

MINUTES OF THE MEETING - Athena Working Group 3B  
3 DEC 2005  
Cosenza University

Participants: Jozefien Godemont, Marina Calloni, Barbara Bagilhole, Sara Clavero, Maria de los a.arias Guevara, Ingrid Pincus, Eva Schomer, Alessandra Vicenti, Giovanna Vingelli, Chris Zwaenepoel, Maria Stratigaki, Nadine Plateau, Martha Franken, Sonja Spee

Apologies from Andrea Peto, Mervi Heikinen, Ada Garcia, Carmela Sanz-Rueda, Petr Pavlik, Anna Cabo, Inge Vanderstighelen, Irma Erlingsdottir, Mieke Verloo, Claudia Krops,.

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**State of the Art** by Martha Franken

What did we decide in Barcelona about the products to be delivered for our last year :

- Inventory and evaluation of policy tools were deleted.
- We changed the inventory an evaluation of training possibilities into "collection and assessment of training possibilities"
- And we deleted the development of tools in "development of new policy recommendations";
- Velvet triangle -> comes back in
- The expert database (Sara Cavalero, Jozefien Godemont, Giussepina, Marina Calloni.... Are asked to fill in the database on the website -Chris will resend the details on the expert data base form) Also the participants of the workinggroup that were not present in Calabria and that have not yet filled in the expertdatabase are asked again to do so.
- Final home work: the Swot analysis -> with the presentation of Ingrid we will have a common format for questions
- The inventory of Andrea on education (it was send before Barcelona) -> **everybody is kindly asked to fill in this inventory asap**
- Proposal from Eva Schomer: input for discussion, not an inventory of teaching methods, but a pile of good practices on education
- Policy recommendations -> try to do this in your SWOT-analysis, sort of overview or general recommendations

- ppt by Martha Franken – see annex to this report

**Agenda of today:**

1. SWOT-analysis by Ingrid Pincus, and discussion and we will ask commitments;
2. Training possibilities/good practices by Eva Schomer and discussion
3. Application for Athena III-> the official application was already sent in in Nov discussion for the future
4. Discussion of the nearby future (2006) : seminars on which topics..

1. Note on the Swot-analysis of 24 november 2005 by Ingrid Pincus

**SWOT Analysis:**

Objective: how is the backlash manifested? This could be the red line when we are analysing our institutions...

What are the limits of the political system? Of the State? Which parties are involved/ which political forces are involved? We should have this in mind - the source of the political struggle... the focus of

mobilisation - the demands of the women's movements - have they access to the political agenda, what is the outcome... We should evaluate the relationships between the different actors.

Different kind of sources for analysis: The resources, the legislation, budget resources -> Marina: how do we recognize a legitimate claim? What is this process of legitimization? When will it be a (hot) issue? When came gender mainstreaming to the political agenda? What where the political factors to get gender mainstreaming to the agenda? This could be an **interesting topic** for the future as an historical approach: where and when are issues of gender mainstreaming legitimized? State Machinery use a different language to translate what social movements want.... Literature references (maybe people have already analysed this)..

Documents: 1995 - 2004 (Beijing reports, shadow reports, CEDAW reports) - there is no restriction on the documents, but just on the questions.

Barbara Bagilhole suggests a shorter period - because of the change of governments... **The full period: 1995-2004 is a maximum**, but you can restrict to a shorter period. It's important to see the process: you have to make comparisons between two dates in this 10 year period... not to ambitious. The CEDAW reports are more serious, but they do not cover all domains/policies. Countries have to report every 4 years. The Beijing reports have been published on the website of the United Nations, as also some of the country shadow reports.

-> **Policy development**: what is the government's concept of the problem? How is it defined? Is it defined as a woman's problem or as a problem of men/women? Has the political system changed during the period investigated? What is the states perception of the underlying causes of gender equality?

-> **Assessment of gender equality institutions**: what institutions? Which responsibilities? What is the status of those given responsibility? What administrative & financial resources are allocated to these institutions?

