



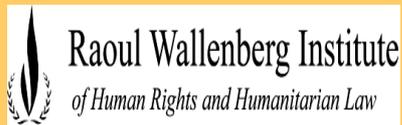
10th Informal ASEM Seminar on Human Rights

“Human Rights and Gender Equality”

7-9 July 2010

Manila, The Philippines

Organised By



Hosted By



ASEF's Contribution is made with the financial support of the European Commission



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Seminar Purpose

ASEM, the Asia-Europe Meeting, is a forum that promotes various levels of cooperation among Asian and European countries. It represents a process based on dialogue with the objective of strengthening interaction and mutual understanding between the two regions and promoting cooperation that aims at sustainable economic and social development.

ASEM is an informal process of dialogue and cooperation among partners on all issues of common interest to Asia and Europe. Summit meetings are held every other year alternating between Asia and Europe. This is the highest level of decision making in the process, featuring the Heads of States or Governments, the President of the European Commission, accompanying ministers and other stakeholders. So far, seven Summit meetings were held in Bangkok (1996), London (1998), Seoul (2000), Copenhagen (2002), Hanoi (2004), Helsinki (2006) and Beijing (2008). The next Summit meeting will be held in Brussels, on 4th to 5th October.

On the occasion of the first meeting of ASEM Foreign Ministers in Singapore in February 1997, Sweden and France had suggested that informal seminars on human rights be held within the ASEM framework. The aim of this initiative was to promote mutual understanding and co-operation between Europe and Asia in the area of political dialogue, particularly on human rights issues.

Previous seminar topics include:

- Access to justice; regional and national particularities in the administration of justice; monitoring the administration of justice. *Lund, Sweden (1997)*
- Differences in Asian and European values; rights to education; rights of minorities. *Beijing, China (1999)*
- Freedom of expression and right to information; humanitarian intervention and the sovereignty of states; is there a right to a healthy environment? *Paris, France (2000)*
- Freedom of conscience and religion; democratisation, conflict resolution and human rights; rights and obligations in the promotion of social welfare. *Bali, Indonesia (2001)*
- Economic relations; rights of multinational companies and foreign direct investments. *Lund, Sweden (2003)*
- International migrations; protection of migrants, migration control and management. *Suzhou, China (2004)*
- Human rights and ethnic, linguistic and religious minorities. *Budapest, Hungary (2006)*
- Human rights and Freedom of Expression, *Siem Reap, Cambodia (2007)*
- Human rights and Criminal Justice Systems, *Strasbourg, France (2009)*



The formula employed is as follows:

- the participation of two representatives from universities and NGOs invited by the organisers and one official representative for each of the 16 Asian ASEM countries, and in order to have balanced representation between Asia and Europe, 1 representative from the civil society and 1 official from each of the 27 European ASEM countries, as well as the European Commission and ASEAN Secretariat;
- an agenda structured around the main topics related to the subject of the seminar, with discussions held in working groups;
- closed-door debates to allow free and direct exchanges of view; and,
- a set of recommendations elaborated collectively to be sent to the relevant institutions in ASEM countries as informal contribution to the official Asia-Europe dialogue.

The experience of the first series of eight seminars has shown the usefulness of the chosen formula: a climate of confidence and mutual understanding, in accordance with the ASEM spirit, has grown stronger during this nine year process; the topics selected by the Steering Committee, which focus on issues of common interest to the two regions, have made high quality discussions possible; the high level of participation of the ASEM partners shows the strong interest of the partners for these meetings.

Organisation

The Seminar series is co-organised by the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Raoul Wallenberg Institute (delegated by the Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs) and the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF), which has acted as the Secretariat of the Seminar since 2000.

Supervision of the seminar is entrusted to a **Steering Committee**, composed of the Seminar's three co-organisers as well as representatives of the ministries of Foreign Affairs of China and Indonesia, as well as the European Commission.

