View this email in your browser

KEN
Korea-EU CSO Network

NEWSLETTER
November 2023

CLIMATE ACTION
HUMAN RIGHTS

Establishing effective partnerships and networks among CSOs

Dear Community Members,

Welcome to the latest edition of the Korea-EU Civil Society Network (KEN)'s newsletter!

In this edition, we delve into the theme of multiple discrimination and the concept of intersectionality, featuring insightful articles from civil society organizations across the European Union and Korea.

Our contributors explore a diverse range of topics, addressing pressing issues such as the mental health of LGBTQA+ individuals, the inclusivity of sexuality education, the creation of dementia-friendly communities, the gender gap in climate leadership, and measures against gender discrimination in workplaces.

Join us as we navigate the intersections of social issues, fostering dialogue and understanding to promote positive change in our communities.

We trust that this issue of the KEN newsletter will offer valuable perspectives on these crucial matters and the continuous endeavors to tackle them. We anticipate your ongoing interest and endorsement. Our commitment to assisting you extends into the remainder of the year and beyond!

Whether you have questions, comments, feedback, or simply want to reach out, we welcome hearing from you. Please, send us an email (**contact@kencso.org**) and share your thoughts! Visit our website and follow us on Facebook for more.

Best regards,

Your KEN team

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE EU

>> HUMAN RIGHTS

A TOOLKIT ON MENTAL HEALTH & SUICIDE AWARENESS FOR LGBTQIA+ INDIVIDUALS

In 2023, the International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, Queer and Intersex Youth & Student Organisation (IGLYO) collaborated with GAMIAN-Europe and IASP's LGBTQA+ Special Interest Group for a project focused on LGBTQIA+ Mental Health and Suicidality among young people. The partnership organized two online workshops, bringing together a diverse group of LGBTQIA+ individuals dealing with severe mental health issues and suicidality. The workshops aimed to understand underlying risk factors comprehensively and develop practical strategies for prevention. In observance of World Suicide Prevention Day 2023, IGLYO released two resources: a Joint Statement with policy recommendations addressing disparities in suicidality and severe mental health challenges for LGBTQIA+ youth, and a Toolkit for those interested in solutions for LGBTQIA+ youth mental health and suicide awareness.

For further information

UNESCO ENSURES INCLUSIVITY OF COMPREHENSIVE SEXUALITY EDUCATION FOR LEARNERS WITH DISABILITIES

UNESCO is addressing the exclusion of persons with disabilities from sexual and reproductive health services and sex education by calling for consultants to research and develop inclusive Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE). CSE is a curriculum-based approach to teach various aspects of sexuality and empower young people with knowledge, values, and skills. UNESCO acknowledges the importance of CSE in promoting overall health, well-being, and rights. However, research indicates that young people with disabilities face numerous obstacles in accessing CSE, from socio-cultural stigma to the hypersexualization of girls with intellectual disabilities. UNESCO's new initiative aims to understand the needs of educators and learners with disabilities, raise awareness of disability rights, and foster dialogue between stakeholders.

For further information

DEMENTIA FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

Slezská diakonie, which is a non-governmental organization providing 112 services in the social field from the Czech Republic, collaborated with Diaconia Valdese from Italy under the ERASMUS+ program to elevate the quality of life for individuals with dementia. This initiative exemplifies the commitment to innovative elderly care, fostering collaboration and education. Key accomplishments include enhanced service quality, the transfer of innovative dementia care methods, and the development of skills among staff and the community. The project's success sets the stage for future endeavors, with plans for a new project commencing in January 2024, promising further advancements in dementia care.

For further information

UN TRANS ADVOCACY WEEK 2024

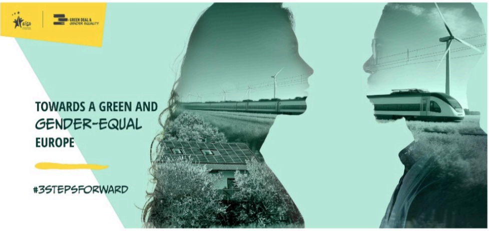
The UN Trans Advocacy Week (TAW), an international initiative by six partners including Transgender Europe (TGEU) and the International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Association (ILGA

World), has opened applications for its 8th edition in 2024. The physical event in Geneva during the 56th Regular Session of the UN Human Rights Council aims to empower trans and gender diverse human rights defenders in international advocacy. Participants will engage with UN Treaty Bodies, Special Procedures, and UPR Processes, making statements at Human Rights Council sessions and participating in closed-door meetings. The program seeks to enhance understanding of global interactions, fostering awareness of pressing issues affecting trans communities. Applications are encouraged from passionate individuals with diverse identities, and language interpretation services will be provided during TAW 2024 for selected participants.

For further information

>> WOMEN & GENDER EQUALITY

ADVANCING THREE STEPS TO BRIDGE THE GENDER GAP IN CLIMATE LEADERSHIP



The EIGE's statistical note, "Gender Balance in the European Green Deal," highlights a concerning gender disparity, with women occupying less than one-third of senior minister positions across all Green Deal portfolios. The lowest representation of women is observed in transport and agriculture. Although energy and climate achieved gender balance, critical committees like the Transport and Tourism Committee and Economic and Monetary Affairs Committee lack female chairs. The underrepresentation of women in decision-making roles raises concerns about the Green Deal's ability to address gendered impacts of climate change. To tackle this, the campaign #3StepForward aims to amplify diverse voices, featuring perspectives from leaders like Paloma Aba Garrote, Alice Kuhnke, and Sheena Anderson. The initiative encourages professionals, activists, and policymakers to share their three commitments toward gender-equal climate action by submitting 60-second videos to be part of the #3StepsForward campaign.

