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# WOMEN OF EUROPE



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Cover: the "NIKE" prize, a sculpture by Agnès Racine

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THE CHANGING EUROPEAN COMMUNITY
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AT LEAST TWO WOMEN COMMISSIONERS IN THE NEXT EUROPEAN COMMISSION. Following the Greek Government's nomination of Vasso Papandreou (see also p. 9) to replace Grigoris Varfis, the French Government has put forward Christiane Scrivener to take over from Claude Cheysson.

Christiane Scrivener, who was born in Mulhouse, became the first Secretary of State for Consumer Affairs in 1976. Within the "Parti Républicain", she was given special responsibility for European issues and was elected to the European Parliament in 1979 and re-elected in 1984 as part of the electoral list headed by Simone Veil. In November 1985, she re-joined the "Parti Radical". Christiane Scrivener is the author of the book "L'Europe, une bataille pour l'avenir" (Europe: a Battle for the Future), published in 1984. The book made a case for majority voting within the EEC's Council of Ministers.

The French Government's choice of Christiane Scrivener respects the tradition whereby the "bigger" Member States propose two Commissioners from different political backgrounds.

A premiere: the NIKE prize

At a gala evening in Brussels on October 8, three NIKE (ancient Greek word for victory) prizes were awarded to European television programmes which best contributed to furthering the role of women in modern society.

Exactly a year ago, the European Parliament discussed "women's image and role in the media". A Resolution drawn up on this occasion by Marlene Lenz (German Christian Democrat) called for a prize to be created which would go to the programme which most faithfully depicted women's lives.

Carlo Ripa di Meana, Commissioner for Cultural Affairs, immediately took up the challenge and launched the NIKE prize in the framework of European Cinema and Television year. Commissioner Ripa di Meana opened the gala evening with a quotation from the French writer Stendal: a society guaranteeing "perfect equality" between men and women would be one at the pinnacle of civilisation and would double both its "intellectual power" and "chances of happiness".

Simone Veil, in her capacity as Chairwoman for European Cinema and Television Year, added that television is an extremely important source of information, education and entertainment and also wields vast power over the shaping of ideas, the acceptance or rejection of clichés and creation of falsehoods.

The golden NIKE (along with a cheque for 16,000 Ecus) was awarded to "Women in Black", produced by Colleen Toomey. A BBC production, this film tells the story of three women who are widows and explain how they have coped with learning to live alone.

The silver NIKE (along with a cheque for 8,000 Ecus) went to the documentary "Tan dura es la vida" (It's a hard life) directed for the RTBF by Annie Thonon and Anne Martynow. The programme describes the life of a Peruvian woman who has opened a soup kitchen for penniless children in a working-class area of Lima.

The bronze NIKE (along with a cheque for 4,000 Ecus) was won by "Mama I'm crying" made by Joyce Seroke and Betty Wolpert for the ZDF. "Mama I'm crying" paints a portrait of two women, one white and one black, who have been friends since childhood and are united in their fight against Apartheid.

The NIKE trophy was sculpted by Agnès Racine, a French sculptor who has won several international prizes.

Sixteen television channels took part in the competition. The jury was chaired by Marlene Lenz and was made up of Hedy d'Ancona, Chairwoman of the European Parliament's Committee on Women's Rights, Marie-Christine Barrault, French actress, Juan Luis Cebrián, Director of the Spanish daily newspaper "El País", Maria Elisa Domingues, editor-in-chief of the Portuguese edition of Marie-Claire, Colette Flesh, Chairwoman of the Luxembourg Liberal Party, Maire Geoghegan-Quinn, Irish Minister of State, Alikí Marangopoulos, Chairwoman of the Greek League for Women's Rights, Birgit Meister, Danish TV Programme Head, Helena Michell, British actress, Ettore Scola, Italian director, and Gabriel Thoveron, Secretary General of the Sociology Institute at the "Université libre de Bruxelles".

After the announcement of the prize-winners, Marlene Lenz declared that the NIKE Prize had defined quality criteria more sharply and that these could be pitted against the use of stereotypes. Commissioner Ripa di Meana expressed his intention of awarding the NIKE Prize on a regular basis.

"WOMEN AND TELEVISION IN EUROPE" is the subject of Supplement N° 28 of "Women of Europe". Its author, Margaret Gallagher (7 rue du Docteur Roux, 75015 Paris) gives a succinct presentation of this subject with which she has become well acquainted through her work coordinating the European "Women and Television" Committee and her research work at the City University of London. The Supplement contains four major chapters dealing with media evolution in the Community; representation of women in the European media; employment of women by the Community's television companies and the future of women and the media. This document is both a working tool and a mine of information for anyone wanting to improve the cultural mainspring represented by television. It is therefore of interest to both men and women who manage, produce or consume the images on the small screen.



DOCUMENTATION: The European Commission's Automated Central Documentation Department (known by the French abbreviation "SCAD") at 200 rue de la Loi, 1049 Brussels, has just devoted an entire issue of its "Bibliographies" review to women's affairs. It contains more than 200 pages of orderly bibliographical references on Community legislation, publications edited by the European Commission and articles and documents on women's affairs published in the various Member States.

"OPINION JEUNESSE", published by the Youth Forum of the European Community (10 rue de la Science, 1040 Brussels) had a report on women in its last issue. It offers a useful reminder that the member organisations and movements of Youth Forum have been long-standing and active participants in activities for sexual equality. The Youth Forum, which was founded in 1978, set up a Working Group on the situation of women in 1982.

EDUCATION - UNIVERSITIES: \* In recent months, the European Commission granted Community aid to more than 700 projects in the framework of the COMETT programme (Community Programme on education and training in technology).

\* A total of 2,611 grants have been issued under the ERASMUS Programme to university lecturers for the academic year 1988-89.

\* In addition, the Directorate-General for Information, Communication and Culture has provided grants to 28 university researchers, 8 of whom are young women. Among the projects selected, that of Elisabeth Pagnossin (Political Sciences at Geneva) on "Women Members of Parliament in Europe" and that of Barry Fitzpatrick (law at Durham), relating to the impact of Community sexual equality legislation on collective agreements, are noteworthy.

EXCHANGES OF YOUNG WORKERS: According to a report drawn up by the European Commission, the participation of young women in the third exchange Programme for young workers is growing. Whereas in 1985, young women only made up 40% of the participants compared to 60% for young men, the proportions reached 47% and 53% in 1986 and were almost neck and neck in 1987. In 1987, 1,659 girls and 1,682 young men took part in a vocational training course in a Community country other than their own, thus broadening their linguistic horizons and extending know-how and acquaintance with other countries.

VOCATIONAL TRAINING: \* Two monographs on equal opportunities and vocational training in respectively Germany and the United Kingdom are among the recent publications of the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training (CEDEFOP, Bundesallee 22 - 100 Berlin 15).

\* For its part, the French Centre for Studies and Research on Qualifications (9, rue Sextus Michel, 75015 Paris) has drawn up "European comparisons" on new information technologies and workspace uses. The evolution of office automation technology and its impact on female employment (and unemployment) are at the core of these comparisons.

"NEW PARTNERS" is the title of a video film made by Jenny Barraclough and produced by Wilcox Production on behalf of the Women's Information Service of the European Commission. The 27-minute video runs through equal opportunity policies and activities in the European Community. Associations interested in the video can borrow a copy free of charge from the Commission's Press and Information Office (see last page for list of addresses).

"EUROPE: A PLUS FOR WOMEN; WOMEN: A PLUS FOR EUROPE": This series of four thirty-second video slots (VHS) is set in an airport. Produced by Europimages-Paris on behalf of the Women's Information Service of the European Commission, the four sequences can be used separately. They forcefully yet humourously make the point that there are no longer any jobs which are men's "reserve" and that men can carry out household and family chores with a great deal of efficiency.

CITIZENS' EUROPE: Information sheets on the rights of European citizens are to be computerised, the European Commission has announced. The "Citizens' Europe" Division (Directorate General for Information, Communication and Culture of the European Commission) was the brain behind the idea, which will provide a useful service free of charge to European citizens and associations.

HEALTH: In the framework of its campaign against cancer, the European Commission has published a brochure entitled "Europe and Cancer". The brochure reveals that women often fail to take the necessary precautions.

For example, although 89% of British women are aware of the importance of having a cervical smear regularly, only 55% actually ask their doctor for one. This preventive step is taken by 61% of women in Luxembourg, 60% in France, 49% in the Netherlands, 46% in Germany, 45% in Denmark, 40% in Italy, 36% in Belgium, 30% in Ireland, 27% in Greece, 12% in Spain and 9% in Portugal.

Similarly, regular breast examination is carried out by 64% of German women, 58% of French, 57% of women from Luxembourg, 56% of Dutch women, 55% of British, 48% of Danish, 45% of Belgians and Italians, 44% of Irish, 29% of Portuguese and 26% of Greek.

