

# Families in the Crisis

Finding work-life balance in difficult economic context

**28-29 April 2014**

The conference will be one of the highlight events of COFACE's Year for **Reconciling Work and Family Life in Europe** thematic work programme over the course of 2014. This event is jointly organised by COFACE and its Greek member organisation, KMOP, in close cooperation with the Hellenic Presidency of the Council of the European Union. In particular, the meeting is supported by Vasso Kollia, Secretary General for Gender Equality at the General Secretariat for Gender Equality.

Five years of low growth and social uncertainty have hit European families hard especially in countries like Greece. We believe that this event takes place during a transitional period for Greece, and also for the European Union, when decisions and discussions must urgently take place that support policies facing our days' challenges.

The conference will focus on austerity measures and cuts to social services, women's participation on the labour market, and how work and family life reconciliation can work under economic stress. Other topics addressed will be childcare, family solidarity in times of crisis and the outlook for the young people and their future families. It will be the opportunity for Greek social partners and civil society representatives to meet their colleagues, who work at the European level and exchange information, build up concrete actions.

## Venue and useful information

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| 28 April | <b>20:00 - 22:00: Gala dinner</b><br>Venue: GAZARTE, Voutadon Str. 32-34 (Kerameikos Station)<br>Website: <a href="http://www.gazarte.gr">www.gazarte.gr</a> |
| 29 April | <b>9:00-17:30: Conference</b><br>Venue: Impact HUB Athens, Karaiskaki 28<br>Website: <a href="http://www.athens.impacthub.net">www.athens.impacthub.net</a>  |

Interpretation from/into English and Greek will be provided.

Wireless Internet will be available. Hashtag for the meeting: **#familiescrisis**  
Facebook: [facebook.com/COFACE.EU](https://www.facebook.com/COFACE.EU) Twitter: @COFACE\_EU

## Draft Programme

### 28 April

20:30 - 22:00 **Gala dinner**

#### **Opening speech**

**László Andor**, Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion

### 29 April

9:00 - 9:30 Registration of participants

9:30 - 10:30 **Opening Plenary**

#### **Welcome**

- **Antonia Torrens**, President, KMOP
- **Annemie Driessens**, President, COFACE

#### **UN 20th Anniversary International Year of the Family**

- Video keynote message **Daniela Bas**, Director, Division for Social Policy and Development, UN

#### **Keynote Speeches**

- **Zeta Makri**, Deputy Minister of Health and Social Welfare
- **Vasso Kollia**, Secretary General for Gender Equality, General Secretariat for Gender Equality, Greek Ministry of Interior
- **Efi Bekou**, General Secretary of Welfare of the Ministry of Labour and Social Security

10:30 - 11:30 **State of play**

- **Teresa Castro-Martín**, CSIC
- **Daphne Nathalie Ahrendt**, Research Manager Living Conditions and Quality of Life, Eurofound

Discussion

11:30 - 11.50 Coffee break

## I. The long-term impact of the crisis on women: employment, health, pensions

Chair: **Christel Verhas**

Presentations:

- **Szilvia Németh**, Survival techniques and future perspectives of socially disadvantaged women, particularly Roma mothers, Tudok Centre for Knowledge-transfer and Educational Research Inc, Hungary
- **Dr. Elvira Mendez**, Buffering the Long-term impact of the crisis on Spanish women: Mosaic of Services from Asociación Salud y Familia, Salud y Familia, Spain
- **Mary Collins**, The impact of austerity on women, European Women's Lobby, EU
- **Beatrix Bojtor**, Roma women, Hungarian Family Business, Represented by a project from Psycholucia, Hungary
- **Dr. Dimitris Stamoulis**, The experience of ASPE and its member organizations in helping families during the crisis, ASPE, Greece

## II. How to maintain social services during the crisis: social solidarity and supporting families in childcare and care of elderly or disabled

Chair: **Jean-Bernard Audureau**

Presentations:

- **Roza Vajda**, Women's labour market participation in Hungary, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Hungary
- **Silvia Borelli**, Legal\_Frame\_Work. Employment and legality in an inclusive society, University of Ferrara, Italy
- **Dr Dorota Głogosz, Joanna Miroslaw**, The Factor of Time in the New Economy. Where are We Heading?, Poland
- **Remi Therme**, Personal microcredit-Financial education and fight against over-indebtedness, UNAF, France

## III. Unemployed youth - migration: a new generation of families?

Chair: **Helena Hiila-O'Brien**

Presentations:

- **Daniel Molinevo**, How to maintain social services during the crisis: social solidarity and supporting families in childcare and care of elderly or disabled, Eurofound, EU
- **Aurélie Decker**, Personal and household services' contribution to work-life balance, EFSI, EU
- **Sam Smethers**, The role of grandparents in supporting families in crisis, Grandparents Plus, UK
- **Irene Zancanaro**, Quality of Life, Well-being and access to services in rural and remote areas, Istituto per la Ricerca Sociale, Italy
- **Oonagh Aitkan**, Volunteers supporting Families Programme, CSV, UK

13:30 - 14:30 Lunch

14:30 - 15:30 **The way forward**

Chair: **Ágnes Uherezky**, Director, COFACE

Presentations:

- **Dominic Richardson**, Policy Analyst, OECD
- **Lieve Franssen**, Director, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, European Commission

Discussion

15:30 - 17:00 **Marketplace, exchange of ideas and exploring the HUB**

Poster presentations, projects exhibition, networking

Closing

More: [www.coface-eu.org/en/Events/Families-in-the-crisis](http://www.coface-eu.org/en/Events/Families-in-the-crisis)



# 2014 Year of Reconciling Work and Family Life in Europe

[www.ey2014.eu](http://www.ey2014.eu)

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More information about COFACE and its work visit: [www.coface-eu.org](http://www.coface-eu.org)

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