

## **PROGRAM OF SARAJEVO OPEN CENTRE FOR THE 8 MARCH 2017 – INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY**

The idea and symbolism of 8 March is related to the beginnings of industrialization and the year of 1857, when the textile women workers in New York had organised themselves to draw attention to bad working conditions and low wages. The police shattered the demonstrations, but that resulted in the founding of the first women workers' union. The protests of 8 March occurred during next decades as well, and the most massive and the most famous happened in 1908 when 15.000 women marched through New York asking for shorter working hours, better payment and the right to vote. In Copenhagen in 1910 there was the first International Women's Conference that had been organised by the Socialist International and when, according to Clara Zetkin's proposal, the International Women's Day was established. The idea was that, on 8 March, women everywhere, in a more organised, massive and louder manner than usual, draw attention to the working conditions and require the rights that belong to them. In 1911 the International Women's Day was marked by over a million people in Austria, Denmark, Germany and Switzerland, and they went out on the streets to support the right of women to work, education, to participation in political life. March of 1911 is remembered for the fire that broke out in a New York-based factory, when over 140 women workers were killed in the fire, mostly immigrants.

The women of Bosnia and Herzegovina organised a massive public gathering on 8 March 1913, on the International Women's Day. That meeting turned into a protest meeting during which the gathered women demanded, first of all, economic and political liberation of women. On the meeting the complimentary telegram by Clara Zetkin was read, the one she sent in the name of the International Organisation of Women Social Democrats. In Sarajevo in 1918 it was mass marked as the public celebration of Women's Day, where around 2000 women from all over the country and of all religious denominations gathered.

The celebration of 8 March has become a part of many countries' cultures that inherited the idea of the importance of labor, socialist, economic and political struggle against inequality, sexism and all other injustices that come from gender inequality. The United Nations, in 1977, adopted a resolution on regular marking of 8 March as the International Women's Day.

Sarajevo Open Centre, as a feminist organisation that advocates full respect of human rights and social inclusion of LGBTI (lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans\* and intersex) persons and women, organises a series of activities that will mark this significant day and that will draw attention of the public to the burning issues that regard gender equality in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

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When?	What?	Where?	Contact person:
from Monday, 6.3.2017.	<p>TV show in cooperation with Radio Slobodna Evropa</p> <p><b>Bio-medically assisted fertilization in BiH</b></p> <p>The aim of the show is to, with the competent authorities from the three levels of governance and a representative of the civil society organisation, through a dialogue show in the public space, talk about the issue of discrimination of couples who want to undergo medically assisted fertilization. This topic has become especially actual after the state level framework law did not get support, and the law that should regulate this issue on the level of Federation BiH has recently passed through the House of Representatives of the Parliament of FBiH in the form of draft law, and is currently going through public discussion.</p> <p>In the FBiH this issue is regulated differently in every canton, and since recently Sarajevo Center Municipality financially supports couples in access to this type of fertilization.</p> <p>Date of the first run: Monday, 6 March 2017</p> <p><i>The show is realised by Radio Slobodna Evropa in cooperation with Sarajevo Open Centre as the coordinating organisation of the Initiative for Monitoring the BiH EU Integration.</i></p>	Radio Slobodna Evropa	Inela Hadžić inela@soc.ba 033/551-000
Tuesday, 7.3.2017. 11 A.M.	<p>Press conference – to meet the 8 March</p> <p><b>Women's Human Rights</b></p> <p><b>The Orange Report 2017 that provides the overview of the situation in 2016 and a look into 2017</b></p> <p>What is the progress achieved during 2016 in the field of gender equality and women's rights? Has there been any progress, or are conservative</p>	<p>Sarajevo</p> <p>The square in front of the Parliament of the Federation BiH</p>	<p>Maida Zagorac</p> <p>maida@soc.ba 033/551-000</p>

