



FONDATION RENÉ CASSIN

*The European Court of Human Rights in cooperation with  
Institut International des Droits de l'Homme – Fondation René Cassin  
and with the support of the General Consulate of Japan in Strasbourg  
invite you to the conference:*

## **Women's Human Rights in the Twenty-First Century: Developments and Challenges under International and European Law**

**Friday, 14 February 2020  
European Court of Human Rights, Strasbourg  
Press Room/Seminar Room**

Women have been historically discriminated in society. Based on assumptions about the “natural” gender roles in society, women have been denied important rights from the suffrage, the right to sign contracts or perform work outside the home to custody rights. Over the last century, important developments have taken place. The conceptualization of women's rights as human rights and their incorporation into international law played an important role in this. Women's equality became the subject of international documents such as the *UN's Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women*, the *1995 The Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action*, the *Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women* or more recently the *Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence*. In addition, supranational courts such as the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, the European Court of Human Rights, the International Criminal Court or the Court of Justice of the European Union have responded to women's demands by an increasingly gender-sensitive reading of different international and regional legal norms. Notwithstanding, women's full equality has not yet been achieved. Women everywhere are still subject to different forms of violence in war and in times of peace, in the public and the private spheres, they earn less and are facing higher poverty rates than men, are under-represented in positions of power in fields like politics, on the boards of companies and on the benches of the highest national and international courts and face other gender-specific forms of discrimination such as poor access to justice and to sexual, reproductive and maternal care.

This conference aims to discuss a few aspects of the state of women's human rights and the challenges to achieving gender equality in the twenty-first century. It will do so by looking at developments in the field of gender equality under International and European Law and before regional courts, particularly the European Court of Human Rights.

The conference hopes to provide a forum of reflection on gender equality for members of the judiciary, legal practitioners, academics, representatives of European institutions and non-governmental organizations, as well as other professionals.

# CONFERENCE AGENDA

Friday, 14 February 2020

8:30 – 9:00      **Registration**

9:00 – 9:15      **Opening Speeches**

- ❖ **Linos-Alexandre Sicilianos**, President of the European Court of Human Rights
- ❖ **Akamatsu Takeshi**, Ambassador and Permanent Observer of Japan to the Council of Europe, Consul General of Japan in Strasbourg

9:15 – 9:40      **Introduction by the Organizers**

**Chair:**            **Ganna Yudkivska**, Judge, European Court of Human Rights

**Speakers**

- ❖ **Iulia Motoc**, Judge, European Court of Human Rights
- ❖ **Ivana Jelić**, Judge, European Court of Human Rights
- ❖ **Elena Brodeala**, Yale Law School's Robina Fellow at the Council of Europe

09:40 – 10:10

## Keynote Speaker

**Yoko Hayashi**

Lawyer and Partner of Athena Law Office, Tokyo, Japan  
Former President of the UN CEDAW Committee

***In Pursuit of the Universal Value:  
Complementarity of International, Regional and Domestic law***

Introduced by  
**Gabriele Kucsko-Stadlmayer**, Judge, European Court of Human Rights

## Plenary Session - Press Room

10:10 – 11:30      **Session I. Gender Equality before the ECtHR**

**Chair**

**Anja Seibert-Fohr**

Judge, European Court of Human Rights

**Alexandra Timmer**

Associate Professor at the Netherlands Institute of Human Rights

*An Analysis of the ECtHR's Case Law on Gender Equality*

**Sandra Fredman**

Rhodes Professor of the Laws of the British Commonwealth and the USA at Oxford University

*Taking Gender Seriously: Substantive Equality and the ECHR*

**Panelists**

**Valerie Sperling**

Professor at Clark University, United States of America

*and*

**Lisa McIntosh Sundstrom**

Associate Professor at the University of British Columbia, Canada

*Courting Gender Justice: Russia, Turkey, and the European Court of Human Rights*

**Alice Margaria**

Research Fellow in the 'Law and Anthropology' Department of the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology

*Another Side of Gender Equality: Fathers in the ECtHR Jurisprudence*

11:30 – 11:45      **Coffee break for all participants**

## Plenary Session -Press Room

11:50 – 12:50      **Session II. Violence Against Women in International and European Law**

