



Make
Mothers
Matter



Human Rights in Childbirth Europe Summit 2016

October 19th, 2016

Strasbourg, France

PROGRAM

8:30 - 9:00: **Welcome**

Hermine Hayes-Klein, Lawyer, Founder, Human Rights in Childbirth

9:00 - 10:00: **Panel:** Human Rights in Maternity Care Across Europe:

Elizabeth Prochaska, Human Rights Lawyer, Founder, Birthrights UK

Agnes Gereb, Midwife, Hungary

Electra Koutra, Human Rights Lawyer, Athens, Greece

10:00 - 10:30: **Coffee Break**

10:30 - 12:30: **Reporting Session:** Representatives from NGOs working on maternal health from nations across Europe (Germany, Portugal, Luxembourg, Belgium, Greece, Slovakia, France, Lithuania, Netherlands, Croatia, Hungary, Romania, Italy, Spain, Ireland and UK) will present verbal summaries of their written reports on women's experiences regarding:

- 1) informed consent and refusal in obstetric care, and
- 2) regulation and integration of midwifery and out-of-hospital birth, and their impact on safety and outcomes.

12:30 - 1:30: **Lunch**

1:30 - 3:00: **Plenary Workshop:** Know Your Rights and Break the Silence Campaigns

This plenary session will provide an opportunity for maternity care advocates from across Europe to discuss and plan a joint international campaign to ensure that birthing women know their rights, and to elevate mother's voices about what they are currently experiencing in maternity care.



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- a) **Know Your Rights:** HRiC and DLA Piper will present our global Know Your Rights FAQ sheet project, including the launch of the German FAQ sheet together with NGO partner MotherHood and German MEP Arne Gericke. Those assembled will discuss ideas and issues for the development and implementation of Know Your Rights materials in nations across Europe and around the world.

- b) **Break the Silence:** Three activist leaders will then present on how they coordinated Break the Silence social media campaigns in their nations: Cristen Pascucci in the US, Daniela Drandic in Croatia, and Elena Skoko in Italy. The session will then propose and discuss a coordinated Break the Silence campaign to be launched at a time to be agreed upon, possibly later in the Fall. This session will include discussion of how Break the Silence can be embedded in a larger survey effort.

3:00 - 3:30: **Coffee Break**

3:30 - 4:30: **Workshop/ Strategic Advocacy Meetings**

- 1) How to advocate for women's rights in maternity care before human rights tribunals and bodies as well as the European Institutions (including how to write a CEDAW report).
- 2) Strategic Advocacy Meeting: Presentations by NGO leaders on national advocacy successes and challenges from different European nations.
- 3) Sustainability in Birth Activism: How do activists sustain the ability to do this work over time? Discussion can focus on financial, health, and emotional sustainability.

4:30 - 5:15: **Group Discussion/ Next Steps:** Moderator, Zoe Miller-Vedam

5:15 - 5:30: **Closing**