



OFFICE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN

Response by the Principality of Liechtenstein to the request for information on mentoring networks for women by the Office of the Secretary General of the OSCE dated 11 March 2016 (SEC.GAL/30/16/Corr.1)

The equal representation of women and men in leading positions in politics and in the economy is one of the challenges on the way to achieving full and de facto gender equality in Liechtenstein as in most other countries. Mentoring-Networks Programs can play a crucial role in achieving equality in these fields.

One such Program is the **cross-border politics course for women**. It is organised by the the Office of Equal Opportunity in Liechtenstein as well as the Women's Department in Vorarlberg (Austria). Participating women learn the basic rules of the political processes and acquire general political knowledge. The participants of this course are supported in their political and social engagement and in their political work. The aim of the courses is to prepare women to contribute with their knowledge to political and public bodies by strengthening their self-confidence and by learning techniques for leading a discussion. This program is aimed at women involved in institutions, chambers, political parties, public bodies, organizations, associations and initiative groups and at women who wish to be active in such structures in the future. The courses also provide a platform for women to build an interregional network, meet new acquaintances and exchange experiences. Since 2004 260 women from Liechtenstein and Vorarlberg (Austria) have participated in this cross-national politics courses.

The new **Interregional Project "Women decide"** started in 2016. The Project is organised by the Office of Equal Opportunity in Liechtenstein, the Women's Department in Vorarlberg (Austria) and the Office of Equal Opportunity in Graubünden (Switzerland). Its goals are to encourage women to aim for an executive or leadership position and to create an online-platform to interlink women in all three participating countries. A special focus is given to the role and presence of women and men in the media. To reach these goals, seminars and workshops are organised for women interested in politics. As a first step it is planned to conduct two cross-national assessments, one on the role of Gender in the media and the other on representation of women and men in decision-making positions. In spring 2017 a cross-border expert symposium will be organized. A particular focus will be put on girls and young women at the age of 12 to 20 and their participation in politics. Different workshops on the participation in political processes are put in place and in autumn 2016 a cross-national girls-parliament will be organized. The results of the project will be presented at the end of 2017.

Vaduz, 22 March 2016