You get the impression that you have already read these figures somewhere? You are absolutely right. But have you told your friends about them? Have you contacted your doctor? Information is only an effective weapon against cancer if combined with action.

OLYMPIC GAMES: Of the 115 medals won at the Seoul Olympic Games, 23 were awarded to women in individual events and 2 in team events.

**"WOMEN OF EUROPE" PRIZE:** The "Women of Europe" Prize will be awarded at the Rhodes European Summit. This will be the second consecutive year that the Prize has been awarded. It will go to a woman who has made an exceptional contribution to European unity. We will come back to this subject in detail in a later issue.

E U R O P E A N P A R L I A M E N T
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**SEPTEMBER PLENARY SESSION:** During its first plenary session after the summer break, the European Parliament approved a series of important reports in which it urged the Community institutions to pursue and step up their activities promoting women. The main points are as follows:

\* **Social security:** In approving a report by Marisa Cinciari Rodano (Italian Communist), the Parliament called upon the European Commission to extend the scope of the proposed Directive on equal treatment under legal and professional social security systems to cover home workers, temporary workers and people working part-time on a voluntary basis. The Parliament also emphasised the need for case-by-case definition of rights, involving both those arising from the exercise of a particular professional activity and parallel rights guaranteed by systems providing basic protection for all. The Parliament further called for an end to discrimination between legitimate children, natural children and orphans. Finally, it recommended equal treatment of legally married couples and cohabitating couples.

The Parliament stressed that social security benefits should be paid to the parent who has "chief and effective" responsibility for the child. The majority of Members of Parliament supported the European Commission's proposal that retirement age be the same for men and women. A minority of Parliamentarians felt that current social conditions did not make such uniformisation possible. Ms Rodano suggested that the solution could lie in the introduction of a flexible retirement system.

\* **Application of Community equal treatment legislation:** The Parliament adopted the Resolution proposed by Marie-Claude Vayssade (French Socialist) which took the form of a combined report/programme calling upon the Community institutions and the Member States to take action upon:

- three Directives which have been proposed by the European Commission but are still on the table of the EEC's Council of Ministers, relating respectively to parental leave and leave for family reasons and the burden of proof in the event of conflict between employer and worker over equal treatment and social security;

- a Directive containing sanctions which would be applied to Member States flaunting Community equal treatment legislation;

- new proposals on 1) "positive action" (including a system of quotas, prompting a vote against by many Centre-Right Parliamentarians opposed to this principle) and 2) on job classification (implying better definition of the notion "job of equal worth");

- the appointment of "equal opportunity advisors" in employment agencies and guidance and vocational training centres where such posts do not already exist.

The Parliamentarians called upon the European Parliament to re-form a "Standing Committee on Women's Rights" after the June 1989 elections, on the grounds that such a body was "indispensable for the completion of the 1992 single market".

\* Political and trade union power: There was near unanimity in the Parliament (3 votes against) for the introduction of quotas in the decision-making centres of political parties and trade unions, as suggested in a report by Marietta Giannakou-Koutsikou (Greek Nea Demokratia).

The Parliament would like to see improved participation of women at all levels of political life and trade union affairs. In addition, the Parliament has urged political parties to study closely the impact on electoral systems on the promotion of women and to introduce systems which favour women candidates.

\* Women and research: In line with the wishes of Carmen Llorca Vilaplana (Spanish Conservative), the Parliament has requested that the Division for the Study of Women of the Florence European University Institute become a European Research Centre on Women. The Member States have been invited to develop "positive action" in order to encourage the appointment of women to the highest university bodies and to stimulate studies and research on women.

WELCOME to Martine BURON, who in July 1988 became a Socialist Member of the European Parliament. Martine Buron is an architect and is married with two children. She was National Secretary of the French Socialist Party with special responsibility for the "Women's Struggle" (Lutte des Femmes) between 1981 and 1987.

POVERTY: The European Parliament unanimously adopted a report by Mrs Giannakou on the fight against poverty in the European Community. Mrs Giannakou declared that the fight against poverty must be actively pursued in a Europe seeking to safeguard a coherent social fabric. The report further emphasised the need to develop a solidarity mentality rather than one of assistance. Special importance was attached to the need for the European Commission to work upon giving poor people the ability to integrate or re-integrate into society. The text adopted by the Parliament recommends that the Member States be encouraged to introduce a minimum guaranteed income.

Parliamentarians have particularly strong feelings about this matter. Mrs Salisch (German Socialist) declared that poverty could not be tolerated and that it was a "social scandal".

#### COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S RIGHTS

At its September meeting chaired by Hedy d'Ancona, the Parliamentary Committee on Women's Rights was addressed by Mr Yennimatas, current President of the EEC's Council of Ministers. He assured the Committee that the Greek Presidency was firmly committed to making headway in the area of sexual equality. Its short-term objectives include the adoption of the Directive on reversing the burden of proof. In the longer term, it would like to see more active involvement of women in the economy, particularly as regards contacts between social partners.



The Committee was also addressed by Mr Moss, coordinator of the "child care network". Mr Moss stated that there was room for improvement in the child care systems of practically all the Member States and particularly in Ireland, the United Kingdom and the Netherlands. Some Parliamentarians expressed a desire to see a specific Programme in this area funded by the Community.

The Committee then turned to the effects of completion of the internal market in 1992 on women in Europe. The Belgian Socialist Marijke Van Hemeldonck gave a general outline of her report on this issue. She pointed out that neither the Commission nor the Council had assessed the repercussions of 1992 on the situation of women, despite the fact that the profound social changes which will be engendered by the single market require the free movement of women. Speaking on behalf of the European Commission, Ms Odile Quintin announced that a conference on 1992 and female employment would be organised in Spain in April 1989.

During an exchange of views on the structural funds, several members expressed their concern that no reference was made to the situation of women. Although young people and the long-term unemployed are priority groups for the European Social Fund, the situation of women has been pushed to one side. Ms d'Ancona pointed out that women currently benefit from 37% of the Social Fund's aid, ~~despite the fact~~ that they suffer from a higher unemployment rate than men.

Barbara Schmidbauer (German Social Democrat) unveiled her questionnaire on handicapped mothers. The European Commission has promised to research into this matter before the end of the year.

During a discussion on the Community Budget for 1989, the European Commission gave information on Community aid for Local Employment Initiatives.

Women who set up a business and thereby create at least two jobs can receive a Community subsidy worth 1,000 Ecus per job created. In 1987, the European Commission subsidised 130 projects selected from 1,100 applications. The subsidies average out at 3,800 Ecus per business. In light of the success of this initiative, the Commission is hoping that the European Parliament will support the continued allocation of 800,000 Ecus for this purpose. The Service for Action in Favour of Employment and Equality for Women of the European Commission has published a detailed brochure on this initiative and on application procedures (200 rue de la Loi - 1049 Brussels).

During its meeting on October 18, the Parliamentary Committee on Women's Rights received Vasso Papandreou, Greek Deputy Trade Minister and future Member of the European Commission. Mrs Papandreou was congratulated by all the members of the Parliamentary Committee on her appointment as the first woman member of the European Commission. The Committee on Women's Rights has stressed on a number of occasions that the composition of the European Commission should better reflect the participation of women in the building of a European Community.

Vasso Papandreou spoke with a great deal of frankness on the situation of women in the world of work and in decision-making centres, referring for this purpose to European

Parliament reports. She emphasised the need to promote the education and training of women. Workers with top qualifications will be at an advantage in the 1992 single market, she remarked.

The Committee on Women's Rights then held a preliminary exchange of views on the proposal for a Directive on the burden of proof in the event of discrimination. The Directive is still on the table of the Council of Ministers.

The Forum "The 1992 Market - A Challenge for Women" which is to be organised by the Committee on Women's Rights in Brussels on February 22 and 23, 1989 was also discussed. The Committee studied the report by Marijke Van Hemeldonck, particularly under the angle of vocational training, which is a vital factor in female competitiveness on the labour market.

The report in question highlighted a major social risk posed by the single market. Given that men tend to be more professionally mobile than women, there is a danger that the partner who has gone to work abroad may try to shirk family obligations, particularly when maintenance must be paid due to separation or divorce. At present, as Marijke Van Hemeldonck pointed out, it is very difficult to apply court rulings across national borders. It is even more difficult to launch proceedings against a partner whose domicile is unknown or changes frequently. The legal system should therefore also prepare itself for the single market.

#### EUROPEAN ELECTIONS

Rhineland-Westphalia: Mechthild von Alemann, elected to the European Parliament in 1979 but who was not a candidate in the 1984 elections, has been named top of the FDP list for the June 1989 elections in Rhineland-Westphalia. Ms von Alemann is the Secretary General of the Federation of European Liberal, Democrat and Reform Parties.

