



“Promotion of women protection in EU and UN refugee policies”

Organisation proposing the emergency motion: The Swedish Women’s Lobby

Organisations seconding the motion:

- **Nederlandse Vrouwen Raad, Netherlands**
- **Deutscher Frauenrat, Germany**
- **Magyar Női Érdekérvényesítő Szövetség, Hungary**
- **Macedonian Women’s Lobby, Macedonia**
- **Mreza za Evropski Zenski Lobi, Serbia**
- **Kvinderådet, Denmark**
- **CLEF Coordination Française; France**
- **Österreichischer Frauenring, Austria**
- **National women’s council of Ireland, Ireland**

Text of the emergency motion (maximum 5 lines) – Please note that ONLY this text will be voted on at the General Assembly-

We, the EWL, request the following urgent actions:

- that EU Member States should increase the number of UNHCR quota refugees and give priority to women within the quota system;
- that EU Member States implement the principle of family unification upheld in the UN Refugee Convention of 1951, in order that mothers, sisters and daughters of men refugees travel to Europe safely and avoid becoming victims of human traffickers;
- that EU Member States apply the principle of human rights to women refugees and children including internally displaced persons (IDP), taking into account especially women’s asylum claims, including child, early and forced marriages, as contained in international instruments such as CEDAW and the Convention on the Rights of the Child;
- that EU Member States implement EU law dealing with asylum, including relevant Directives on gender and women’s rights.

Political context (maximum 5 lines):

Women are more vulnerable than men in conflicts, but fewer women than men succeed in reaching safe locations. Instead, women are often exposed to gender based violence in war zones, refugee camps and when crossing the borders to Europe. EWL members are already engaged in work to protect women refugees on the move to or already in Europe. This is not sufficient. We must also lobby EU Member States and EU Institutions with the aim to make it possible for more women to leave conflict areas and be welcomed in safe areas in accordance with international and EU law.

What is requested as follow up? Who should do this?

EWL Secretariat could prepare letters to be signed by EWL President to EU Presidency, European Commission and European Parliament, UN Secretary General and UN High Commissioner for Refugees. The Secretariat could also prepare standard letters to be adapted and sent by respective national coordination to Governments and Parliamentarians in Member States, possibly local UNHCR and UN Women offices.

