

International commitments and resources

CEDAW

The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), adopted in 1979 by the UN General Assembly, is often described as an international bill of rights for women. Consisting of a preamble and 30 articles, it defines what constitutes discrimination against women and sets up an agenda for national action to end such discrimination. In CEDAW gender stereotypes are considered to be one form of discrimination against women, which State Parties shall take all appropriate measures, including legislation, to modify.

Website: www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/cedaw.htm

Beijing Declaration and Platform

The adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action from the Fourth World Conference on Women in 1995 further emphasized the need for active measures regarding Women and the media. The UN member states then agreed on making Women and the Media one of twelve areas where progress needs to be made.

Section J: Women and the Media:

1. Increase the participation and access of women to expression and decisionmaking in and through the media and new technologies of communication.
2. Promote a balanced and non-stereotyped portrayal of women in the media.

EU

EU Council of Ministers agreed in 2013 on indicators for gender equality in the media. *Council conclusions – ‘Advancing Women’s Roles as Decision-makers in the Media.’*

- Indicator 1: Proportion of women and men in decision-making posts in media organisations in the EU;
- Indicator 2: Proportion of women and men on the boards of media organisations in the EU; and

- Indicator 3: Policies to promote gender equality in media organisations.

The EU Council of Ministers calls on the Commission to take the outcome of these reviews into account in its annual Report on Progress on Equality between Women and Men.

The Council of Europe

In 2013 the Council of Europe adopted a *Recommendation CM/Rec(2013)1 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on gender equality and media*. The Council of Europe encourages their member states to create national indicators, promote good practices and support research. The recommendation points out that the issue of gender equality in the media is connected with media literacy and active citizenship and it provides guidelines for member states, media organisations and gives measures for implementation.

INTERNATIONAL RESOURCES

Global Media Monitoring Project

Since 1995 Global Media Monitoring Project has produced reports on women in the news, *Who makes the news*. The latest report indicates that in the global news flow only 24 per cent of the news subjects are women. National reports have been made from these studies both in Sweden and Denmark

International Women’s Media Foundation (IWMF)

IWMF is a Washington-based organization that is dedicated to strengthening the role of women journalists worldwide. The IWMF believes the news media worldwide are not truly free and representative without the equal voice of women. The IWMF celebrates the courage of women journalists who overcome threats and oppression to speak out on global issues. The IWMF was founded in 1990 by a group of prominent U.S. women journalists.

In 2011 IWMF published the report *Global Report On the Status of Women in the News Media* (2011) in which more than 500 news companies in 59 countries were investigated. Denmark, Norway, Finland and Sweden were all parts of the study. Chapters about Norway, Sweden and Finland based on this study can be found in the *Palgrave International Handbook of Women and Journalism* (Byerly (ed) 2013) Website: www.imwf.org

European Institute for Gender Equality

The European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) is an autonomous body of the European Union, established to contribute to and strengthen the promotion of gender equality. One of EIGES tasks is to deliver reports on the progress of gender equality in the critical areas of concern of the Beijing Platform for Action. In 2013 the Irish Presidency selected Women and media as the area of concern. The report served as the knowledge base for the EU Council of Ministers conclusions to adopt gender equality indicators for the media. EIGE (2013) *Review of the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action in the EU Member States: Women and the Media – Advancing gender equality in decision-making in media organisations*. All EU member states are included in the report, which maps gender equality in four media organisations in every member state.

Website: <http://eige.europa.eu/content/activities/beijing-platform-for-action>

UN Women Watch

Womenwatch is the central gateway to information and resources on the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women throughout the United Nations system, including the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women), the United Nations Secretariat, regional commissions, funds, programmes, specialized agencies and academic and research institutions.

Website: www.un.org/womenwatch

Global Alliance on Media

Unesco created a Global Alliance on Media and Gender in December 2013. The Global Alliance on Media and Gender aims to intensify actions towards gender equality in media content and staffing. The network includes representatives of media organizations, media professionals, academics, policy-makers, civil society groups, development agencies. Membership will be dynamic and open to all parties that subscribe to the core principles. The alliance reaffirm the outcome of 1995 Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action. Focus areas from the Final statement from 2013:

- access to and participation in digital platforms
- safety of women in media
- a positive, non-stereotypical and balanced portrayal across all forms of media and media content

- promotion of ethical principles and policies supporting gender equality
- improvement of the gender spread within media occupational groups
- empowerment of communicators with media and information literacy skills that can help advance the cause of gender equality.

These issues were further further emphasized in the *UNESCO Bali Road Map: The Roles Of The Media In Realizing The Future We Want For All* (Unesco Global Media Forum 2014).

NORDIC GENDER EQUALITY RESOURCES

The Nordic countries have a substantial infrastructure to augment gender equality. There are a number of resources, each of them with various databases and portals to provide knowledge about gender.

The Nordic Council of Ministers on gender equality

The Nordic Council of Ministers has a portal on gender equality with reports and statistics.

Website: <http://www.norden.org/en/about-nordic-co-operation/areas-of-co-operation/gender-equality/gender-equality-in-the-nordic-countries>

NIKK – Nordic Information on Gender

NIKK is a cooperative body at the Swedish Secretariat for Gender Research, University of Gothenburg, Sweden. NIKK gathers and shares knowledge about policy and practice, facts and research on gender equality through the Nordic countries and to a broad group of stakeholders. NIKK strives to provide you with excellent knowledge that can be serve as a basis for policy discussions in the Nordic countries: Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden and the self-governing regions Greenland, Faroe Islands and Åland Islands.

Website: www.nikk.no

KVINFO

KVINFO is the Danish centre for information on gender, equality and diversity. The key role of KVINFO is to initiate research and disseminate information and findings, and to contribute to the development of an equal society.

Website: www.kvinfo.dk

Kilden

Kilden is a resource for gender research in Norway. Kilden has the national responsibility for promotion and information about Norwegian gender research nationally and abroad.

Website: <http://eng.kilden.forskingsradet.no>

Minna

Minna is the Centre for Gender Equality Information in Finland.

Website: www.minna.fi/en_US/web/guest/home

The Swedish Secretariat for Gender Research

The Swedish Secretariat for Gender Research at the University of Gothenburg monitors, analyses and issues information about the development, status and capacity of gender research in Sweden. It also monitors several external assignments, including IncludeGender.org, Gender Mainstreaming in Government Agencies – GMGA.

Website: www.genus.se

KvinnSam

KvinnSam - National resource library for gender studies – at Gothenburg University Library is a special library for women's, men's and gender studies.

Website: www.ub.gu.se/kvinn/

NORDICOM

Nordicom is a knowledge centre for media research. All the handouts of compiled statistics from the 2014 Nordic Gender & Media Forum seminars can be found at the Nordicom website. There you can also find a fact sheet about gender and media that was produced in collaboration with NIKK.

Website: www.nordicom.gu.se/en/media-trends/nordic-gender-media-forum

Nordicom also has a database: the NCOM relation database offers search in the field of Nordic media and communication research. There are four data types represented in NCOM database: Nordic media researchers, research institutions, research projects and research publications are continually updated by Nordicom.

Website: www.nordicom.gu.se/en/media-research/nordicoms-databases