Portugal: In the framework of a series of conferences on the integration of Portugal into the Community, a conference on the theme "Women in the Construction of Europe" was held in Porto on the initiative of the Liberal, Democratic and Reform Group of the European Parliament. Speaking before Leonor Belezza, Health Minister, Manuela Aguiar, Vice-Chairwoman of the Assembly of the Republic, Regina Tavares da Silva, Chairwoman of the Committee on the Situation of Women and Adelaide Lisboa, Chairwoman of the National Committee on the Equality of Women in the Workplace, Simone Veil insisted that women had a role to play on the political stage, particularly in the run-up to the 1989 European elections. Several speakers called for key posts to be reserved for women in the context of these European elections. Fausta Deshormes La Valle, head of the Women's Information Service of the European Commission, highlighted the various fields in which women still have to win a fair share, in line with Community legislation on equal rights.

C O U N T R Y   T O   C O U N T R Y F A C T S ,   I N S T I T U T I O N S ,   L A W S A N D   M I L I T A N T   A C T I V I T I E S
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B E L G I U M

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**ELECTIONS:** 1,780 women were elected by the borough elections of October 9, 1988. Together they represent 13.9% of the total elected representatives. This is 368 more than in 1982, when the last borough elections were held, representing an average rise of 2.85% for all the Belgian boroughs.

Miet Smet, Secretary of State for Social Emancipation, declared that this was a major step along the path to more balanced representation within borough councils, but that a special effort must be made by the government, political parties, women's groups within parties, socio-cultural associations and feminist organisations to boost women's participation in the political life of the country.

Miet Smet emphasised that there were still 50 boroughs, or 8.4% of the total, without a single woman on the local council.

**GOVERNMENT:** A fifth woman has entered the Belgian Government following the resignation of Herman Van Rompuy from his position as Secretary of State for Finances. He will be replaced by Wivine De Meester, who has been a Social Christian Member of Parliament for fifteen years. Ms De Meester has already been Secretary of State for Public Health and Policy for the Disabled.

**EUROPEAN ELECTIONS:** The "Centre Féminin d'Education Permanente" (Women's Continuing Education Centre, Place Quételet 1 at 1030 Brussels) is organising "Europe over lunch" meetings, presented by Jacqueline De Grotte and Monique Rifflet. The meetings, which will be held in October, November and December of this year, will discuss the 1989 European elections and the 1992 single market.

**CONSEIL NATIONAL DES FEMMES BELGES:** The French-speaking section of the National Council of Belgian Women (CNFB, 24 rue de Florence, 1050 Brussels) organised a conference in Brussels at the end of September on the theme "Femmes and prise de responsabilité" (Women and the Acceptance of Responsibility). It was opened by the chairwoman of the CNFB, Huberte Hanquet and concentrated upon the role of women at borough level. Marie Laure Roggemans, advisor to the "Fondation Roi Baudouin", presented a video made by the Foundation with the help of CRISP (Centre for Socio-Political Research and Information) on the theme: "Once upon a time there was a democratic system: the Borough". On a slightly different note, the Council congratulated Huberte Hanquet on her election as Chairwoman of the Senate's External Relations Committee.

PENSIONS: The "Comité de liaison des femmes" (Women's Liaison Committee, place Quételet 1a, 1030 Brussels) has just added pensions to its list of "individual" social security rights for women. The Committee considers that a two-tier pension system should be created, comprising an "old-age pension", granted at a certain age, and a "retirement pension" for those who have worked, in proportion to contributions paid.

CHILD CARE: Following a fiscal reform, 80% of child care costs for children up to three will be tax deductible from 1989.

WORK: Number of children is one of the main factors determining whether or not women work, according to a highly detailed study carried out by the "Centrum voor Bevolkings en Gezinstudiën" (Centre for Population and Family Studies, Ministerie van de Vlaamse Gemeenschap, Nijverheidstraat 37, 1040 Brussels). Women with two children are less likely to work as employees and the trend accentuates after the third child.

1992: Marie Lizin, Secretary of State for the 1992 Single Market, (see Women of Europe N° 54) has set herself the objectives of making young people aware of what the single market will mean to them, informing trade unions which are worried about its implications and working with consumers' organisations and the "Ligue des Familles" (Family League).

HEALTH CARE: "Contacts Information Femmes 40/60" (Contacts Information Women 40/60 - CIF, 17 avenue des Aubépines, 1180 Brussels), an association which will provide medical and psychological information to women aged between 40 and 60, was founded in Brussels at the beginning of September. There are 60 million women in this age-group in Europe (1,200,000 in Belgium). On presenting the association, chaired by Jo Poortmans, to the press, Liesbeth Severne emphasised that this age-group of women must confront a series of problems and have a growing need for information and "recycling" through the discovery of new targets in life. The CIF is organising a training course "Vivre la cinquantaine" (Life begins at fifty) on health care (menopause, prevention of decalcification, etc.), work and the family.

TRAINING: The "fondation de prospective sociale" (Social Futurology Foundation, 12a avenue Brugman, 1060 Brussels) has been running since June (until end December) a free training course in computerised management for women aged between 18 and 24 who are unemployed and educated to upper secondary level.

UNIVERSITE DES FEMMES: The Women's University (Place Quetelet 1a, 1030 Brussels. Tel: 219.61.07) participated in a number of events connected with European Cinema and Television Year. It organised "Shade and Light", with debates on women active in production, directing and distribution, along with a series of thirty or so films and an international exhibition on women and cinema, from silent films up to the present day. The last issue of "Chronique Féministe" (Feminist Chronicle) is now available and deals with the fact that women are making up a growing proportion of poor people.

**OLD AGE:** The "Institut européen interuniversitaire de l'action sociale" (European Inter-University Social Action Institute - IEIAS, 179 rue du Débarcadère, 6001 Marcinelle) is pursuing its close links with the Reims University through a series of courses on social gerontology. It is considering creating a European diploma in this subject.

**TELEVISION:** The Women's Committee of the RTBF (Michelle Legros, local 10 M 31, RTBF 52 bd. Reyers, 1040 Brussels) conducted a survey in the month of November on "imagery and equal opportunities in RTBF radio and television broadcasts". The Committee will jointly participate in an initiative planned for Women's Day 1989 with the National Council of Belgian Women, the March 8, 1989 Committee, the Women's Information Service of the European Commission and specialised university institutes offering media studies. On March 8, the evening TV news bulletins will be produced by two teams, one composed of a majority of women and the other of a majority of men.

**BATTERED WOMEN:** An international conference on battered women was held at the end of September in Liege. It was organised on the initiative of the "Fédération des Collectifs et des Refuges pour femmes battues" (Federation of Communities and Hostels for Battered Women, 9 rue Soeurs de Hasque, 4000 Liege).

**THEATRE:** The European women's Persona-Theatre project continued to run in September-October, performing throughout Europe the play "Nominatae Filiae". Seven European Community countries are currently participating in the project. The organisers hope eventually to draw in all twelve. (Useful address: Brigitte Kaquet, Cirque Divers, rue Roture 13, 4020 Liège).

**MUSIC:** The International Arthur Honegger prize for composing music has been awarded to a Belgian woman, Jacqueline Fontyn. In all, 189 composers from 30 different countries competed. The prize was first awarded to Luigi Dallapiccola in 1971.

**WORLD FAIR:** Andrée Bellinck (av. de Mai 36, 1200 Brussels) who was one of the "Fair European Hostesses" at the Brussels World Fair in 1958, has pointed out that fair hostesses have existed since this date throughout the Community and that they will take part in the world fair to be held in Seville, Spain in 1992.

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D E N M A R K

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**NORDIC FORUM:** Around 10,000 women from all the Nordic countries took part in a Nordic Forum held in Oslo. The event went off without a hitch, according to the "Danske Kvinder Nationalråd" (National Council of Danish Women). The forum was the setting for a wide-ranging exchange of views between women researchers, trade unionists, pacifists, immigrants and feminists from both the "old" and "new" movements. Everyone was agreed that the Forum should be repeated.

SALARIES: The Nordic Council has requested that the Nordic Council of Ministers conduct a study on wage equality in order to find out why this aspect of male/female equality has not materialised.

REPRESENTATION OF WOMEN: The law on equality of the sexes in commissions and committees, with special reference to public departments, is being applied very conscientiously, particularly in the Ministries of the Environment and Social Affairs. The relevant Ministers are in both cases women; respectively Lone Dybkjaer and Aase Olesen. Several public or semi-public committees or commissions have had to re-start the formation procedure from scratch because no women candidates were on offer.

