



NEWSLETTER

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Final Conference of the FEM-ABLE project held at Universidade Lusófona – Porto University Center

On November 12, Universidade Lusófona – Porto University Center hosted the final conference of project FEM-ABLE - Promoting Women's Participation in the Political Domain. The event marked the **conclusion of two years of research and collaboration** among the seven European countries, all committed to **promoting gender equality in politics and increasing women's representation in political decision-making positions**.

The opening ceremony was led by **Universidade Lusófona's Professor José Paulo Oliveira**, a faculty member and the international coordinator of the project, who welcomed participants and **emphasized the importance** of initiatives like FEM-ABLE in the **European context**.



During the morning session, **Marine Masson from La Xixa** presented the research findings from the project, **highlighting the structural and cultural barriers that hinder women's political participation** in Portugal, Spain, Italy, Greece, Cyprus, Lithuania, and Sweden. This was followed by a presentation on the **Communication and Dissemination framework** of the project, introduced by **Audrone Kisieliene from SIF**.

The second panel of the morning was moderated by **Universidade Lusófona's Diana Loureiro**, a project research fellow, and **featured testimonies from Antigone Andreaki, politician and journalist from Heraklion, Greece and Ana Vitorino, founder of HeForShe Setúbal and political advisor for the Socialist Party, from Portugal**. The panel was followed by an **intense and polarising debate** between the audience and the speakers **on quotas, men as feminist allies, and intra-party life**.



The afternoon session, moderated by **Universidade Lusófona's Professor Carla Cerqueira**, focused on **public policies for gender equality**. **Paschalia Leventi from CSI** presented the **process of design and development of the National Strategies**, the **commonalities identified between the 7 National Strategies** as well as the **main objectives of the Common European Strategy** developed. The session followed by **Nuria Casablanca from CESIE**, who, with an interactive presentation, introduced the themes of **intersectionality**, the **personal being political** and many more, while referring to the **events** held within the project.



Manuel Albano, Vice President of the Portuguese Commission for Citizenship and Gender Equality (CIG), provided an **overview of national and European policies**, emphasising the **challenges and opportunities for implementing concrete measures**.

A screening of the documentary **"50|50" (2022)** by director **Mafalda Rebelo** followed, offering an **artistic and documentary perspective on the double working day and the division of domestic tasks**. A discussion with the filmmaker deepened the exploration of these themes.

The closing session was delivered by **Professor Sónia Lamy from Universidade Lusófona – Centro Universitário Lisboa**, who **highlighted the achievements of the FEM-ABLE project and the ongoing need to work toward greater female representation in politics**.

The conference welcomed students from the University, whose keen interest throughout the event was truly inspiring. Their engagement with the insightful presentations and dynamic panel discussions brought a spark of hope, reflecting their growing knowledge, awareness, and dedication to fostering a more equitable future.



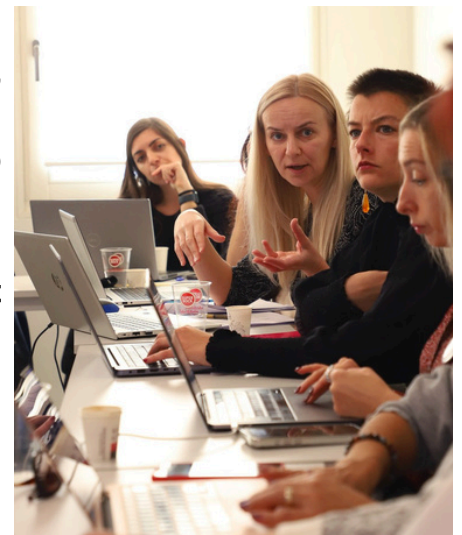
Partnership meeting in Porto



On November 13 and 14, the partners of the FEM-ABLE project gathered at Universidade Lusófona – Centro Universitário do Porto.

The project meetings aimed to **review all research conducted** to date, revisiting previous work packages and the **overall process through presentations by the respective task leaders**. Discussions also focused on **finalising methodologies and guidelines** for completing the final reports.

The meeting concluded on a positive note, with a shared **commitment to keeping the project alive and active** even beyond its official conclusion. The partners expressed their intention to transition from working as a Consortium to functioning as a Hub, fostering collaboration and paving the way for a potential new alliance among the same partners.



To view more photos from the Final Conference and Project Meetings, [visit Lusófona's Facebook page](#). [Watch the audiovisual report on YouTube](#).



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