

Women in Czech European, Foreign and Security Policy

Foreign, European and Security policies are debated at conferences in the Czech Republic and they set the agenda for Europe's future and draw attention from across the EU. Despite a huge progress that the society has made in the last 30 years after the Velvet Revolution, we are still facing some unfortunate remnants of the past. The European topics discussed are varied, but unfortunately female experts are much less involved in these debates. Quite often panels on such conferences are "male only".

The practice of selecting only men to speak on panels on policy issues is unjust, as it excludes the voices of women. We emphasize on bringing more gender diversity to those debates.

We want women to participate in shaping our lives and inspiring future generations. Following these ideals, the Association for International Affairs (AMO) and the Representation of the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung in Prague created a "Women Network on Czech European, Foreign and Security Policy". The aim of this network is to provide female experts engaged in public administration, politics, diplomacy, international organizations, media, research institutions and non-governmental sector with the opportunity to share their specific experiences and discuss the main challenges they are facing in their professional lives. The ultimate goal of the network is strengthening the presence of women in the field of Czech Foreign, European, Security and Defence policy and the decision-making process in Czech international affairs.

The network is going to meet regularly for discussions with renowned female experts to talk not only about their specific topic of expertise but also about their experiences of being a female professional in the field of European, Foreign or Security policy.

In addition one of the next steps will be the creation of a free database of female experts in Czech Foreign, European and Security Policy to provide a practical tool to ensure greater participation of women in policy shaping and debating. The database should consist of profiles of female experts based in the Czech Republic.

We would be happy if you are interested joining us in this network and thus support the idea for more gender diversity on panels. Please contact us if you want to be part of this network or want to receive further information

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