The two coordinators (Mr. Frederic Tiberghien, Conseiller d'Etat, France, and Prof. Gudmundur Alfredsson, Adviser to the Director, Raoul Wallenberg Institute) are responsible for the orientations of the Seminar Series.

After each conference, the outcomes of the discussions are gathered in a publication that may be used by governments and civil society as a reference on the state of play of the debate on Human Rights in ASEM countries.



Concept

The Vienna Declaration and Programme of action reaffirmed the rights of women as an inalienable, integral and indivisible part of universal human rights. The Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing proved to be a successful forum in mobilizing worldwide attention towards gender equality and the advancement of women as well as in establishing a comprehensive framework in the formats of Declaration and Platform of Action along with the UN Declaration on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity.

However gender inequality remains a widespread form of discrimination that is not restricted to particular countries, regions, or religions. Around the world, women continue to be victims of human rights violations who have been the most vulnerable group during the economic recessions with limited access to rights, resources and opportunity.

Women's rights are regarded as freedoms inherently possessed by women. These rights encompass the right to education, the right to vote and the right to equal wages and employment opportunities—among others. Though such rights have been progressing, disparity between ASEM countries still exist.

Under CEDAW¹, States are required to eliminate the many different forms of discrimination that women confront, not only by making sure that there are no existing laws that directly discriminate women on grounds of sex or sexual orientation, but also by ensuring that all necessary arrangements are put in place that will allow women to experience equality in their lives.

Based on relevant international standards and on comparisons between ASEM countries, the seminar will examine how to improve women's rights putting an end to the social, political and economic discrimination based on sex. Moreover, the seminar will try to identify the current trends in Europe and Asia regarding women's rights and gender equality. Attaining gender equality and the process of gender mainstreaming requires enhancing cooperation with stakeholders such as employers, NGOs, academia, media and other civil society actors. While broader questions of sexual orientation and gender identity have been tackled in the past, this seminar will certainly be the first attempt to link Human Rights and gender equality within the ASEM framework—in an informal and unofficial manner.

There have traditionally been great differences in the participation of women in society in the ASEM countries. In some societies, there still exist prejudice and discriminatory practices against women ignoring the dignity of women due to the remnants of the patriarchal society. Whether this extends to broader equality with respect to discrimination based on gender identity or sexual orientation needs further investigation. Nevertheless, there has been remarkable progress in achieving gender equality in laws and institutions that could provide positive examples to fully implement international standards on gender equality.



Despite the progress over the past decade, we need to strengthen our efforts to enhance women's rights of integrity as well as sexual self-determination.

General objective

The seminar aims at developing a human rights approach to the issues raised by gender equality and share good practices in ASEM countries and discuss ways of better protecting women's rights.

Specific objectives

- ✦ To identify trends on how women's rights and gender equality are protected across ASEM countries
- ✦ To find common challenges between two regions in terms of women's rights and gender equality.
- ✦ To formulate recommendations for relevant institutions at a national, regional, inter-regional and international level.

Working Group Questions

Cross-cutting questions

1. What are the relevant legal frameworks on all aspects of women's rights and gender equality?
2. How can we accelerate the implementation and effectiveness of relevant international human rights treaties, including conventions, and remove reservation to it?
3. What kinds of judicial remedies exist to promote and protect gender equality? Do national human rights institutions have a role in promoting and protecting gender equality?
4. How can diverse discriminatory acts based on gender be addressed? How do existing international conventions and national legislations addressing multiple forms of discrimination against women contribute to the elimination of other gender-based discrimination?
5. What are the emerging issues related to gender equality and identity?
6. What are the relevant statistics/trends?
7. What positive experiences or good practices have been effective in the promotion of equality?
8. How is the integration of a gender perspective in all levels of public and private institu-



tions promoted through public awareness-raising and education?

9. How can we strengthen the existing machinery for gender equality by providing adequate human and financial resources at all levels and in all areas?
10. What roles do cultural practice and tradition play in advancing gender equality? protected?

