

Berlin, den 16.07.2019

## The Annual Conference of DaMigra am 6. September 2019

*"Stop violence against ALL women!  
Implementation of the Istanbul Convention:  
UNCONDITIONALLY!"*

Since February 1, 2018, the convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence—also known as the **"Istanbul Convention" (IC)**—is in force in Germany. The IC understands violence against women both as human rights violation and a form of discrimination. Additionally, it defines violence against women not only on a physical and mental basis but also focuses on the consequences which derive from sexist and sexual actions, such as economic consequences. By the understanding of gender as a social construct and the fact of equality for EVERYONE and ANYONE, the convention reveals concrete missions. The IC speaks explicitly within the voice of women's movement: "the personal is political." Moreover, vice versa: the political is personal; violence against women as well as sexual and reproductive self-determination cannot be tabooed, or even should not be sexist and racial reinterpreted and instrumentalized.



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The conference highlights the perspectives, concerns, and needs of women with a history of migration and force-displacement as a refugee. On September 6, 2019, together with representatives from politics, media, and civil society focussing on women and migration policies, we will discuss the Istanbul Convention's objectives, targets, and its previous actions. Additionally, we will elaborate the current status of the implementation and update the catalog of demands in 2017; "No to violence against migrant and refugee women" (*Nein zu Gewalt an Migrantinnen\* und geflüchtete Frauen\**, 2017).

The Istanbul Convention is a suitable basis to implement women rights and human rights in Germany for **EVERYBODY and ANYBODY comprehensively and unconditionally**. Paragraph 59 of the convention is a particular segment regarding the rights of women and girls with a history of migration and forced displacement as a refugee. However, the Federal Government of Germany has only ratified the convention with reservation of article 59 (2) and 59(3).

The core questions for us: By whom and how will the obstacles for migrant and refugee women be addressed and incorporated into the GREVIO-questionnaire? Will the consequences, especially regarding residence permit status, residence arrangements and "Ehebestandszeit" (the duration of marriage), play an appropriate role? Which stakeholders will be addressed or respectively involved in the implementation process, regarding marginalized groups, multiple-discriminated people, and topics of taboo? What about illegalized women and survivors of human trafficking? Moreover, how the concerns and protection concepts of women living in central accommodation (initial reception centers for asylum seekers, collective centers, AnkER-Zentren) will be heard?

In this framework, DaMigra is addressing central issues for policy-making at their annual conference: because the Istanbul Convention stands for human rights and thus for migrant women's rights!

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## Program

09:00 Registration

10:00 OPENING

Greeting, Executive Board of DaMigra Kook-Nam Cho-Ruwwe

Opening Speech, Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth, Dr. Franziska Giffey (tbc)

Introduction, Director of DaMigra Dr. Delal Atmaca

10:45 Keynote Dr. Leonie Steinl, Hamburg Universität (tbc)  
*Istanbul Convention - Legal view of the EU Human Rights Convention and its implementation in Germany*  
Keynote Assoc. Prof. Dr. Zeynep Kivilcim, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin: "Reservations on the Istanbul Convention: Why do states want to exclude migrant and refugee women\* from protection?"  
Statement Aleida Luján Pinelo, University of Turku: Critical comments on the keynotes with a focus on the Istanbul Convention and femi(ni)cides

12:30 Lunch break

13:30 Forum: *Istanbul Convention between Multiple Discrimination, Residence Status and Self-Determination*

Focus 1 Istanbul Convention and Right of Residence: Reservation and Consequences for the Implementation of the Istanbul Convention - Residence Obligation, Marriage Period and Family Reunification

Statement: Dr. Esma Çakır-Ceylan, Lawyer and Lourdes Martínez, Amnesty for Women e.V.

Focus 2 Istanbul Convention and Human Rights: Human trafficking and "Illegality," Gender Identities and Reproductive Rights

Statement: Pia Ritzel, KOK – Bundesweiter Koordinierungskreis gegen Menschenhandel e.V. and (Speaker tbc.)

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Focus 3 Istanbul Convention and Human Rights: Exclusions, access, and discrimination in central accommodation/community accommodation, in administrative and official bodies (counseling centers/services, support structure, law enforcement institutions) / women health / implementation at country level  
Statement: Prof. Dr. Dorothee Frings and (Speaker tbc.)

15:30 Coffee break

16:00 Podium discussion "How do we implement the Istanbul Convention unconditionally?"

Dr. Birgit Schweikert (tbc)  
Head of Unit 40 in the Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth,

Rosa Logar (tbc)  
until recently part of the Council of Europe's expert body GREVIO

Dr. Pierrette Herzberger-Fofana, MdEP und Chairman of the Board DaMigra

Representatives of the parties: Nicole Bauer (FDP) (tbc), Gökay Akbulut (DIE LINKE), Daniela Kolbe (SPD) (tbc), Canan Bayram (DIE GRÜNEN) (tbc), Karin Maag (CDU) (tbc)

Moderation: Vanessa Vu (tbc)

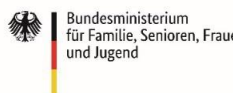
17:45 Closing Remarks Inna Schulze

18:00 Conference Closure

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