TRAINING: The Ministry of Labour (AMU-direktoratet, Suzanne Volqvarts, Hejrevej 43, Dk 2400 Copenhagen, Tel: 33 22 00) has launched a new one-year training scheme for women out of work, particularly non-qualified adults. This Autumn, four courses have been launched on metallurgy and industrial manufacturing. In 1989 and 1990 there will be courses on the transport sector.

SCHOOLS: The "Ligestillingsråd" (Council for Equality, Frederiksgade 19-21, 1265 KØbenhavn) organised a seminar for teachers on the theme "School and the Sexes". It is intended as the first step towards the definition of an action plan for sexual equality from school onwards.

ANNIVERSARY: The National Council of Danish Women will celebrate its 90th birthday in 1989. On March 4 and 5, this special date will be marked at the Annual General Meeting. The Council is an umbrella body for 40 organisations with a total of one million members. It is a member of the International Women's Council, which celebrated its one-hundredth anniversary in Washington last summer.

For all information concerning Denmark, contact:  
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**FRANCE**  
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WOMEN'S RIGHTS: Michèle André is, as mentioned in the last issue, Secretary of State for Women's Rights in the Government of Michel Rocard. Born in 1947, Ms André has been a member of the Socialist Party Steering Committee since 1985. From 1975 onwards, she was headmistress at a school for deaf children in Clermont-Ferrand, where she was also deputy mayor with responsibility for youth affairs, sport and general activities. Between 1981 and 1983 she was the regional representative of the Ministry for Women's Rights.

In a Communication to the Council of Ministers, Michèle André has outlined her main policy priorities. These include the employment of women through the correct guidance of girls at school, their vocational



training, integration into the world of work and equality therein. Michèle André will concentrate her efforts on helping women who have been victims of violence, on the voluntary termination of pregnancy, contraception and, in general, on women pushed onto the fringes of society. Useful address: Secrétariat d'Etat chargé des Droits des Femmes - 14 Boulevard de la Madeleine - 75008 Paris.

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: Socialists Yvette Roudy and Catherine Lalumière have been appointed Vice-Chairwomen of respectively the Social Affairs Committee and the Foreign Affairs Committee of the National Assembly following the last general elections. Two other women, Léonce Deprez (UDF) and Ségolène Royal (PS) sit on the "Production and Trade" Committee.

FEMINIST STUDIES: The "Association pour les études féministes" (Association for Feminist Studies, 2 rue d'Agnou, 78580 Maule) has devoted its last report to the Brussels Women's University. It reveals that a "women's documentation" corner is to be opened at the Nantes law faculty and that a CNRS conference (15 Quai Anatole France, Paris 75007) on "Sex and Gender: Epistemology and Social Construction" is to be held on March 3 and 4, 1989.

1992: "Grain de sel" (Grain of Salt - information, reflections, communication, expression and suggestions for a better everyday life - 5 rue de Chaillot - 75116 Paris) is publishing an interview with the Socialist Marie-Claude Vayssade, member of the European Parliament, Vice-Chairwoman of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Citizens' Rights. In the interview, Ms Vayssade stresses the need for a "social dimension" to the single market and consequently a better balance between regions. An association "Grain de Sel Europe Petite Enfance" (Grain of Salt Europe Early Childhood - BP 7082 Lyon Cedex 07) has been created to promote research on children up to age 6.

SALARIES: In its last issue of "Info-Actualité des femmes qui entreprennent" (Info-Update on Women Entrepreneurs), the support and promotion association for female entrepreneurship, Initielles, publishes information on project support aid along with statistics on women's salaries in France. Between 1984 and 1987, women's salaries were on average 31% below that of men. However, the number of women executives rose by 27% over the same period, whereas that of qualified female workers fell by 12%.

VIOLENCE IN THE WORKPLACE: The European Association against Violence suffered by Women in the Workplace (71 rue Saint-Jacques, Paris 75005. Tel: 43.29.86.52 or 46.28.70.08) is organising a conference of European experts in November on "the dignity of women in the world of work".

PSYCHOANALYSIS: Françoise Dolto, renowned for her contribution to child psychoanalysis, died in August at the age of 79. Her works included: "Lorsque l'enfant paraît" (When a Child is Born) (1977), "Aux jeux du désir" (Child's play) "La difficulté de vivre" (Life is an Uphill Struggle) (1981), "Sexualité féminine" (Women's Sexuality) (1982) and "La cause des enfants" (For the Children's Sake).

**FEMINIST DOCUMENTATION:** The Marguerite Durand Library (21 place du Panthéon, 75005 Paris), which is devoted to the feminist cause and women's situation across the centuries, is continuing to add to its collection. It is purchasing any French work in this area along with foreign or antique works. For example, the periodicals of the Saint-Simonian women (1833) can be consulted, along with more than 4,000 letters written by a range of women from Mrs de Staël to Colette. In addition, the library puts on exhibitions of posters and paintings.

**CINEMA:** The Tenth International Festival of Women's Films was held in Créteil (Maison des Arts, place Salvator Allende, 94000 Créteil). A total of 55 women producers from 30 different countries took place and audience figures were 20% up on the previous year.

**WIDOWS:** The "fédération des associations de veuves civiles chefs de famille" (Federation of Associations of Civil Widows with a Family, 28 place St-Georges, 75009 Paris) is organising its XIIth national congress on the theme "la vie en face" (Taking Life Head-On) in Paris in December.

**THIRD WORLD:** Sister Marie-André of the Sacré Coeur has died at the age of 89. In June 1939, she played an instrumental role in the adoption of the Mandel decree, enabling African women to reject husbands chosen for them without consultation. Sister Marie-André, who on a number of occasions lived in Africa for long periods, described in 1939 "The Black Woman in Eastern Africa" and in 1952 was the eighth woman elected to the Overseas Academy of Sciences.

**THEOLOGY:** In a book just published, "L'exil féminin" (Exile of Women, Cerf, 1988), Jean-Marie Aubert plots out the ground covered since his 1975 work, "La femme - Antiféminisme and christianisme" (Women - Anti-feminism and Christianity). Aubert, a French theologian, declares in his book that Christians must give women the same opportunities within the Church as men if they are to preserve their credibility.

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## G E R M A N Y

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**BUNDESTAG PRESIDENCY:** Rita Süßmuth was elected to the Presidency of the Bundestag (German Federal Parliament) on November 22. Ms Süßmuth was previously Federal Minister for Youth Affairs, the Family, Women and Health. A member of the CDU, Rita Süßmuth has won strong popularity for her courageous stand on abortion and the prevention of AIDS.

**QUOTAS:** At its Münster congress, the Social Democrat Party decided by a large majority (86% of votes in favour) to introduce a quota for the access of women to parliamentary mandates and posts within the Party. Following this decision, at least 40% of posts and mandates will go to women between now and 1994 (there is currently a quota of 33%). In addition, the congress for the first time elected a woman - Herta Daubler-Gmelin - as one of its three Vice-presidents. The Green Party already applies a quota of 50%. However, the Christian Democrats and Liberals are opposed to the principal. (Useful address: SPD, Ollenhauerstrasse 1, 5300 Bonn 1).

**POLITICS:** A women member of the Bundestag has for the first time become the spokesperson of her party on financial questions. The woman in question is Ingrid Matthäus-Meier. The Bundestage Committee on Youth, the Family, Women and Health is also chaired by a woman, Heike Wilm-Kegel of the Green Party.

An opinion poll carried out by the Allensbach Institute has revealed that Social Democrat Anne-Marie Renger and Christian Democrat Rita Süßmuth are seen as the women best suited to becoming chancellor (among those who consider that the chancellor post could be filled equally well by a man or a women, i.e. 42% of the sample).

**EMPLOYMENT:** A programme to help women get back to work has been presented by Minister Rita Süßmuth (Bundesministerium für Jugend, Familie, Frauen und Gesundheit - Pressestelle - Kennedyallee - 5300 Bonn 2). It would cost an estimated DM 30 million. Around two million women will be seeking to come back to work in the next five years, according to the Minister.

As part of the programme, a pilot project running for five years would use DM 25 to help employers who offer women re-integration and training in new skills.

**UNEMPLOYMENT:** The number of women out of work is continuing to rise in Germany, where 48.7% of the unemployed are women. The unemployment rate among graduates stands at 8.3% for women and 4.3% for men. The corresponding percentages are 9.3% and 1.6% for those who went to training college and 7.5% and 5.6% among qualified workers. One bright spot amid all this gloom is that all employment agencies are to be equipped with equal opportunity advisors, in line with the Directive of the Bundesanstalt für Arbeit.

**WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS:** The Association of Women Entrepreneurs (Vereinigung der Unternehmerinnen) has discovered that its members have better career opportunities than other professional categories of women. 8% of its members hold key posts in companies, which is double the normal level. The Association is however against the introduction of compulsory quotas.

