

ACTIVITY REPORT

UBC WORKING GROUP ON GENDER EQUALITY

Period

2019 10 - 2021 09

1. General description

Chairmanship and Secretariat

The Working Group on Gender Equality does not stand up for a particular commission. Therefor there is no chairperson in the workgroup but two coordinators, Ann-Sofie Lagercrantz and Katarina Johansson Storm from the city of Kalmar. They are also responsible for the secretariat tasks.

Aims & goals

Its aim is to help to strengthen the gender equality perspective in the work of all the different UBC commissions. The working group wants to ensure a stronger presence of gender issues in the work of UBC and focuses on these main areas:

- Eradication of all forms of gender-based violence
- Elimination of gender stereotypes resulting in discrimination at decision-making level and labour market
- Social and urban planning
- Focusing on The European charter for equality of men and women in local life
- Increased activity and participation from members
- Increase the general competence in gender mainstreaming at local level
- Increase the corporation with other parts/commissions in the UBC

2. Meetings/seminars/conferences

- An on-line Development Day 2021" From knowledge to action in the UBC" was held on Monday February 8. Speakers among others were Jamie Just, CEMR, Catriona Graham, EWL to give an overview on what's going on in Europe. Annika Claesson from SI contribution was to increase knowledge on how the Swedish Institute support collaboration on gender equality within framework of the European Union Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (EUSBSR) To give the participants a good view on what will happen in the UBC, Esther Kreutz-Hassinen informed about the work carried out in the UBC Strategy task force.

45 representatives from cities and civic organizations around the Baltic Sea participated.

Commission's logo



Projects

Develop a proposition for a Gender Equality Strategy 2022-2030 connected to the UBC Strategy and Agenda 2030. Focusing on gender mainstreaming in the UBC. It has been discussed in the commissions and member cities during the summer and was sent to the secretariat in sept 2021.

4. Cooperation with other organisations

There has been/and there is ongoing discussion with the organization Women's Baltic Peacebuilding Initiative (a political and religious independent association) for closer cooperation between the working group and the association, in the matter of running the working group. The association "WBPI" is based on the Beijing declaration and Action Plan for women rights (UN), the Security Council resolution 1325:2000 and Goal 16 in the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Women's Baltic Peacebuilding Initiative would happily help to carry out some of the tasks in the proposed Gender Equality Strategy. Contact-person for "WBP" is Mrs Gertrud Astrom.