

Vilnius, 9 July 2024 EIGE/CS/ak D/2024/337

NOTE TO THE ATTENTION OF THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIONS OF THE MEMBER STATES TO THE EUROPEAN UNION

Subject: Request to designate representatives to the Experts' Forum of the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE)

Dear Minister,

The current term of EIGE's advisory body, the Experts' Forum, ends on 30 November 2024. With this letter, I kindly ask for your support in seeking nominations from the relevant national authorities for its next term (1/12/2024 - 30/11/2027).

The Experts' Forum is composed of representatives from national institutions and organisations specialised in gender equality. It plays an important role in bringing additional knowledge and expertise to EIGE. Maintaining the dialogue and involvement of the Member States is essential for the relevance and quality of our work. The Experts' Forum currently is the only body of EIGE having representatives from all 27 EU Member States.

During the new term of the Experts' Forum (1/12/2024 - 30/11/2027), EIGE will focus its work on three thematic priorities, in line with the current European Commission's priorities:

- Gender-based violence;
- Green and digital transition;
- Economic and social sustainability.

We will also consider emerging security challenges and widening inequalities as important trends following EIGE's strategic foresight activities, affecting gender equality.

Candidate designation and tasks

Each Member State is asked to nominate two candidates: one member and an alternate member.

The candidates should be qualified to provide the Agency with independent advice and gender equality expertise, especially in the above-mentioned thematic areas (for more details on their profile please see below). We would appreciate a brief description of the expertise and experience of each candidate.

Experts' Forum members will be invited to up to 2 meetings per year with EIGE's Director and staff. During these meetings, we will discuss EIGE's work and ask Experts' Forum members for their input from national perspective. The members may also be invited to join ad hoc expert groups, depending on the competence required for a certain topic of EIGE's work.

Experts' Forum members are important multipliers. Hence, we appreciate them supporting EIGE's communication and outreach work on national level, which contributes to the bridgebuilding between different groups of stakeholders.

Guidance regarding the profile of candidates

- Three to five years of work experience with profound expertise in gender equality and/or gender mainstreaming, preferably in above-mentioned areas (gender-based violence, green and digital transition, economic and social sustainability). Experience in communication and/or stakeholder outreach is also welcome.
- EIGE aims to broaden its outreach on national level. Hence, we invite EU Member States to nominate candidates from national civil society organisations, academia, equality bodies, or knowledge centres,
- For the Member States that will rotate out of EIGE's Management Board in spring 2025 (LU, NL, SK, MT, EE, BG, AT, RO, FI) we suggest that one candidate is nominated from a governmental body, to maintain the close cooperation between Member State national authority and the Agency.
- Gender balance and intersectionality when you propose the two candidates.
- EIGE's working language is English, therefore a good working level of the language is required.

Designation deadline

You are kindly requested to submit the names of the members and alternate nominees by no later than **16 September 2024** to the Director of the European Institute for Gender Equality Institute by e-mail: <u>Carlien.Scheele@eige.europa.eu</u>.

On behalf of the Agency, I would like to express our gratitude for the contribution of the current term Experts Forum member **Christian Veske** and the alternate member **Kadi Viik** in ensuring the excellence of EIGE's work. During their mandate, they provided valuable input to our core areas of work and contributed actively to the discussions, bringing their knowledge and experience to the Experts Forum.

Yours sincerely,

Carlier Scheele

Carlien Scheele Director