**POSITIVE DISCRIMINATION:** In 1989, the Equal Opportunities Committee in Rhineland-North Westphalia is to set up a prize of DM 20,000 for the small and medium-sized company which has shown itself most open to positive discrimination in favour of women (address: Frauenpress, Sachsenring 2-4, 5 Köln 1).

Minister Rita Süßmuth expressed her satisfaction at the strong demand for the "positive action" guide, which is on its fourth print-run of 40,000 copies. This, she felt, demonstrated that the promotion of women is becoming a cornerstone of personnel strategy and that entrepreneurs are beginning to sit up and take notice of women's potential.

**ENVIRONMENT:** The Association of Housewives (Deutscher Hausfrauen Bund, Adenauerallee 193, 53 Bonn 1) has appealed to women to limit household waste where possible and not use plastic bottles. The average German household generates 300 kg of waste per person per year.

YOUNG PEOPLE: The German Employees Trade union (DAG, Pressestelle, Karl-Muck-Platz 1, 2000 Hamburg 36) is organising an exhibition and talking shops on the influence of comic strips upon children's behaviour. DAG representatives maintain that children learn discriminatory attitudes from comic strips and that sexism should be written out of them.

ABORTION: A doctor is being prosecuted in Memmingen in Bavaria on the charge of having practised abortions on at least 300 women. 113 women have already been found guilty of being "accomplices". They include several women aged over 40 who already had four children and maintain that abortion was the only way out.

PORNOGRAPHY: Debate over whether or not pornography should be banned, as suggested by the feminist magazine "Emma", is continuing. Public opinion is split. At the request of "Emma" (Kolpingplatz 1, 5000 Köln 1), the "Institut Sample" has conducted a poll which has revealed that 68% of women and 41% of men consider pornography to be "hostile to women". There is strong opposition to violent pornography, which 88% of women and 80% of men think should be banned.

COHABITATION: Between 1972 and 1982, the number of unmarried persons living together doubled in Germany to two million people. At a hearing organised by the SPD Parliamentary Group, several associations called for legal definition of the rights of unmarried couples, particularly since in such a situation women are often discriminated against fiscally.

CHILDREN: From July 1, 1990, an education benefit paid by the Land will be introduced in Bavaria, coming on top of the national benefit. Both men and women who have given up their jobs to educate their children will gain an extra DM 500.

ACCESS RIGHTS: Marliese Dobberthien, town councillor in Hamburg, has expressed her indignation at a bill proposing that the fathers of natural children be given the right to see their child even if this is against the wish of the mother. The bill states that women who oppose the father's visits must prove that contact with the father is harmful to the child. Mrs Dobberthien qualified the bill "an affront to mothers".

ARMY: Women will have entry to the medical divisions of the Army under the same conditions as men from next year, following a decision by Defence Minister R. Scholtz. In other words, medical studies will be financed by the State. Previously only women who had completed their medical studies were accepted into the Army.

HEALTH CARE: Siglinde Porsch, Chairwoman of the Deutscher Hausfrauen-Bund (German Housewives' Association), took part in the XVith international congress on the domestic economy in Minneapolis in July. The main discussion topic at the congress was health care. There were around 1,500 participants from 50 different countries.

HUMAN TRAFFIC: A pilot project is being funded by the Ministry for the Family, Youth Affairs, Women and Health with a view to obtaining a clear picture of the scale of "trade" in Asian women, before taking the necessary political decisions. At the end of August, a seminar on this matter was organised by the Council of German Women (Deutscher Frauenrat 5300, Bonn 2, Südstrasse 125). The Chairwoman Irmgard Blättel stressed that the problem had taken on worrying proportions, with an estimated 12,000 Filipinos and around 2,000 Thai women working illegally in Germany, mostly in prostitution.

WOMEN'S FESTIVAL: The Frauenfestival (useful address: Festival der Frauen, Kampnagelfabrik, Jarrestrasse, 2000 Hamburg 76) ran over a six week period in Hamburg on the theme "Yes to Equality, Yes to Peace, No to Hunger and Poverty" (slogan of the Nairobi United Nations Conference). The festival included exhibitions, every imaginable kind of show (classical music and jazz, theatre, cabaret, circus) and talking shops between women from different countries and cultures (including artists known the world over). The Festival organiser, Irmgard Schleier, expressed her satisfaction that the Festival had become a regular event. The next one is planned for 1990.

MEDIA: The "Feminale" symposium on the role of women in cinema and television was held in Cologne with the backing of Minister Rita Süßmuth. In Europe, women make up approximately one-third of television staff, but are confined to the less well-paid jobs, revealed Martha Haring, of the European Commission's "Women and Television" Committee. Anne Marie Bloemhoff, editor of a feminist weekly in Amsterdam, expressed her regret that out of several interesting projects only one programme on women lasting an hour had survived on the Dutch NOS channel. Elisabetta Mondello, RAI director, went one further: "The legendary feminist broadcasts of the seventies are now no more than history". One small ray of hope was provided by the workshops for self-employed women in the United Kingdom, who produce films for the independent channel "Channel Four" (useful address: Frauenpress, Sachsenring 2-4, Cologne 1).

\* The "Women and the Media" Committee set up by the Council of German Women has held its first meeting. The following measures were discussed: keeping a systematic watch on programmes and public reactions, support for broadcasts by women which are in touch with everyday reality, the creation of a network of women working in the media field, introduction of positive discrimination in the various television companies.

EQUALITY IN EUROPE: Around 80 people participated last Summer in a seminar in Hanover organised by the European Commission with the support of Minister Rita Süßmuth on the theme: "the institutional beginnings in Europe of equality between men and women". Participants agreed that a "Citizens' Europe of the feminine gender would not be an automatic process and that on the contrary a gradual policy favouring women was required, with networking and structures ensuring equal opportunity at European level".

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**G R E E C E**

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QUOTAS: After lengthy discussions, almost all the women's organisations in Greece (except Enossi Gynekon Elladas, which does not wish to commit itself) have come down in favour of the introduction of quotas of at least 35% for female representation on electoral lists and in the managerial bodies of political parties. A memorandum explaining the women's stance has been presented to the Government, Parliament and parties.

MEDITERRANEAN WOMEN'S STUDIES INSTITUTE: (192 B Leoforos Alexandras, 11521 Athens) is organising a conference from March 16 to 19 in Athens on "the social history of European women". It will examine progress made on piecing together the social history of women in the European countries.

BATTERED WOMEN: The first centre for battered women has been opened in Athens (Kentro gia Kakopoïmenes Gynekes, Marni 32, 104 32 Athens). A training programme took place a few months ago for around thirty women who will run and manage the centre.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT: The Women's Rights League (Syndemos gia ta Dikeomata tis Gynekas, Solonos 41, 106 72 Athens) has published the results of a wide-ranging inquiry into sexual harassment in the workplace. These reveal that harassment is as serious a problem as in the other Member States.

WOMEN AND PEACE: The organisation "Elliniko Gyneko Antipyriniko Kinima" (Greek Feminist Anti-Nuclear Movement, Emm. Benaki/Nikitara 6, 106 78 Athens) has been selected for this year's "Messenger of Peace" award by the United Nations Secretary General. During the Reagan-Gorbachev summit in Moscow, Maria Hourdaki, Chairwoman of the Association, handed over a disarmament appeal to the two leaders.

HOUSE PAINTERS: The first cooperative of women house painters (a profession traditionally reserved for men) has just been founded in Kalamata in the Peloponnese. It is a follow-on from a training course organised by the Greek Employment Agency with the aid of the General Secretariat for Equality. Requests for work estimates should be addressed to the Gynekios Syneterismos Eleochronmatistrion Messinias, Nedontos 75, Kalamata.

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**I R E L A N D**

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PERCEIVED DISCRIMINATION: A study conducted by the Oireachtas Joint Committee on Women's Rights (Dail Eireann, Dublin 2) has revealed no difference between the level of perceived discrimination against women in 1975 and that in 1986. The study sought to assess the impact of the



Anti-Discrimination (Equal Pay) Act of 1974, implemented at the end of 1975, and the Employment Equality Act introduced in 1977. Women feel that they are chiefly being discriminated against as regards training, kind of work and quality of work experience. Very slight improvements were noted for single women in areas of pay and promotion. However, there has been a significant worsening in the promotional situation of married women.

MORAL ISSUES: The Oireachtas Joint Committee on Women's Rights has also published a report on research carried out by Dr Margret Fine-Davis (Trinity College Dublin) entitled "Attitudes towards Moral Issues in relation to Voting Behaviour in Recent Referenda". Ireland held a referendum on divorce in 1986 and one on abortion in 1983.

The referendum on whether to make divorce legally available resulted in a rejection of divorce by a majority of 63.1% to 36.3%. Dr Fine-Davis found that many people believed divorce would be likely to impose economic hardship on women and that it would undermine the nature of marriage as a life-long commitment.