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	<p>trends coming to the scene, and could they threaten the hardly achieved level of equality that is far from ideal? Have the Local Elections in 2016 brought a higher level of women's participation in political life? How have the public policies, strategies, action plans that regard women and men been implemented? The answers to these and other questions that marked the previous year in the field of gender equality and women's rights are provided by the authors of the Orange Report for 2016.</p> <p><i>This activity is made possible by the financial support for Sarajevo Open Centre's programme Women's Rights that is provided by (alphabetically) The Royal Norwegian Embassy, Friedrich Ebert Foundation, Open Society Fund BiH and the Swedish Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA).</i></p>		
<p>Wednesday, 8.3.2017. 6 P.M.</p>	<p>Exhibition <b>Stand up, woman! Europeanization and Emancipation. The case of Nafija Sarajlić - notes and topics</b></p> <p>Museum of Literature and Performing Arts of BiH, with the support of Sarajevo Open Centre, sets an exhibition about Nafija Sarajlić, in order for the BH public to, for the first time, witness the richness of her work, out of the common discourse that represents her as exemplary writer who withdrew from the literary world because she had become a mother. Through her work Nafija Sarajlić wrote about how modernisation emancipated men and left women with nothing. The contribution of this exhibition, same as the previous one dedicated to Razija Handžić, reflects in the affirmation of BH women's cultural creativity. The exhibition is also a way of pointing to the systematic neglect of women and their contribution to BH society and cultural and scientific institutions.</p> <p><i>The exhibition is realised by the Museum of Literature and Performing Arts of BiH in cooperation with Sarajevo Open Centre (with the financial support of the Swedish Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA)).</i></p>	<p>Sarajevo</p> <p>Museum of Literature and Performing Arts of BiH Sime Milutinovića Sarajlije 7</p>	<p>Jasmina Čaušević</p> <p>jasmina@soc.ba 033/551-000</p>

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<p>8-21.3.2017.</p>	<p>Billboard and online campaign  <b>Protect women workers!</b></p> <p>Our contracts are not being extended! Our maternity benefits are not being paid! When planning family or pregnant, we lose our jobs! During job interviews we are asked questions about our marital status, family planning and pregnancy! We work in inhumane conditions, but it is good that we are still working! To all this we say: <b>Protect women workers! Intensify the inspection of employers in the Federation BiH!</b></p> <p>From 8-21 March Sarajevo Open Centre sets a billboard campaign with a symbolic name: <b>Protect women workers!</b> on various locations in Sarajevo, whose focus is on labor and labor relations, the employers' behaviour towards women workers and on current issues they face related to pregnancy, motherhood or family planning. The goal of the campaign is to raise awareness of women about their rights, and to encourage the authorities to end the above mentioned practices and start proactive work on solving these issues.</p> <p><i>The billboard campaign is realised with the support of the Swedish Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA).</i></p>	<p>Sarajevo</p>	<p>Maida Zagorac   maida@soc.ba  033/551-000</p>
<p>Monday,  13 March  2017  12 A.M.   (TBC)</p>	<p>Thematic session  <b>Proposal of the amendments to the Labor Law of Federation BiH</b></p> <p>We present the policy document that provides proposal of the amendments to the Labor Law of Federation BiH that need to be implemented in order to improve the protection of rights related to motherhood, fatherhood and child care, and create better conditions for achieving gender equality in family and social life. The document relies on the relevant international and EU Law standards, as well as the comparative practice, and the need to harmonise the protection standards that are provided by different sources of labor legislative in BiH and the</p>	<p>Sarajevo   Parliament of  Federation BiH  The main hall   Hamdije  Kreševljakovića 3</p>	<p>Delila  Hasanbegović   delila@soc.ba  033/551-000</p>

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	<p>relevant documents in the field of gender equality.</p> <p><b>Motherhood, parenthood, fatherhood and the EU Law</b>          The primary goal is to point to provisions of the Agreement on the functioning of the EU, the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights and the directives that relate to the protection of motherhood, parenthood and fatherhood and that should be transposed into the legislation of the member states or the ones who are to become member states. This paper was written by Natalija Petrić for the Helsinki Citizens' Assembly Banja Luka. The standards mentioned in this publication are the basis for the solutions mentioned in the previously presented policy paper.</p> <p><i>The thematic session and the promotion of the publications is realised with the support of the Norwegian Embassy in BiH.</i></p>		
<p>Thursday, 16.3.2017. 6 P.M.</p>	<p>Fifth cycle of feminist lectures and discussions Somebody said feminism?!</p> <p><b>Rural areas and feminism</b></p> <p>Sarajevo Open Centre, in cooperation with the Friedrich Ebert Foundation, starts the fifth cycle of lectures <i>Somebody said feminism?!</i> that will last from March to November 2017. The fifth cycle will include 6 lectures and discussions related to feminist readings of the women's life in rural areas, pornography, poverty, the status of trans* women, music and cyber violence.</p> <p>We will open the cycle with the discussion on the topic of Rural areas and feminism, and the speakers will be Danka Zelić and Fatima Bilčević.</p> <p><i>The realisation of the event is supported by the Friedrich Ebert Foundation, Office in BiH.</i></p>	<p>Sarajevo</p> <p>Museum of Literature and Performing Arts of BiH          Sime Milutinovića          Sarajlije 7</p>	<p>Jasmina Čaušević          and Dina Vilić</p> <p>jasmina@soc.ba          dina@soc.ba          033/551-000</p>