

## Undocumented Migrant Women in Europe: Bridging local realities to the EU policy level

Monday, 12 December 2011 – 9:00-17:00  
Tuesday, 13 December 2011 – 09:00-13:00

Venue: Résidence Palace, 1040 Brussels, Belgium

*Working languages: English, French, Spanish and Portuguese*

PICUM, the Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants will hold an International Conference in **BRUSSELS** on **12-13 December 2011**.

Across Europe, migrant women with an irregular status face numerous legal and practical barriers to access essential rights, services, and justice; multiple discriminations which hold huge relevance to EU policy priorities to address

i) *Sexual and Reproductive Health*, ii) *Workplace Rights*, and iii) *Gender-based Violence*.

Bringing the experiences of undocumented migrant women to the attention of both civil society, professional, and institutional actors working at the European level, the Conference will also identify the laws, policies and practices that facilitate undocumented migrant women's access to basic rights, services, and justice across the region. The event seeks to foster joint action and policy change at European level.

Conducted in the frame of PICUM's focus on undocumented migrant women, this conference will guarantee a rich participation of experts and professionals working with undocumented women across the EU

This event was made possible with the kind support of the

## OBJECTIVES

---

This conference marks the final event in PICUM's research project "*Undocumented Migrant Women in Europe: Strategies for Support and Empowerment*". The agenda brings the issues, initiatives, and experts identified in this research together with the aim of fostering real policy change at the EU level.

In gathering a broad range of relevant actors involved in the support and protection of undocumented women's rights at local, national and European levels, the event seeks to mark the current state of play, while also, laying the foundation for future action on these issues.

**The specific objectives of this meeting are to:**

- Bring the experiences of undocumented migrant women to the attention of both civil society, professional, and institutional actors working at the European level
- Exchange information regarding practices working to facilitate undocumented migrant women's access to basic rights, services, and justice.
- Facilitate the development of interdisciplinary and cooperative strategies to effectuate positive change for undocumented migrant women across the European Union.

## METHODOLOGY

---

This event aims to complement experiences from the front-line with that of professionals and policy-makers in the domains of ***sexual and reproductive health care, workplace rights, and gender-based violence***. Undocumented women working in the community will also provide testimony regarding the realisation of their rights and their role in supporting others to do so.

**To guide the discussion towards concrete outcomes, the meeting will focus on the following questions:**

- What dangers exist from limiting undocumented women's access to services and rights?
- What strategies and solutions have been developed to facilitate the realisation of undocumented women's rights; how can these be supported and multiplied?
- What changes can we make at the European policy level?

**The meeting is broken into five distinct sessions comprised of:**

1. KEY NOTE ADDRESSES outlining the development and objectives of this event;
2. PLENARY SESSIONS coupling insights from undocumented women and thematic professionals with an interactive discussion involving policy makers.
3. WORKSHOP SESSIONS highlighting positive developments occurring in the field and enabling an open sharing of experiences and expertise among participants.
4. EXHIBITION SPACE to enable frontline service providers and migrant organisations from across Europe to exhibit their work with undocumented migrant women.
5. CLOSING SESSION identifying 'next steps' for effective change and joint action.

*Chairs and Moderators* will play a critical role in promoting interactive discussion among participants following the presentations. They will ensure that all points of the agenda are covered, that the time allocated to speakers and to interventions from the floor is respected, and that the expected outcomes of each session are achieved.

In the workshops, appointed PICUM *rapporteurs* will assist the chair to sum up the conclusions of the thematic discussions and the overall recommendations.

## THE PROGRAMME

---

Day 1 – Monday, 12 December 2011	
08:00 – 8:55	Registration
9:00	<b>Opening Addresses and Introduction</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Welcome Address, <i>PICUM Director Michele LeVoy</i></li> </ul>
9:30 – 10:45	<b>PLENARY I - SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS</b>
	<p><b>CHAIR</b> – Prof Marleen Temmerman, <i>International Centre for Reproductive Health</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>TESTIMONY: Accessing Sexual and Reproductive Health Care</b></li> <li><b>Difficulties for Undocumented Pregnant Women to Access Care</b> Linda Doeraene and Martine Vanderkam, <i>Aquarelle</i></li> <li><b>Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights in Europe: Key Concerns for Women with an Irregular Migration Status</b> Irene Donadio, <i>International Planned Parenthood Federation</i></li> </ul> <p><i>Plenary discussion</i></p>
10:45 – 11:15	<i>Coffee Break</i>
11:15 – 12:30	<b>PLENARY II - UNDOCUMENTED WOMEN WORKERS IN EUROPE</b>
	<p><b>CHAIR</b> – Rudi Delarue, <i>ILO Office for the European Union</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>TESTIMONY: Accessing Workplace Rights when Undocumented</b></li> <li><b>Undocumented Migrant Women Working in Agriculture,</b> Nerea Bilbatua Thomas, <i>GAATW-IS</i></li> <li><b>Fundamental Rights Situation of Irregular Migrant Domestic Workers in the EU,</b> Ludovica Banfi, <i>EU Fundamental Rights Agency</i></li> </ul> <p><i>Plenary discussion</i></p>