1. Working Group 1: Political rights and political empowerment

- 1.1. What measures are in place to promote gender equality in political representation and decision-making (including voting at elections, referenda)?
- 1.2. How can we create discussion platforms that bring all relevant stakeholders to participate in order to enhance the representation of women in political arenas e.g. the legislature, executive, judiciary as well as on national and local level?
- 1.3. What measures are in place to support increasing the number of women at executive positions in public agencies and institutions?
- 1.4. Are specific legislation or temporary special measures needed? Are programmes encouraging political participation necessary to better implement human rights in the long run?
- 1.5. What sanctions apply when quotas are not reached?
- 1.6. What measures are in place to encourage women to join collective organisations (trade unions, political parties, NGOs etc.) and increase the representation of women in their management?
- 1.7. What measures are in place to grant asylum to anyone facing persecution in their home country because of their sexual orientation and/or gender identity?

2. Working Group 2: Civil status & economic empowerment

- 2.1. How is gender equality promoted in:

<i>Marriage, divorce, custody, adoption</i>	<i>Work of equal value</i>
<i>Citizenship and transmission of nationality</i>	<i>Rights to property, land and other economic resources</i>
<i>Determination of conjugal home</i>	<i>Access to credit</i>
<i>Inheritance</i>	<i>Protections in the informal/part-time labour market</i>
<i>Pension policies (linked to marriage)</i>	<i>Pensions policies (linked to part-time labour and child-care)</i>
<i>Family name policy</i>	
<i>Co-habitation</i>	
<i>Others...</i>	



- 2.2. Does gender identity change legal capacities?
- 2.3. How can the rights of women in vulnerable groups be protected?

Female irregular workers
Female migrant workers
Disabled women
Impoverished women
Rural women
Female prisoners
Indigenous peoples
Others...

- 2.4. How can women's rights be protected in criminal justice procedures encompassing investigation, prosecution, trials and legal aid services?
- 2.5. What efforts have been made to eliminate the root causes for women's economic dependence (where it exists) and improve economic prospects of women?
- 2.6. Is there a digital divide resulting from gender inequality?
- 2.7. How is women's right to work promoted by guaranteeing fair working conditions and strengthening administrative and judicial remedies? What measures are in place to ensure equal pay and opportunities for women and men in the labour market?
- 2.8. How are working women's maternity leave and benefits protected by labour or social benefits law? What paternity rights are there?
- 2.9. What measures are in place to improve social welfare services for women outside the social security system?
- 2.10. What measures are in place to develop policies in order to eliminate environmental and occupational health risks for women?
- 2.11. What measures are in place to improve childcare, disabled and elderly care facilities for women?

3. Working Group 3: Cultural practices and social empowerment

- 3.1. How is gender equality promoted in such socio-cultural rights such as:
Access to education
Health and reproductive rights
Religious practice and customary tradition
Right to leisure
Freedom of expression (media and arts)
Freedom of association (women organisations and networks)
Others...
- 3.2. Who are the actors in promoting gender equality in socio-cultural questions and what are their roles?



- 3.3. Who are the major gender equality movements and interest groups, and what have they achieved?
- 3.4. How can gender equality be promoted against stereotyping in the media and advertising?
- 3.5. How can forced marriage and discrimination on the grounds of marital status be prevented?
- 3.6. Are there measures needed to eradicate traditional practices like female genital mutilation?
- 3.7. How can gender sensitivity be enhanced by boosting human rights education within society?
- 3.8. How can equal sharing of domestic and family tasks (including child care, care for the elderly) between women and men be promoted?
- 3.9. What measures are in place to improve men's awareness on sexually transmitted infections and reproductive health for women?

