future steps, including a potential amendment to the current Directive.

The European Women's Lobby, ICMPD and the European Network of Migrant Women will organise a hearing in the European Parliament on current EU Member State family reunification policies, emphasising the need for **migration and integration policies to be gender sensitive** as they affect migrant women and migrant men in a different way.

In particular, the hearing will provide an opportunity for considering the implications of current policies for the future integration perspectives of migrant women into society and the labour market based on the experiences from the EU Network of Migrant Women and the findings from recent research initiatives such as MIPEX III and studies conducted by ICMPD.

Therefore, interlinkages between the EU family reunification legal framework, the EU agenda on integration and the EU guidelines on violence against women and girls will receive special attention. Speakers at the event will include MEPs from several political groups as well as academics and researchers from various backgrounds.

The hearing will take place **from 15:00 – 18:30 on 10 November in the European Parliament**, Room ASP 1G3. Due to EP regulations, **registrations for the event must be received by Friday 28 October**. Further information on the event (including a comprehensive agenda) will follow. Registrations can be addressed to Markus Sperl (Markus.Sperl@icmpd.org) and should include full name, date of birth and address.