Source: parliamentary reports, state budgets, depends on the transparency of the system.. (if it's not public available we mention this too)

**Add: Future plans**

-> **Assessment of state steering instruments**

1. Legislation and also the follow up / evaluation of this instruments.
2. Quotas, (quota law f.e. in the advisory boards, in the decision making process...) and **parity approaches** (positive action) -> **Quotas/Positive Actions or parity approaches**
3. Mainstreaming, ... (the gap between the reality and the truth)
4. Economic steering instruments: gender budgeting (if it's possible: COMPARE IT WITH the total budget of the government -> do a critical analysis)
5. State information: (**include**: statistics/indicators and the levels on which these statistics are produced)
6. Advisory projects (include: planning, evaluate and monitoring, Civil consultation; )
7. **Funding of the women's movements**
8. **Future plans**

For the exact outcome of this discussion we refer to Ingrid's final document in annex. The idea is that we gather this same information about each country in our working group so that we can compare results in a European context. These insights might lead to some very interesting conclusions. The idea is not to overload a paper with a pile of facts, nor to do a long and thorough scientific research with this exercise.

For those who may have a problem with finding answers to the questions for their country we refer to the following suggestions :

Ex: Swedish booklet on the situation of men/women - which is also available on the website (Ingrid? - the address..)

Alison Woodward draws our attention to-> **RNGS**: Research Network of Gender and the State (formed in 1995). The project was looking at state feminism machinery: they were looking at cases (prostitution, job training, abortion, political representation, did the women's movement had an impact? They made a database. (first book: Stetson, D. & Mazur, A., State Feminism I) Rather parallel with the Mageeq project.. Countries involved are among others: Sweden (Sainsburg, Bergkvist) Spain (Celia Valente), UK (S. ...) Italy (Calloni...), Belgium (country report), Netherlands, France, Finland, ..  
<http://libarts.wsu.edu/polisci/rngs>

Many facts that you need might be found on this website.

### Which countries can be involved in our report?

- Sweden
- Greece
- Italy
- England (Barbara) & *Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland (Sara Clavero)*
- Flanders (Martha F, Chris and Sonja) and French Community (Nadine)
- *Spain (Anna Carbo, Carmella, Monica Threlfall- Loughborough)*
- *Finland*
- *Hungary*
- *Iceland*
- *Malta*
- *Cyprus*
- *Tsjech Republic*
- *Netherlands (Claudia)*
- *Austria (Eva Cendon)*
- *Roumenia*

*We* ask all participants in our working group to let us know NOW whether they will commit themselves to filling in this questionnaire. We expect the answers to the questionnaire by the end of April so that we can start comparing results at our next meeting (see further)

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### 2. Eva Schomer - Discussion based on the notes *"How to teach Gender Equal Opportunities policies?"*

How do we manage when we teach gender? It's quite easy to teach gender in gender studies classes.... But how do you teach gender in not-interested classes?

Example by Eva Schomer:

-> role play on well fare - a way to get students interested in the topic.

Objective: Mapping of all kinds of methods and good practices in how to *teach* E.O. policies to **different kinds of audiences**;

-> ex. of Alessandra Vicenti (educating/consulting in a organisation of volunteers - how to raise awareness/ sensitize men and women to gender matters - try to make them use gender - one specific method);

-> ex. Of Nadine Plateau (experience of teaching gender to future teachers, who were obliged to follow the courses) : a non academic course, but starting from their own experiences - also with role play.

Eva S.: her first role play in a specific gender subject: create a gender equality plan following the gender eq law. With specific roles - with a patriotic man, and some good women and men... This role play continues for one week.

In the outcome of our projectproposal is mentioned:

- Collection of (good practices) of *teaching* materials - this can have links with the inventory of Andrea Peto, but not necessarily. In the inventory we try to inventories institutions and courses. With Eva's paper we try to make a CASE book, with a collection of good practices of teaching materials, with:
- Short description of materials used in courses...;
- Syllabi, reading material ..
- Exercises and assignments (like papers, role play ...)

**Final product: Collection of cases (good practices (examples) - using teaching materials (pieces of films, illustrations, role play) to teach gender equality (equal opportunities) policies**

Outline could be as follows:

- The course title
- The audience (which level of understanding?)
- The teacher(s) (which level) - context
- ECTS
- How many hours?
- Which assignments?
- How is it thought?
- Good practice? -> experiences / the narratives (why is this a good practice?)
- Evaluation by the audience (follow up)

In annex with this mail you find the finalised document by Eva Schomer with the outline of topics to cover when you write up your example.

Chris will make a web designed forms for both the inventory on education and the case book so everybody can fill in on line.

The IIAV already has a database of syllabi used in women's studies courses, but not with a focus on teaching equal opportunities... (check wie ?)