For further information

For further information

>> CLIMATE CHANGE

THE IMPORTANE OF GREEN BEHAVIOR FOR LAWMAKERS AND BUSINESS LEADERS

The Gender Equality Index 2023 reveals that age, income, and housework influence behaviors impacting personal carbon footprints. The European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE)'s CARE survey notes that older individuals are less likely to avoid impactful green behaviors like avoiding animal products, with a widening gender gap. the European Environmental Bureau (EEB) advocates for intersectional environmental policies, connecting them to social and health benefits, and warns against solely relying on vulnerable populations for climate action. The EEB emphasizes the need for incentives, deterrents, and infrastructure improvements, urging policymakers to avoid isolating green policies and consider their societal impact. Moreover, the EEB stresses the importance of education in promoting gender equality as integral to creating a better world for everyone within environmental initiatives.

For further information

HIGHLIGHTS FROM KOREA

>> HUMAN RIGHTS

SEOUL'S NORTH KOREAN HUMAN RIGHTS MUSEUM UNVAILS 'THE ECHO NEVER STOPS' EXHIBITION

The North Korean Human Rights Museum, the first of its kind, recently opened in Seoul, featuring an inaugural exhibition titled "The Echo Never Stops." Curated by the Database Center for North Korean Human Rights (NKDB), the exhibition employs art, archives, and documentary videos to shed light on the severe restrictions on freedom of expression imposed by the authoritarian North Korean regime. The display includes smuggled leaflets, handheld radios used to pick up foreign broadcasts, and artworks by North Korean defectors, such as Sun Mu and Kim Young-seop. The museum, partly funded by the South Korean Unification Ministry, aims to serve as a stepping stone to raise awareness about North Korean rights in a society where interest has waned. Emphasizing freedom of expression, the exhibition seeks to make the everyday struggles of North Koreans more relatable to a local audience. Despite the issue's politicization, the organizers hope to demonstrate that human rights are a universal concern that transcends political divides.

For further information

For further information

>> WOMEN & GENDER EQUALITY

NHRC URGES PROACTIVE MEASURES AGAINST GENDER DISCRIMINATION IN JOB INTERVIEWS FOLLOWING DISTURBING INCIDENT

국가인권위원회

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has advised the Secretary-General of a Provincial Council to take preventative measures, including educating interviewers about avoiding gender-discriminatory questions unrelated to job duties. The recommendation follows a complaint where a male applicant, interviewed for an administrative assistant position, was asked whether he thought a woman or a man would be selected for the secretary's office role. Despite the explanation that the question aimed to gauge the applicant's willingness for the job's simple tasks, the NHRC found it discriminatory. They expressed concern about gender-based job role assumptions negatively impacting male applicants and concluded that such questions violate the right to equality. The NHRC recommends implementing measures to prevent such incidents in the future.

For further information

PROMOTING WOMEN'S ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN KOREA

The Asia Foundation's office in Korea, with support from Fondation Chanel, undertook a program to equip women entrepreneurs with the skills and training they would need to enter the market and sustain their businesses successfully. The recently concluded two-phase project administered networking sessions, individual and group coaching sessions, and conferences to develop women entrepreneurs' public speaking skills and opportunities. After the project, the project reached and improved the businesses of more than 300 women entrepreneurs.

For further information

>> CLIMATE CHANGE

THE 18TH POLICY CONSULTATION FORUM OF THE SEOUL INITIATIVE NETWORK ON GREEN GROWTH

The Eighteenth Policy Consultation Forum of the Seoul Initiative Network on Green Growth (SINGG) focused on "Accelerating Collaborative Efforts for Climate Action in Asia and the Pacific." In response to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Sixth Assessment Report highlighting the severe impact of human-induced climate change, the forum aimed to address climate hazards and promote carbon neutrality. Despite commitments from 137 countries, global CO2 emissions reached a new high in 2022. The forum provided a platform for member states to share best practices, enhance cooperation, and strengthen collaborative efforts in achieving carbon neutrality by 2050. The expected outcomes include a heightened understanding of green recovery, carbon-neutral strategies, and increased cooperation for carbon reduction in the Asia-Pacific region.

For further information

For further information

KOREA OPENS QUANTUM SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY COOPERATION CENTER IN BRUSSELS FOR JOINT RESEARCH PROJECTS WITH EUROPE

The Ministry of Science and ICT (MSIT) has announced the establishment of the "Korea-Europe Quantum Science Technology Cooperation Center" (European Center) in Brussels, Belgium, marking the second institution under the international quantum technology cooperation initiative. The initiative aims to provide comprehensive support for collaboration between domestic industries, academia, and research institutions with international counterparts in the quantum sector.

For further information

UPCOMING EVENTS

CONFERENCE

26-27 December 2023

International Conference on Human Rights and Human Dignity

Seoul

CONFERENCE

7 December 2023

2023 KOREA-EU CSO NETWORK HUMAN RIGHTS CONFERENCE: Live Diversity; Practice Inclusivity

Seoul

©Korea-EU CSO Network (KEN), 2022. All rights reserved

This programme is funded by the European Union

Its contents are the sole responsibility of Stantec and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union.

Want to change how you receive these emails?
If you want to unsubscribe from this newsletter,
please contact contact@kencso.org **mentioning UNSUBSCRIBE in the title.**

This email was sent to <<Email Address>>
why did I get this? unsubscribe from this list update subscription preferences
Stantec · Avenue Reine Astrid 92 · La Hulpe 1310 · Belgium