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İSTANBUL POLİTİKALAR MERKEZİ  
SABANCI ÜNİVERSİTESİ KAMPUSU  
ISTANBUL POLICY CENTER  
AT SABANCI UNIVERSITY

# Understanding and Fostering the Role of Women in Mediation

## *MWMN/Turkey Workshop*

**29-30 June 2019**

**Istanbul Policy Center, Istanbul, Turkey<sup>1</sup>**

**In the framework of the activities of the Mediterranean Women Mediators Network (MWMN) and supported by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, the Istanbul Policy Center, and the EU Delegation in Ankara<sup>2</sup>**

On 19 January 2019, women mediators across Turkey came together to discuss the launch of the Turkish Antenna of the Mediterranean Women Mediators Network (MWMN). A number of topics were addressed during the initial meeting in January including the organisation of a workshop in Istanbul to debate issues concerning women's role in mediation and peacebuilding processes so as to foster the creation of a local community of women mediators in Turkey, to launch the MWMN/Turkey Antenna and to start shaping its roadmap for action.

Stemming from that meeting, this workshop is an opportunity for relevant stakeholders from Turkey, the broader Mediterranean region, Europe and elsewhere to share insights and debate issues concerning women's role in mediation and peacebuilding processes. It will also address broader issues in regard to mediation, such as the levels of mediation, preventive mediation, the significance of mediation from a gendered perspective in issues such as violence

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<sup>1</sup> The working languages will be English and Turkish with simultaneous translation.

<sup>2</sup> This workshop is supported by the European Union's Sivil Düşün program. The content of the program is fully under the responsibility of the Mediterranean Women Mediators Network/Turkey and does not reflect the opinion of the EU.



against women, discrimination against women, the role of community-based mediation and successful international examples of mediation in conflict situations.

The workshop will be open to women mediators in Turkey, including the initiators and stakeholders of the MWMN/Turkey Antenna as well as women activists, experts and practitioners and the students of the Conflict Analysis and Resolution MA programme at Sabancı University.

## **29 June 2019**

13:00 – 14:00 **Registration and Welcome Lunch**

14:00 – 14:30 **Official Launch of the MWMN/Turkey Antenna**

**H.E. Amb. Massimo Gaiani**, Embassy of Italy in Turkey

**Francesca Tardioli**, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Italy

**Irene Fellin**, IAI & WIIS Italy/MWMN Secretariat

**Ayşe Betül Çelik**, Sabancı University & MWMN Turkey

14:30 – 16:00 **Panel 1**

**What is mediation? Gender-Inclusive Mediation Processes and the Role of the International Community in Fostering Them**

*After introducing the basic elements of mediation, this panel outlines the constraints and opportunities to women's effective participation in mediation broadly understood by referring to international efforts and frameworks for action, such as UNSCR 1325, and the role of regional and international organisations, such as the European Union, the OSCE and the UN.*

**Chair: Pinar Akpınar**, Istanbul Policy Center (IPC) & MWMN Turkey

### **Panelists:**

**Associate Prof. Dr. Esra Çuhadar**, Bilkent University & MWMN Turkey

**Ambassador Mara Marinaki**, European External Action Service (EEAS)

**Leena Avonius**, OSCE Gender Unit

**Sabine Freizer**, UN Women

Q&A Session



16:00 – 16:30 **Coffee Break**

16:30 – 18:00 **Panel 2**

**Gender-Inclusive Mediation: Turkish and Mediterranean Examples and Successful Stories**

*This panel discusses what types of conflicts women experience at the community level both in Turkey and in the broader Mediterranean region from a comparative perspective. It dwells on what can be done concretely to transform these conflictual relations into more peaceful ones and to prevent further conflicts by sharing best practices and successful stories.*

**Chairs:** Elif Kalan, Conflictus

**Panelists:**

**Lea Baroudi**, MARCH Lebanon & MWMN and **Justine Abi Saad**, GIZ /ZFD & MWMN

**Aşiyân Süleymanoğlu**, MWMN Turkey

**Edita Tahiri**, Former Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Dialogue, The Republic of Kosovo

Q&A Session

**30 June 2019**

9:30 **Welcome Coffee**

10:00 – 12:00 **Panel 3**

**National and International Gender-Inclusive Peace Processes: Where do We Stand?**

*This panel is about women mediators in peace processes. It addresses questions such as what women bring to conflict mediation and how their participation (or lack thereof) affects negotiation processes and outcomes by providing examples of successful mediation by women in intra and inter-state conflicts in the Mediterranean region and globally.*

**Chairs:** Ayşe Gökkan and Ayla Akat Ata, TJA & MWMN Turkey

**Panelists:**

**Rada Boric**, MWMN

**Anna Cervi**, Norwegian Refugee Council & MWMN

**Mavic Cabrera Balezza**, Global Network of Women Peacebuilders

Q&A Session

12:00 – 12:30 **Concluding Remarks and the Way Forward**

**Irene Fellin**, MWMN Secretariat

12:30 – 13:30 **Light Buffet Lunch**