4. Working Group 3: Gender-related violence

- 4.1. What are the trends regarding violence against women? What about violence based on sexual orientation?
- 4.2. With regard to domestic violence:
What kinds of protection are in place for the victim?
How effective are sanctions, deterrents and preventive measures (telephone hot lines, whistle-blowing...)? What is the scope of state protection?
What non-legislated measures or community practices exist?
How is the issue of marital rape addressed?
- 4.3. How are protections against sexual harassment and violence in the work place implemented? What obstacles are commonly faced in implementation?
- 4.4. What action is being taken to address human rights violations of female domestic workers?
- 4.5. What is the nature of public consciousness/societal attitudes with regard to gender-related violence?
- 4.6. What measures are needed to eradicate exploitation through prostitution caused by poverty & other factors, e.g. human trafficking and irregular migration?
- 4.7. What particular protections need to be in place in conflict situations?



Agenda

10TH INFORMAL ASEM SEMINAR ON HUMAN RIGHTS "HUMAN RIGHTS AND GENDER RIGHTS"

Conference Venue: InterContinental Hotel Manila

Day 1 – Wednesday, 7 July 2010

Arrival of Participants, Registration and Welcome Reception

09:00 - 18:00	Arrival of Participants	
10:00 - 12:00	Moderators & Rapporteur's Meeting (invitation only to members)	
14:30 - 17:30	Registration of Participants	Venue: InterContinental Hotel Manila

Opening Plenary

Venue: European Court of Human Rights

18:00 - 19:20	Chair Amb. Dominique Girard Executive Director, Asia-Europe Foundation	
	Introduction to the Seminar on Behalf of the Organisers (15 min) Mr. Frederic Tiberghien Technical Coordinator & Representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, France, State Counselor (Conseil d'Etat)	
	Keynote Speeches H.E. Leila de Lima Secretary of the Department of justice, the Philippines (20 min)	
	Mrs Lena Hjelm Wallén Former Deputy Prime-Minister and Foreign Minister of Sweden (20 min)	
	Presentation of Background Paper by Main Rapporteurs (15 min) Ms. Mary Shanthi Dairiam, Member of the Board of Directors International Women Rights Action Watch Asia Pacific	
19:30 - 19:45	Open Discussion	
19:45 - 21:00	Reception	



Day 2 – Thursday, 8 July 2010

08:00 - 09:00

Registration of Participants (continued)

Venue: InterContinental Hotel Manila

Simultaneous Working Groups

09:00-11:00

Discussion on Workshop- *Cross-Cutting Questions*

Working Group 1: Political rights and political empowerment

Chair: Amb. Rosario Manalo (the Philippines)

Philippine Representative to the ASEAN Inter-Governmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR) and Asia-Europe Foundation Board Governor for the Philippines

Rapporteur: Ms. Erika Kvapilova (Slovakia)

Programme Director, UNIFEM (United Nation Development Fund for Women), Regional Office for Central and Eastern Europe, Bratislava

Working Group 2: Civil status & economic empowerment

Chair: Prof. Göran Melander (Sweden)

Professor Emeritus, Honorable Chairman of the Board of the Raoul Wallenberg Institute

Rapporteur: Ms. Naoko Otobe (Japan)

Senior Gender and Employment Specialist, International Labour Organisation (ILO)

Working Group 3: Cultural practices and social empowerment

Chair: Ms. Anjali Gopalan (India)

Executive Director, The Naz Foundation

Rapporteur: Dr. Malgorzata O. Gorska

International Relations Officer – European Commission Human Rights Unit, DG External Relations

Working Group 4: Gender-related violence

Chair: Ms. Eniko Pap (Hungary)

Vice President, Hungarian Women's Lobby

Rapporteur: Ms. Mary Shanthi Dairiam (Malaysia)

Ms. Mary Shanthi Dairiam, Member of the Board of Directors International Women Rights Action Watch Asia Pacific



11:00 - 11:15	Coffee Break
11:15 - 13:00	Workshop Continued
13:00 - 14:00	Lunch and group photo
14:00 - 15:30	Workshops Continued – Specific Questions
15:30 - 16:00	Coffee break
16:00 - 18:00	Workshops continued and Wrap-up
18:00 - 19:30	Report Preparation & Free Time for Participants
19:30 - 21:00	Dinner