This reflects society's perception of the dependent role of women in marriage. On the other hand, 72% of the total sample agreed that divorce would reduce the misery of those suffering from marital breakdown. 76% agreed that people have a right to a second chance at happiness and 89% felt that children suffer greater psychological damage by living with two parents who are in constant conflict than by living with one divorced parent in a stable home.

On the abortion issue, an overwhelming majority of Irish people voted against abortion and in favour of a constitutional amendment on the right to life of the unborn child. However, only 38% felt that abortion was not permissible under any circumstances while 58% felt it may be permissible in certain circumstances.

Out of the total sample, 55.7% nevertheless felt that abortion should be allowed when the life of the woman is in danger, 51.4% when pregnancy results from incest, 50.5% when it results from rape and 48% if the woman's health is in danger.

ABORTION: The Society for the Protection of the Unborn Child should not be allowed to prevent publication of a University Student's Handbook because it contains information about British abortion clinics, the High Court ruled recently. The SPUC had sought an injunction to prevent the publication of the handbook by University College Dublin Students' union.

PAYMENTS BY DESERTING HUSBANDS: The Minister for Social Welfare, Dr Michael Woods (Department of Social Welfare, Arus Mhic Diarmada, Dublin 1), has announced that the Government is planning to introduce legislation to force deserting husbands to be responsible for payments currently made by his department to wives. The Department currently pays out about 49 million Irish pounds per annum to such wives.

**INCEST:** A recent ruling in the Court of Criminal Appeal means that spouses will be able to give evidence against one another in incest cases. The case is significant because until now the prosecution has often found it hard to establish cases of incest without the evidence of the other spouse who in many cases is the only witness.

**SEXUAL HARASSMENT:** The Employment Equality Agency (36 Upper Mount Street, Dublin 2) has reported a big increase in the number of sexual harassment cases which have come to its notice. In 1987, it had about 50 complaints, an increase of 100% over 1986. In the first three months of 1988, one-fifth of all enquiries have related to sexual harassment.

**BANKS:** The Allied Irish Banks has been criticised by the Oireachtas Joint Committee on Women's Rights for refusing a home loan to a married couple on the grounds that a women might leave her job if she had children. The Committee indicated that the Bank had no records on the number of women who had failed to repay loans over the last ten years.

**BOOKS:** Attic Press (44 East Essex Street, Dublin 2) has published a work entitled "Feminism in Ireland", a collection of contributions to the Women's World Festival held in Dublin in July 1987.

**WOMEN IN MANAGEMENT:** "Network" (27 North Lotts Lane, Dublin 1), an organisation for professional women, has published a new Directory listing women managers in Ireland in all sectors including financial services and Government departments. The Directory also contains an article by Eunice McCarthy (Department of Psychology, University College Dublin) which reveals that the number of women in senior positions in Ireland rose from 8.75% in 1971 to 15.6% in 1981.

**ADVERTISING:** The portrayal of women in advertising has improved, according to a study carried out by the Social and Organizational Psychology Research Unit of the University College of Dublin. The study found a noticeable drop in the percentage of advertisements exploiting the female body and a trend towards portraying men carrying out domestic tasks.

\* The Women's Political Association (46 Lower Mount Street, Dublin 2) has announced a special award for the advertising work which best reflects the changing roles of women and men in Ireland today. The Chairwomen of the WPA, Ms Frances Fitzgerald, has stated that there are a growing number of advertisements incorporating the principle of equality.

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## I T A L Y

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**IN MEMORIAM:** Maria Bellisario, Managing Director of ITALTEL, has passed away at the age of 53, after a brave fight against bone cancer. ITALTEL, which is a State company, specialises in telecommunications. Maria Bellisario was the first woman to hold such a high post in a major State company.

In a telegram to the deceased's husband, the President of the Republic F. Cossiga, declared that Maria Bellisario's professional commitment was a source of strength for other women in their fight for equality.

**EMPLOYMENT:** A review of the comments on the employment of women made by the "Women's Affairs" Coordinating Committee of the CGIL-CISL-UIL trade unions is contained in issue N° 40 of the publication "Il paese delle donne" (via San Francesco di Sales 1, 00165 Roma). For example, while the employment of women has expanded most in the services sector, women who work in this sector find it most difficult to reconcile professional and family life, due to the long hours worked.

**POSITIVE DISCRIMINATION:** \* A practical guide of how positive discrimination can be implemented has been drawn up by Marcella Chiesi and Paola Piva. The "Guida delle azioni positive - la gestione delle differenze uomo/donna nelle aziende" is intended for companies which wish to introduce positive discrimination measures in favour of female staff members. It is published by Edizioni Lavoro, via Boncompagni 19, Roma.

\* IRI, a powerful State concern (via Veneto 89, 00187 Roma), has just formed a working group which is to draw up a Positive Discrimination Programme for the Group's various companies. This working group consists of Paola Panella, Lidia Tresalti, Wanda Borsetti, Luisa Tarquini and Franca Milani.

**JUSTICE:** Maria Gabriella Luccioli, aged 48, was appointed the first woman Judge of the Supreme Court of Appeal in September. Ms Luccioli, who has been a judge for 23 years, has predicted that women could soon outnumber men in the magistracy.

**CULTURE:** \* The FIDAPA (Federation of Women in the Professions, via Domenichino 45, 20149 Milan) has held a colloquium in Turin on the role of women as "producers" in the cultural field. The colloquium was chaired by Tatiana de Bartolomeo.

\* The "Lega nazionale cooperative e mutue" (National League of Cooperative and Mutual Help Organisations) (via Guattani 9, 00161 Roma) has organised a number of colloquia, exhibitions and book presentations in the framework of its "Firmato Donna" (signed "woman") project. Subjects discussed include the experiences of Italian women writers, politics and "feminist protagonism" in the eighties. The book "Scritture scrittrici" edited by Maria Rosa Cutrufelli and published by Almanacco, Longanesi was one of the works presented. In this book, women authors speak of their writing, publications and inspiration in modern-day Italy.

A round table was devoted to Matilde Serao, journalist and writer in the twenties, and the first woman to be the director of a daily newspaper. In 1926, a slander campaign conducted against Matilde Serao because of a book denouncing militarism which she had written prevented her from receiving the Nobel Prize for Literature.

\* The review "Noi Donne" deals with feminist writings in its supplement "Leggendaria". Women authors emphasise in the supplement that feminist writings are fact not fantasy.

\* The greatly coveted Prix Campiello for literature has been awarded to Rosetta Loy for her novel "Le strade di polvere". The last time a woman won the prize was seventeen years ago, when it was awarded to Gianna Manzini for "Ritratto in piedi". Commenting on the award, Rosetta Loy stated that "Man is more bound to the image which he has created of himself, whereas woman is only what she has been allowed to be and is therefore freer, less tied to uniformity and more willing to transgress".

\* "Tempi di affetti e di mercanti: lettere ai figli esuli", a collection of letters written between 1447 and 1470 by Alessandra Macinghi, a widowed noblewoman in Florence, to her sons in exile, has been published by Garzanti de Milan.

ARCHITECTURE: The internationally renowned architect, Gae Aulenti, who was notably responsible for restructuring the Orsay Museum in Paris, has been awarded the "Regina 1988" prize. The jury, which was composed exclusively of women, chose Aulenti in recognition of his contribution to Italian and European architecture and culture in the last thirty years.

WOMEN'S MOVEMENT: Previously unpublished works by Franca Pieroni Bortolotti have been gathered together and presented by Annarita Buttafuoco under the title "Sul movimento politico delle donne". Published by Editions Utopia (Rome), the work retraces the history of the woman's movement from 1673 to 1977.

RESEARCH: \* Women researchers come up against career problems because of their sex, according to the review "Sistema Ricerca" in a special supplement entitled "Pubblici scienziati: la carriera imperfetta". The review is produced by the research trade union CGIL (via Ofanto 18, Roma).

\* The CNR Psychology Institute (Centro nazionale della Ricerca, viale Marx 15, 00156 Roma) has formed a working group on sexual equality in the public research sector.

WOMEN'S RIGHTS: The Equal Opportunities Commission of the Emilia-Romagna Region is to publish an information bulletin on women's rights entitled "Il diritto delle donne". The magazine, which is to be managed by Albertina Soliani, will keep women up to date on laws, procedures and ways of making sure their rights are respected. Useful address: Assessorato lavoro e formazione professionale, viale Silvani 6, 40122 Bologna.

HEALTH: \* The ANDOS (via Udine 6, Trieste) is a re-adjustment centre for women recovering from a breast cancer operation. It is staffed by over forty voluntary workers and has helped thousands of women over the last ten years.

