

Female role models to inspire women cross Europe

In many fields women could inspire other women to create new companies or join politics etc. The European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) has just launched a new calendar with 12 women to give visibility to some of Europe's most remarkable personalities and highlight their achievements and success stories. This can inspire others for action.

Cross Europe you can find many stories on successful women, even in areas that are dominated by men. In order to inspire more women to act EIGE is releasing a [new calendar](#) in January 2012 with good examples to follow.

"So many women cross Europe could be promoted as great examples of their career and actions. We selected 12 women received nominations - just to give Europe a glimpse of their potential and to demonstrate that people can make a difference – if they act, and in particular, if they act different", - say Virginija Langbakk, Director of the European Institute for Gender Equality.

One of the women in the calendar is Benja Stig Fagerland, who was born in Denmark. She is working hard to change the attitudes of the companies to take women serious when they do business planning. The top 300 European companies have an average of only 12 percent of women on their Boards and that is wrong according to Benja Stig Fagerland.

"Women are in many ways more modern in their outlook and they are not afraid to be confrontational", says Benja Stig Fagerland in her calendar quote pointing out that male dominated business is losing business by not using more women in the boards.

The European Institute for Gender Equality aims to promote gender equality, to fight discrimination based on sex and to raise awareness of EU citizens of gender issues. With the "Women Inspiring Europe" Calendar, EIGE aims to give visibility and pay homage to some of Europe's most remarkable women, through highlighting their achievements and success stories.

About EIGE:

The role of EIGE is to assist the European Commission and the Members States to report upon the EU-level indicators established under the Beijing Platform for Action, and to support the development of further indicators.

The European Institute for Gender Equality is an autonomous body of the European Union, established to contribute to and strengthen the promotion of gender equality, including gender mainstreaming in all Community policies and the resulting national policies, and the fight against discrimination based on sex, and to raise EU citizens' awareness of gender equality. Further information can be found at www.eige.europa.eu