



Gender links in Poland



NGOs: parties, civil society organisations

„Network East-West-Women“

www.neww.org.pl (partially in English)

One of the most comprehensive sites on gender equality policies and current tendencies in Poland. With numerous links (also to websites in other countries), articles, actions, campaigns. Is continuously updated.

"Schlesische Gender Zone"

www.gender.pl

Contacts to the remaining equal opportunity commissioners in the voivodships can be found here as well as numerous articles about GM and its tools; national and EU statutes and a glossary are also included. This site is a *Feminoteka* foundation project.

Konsola

free.art.pl/konsola

Konsola is a "Women's Association" (named as such), that has been in existence since 1997 (official foundation in 1999). They work with themes like: women's rights are human rights, access to employment for women. They publicise feminist ideas and support the development and expansion of gender studies. They conduct seminars and events amongst others to the above mentioned themes. *Konsola* has already launched and realised numerous projects.

Oska

www.oska.org.pl (Polish)

The site of the "Grand Dame" among Polish women's organisations, which changed last year though. Women's NGO's in Poland are deeply divided. This is further exemplified by the changes in the executive board and the organisation. Nevertheless, this site contains a comprehensive collection of links to other organisations as well as to scientific articles and political reports, and further addresses.

Efka

www.efka.org.pl (partially in English)

Women's foundation; established amongst others with the support of the Heinrich Boell Foundation; self-publish their own magazine "Zedra" as well as books.

Feminoteka

www.feminoteka.pl (partially in English)

Comprehensive site with numerous articles; amongst others an article by Michal Hasiow "I also had an abortion". *Feminoteka* publishes and sells books.

**GenderIndex**

www.genderindex.pl (Polish)

Is an initiative that offers training courses and tools to companies and organisations that help them work more efficiently with the implementation of gender mainstreaming. The support they receive from media partners (amongst others large magazines, daily newspapers and Internet portal) is of particular interest. They are funded by the EU programme "Equal" and sponsors.

Partia Kobiet (Women's Party)

www.polskajestkobieta.org

Is an initiative from well-known women that resulted in the foundation of a party. They are very active, and a good PR strategy has added to their popularity. They ran for election in 2007 parliament elections, and received nearly 3% of the votes in some constituencies.

Women for Women:

www.kobiety-kobietom.com

Comprehensive site with discussion forums and articles, cultural notes, etc. in particular dealing with homosexuality and the currently regressive politics of Poland; very up to date

■ Government, Ministries**Department Family, Women and Anti-Discrimination**

www.rodzina.gov.pl

Is the official site of the Department for Family Affairs, Women and Anti-Discrimination; it resides in the Ministry for Work and Social Policies; the director is the vice-minister. The homepage is only in Polish, but very informative. It includes information about the legal situation, about legal loopholes; equality and gender policy-related themes are raised.

■ Academia

Gender studies programmes have been organised in the most significant Polish universities.

- University of Wrocław: www.gender.uni.wroc.pl
- University of Warsaw: Gender Studies przy ISNS UW
ul. Nowy Swiat 69, 00 - 046 Warsaw
tel. 0 607 070 227, tel./fax [48 22] 627 26 24
- University of Łódź: www.gender.lodz.pl and www.kologender.net



■ Other gender players

Campaign against Homophobia:

www.homoseksualizm.pl and <http://niechnaszobacza.queers.pl/>

Men

There is a forum that was founded by feminists:

feminisci-subscribe@yahooogroups.com (<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/feminisci>)

Men and women discuss feminism and gender equality, non-violence and other political themes here. They want to fight against gender stereotypes and not let themselves be misappropriated by their own sexism.

The most popular founder is Tomek Lysakowski. He has his own blog at:

<http://lysakowski.blox.pl/html>

Individual players:

- Bozena Choluj (b.choluj@uw.edu.pl), was a co-founder of the Warsaw Gender Studies in 1995
- Anna Kaminska (kaminska2005@gmail.com) is an active feminist and founder of the Karat coalition, as well as the all-party women's initiative before the parliamentary elections in 2001