

**WOMEN ENHANCING DEMOCRACY: BEST PRACTICES**  
**Vilnius, Lithuania**  
**June 30, 2011**

**Venue: Office of the President of the Republic of Lithuania, S. Daukanto sq. 3**

**PROPOSED AGENDA:**

**8:00 am – 9:00 am**            Registration of Participants

**9:30 am – 10:45 am**        Opening Remarks and Moderated Discussion:

**Women Inspiring the World: Educated, Empowered, Equal**

**Remarks:**            Her Excellency **Dalia Grybauskaitė**, President of Lithuania  
Her Excellency **Tarja Halonen**, President of Finland

**Saadia Zahidi**, Director and Head of Constituents at the  
World Economic Forum (Davos), Women Index

**Sima Samar**, Afghanistan, IHRC

**Hoda Badran**, Egypt, Alliance for Arab Women

**Melanne Vermeer**, Ambassador-At-Large for Global Women's Issues,  
US State Department

**Moderator:**            **Virginija Langbakk**, Director, European Institute for Gender Equality

**10:45 am – 3:15 pm**        Moderated Discussions:

During the roundtable sessions, participants will share their experiences on the topics of the conference. Roundtables will reflect strategies or tools that can be used to increase women's participation in consolidated democracies, as well as in emerging democracies and transitional governments. Panelists will consist of government officials and civil society activists. These discussions will be moderated by a well-known figure. The event will be transmitted live via internet webcast. Different non-governmental organizations around the world will be notified and will be able to watch the conference and to actively participate through the web platform. The most popular questions will be raised by the moderator, enabling activists around the world to participate in the discussion indirectly.

**10:45 am – 11:20 am**        Coffee Break

**11:20 am – 1:15 pm**        **Session A:            Women's Economic Independence**

- *Supporting women entrepreneurs;*
- *Women's economic empowerment in emerging democracies;*
- *Legal system and use of quotas;*
- *Role of education in transitional societies*

**Panelists:**            **Elbegdorj Tsakhia**, President of Mongolia;  
**Solvita Āboltiņa**, Latvia, Speaker of the Parliament;

**Maud Elisabeth Olofsson**, Sweden, Minister for Enterprise and Energy;

**Selima Ahmad**, Bangladesh, President of Women Chamber of Commerce and  
Industry;

**Mahnaz Afkhami**, Iran, Academia;

**Dalia Leinartė**, Lithuania, Academia

**Moderator:**            **Lyse Doucet**, BBC World Service

**Form:**                    Moderated discussion (no prepared remarks)

**1:15 pm – 1:20 pm**        Technical Break

<b>1:20 pm – 3:15 pm</b>	<b>Session B:</b>	<p><b>Combating Violence against Women and Human Trafficking</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>Women in conflict zones (UNSC resolution 1325) and in transitional societies;</i></li> <li>○ <i>Domestic violence;</i></li> <li>○ <i>Challenges in emerging democracies;</i></li> <li>○ <i>Role of NGOs and women leaders.</i></li> </ul>
	<b>Panelists:</b>	<p><b>Atifete Jahjaga</b>, President of Kosovo;  <b>Jozefina Çoba Topalli</b>, Speaker of the Parliament of Albania;</p> <p><b>Christine Bako</b>, Uganda, Member of Parliament;  <b>Kyung-wha Kang</b>, Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights, UN;  <b>Eva Biaudet</b>, Finland, Ombudsman;  <b>Ana Temkina</b>, Russian Federation, Academia;  <b>Cindy Dyer</b>, US, Vital Voices Global Partnership</p>
	<b>Moderator:</b>	<b>Myria Vassiliadou</b> , <i>European Anti-Trafficking Coordinator, former Secretary General of European Women's Lobby</i>
	<b>Form:</b>	Moderated discussion (no prepared remarks)
<b>3:15 pm – 5:00 pm</b>	<u>Lunch</u>	
<b>3:15 pm – 3:45 pm</b>	<u>Press Conference</u>	<p>Her Excellency <b>Dalia Grybauskaitė</b>, President of Lithuania  Her Excellency <b>Tarja Halonen</b>, President of Finland</p>
<b>5:00 pm – 5:45 pm</b>	<u>Closing Remarks</u>	<p>Her Excellency <b>Tarja Halonen</b>, President of Finland  <b>Margot Wallstrom</b>, <i>Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict</i>  U.S. Secretary of State <b>Hillary Clinton</b>  Her Excellency <b>Dalia Grybauskaitė</b>, President of Lithuania</p> <p><b>Special Conference Reporter and moderator</b>  <b>Wendy Patten</b>, Special Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office on Gender Issues</p>

**EXPECTED RESULTS:**

Before the conference, we will ask each roundtable participant to share their “lessons learned.” These will serve as starting points for online/offline discussion aimed at publicizing the best practices that countries can apply for advancing gender equality in each of the highlighted areas. The presented lessons learned, best practices, and conclusions of the conference will be made available online and disseminated globally.

**PARTNERS:**

Council of Women World Leaders  
European Institute of Gender Equality  
Community of Democracies  
International Republican Institute, Women’s  
Democracy Network

National Democratic Institute for International Affairs  
U.S. Department of State, Office of Ambassador-At-Large for Global  
Women’s Issues Melanne Vermeer  
Vital Voices