Day 3 – Friday, 9 July 2010

Closing Plenary

09:30 - 11:00	Main Rapporteurs' Summary on Each Workshop Moderator: Ms Sol Iglesias, Director for Intellectual Exchange, Asia-Europe Foundation
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Working Group 1: Political rights and political empowerment

Presentation (10 min)

Discussion (10 min)

Working Group 2: Civil status & economic empowerment

Presentation(10 min)

Discussion (10 min)

Working Group 3: Cultural practices and social empowerment

Presentation (10 min)

Discussion (10 min)

Working Group 4: Gender-related violence

Presentation (10 min)

Discussion (10 min)

11:00 -11:15	Coffee Break
11:15 - 12:30	Plenary Discussion
12:30 - 14:00	Lunch and Group Photo (venue to be confirmed)
14:00 - 15:30	Special Panel on the Philippines / Southeast Asia (tbc)
15:30 - 15:45	Coffee Break
15:45 - 16:45	Special Panel (Continued)



16:45 - 17:15

10th Informal ASEM Seminar on Human Rights:

Concluding Remarks from the Organisers

Prof. Carlos P. Medina, Executive Director
Ateneo Human Rights Center

Mr. Rolf Ring,
Deputy Director, Deputy Director, Raoul Wallenberg Institute, Lund University

Mr. Frederic Tiberghien
Technical Coordinator & Representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, France, &
State Counselor (Conseil d'Etat)

Amb. Dominique Girard
Executive Director, Asia-Europe Foundation

17:30 -18:30 **Steering Committee Meeting** (Invitation only to members)

19:00 - 21:00 **Steering Committee Dinner** (Invitation only to members)

Day 4– Saturday, 10 July 2010

Morning Cultural Visit

Noon Departure of Participants

Profiles

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



LEILA M. DE LIMA

Secretary of the Department of Justice

H.E. Leila de Lima, Secretary of the Department of Justice, Republic of the Philippines. Until recently Secretary de Lima chaired the Commission on Human Rights of the Republic of the Philippines.

Prior to joining the highest human rights body in the country, she worked for former supreme Court Associate Justice Isagani A. Cruz as Legal Staff (Confidential Attorney) in July 1986 to 1989; Junior Associate in JARDELEZA, SOBREVÍÑAS, DIAZ, HAUDINI and BODEGON Law Offices in 1989 – 1991; Junior Associate in Jardeleza Law Offices in 1991 – 1992; Clerk/Secretary of the Tribunal, House of Representatives Electoral Tribunal in 1993 - 1995; Junior Partner in ROCO, BUÑAG, KAPUNAN and MIGALLOS Law Offices in April 1995 to June 1998.

As a Chairperson of the Commission on Human Rights, she has been awarded numerous special awards and distinctions.



LENA BIRGITTA HJELM WALLEN

Board Member, RWI

Mrs. Lena Hjelm Wallen is a former Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Sweden. She holds Master's degree from the University of Uppsala and is honorary doctor at Umeå University, Sweden.

Throughout her remarkable career as a stateswoman, Ms Hjelm-Wallén served as Sweden's Deputy Prime Minister (1998-2002) and as its Minister for Foreign Affairs (1994-1998). During her 20 years in the Swedish Cabinet she held also positions as Minister of Education and Cultural Affairs and Minister with Special Responsibility for the International Development Cooperation.

From 1969 to 2002 she was a Member of Parliament. From 1987 to 2001, she was an Executive Committee Member of the Social Democratic Party, and from 1996 to 2004 a Presidium Member of the Party of European Socialists. She chairs the European Forum for Democracy and Solidarity.

She was a Member of the Convention on the Future of the European Union from 2002 to 2003.

Ms Hjelm-Wallén chairs several institutions: International IDEA, Olof Palme International Center, Swedish Committee for Afghanistan, Forum for Living History and Swedish Foundation for Strategic Research. She is a board member of the Raoul Wallenberg Institute and International Crisis Group.