\* The Italian League against Cancer (Lega italiana lotta tumori) is to organise a series of events in 1989 under the aegis of Professor Janna Negro. The events will be targeted in particular upon breast cancer victims. Useful address: via Mandragora 3, 70122 Bari.

\* An organisation of Catholic women, the CIF (Centro italiano femminile, via Carlo Zucchi 25, 00165 Roma) has published a leaflet on the "family consultation" (consultorio familiare) centres of the Ministry for Health.

**VIOLENCE:** \* The "March 8 Tribune", set up by various feminist associations, organised a colloquium in Rome giving a platform for women who have been victims of sexual violence to express their fear and talk about their shunning by society after a rape (Tribunale 8 Marzo - via Colonna Antonina, 41 - 00186 Roma).

\* The provincial authorities of the Emilia Region, on the initiative of the Equal Opportunities Commission, have organised a campaign against violence directed at young people aged between 14 and 20. The leaflet distributed to young people includes a sheet of silver paper having a mirror effect, with the words "What face does violence take?". Useful address: Assessorato alla Cultura, corso Garibaldi 26, Reggio Emilia.

\* "S.O.S.-Donna" is the title of a work on hostels for battered women throughout Europe, published by the Bologna Working and Research Group on Violence against Women (Centro di documentazione delle donne, via Galliera 8, Bologna). While there are as yet no such hostels in Italy, the idea is gradually gaining support.

\* Despite continual pressure from women's organisations, Italy still does not have acceptable legislation on sexual violence. Three separate proposals are still blocked in the Parliamentary Commission on Justice. One, dating back to March 1988 and bearing the reference N° 2111, was drafted on the initiative of the Members of Parliament Arnaboldi and Guidetti Serra by a group of women Members of Parliament belonging to the left-wing parties: PCI, PSI, PSDI, Proletarian Democracy, the Radicals and the Greens. The second, N° 1207, was lodged at the initiative of the Christian Democrat party. The last one was first lodged with the Senate under the reference N° 730 in December 1987 by the Communist Party. Adopted with a number of amendments, it has also ground to a halt before the Parliamentary Commission on Justice under the reference N° 2957.

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## L U X E M B O U R G

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**PARENTAL ALLOWANCE:** Pending the introduction of a true parental leave scheme, the lower house of the Luxembourg Parliament (Chambre des Députés, rue du Marché-aux-Herbes, Luxembourg) has approved by a comfortable majority an education allowance for a parent who chooses not to work in order to educate his or her children. The allowance amounts to 8,600 Luxembourg francs a month and is not income-weighted. Some 7,000 persons will receive it from January 1989. A motion signed by the parties of the majority calls for the introduction of true parental leave.

**THE ARMED FORCES:** Francine Schmitt, 23, is the first woman to join the army (with the rank of sergeant) as a non-commissioned officer in the Luxembourg army (Ministry of Public Order, Plateau du St. Esprit, Luxembourg). Francine Schmitt received special ministerial authorisation to enter the Arlon military academy where she was the only woman taking courses for non-commissioned officers. Moreover, a 1987 Luxembourg law allows women to enlist in the army and thirteen volunteers have already been accepted. Francine Schmitt, stationed at the military instruction base at Diekirch, has been assigned the task of instructing new recruits.

SEPTEMBER MARRIAGES: In Luxembourg, 25% of marriages in 1987 took place in September. This was because under current tax laws married couples must file joint returns, in which their income is pooled. The system exempts couples married for less than four months during the tax year.

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T H E N E T H E R L A N D S

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WOMEN'S INCOME: The Dutch Women's Council (NVR, Laan van Meerdervoort 30, 2517 The Hague) recently published a study on women's income. The study reveals that many Dutch women do not earn an income and therefore have no right to an individual pension. The situation is further complicated in cases of separation or divorce.

WOMEN'S LIBERATION: The Dutch Social and Cultural Planning Office in its biannual report compares achievements in women's liberation with statements of intention on equality. The report denounces the lack of clarity in the government's programme in the area of social security and taxation, (although women are beginning to be considered a "fiscal unit") and notes that sexual bias is still common in education.

1992: The Dutch Women's Council held a conference on October 7 in The Hague on the theme "What does 1992 mean for Women?" with the participation of Jessica Larive, Liberal member of the European Parliament. Five workshops led by specialists touched on economic independence of women, social security, demographic trends, migrant women and women in the Third World.

SEXUAL ABUSE: According to a survey commissioned in 1982 by the then Secretary of State for Women's Rights, Hedy d'Ancona, who is currently Chairwoman of the European Parliament's Committee on Women's Rights, 6 to 7 women out of 40 aged between 20 and 40 years of age have been sexually abused by one of their parents. Of the sample of more than 1,000 women surveyed by N. Draijer of the University of Amsterdam, about one fourth declared they had been sexually abused by a person outside the family. The survey, based on in-depth interviews and written responses from women, indicates that incest victims are a great deal more psychologically and mentally affected than other victims of sexual violence. The report, entitled "Sexueel misbruik van meisjes door verwanten", is available from the Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment upon payment of 60 guilders to the Ministry's bank account N° CCP 55 27 12. The report's reference number is ISBN 90 363 9703 0.

CIVIL SERVICE: An information service was recently set up on the initiative of the Ministry of the Interior (Ministerie van Binnenlandse Zaken, H 1124 BP 20011, 2500 The Hague, tel. 71 68 27) with the aim of providing necessary information on how to improve the situation of women to personnel directors and those responsible for welcoming women and guiding their careers in the civil service.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES: Seventy representatives of women's Catholic and Protestant organisations have set up a women's network called "women, faith and society" (Burgemeester Zwijsenstraat 17, Tilburg) to enhance the influence of women on the church and society.



The Information Office of the European Commission has moved to the following address:

Korte Vijverberg, 5  
2513 The Hague  
The Netherlands  
tel. 43 011

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## P O R T U G A L

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**EMPLOYMENT:** In 1987 women made up 41.4% of salaried workers and the activity rate of women was 39%, compared with 56% for men. In addition, unemployment was more prevalent among women than men - 60% of job-seekers were women. Useful address: Instituto Nacional de Estatisticas, av. Antonio J. Almeida, Lisboa 1000.

**TRADES UNIONS:** The number of women in management positions in the S.I.E.S.I. (the Electricity Industry Trade Union of the South and Island Communities, av. Almirante Reis 74, F, 4 - 1100 Lisbon) has risen from 5 in 1985 to 12 this year. The increase has not been by chance but results from a deliberate effort on the part of the trade union to achieve greater participation of women in positions of leadership.

**ASSOCIATIONS:** A new law guarantees action and participation rights for women's associations that seek to eliminate discrimination and promote equality among women and men. The law enables associations to participate in the setting of legislative guidelines for the promotion of women's rights.

**FAILURE AT SCHOOL:** The Movimento Democratico das Mulheres (MDM) (The Women's Democratic Movement - Av. Duque de Loule 111, 4, 1000 Lisbon), has organised a debate on failure at school. In certain regions of Portugal, the examination failure rate has reached 53%. Girls make up 65% of the young people who drop out of school in spite of the fact that the examination failure rate is slightly lower among girls than boys. This is because of the preconceived idea that women, who are traditionally expected to become housewives, have no need of schooling.

**HOUSEWIVES:** A study commissioned by the MDM on women in the home reveals that problems relating to children's education, the lack of activities outside the home, health, and insecurity regarding the future are the chief concerns of the women surveyed.

**HEALTH:** The Union das Mulheres Anti-Fascistas Revolucionarias (Union of Anti-Fascist Revolutionary Women), Apartado 513, Torcatas 2800 Almada, organised a meeting between women and health professionals. The women participating emphasised the importance of the effective application of family planning laws, including those on abortion, and the creation of new, adequately equipped, health centres.

JOURNALISTS: Out of the 1,508 professional card-carrying journalists, only 25 are women, very few of whom hold high-level posts.

COMMUNIST WOMEN: The Communist representatives in the Portuguese Parliament (Grupo Parlamentar do PCP, Palacio de S. Benito - 1296 Lisboa Codex) have tabled five legislative bills aimed at securing "true equality of rights and opportunities for women" and "the correction of social injustices suffered primarily by women". The bills concern the granting of allowances for single-parent families, a State allowance for the minor children of divorced parents, legal protection for common law marriages, equality in the workplace and in public service employment.

ELDERLY WOMEN: La Comissao da Condiçao Feminina (Committee for Women's Affairs), Av. da Republica 32, 1 - 1093 Lisbon, recently published a detailed book on "Women and ageing".

ETHICS AND PROGRESS: "Her Legitimate Mission: debates on abortion, conflicting visions of the world and the consolidation of liberal democracy in post-revolutionary Portugal" is the title of a 148-page book written by Susan M. Reinhold of Stanford University. It is available from the Marshall Aid Commemoration Commission, 36 Gordon Square, London WC1.