12:30 – 14:00	<p><b>Lunch &amp; Exhibition Space</b></p> <p>Exhibitions and displays of participants' work with undocumented migrant women will be available in the lobby.</p>
14:00 – 17:00	<p><b>PARALLEL WORKING GROUPS: DEVELOPMENTS IN THE FIELD</b></p>
15:15 – 15:45	<p><i>Coffee Break</i></p>
	<p><b>1: Improving Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights</b></p> <p><i>Moderator: Thomas Demyttenaere, Sensoa</i>  <i>Rapporteur: PICUM</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Supporting Undocumented Pregnant Women</b>, Bethal Doula, <i>United Kingdom</i></li> <li>• <b>Undocumented Women and Community Based Health Education</b>, Migrant Health Unit, <i>Malta</i></li> </ul> <p><i>Workshop discussion</i></p>
	<p><b>2: Enabling Undocumented Women's Workplace Rights</b></p> <p><i>Moderator: Marco Cilento, European Trade Union Confederation</i>  <i>Rapporteur: PICUM</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Undocumented Domestic Workers in Cyprus</b>, KISA, <i>Cyprus</i></li> <li>• <b>Strategies to Empower Undocumented Women Workers in Portugal</b>, Solidariedade Imigrante, <i>Portugal</i></li> </ul> <p><i>Workshop discussion</i></p>
	<p><b>3: Addressing Violence Against Undocumented Women</b></p> <p><i>Moderator: Christine Lourdes, Amnesty International</i>  <i>Rapporteur: PICUM</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Overcoming Barriers to Access Justice and Services for Undocumented Women</b>, La Voix des Femmes, <i>Belgium</i></li> <li>• <b>Experiences from within the Women's Shelter Movement</b>, Lin Psychological Services, <i>Finland</i></li> </ul> <p><i>Workshop discussion</i></p>
17:00	<p><b>END OF DAY 1</b></p>

Day II – Tuesday, 13 December	
9:00 – 09:20	<p><b>Welcome Address</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Feedback from Workshops</li> </ul>
9:20– 10:45	<p><b>PLENARY III - UNDOCUMENTED WOMEN AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE</b></p>
	<p><b>CHAIR</b> – Rosa Logar, <i>Women Against Violence Europe</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>TESTIMONY: Accessing Support and Justice when Undocumented</b></li> <li>• <b>Justice for Undocumented Women Subject to Violence in Spain</b>, Carmen de la Fuente, Public Prosecutor, <i>Spain</i></li> <li>• <b>Supporting Undocumented Survivors of Violence in Sweden</b>, Dr. Ingvar Karlsson, Sahlgrenska University Hospital, <i>Sweden</i></li> <li>• <b>DISCUSSANT</b>: Ms Brenda King, European Economic and Social Committee</li> </ul> <p><i>Plenary discussion</i></p>
10:45 – 11:15	<p><i>Coffee Break</i></p>
11:15 – 13:00	<p><b>CLOSING SESSION: THE WAY FORWARD</b></p>
11:15 – 12:45	<p><b>CHAIR</b> – Edel McGinley, <i>Migrant Rights Centre Ireland</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Opportunities to Effectuate Change for Undocumented Women at the Policy Level</b>, Gauri van Gulik, <i>Human Rights Watch</i></li> <li>• <b>Coordinating Migrant Women’s Action</b>, Alwiye Xuseyn, <i>European Network of Migrant Women</i></li> <li>• <b>Building Global Partnerships to Improve the Situation of Undocumented Women</b>, Carol Barton, <i>United Methodist Women Civil/ Immigrant Rights</i></li> </ul> <p><i>Plenary discussion</i></p>
12:45 – 13:00	<p><b>CLOSING ADDRESS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Don Flynn, <i>PICUM Chair</i></li> </ul>