She is chairperson in the parliamentary committee on labour force migration to Sweden and member of the parliamentary committee on constitutional issues.

Ms Hjelm-Wallén is married, has one daughter and three grandchildren.

CO-ORGANISERS



FREDERIC TIBERGHIE

Coordinator & Representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, France State Counselor (Conseil d'état)

Graduated in economics, philosophy and political sciences and former student in the national administration school (ENA), Frédéric Tiberghien is a member of the Conseil d'Etat since 1977. Presently, he is rapporteur general of the Conseil d'Etat and is in charge of the annual report of the institution, which includes the publication of a specific legal study. In 2009, the topic of that study was the right to housing; in 2010, the right to water and sanitation. Between 1982 and 1986, he has been adviser to two ministers (minister of social affairs, minister of defense) and has then spent twenty years in the private and public sectors as general secretary of Louis Vuitton, the famous luxury goods company, and as chairman and chief executive officer in various companies acting in telecommunications and express delivery mail. Between 1999 and 2003, he has been a member of the board of Vedior, the third largest temping company in the world, listed on the Amsterdam stock market, and chaired its french subsidiary and operations. He also published on labour market and covered the topic of discrimination at the workplace.



ROLF RING

Deputy Director, Head of the Department for Administration and Finance, Raoul Wallenberg Institute, Lund University

Mr. Rolf Ring is a Deputy Director of the Raoul Wallenberg Institute. Prior to joining Raoul Wallenberg Institute, he worked as a Project Co-ordinator for Swedish Red Cross and served as an assistant to the Chair of International Law at the Faculty of Law, Lund University.

Mr. Ring holds LL.M from Lund University and published intensively on the various international law topics.



AMB. DOMINIQUE GIRARD

Executive Director, Asia Europe Foundation

Ambassador Dominique Girard joined ASEM as its fourth Executive Director in November 2008. A graduate in Political Studies from the Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris and in Oriental Languages (Chinese and Vietnamese) from the Ecole Nationale des Langues Orientales (1967 and 1969 respectively), Ambassador Girard is a career diplomat holding the rank of Minister Plenipotentiary (hors classe). He started his diplomatic career in the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs as Secrétaire des Affaires Etrangères (Orient) in 1970 and since then has been alternating diverse postings in the Ministry and in French diplomatic missions in Vietnam, Laos, Singapore, USA and China.



PROF. CARLOS P. MEDINA

Executive Director, Ateneo Human Rights Center

Atty. Carlos P. Medina Jr. is the Executive Director of the Ateneo Human Rights Center (School of Law, Ateneo de Manila University). He teaches Constitutional Law and International Humanitarian Law at the Ateneo Law School, and has taught International Relations and Public Dispute Resolution at the Ateneo School of Government. Atty. Medina started his law practice as a defense counsel of detention prisoners at the Manila City Jail in 1985. In 1987, he joined the Institute on Church and Social Issues as a researcher mainly on issues affecting the urban poor. Two years later, he assumed the leadership of the Ateneo Human Rights Center and spent much time forming human rights advocates among law students, organizing legal aid centers in provincial law schools, and educating government personnel and members of NGOs and grassroots organizations on issues concerning access to justice, human rights and humanitarian law. He has also actively participated in various national, regional and international peace, human rights, and law reform advocacies, and has acted as counsel in numerous cases in behalf of marginalized groups and those involving issues of national importance like impeachment, charter change, and executive privilege. At present, he is engaged in the establishment of multi-sectoral quick reaction mechanisms at selected provinces around the country to address extrajudicial executions and forced disappearances.

MODERATORS



AMB. ROSARIO MANOLO

Philippine Representative to the ASEAN Inter-Governmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR) and Asia-Europe Foundation Board Governor for the Philippines

Rosario Manalo currently lectures and is the Chair of the European Studies Program in the Ateneo de Manila University and was a Member of the High Level Panel which drafted the Terms of Reference for the AICHR. She holds degrees from the University of the Philippines and Long Island University, USA. She is a career diplomat which included posts across Europe and the posts of Chairwoman of the UN Committee for the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and the UN Commission on the Status of Women. Her professional career has spanned over 50 years.