**Chair**

**Christine Chanet**

Honorary Adviser to the French Court of Cassation, Former President of the UN Human Rights Committee

**Diane Roman**

Professor of Public Law, University Paris I Panthéon-Sorbonne

*Gender Violence and Female Genital Mutilations: is there a European Court for Women's Rights?*

**Panelists**

**Mathias Möschel**

Associate Professor, the Legal Studies Department of Central European University (CEU), Budapest

*The EU's Actions in Combating Violence Against Women*

**Maria Bucur**

Professor of Gender Studies at Indiana University Bloomington

*Domestic Violence as Humanitarian Crisis*

12:45 – 14:45 Lunch for the speakers/chairs

### Parallel Session – Press Room

14:45 – 15:55 Session III. Violence Against Women and the Council of Europe

Chair

**Ksenija Turković**,  
Judge, European Court Of Human Rights

**Luis Jimena Quesada**

Professor of Constitutional Law at the University of Valencia, Former President of the European Committee of Social Rights of the Council of Europe  
*Violence Against Women under the European Social Charter*

**Ayşe Işıl Karakaş**

Professor at Kadir Has University, Turkey and Former Judge, European Court of Human Rights

*Positive Obligations of the State on Domestic Violence: Remarks on the Case-law of the ECHR*

Panelists

**Maria-Andriani Kostopoulou**

GREVIO Member, Council of Europe

*Building Synergies: Violence Against Women and the Istanbul Convention in the Case-law of the ECtHR*

**Shazia Choudhry**

Professor of Law at Queen Mary, London

*Child Contact, Domestic Abuse and the European Convention on Human Rights - Progress and Future Challenges for the European Court of Human Rights*

### Parallel Session – Seminar Room

14:45 – 15:55 Session IV. Gender and Decision-Making

Chair

**Armen Harutyunyan**  
Judge, European Court of Human Rights

**Stéphanie Hennette Vauchez**

Professor of Law at Université Paris Nanterre

*Of Sticky Floors and Glass Ceilings: Why Is It So Difficult to Significantly Enhance the Number of Women Judges in International Courts?*

**Ivana Krstić**

Professor of International Human Rights Law and Director of the Human Rights Centre at the University of Belgrade, Faculty of Law

*Gender Bias in Judges' Decision-Making*

Panelists

**Silvia Suteu**

Lecturer in Public Law, University College London

*Participatory Constitution-Making and Women's Rights: Two Distinctive Agendas?*

**Christie S. Warren**

Professor of the Practice of International and Comparative Law and founding Director of the Center for Comparative Legal Studies and Post-Conflict Peacebuilding at William & Mary Law School in the US

*Barriers during Peace; Opportunities after War*

15:55 – 16:15 Coffee break for all participants

**Plenary Session - Press Room**

16:15 – 17:25 **Session V. Challenges to Reaching Gender Equality at International and Local Level**

**Chair** **Mihaela Miroiu**

Professor, National School for Political Studies and Public Administration, Bucharest, Romania

**Vladimíra Pejchalová Grünwaldová**

Lecturer, University of West Bohemia, and Business Institute in Prague

*Gender Equality, Human Rights Challenges*

**Anna Śledzińska-Simon**

Assistant Professor, the University of Wrocław, Poland

*Gender Ideology, Women's Rights and Right-Wing Populism. Can International Law Provide Remedies?*

**Panelists**

**Raluca Bercea**

Associate Professor at the Faculty of Law, West University of Timișoara, Romania

*Challenges to Implementing ECtHR Judgments at Domestic Level: The Case of Violence Against Women*

**Oana Băluță**

Associate Professor, University of Bucharest, Romania

*Gender and the Judiciary. A Case Study on Romania*

17:25 **Closing Remarks**

**Chair:** **Robert Spano**, Judge and Vice-President of the European Court of Human Rights

**Speaker:**

- ❖ **Jean-Paul Costa**, President of the Fondation René Cassin - International Institute of Human Rights, Former President of the European Court of Human Rights, Organiser

19:00 **Reception for speakers and chairs at Japanese Ambassador's residence in Strasbourg**

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