Which countries can be involved:

- \* Greece:  
Maria Strategaki: specific example - one Greece project on how to teach gender in secondary schools... like also the Italian example ?? this is not e.o?
- \* Italy (ex. of Alessandra, Giovanna...)
- \* Sweden (ex. of Eva, Ingrid)
- \* Belgium (ex. of Nadine Plateau, Alison w. , Stiva course )
- \* UK / England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland

Before Christmas the form will be on the website... People have time until the end of March 2006 to fill it in. Eva will then assemble the gathered information into a new paper to discuss at the following meeting.

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### 3. Meeting of our work group 4-6 May 2006 in Athens

**Aim** of meeting in Athens:

-> connection / interaction between gender studies and women's movements (Seminar) Proposed title:  
*(Re)connection between gender studies and women's movement (or feminist movement)*  
-> together with Community of Athens. Maria Stratigaki will work out the program further for this seminar.

**Ideas and suggestions for speakers are welcome!**

**Time table:**

Wednesday may 3: travelling to Athens

Thursday 4 : **meeting** of working group 3b

Friday 5 : Seminar (9.30 till 14h) and event in Athens related to the seminar

Saturday 6 : **meeting of working group 3b**

Sunday 7: tourism and return

In Athens we will add an extra day for the working group if the necessary funds are found to cover the costs of the meeting. On the agenda of the working group are not only the discussions of the final homework on SWOT (paper Ingrid) the inventory on education (Andrea) and the case book on teaching materials (Eva) but we will also take time for presentations of finished research products that have been conducted by participants between the Barcelona and Athens meetings.

The Utrecht secretariat contributes an extra 5000 euro to cover the costs of our project so we will invest this if possible in reimbursing all of part of the travel costs for all participants – to get the bigger group together again.

We will let you know how this turns out **but block the dates already in your agenda : 3 – 7 May 2006**

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### 4. The future: application of Athena III

Overall theme: finding strategies to keep gender in the eq.op debate... Intersectionality as theoretical approach takes gender up, next to other variables of age, ethnicity, ...

What we want to do is: enlarge the scope of gender (international dimension, transversal dimension...).

Proposal for the title:

***Deepening and widening the scope of gender within Europe***

Subthemes:

1. The role of international actors (transnational movements and international organisations);
2. The gap between talk and action, implementation and reality;
3. The contribution of intersectionality;
4. Women as carriers of socio-economical progress;
5. Gender in public and media discourse: threats and opportunities
6. The transformation of the legal framework and their impact

-> ***and the consequences for teaching...***

Present partners and maybe some more / or other partners...?

We will ask Utrecht feedback on the global application that was sent in November 1<sup>st</sup> to see whether our future project still fits in. If so we will work out the different subthemes with a project.

Coordination: Martha Franken (?)

After discussion we came up to the following subthemes:

1. The role of international actors (transnational movements and international organisations) (Andrea Peto and Alison Woodward)
2. The contribution of intersectionality to the sustainability of gender, women as carriers of socio-economical progress (Barbara Bagilhole and Ingrid Pincus - also Alessandra V. is interested)
3. The gap between talk and action, implementation and reality (? Maria Strategaki? And Sara Clavero?)
4. Gender in public and media discourse: threats and opportunities (Sonja Spee ? and Giuseppina Pellegrino ?)
5. The transformation of the legal framework and their impact (Eva Schomer and ?)

**The next project will be structured with one coordinator and a core group of coordinators and subthemes. We need to know which participants of the contemporary group are interested in which themes. So please let us know ASAP.**

**If the application is continued the coordination group will write out this project and send it to the Athena secretariat in Utrecht**

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Call for papers for the Antwerp Conference **Equal is not enough - 12-14 Sept 2006** in Antwerp.  
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**Thanks to the conference organisers!**

6. Homework :
1. SWOT analysis final version : fill in the questionnaire made by Ingrid Pincus and send in at the latest April 25<sup>th</sup> 2006;
2. Inventory on Education : fill in the questionnaire made by Andrea Peto and send in at the latest before March 25<sup>th</sup> 2006;
3. Cases on Teaching : write out one (or more) cases on good teaching practices following the instructions in the paper made by Eva Schömer and send in at the latest before March 25<sup>th</sup> 2006;
4. Ideas and suggestions for the meeting in Athens send them in before January 10<sup>th</sup> and block the dates MAY 3 – 7<sup>th</sup>, 2006 already in your agenda;
5. Future application : "Deepening and Widening the scope of gender within Europe": commit yourself to one (or more) of the themes and let us know whether you will join the coming project before January 10<sup>th</sup> 2006.

Send all homework to the following address : athena3b@rosadoc.be