GÖRAN MELANDER

Professor Emeritus, Honorable Chairman of the Board of the Raoul Wallenberg Institute

Göran Melander is a founder of the Raoul Wallenberg Institute and Professor of Public International Law since 1995. Professor Melander has published numerous publications and articles during his academic career, particularly on refugee law and humanitarian law, topics constituting the focus of his work in cooperation with Lena Hjelm-Wallén, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and the French Minister of Foreign Affairs initiated the Informal ASEM Seminars on Human Rights. Although Professor Melander recently retired, he is still actively involved in the teaching activities of the Institute.



ANJALI GOPALAN

Executive Director, The Naz Foundation (India) Trust

Ms. Gopalan is a strong advocate for the sexual health and rights of the LGBT community. Anjali spearheaded the eight year legal battle against Section 377 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC). In 2001, her organization filed a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) to decriminalize homosexuality and put an end to the archaic law under which individuals were harassed and discriminated against based on their sexual orientation. The Delhi High Court ruled in favor of Naz India in 2009 and declared Section 377 an infringement on individual rights. This groundbreaking ruling was a great leap towards an accepting and discrimination-free society. Ms. Gopalan has received several international awards, including the **Commonwealth Award** for her work with marginalized communities and **Sadguru Gnanananda Award** for her work in supporting those living with HIV/AIDS.

She was nominated and short-listed as part of the **1000 Women for the Nobel Peace Prize 2005** in recognition of her rights' protection work



ENIKO PAP

Board Member, Hungarian Women's Lobby

Legal expert on women's rights issues, especially violence against women. She was involved in the first CEDAW decision against Hungary (A.T. v. Hungary), namely by contributing to the decision via a critical review of Hungary's performance. Recently she has been the legal expert on domestic violence for the Network Women's Program of OSI.

Ms. Pap presently serves as a Vice-President of the Hungarian Women's Lobby



SOL DOROTHEA IGLESIAS

Director for Intellectual Exchange, Asia-Europe Foundation

Sol Iglesias, a Filipino national, joined ASEF in 2003. She manages ASEF projects in international relations, human rights and democracy, sustainable development and academic co-operation. Prior to joining ASEF, she had worked for the Local Government Academy in the Philippines on UN projects in the areas of poverty alleviation and social reform and held various research posts in the Philippines and Singapore. She received her BA in Public Administration at the University of the Philippines and obtained her MA in Political Science at the National University of Singapore. She also attended a summer course on European institutions at the Institut d'Études Politiques de Paris in 2004. She has published a number of articles in Asian and European journals on politics in Southeast Asia as well as foreign relations between Asia and Europe.

RAPPORTEURS



ERIKA KVAPILOVA

Regional Programme Director, UNIFEM

Ms. Erika Kvapilova is a Programme Director at UNIFEM, (United Nation Development Fund for Women), Regional Office for Central and Eastern Europe. Ms. Kvapilova has been with the Bratislava UNIFEM Office for the last 5 years. Prior to joining UNIFEM, she worked as a senior research fellow at the University of Economics in Bratislava and held a post of the Director of the Bratislava International Centre for Work and Family Studies. From November 2001 to June 2004 she chaired the Forum on Children and Families of the Council of Europe and worked as the National Liaison Officer for the Slovak Republic in the European Centre for Social Policy and Welfare Affiliated to UN in Vienna. Further, she was a visiting research fellow at the Swedish Institute for Social Research SOFI, University of Stockholm supported by the Swedish Institute and by the EU Commission.



NAOKO OTOBE

Senior Employment (and Gender) Specialist, International Labour Organization

OtoBE has over 27 years of analytical and operational experience in the UN system, with focus in the areas of employment, poverty and gender in the development context. OtoBE has worked at the International Labour Organization for nearly 19 years, and is currently Senior Gender and Employment Specialist, and Coordinator of Gender and Employment in the Employment Sector. Originally from Japan, OtoBE's operational work, research and publications encompass many countries mostly in Asia and Africa, but also in some East European countries.



MALGORZATA GORSKA

Policy Desk Officer, European Commission

Malgorzata O. Gorska works in the European Commission, Directorate General for External Relations, Unit Human Rights, where she is responsible for human rights in South East Asia.



MARY SHANTHI DAIRIAM

Member of the Board of Directors, International Women's Rights Action Watch Asia Pacific

Shanthi Dairiam is Founding member and former Executive Director of the International Women's Rights Action Watch Asia Pacific. Shanthi has extensive experience in managing women's rights programmes and has been involved in building capacity for women's rights advocacy for over 20 years, both with Malaysian organisations and also at the regional and international level. She has served as an expert assisting key UN agencies such as the UNDP, the Office of the High Commissioner of Human Rights and UNIFEM. She holds a Masters in Literature from the University of Madras, India and a Masters in Gender and Development from the Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex. Shanthi served a four-year term (2005-2008) as an expert member of the CEDAW Committee.



Seminar Co-organisers

Asia-Europe Foundation

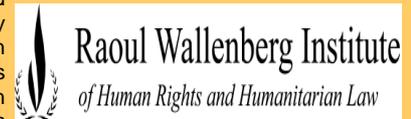
The **Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)** promotes greater mutual understanding between Asia and Europe through intellectual, cultural and people-to-people exchanges. Through ASEF, civil society concerns are included as a vital component of deliberations of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM*). ASEF was established in February 1997 by the participating governments of ASEM and has since implemented over 450 projects, engaging over 15,000 direct participants as well as reaching out to a much wider audience in Asia and Europe. www.asef.org

* ASEM now brings together 43 member states (Austria, Belgium, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Cambodia, China, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Indonesia, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Korea, Laos, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mongolia, Myanmar, the Netherlands, Pakistan, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, United Kingdom, Vietnam) plus the European Commission and the ASEAN Secretariat. www.aseminfoboard.org



Raoul Wallenberg Institute

The Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law is an independent academic institution dedicated to the promotion of human rights through research, training and education. Established in 1984 at the Faculty of Law at Lund University, Sweden, the institute is currently involved in organising in Lund two Masters Programs and an interdisciplinary human rights programme at the undergraduate level. Host of one of the largest human rights libraries in the Nordic countries and engaged in various research and publication activities, the Raoul Wallenberg Institute provides researchers and students with a conducive study environment. The Institute maintains extensive relationships with academic human rights institutions worldwide. For more information, please visit our website: <http://www.rwi.lu.se>



French Ministry of Foreign Affairs

For more information, please visit our website: <http://www.diplomatie.fr>



Republic of the Philippines, Department of Foreign Affairs

For more information, please visit our website: <http://dfa.gov.ph/main/>



Human Rights Center of the School of Law of the Ateneo de Manila University

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The Law School houses the Ateneo Human Rights Center (AHRC) which was established in July 1986 as among the first university-based institutions for the protection and promotion of human rights in the Philippines. The AHRC seeks to realize its mandate through programs focused on the continued formation of human rights lawyers and advocates, the accessibility of justice to victims of human rights education, the monitoring and advocating for compliance with human rights laws and instruments, and the empowerment of civil society towards peace, democracy, gender equality, good governance and the rule of law. The AHRC also serves as the Secretariat of the Working Group for an ASEAN Human Rights Mechanism.





Notes



10th Informal ASEM Seminar on Human Rights:

The report of the proceedings of the 9th Informal ASEM Seminar on Human Rights “ Human Rights in Criminal Justice Systems ” held in Strasbourg, France on 18-20 February 2009, is now available, please contact Maria Iaitskaia (maria.iaitskaia@asef.org) for enquiries