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## S P A I N

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MINISTRY FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS: Carlota Bustelo, who has given ample demonstration of her efficiency as head of the "Instituto de la Mujer", has been asked to join the staff of the Ministry for Social Affairs by the new Minister, Matilde Fernandez. Carlota Bustelo will be an Under Secretary.

INSTITUTO DE LA MUJER: Carmen Martinez Ten, a gynaecologist aged 34, is to replace Carlota Bustelo as the head of the "Instituto de la Mujer" (Women's Institute, Almagro, 36 - 28010 Madrid).

\* The "Instituto de la Mujer" has conducted a joint study with the "Centro Nacional de Investigacion y Documentacion Educativa" on the weight of women in the educational system. It reveals that women make up 77% of illiterate people in Spain, but only 33% of people completing higher educational studies. However, at the intermediary levels, there are almost equal numbers of men and women.

\* The Instituto has organised with European Social Fund aid a training course for women who run centres providing an advice service to fledgling or existing businesses.

BASQUE COUNTRY: The Clara Campoamor Association has requested that the post of head of the Basque Women's Institute be filled as rapidly as possible. The creation of the Institute was approved in February by the Basque Regional Parliament.

MATERNITY RIGHTS: In June 1988, the Council of Ministers approved a bill extending maternity leave by two weeks from 14 to 16 weeks, and guaranteeing the parent (mother or father, including in cases where the child is adopted) that his or her job will be kept open for one year of parental leave to look after the child.

**EMPLOYMENT:** The National Employment Institute has just published data revealing that for the first time in March 1988, the number of unemployed women outstripped the number of unemployed men (at a rate of 30.9%, double that suffered by men). The female working population also grew between March 1987 and March 1988 by 6.2%, compared with 0.4% for men. In addition, Matilde Vasquez, Research Head at the "Instituto de la Mujer", recently indicated that women hold less than 5% of company management posts (i.e. less than in the political sphere).

**HEALTH:** Men suffering permanent lesion (not causing disability) following an accident at work will henceforth receive the same compensation from the social security department as women. Women were previously compensated at a higher rate.

A recent survey involving a number of Spanish hospitals has revealed that although women are less likely to have a heart attack than men (24% against 76%), the mortality rate from heart attacks is higher than for men (19.8% against 5%).

**TRADE UNIONS:** The Women's Secretariat of the "Central Sindical Comisiones Obreras" organised in June a colloquium in Cadiz on "oral and written communication" between women trade union members, along with a conference on domestic staff in Madrid (Secretaria de la Mujer de CC.OO., calle Fernández de la Hoz, 12-28010 Madrid).

**VIOLENCE:** The five centres providing assistance for women in the Granada Province have the first free legal aid service for women who have been victims of physical aggression. A Government circular to the State police declared that women who make an accusation of aggression have the right to request a lawyer's presence.

**ARMY:** The decree adopted in February enabling women to join the army is now operational. A total of 195 women (out of 2,500 applicants) have begun their training at the Ubeda military school (Jaen province).

**TELEVISION:** According to a survey conducted by Spanish television (TVE), 82% of people interviewed on television are men, compared with only 18% of women. These figures fall even further when it comes to politics or sport.

**ADVERTISING:** The Association for the Defence of the Public Image of Women has called upon the travel agency "Transmediterránea" to withdraw an advertisement on cruises which uses the female body in a "crude and provocative" manner.

**BOOKS:** \* A "Thesaurus d'Historia Social de la Dona" by Montserrat Sebastià i Salat has just been published by the Comissió Interdepartamental de Promoció de la Dona de Catalogne (Palau de la Generalitat, 08002 Barcelona).

\* The complete manuscript of "Suma y narracion de los Incas", a document dating back to 1551 which describes the Spanish conquest from the viewpoint of the Inca nobility, was re-found recently by the woman historian Maria del Carmen Martin Rubio.

WIDOWS: 368 associations with 300,000 women members form the umbrella organisation "Federacion de Viudas Hispanas". Useful address: Asociacion de Viudas "Hispania", 4 Alfonso XI, 28014 Madrid. Tel: 231.35.77.

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**T H E U N I T E D K I N G D O M**  
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WOMEN'S WORK AND THE GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT: "Time off for women to name the work and claim the wealth" was the theme of an international conference organised at the end of October in London by Time Off for Women (King's Cross Women's Centre, 71 Tonbridge St. London WC1E 9DZ). The purpose of the conference was to explain what women mean by "work", waged or unwaged, and to call on governments once again - this is the fourth event of this type - to apply the 1985 United Nations decision to count all women's work - waged and unwaged - in every country's GNP. A Labour MP, Mildred Gordon, tabled a motion with the same aim in the House of Commons at the beginning of the year.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES: The Lambeth Conference last Summer in Canterbury reached a compromise on the issue of women bishops in the Anglican Church. As a result, Anglican Churches who so wish will be able to ordain women bishops, although they are not encouraged to do so. The Anglican Church in the United States, which already has women priests, also wants to have women bishops. Bishops from 164 countries were present at the conference, representing a variety of viewpoints. The Church of England, for example, only allows women access to the diaconate. Moreover, by a vote of 277 for and 187 against, bishops rejected the draft resolution submitted by the Archbishop of Sydney asking that no more women be ordained.

AGRICULTURE: The National Agricultural Centre (Stoneleigh, Warwickshire CVB 2LZ) organised a conference in October on "Women in the Countryside" to discuss new employment opportunities and work outside employment.

CHILD CARE: (see also The European Parliament section): the Information Office of the European Commission has presented a report on child care centres in the United Kingdom denouncing defects in the current system. Dr Bronwen Cohen, member of the Network on Child Care, who wrote the report, notes that there are only half the number of places in public nurseries today that there were in 1945 and that less than 1% of children in the UK attend publically funded nursery. The report recommends that the number of places in day nurseries be increased by at least 6% by 1993 and that special financial aid from the government should be granted to local authorities experiencing difficulties in maintaining services in this sector.

SOCIALIST WOMEN: Socialist International Women (Maritime House, Old Town, London SW4 OJW) recently sent a mission to Guatemala, Nicaragua and Costa Rica that, according to Secretary General Maria Rodriguez-Jonas, brought to light the solidarity existing among women in the struggle for peace, development and democracy and also for equality.

BEST BOSS: Anne Hawkins, head of the Far East Department of the British Tourism Office, won the title of best British boss in a competition sponsored by the "London Secretary" magazine. Her name was submitted by her secretary and she beat all other contestants, the majority of whom were men. Her winning qualities are willingness to listen to her subordinates, note their good qualities and treat them as individuals.

THE EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES COMMISSION FOR NORTHERN IRELAND: (Chamber of Commerce House, 22 Great Victoria Street, Belfast 12 28A, tel. 242 752) recently published a brochure entitled "Where do Women Figure?" containing the most up-to-date statistical information available on women in education, training, jobs and public life. According to the publication, only 9% of university engineering and technical students are women and 44% of women are economically active (66% of whom are married). In addition, women earn on average only 75% of what men earn and are often relegated to badly paid "women's" jobs.

LEGAL AFFAIRS: Women have won a number of significant court rulings in recent months. High Court Judge Hutton recognised that the Northern Irish Department of Education discriminated against girls through its practice of awarding non-fee-paying places to the top 27% of boys and top 27% of girls. This effectively meant boys with lower marks than some girls being awarded non-fee-paying places.

\* In another case, the industrial courts ruled in favour of a pregnant woman. Karen McCullough, an unmarried 18-year old hairdresser, lost her job when she became pregnant, in spite of the fact that her employers had previously said they were fully satisfied with her work.

\* A woman teacher also won a case in the Industrial Tribunal following a lengthy dispute with her employer, the Coleraine Girls' High School. Margaret Briggs, after being promoted, was then demoted because she was unable to perform certain additional tasks. The school's management had changed the time and place of the extra-curricular classes in a way dissatisfying, the school's management accused her of unilaterally changing the conditions under which she had been promoted.

TRAINING: According to a report drawn up by H. Marx McCorry for the Women's Education Project (143a University St. Belfast, BT 7 1 HP), women in Northern Ireland make up 45% of the entire work force but are given only 10% of positions in government training centres. One of the report's most noteworthy conclusions is that current training schemes actually reinforce work discrimination because women are trained only in sectors traditionally reserved for them.

DIVORCE: In a book entitled "Grounds for Divorce" (Oxford University Press), Gwynn Davis and Mervyn Murdr, two research workers at the University of Bristol, furnish the results of a survey of divorced couples. Their survey indicates that more than 5% of divorced men and 25% of divorced women regret having left their spouse. The authors of the book assert that a better reconciliation procedure would have helped some couples to stay together.

THE GOLD NIKE AWARD: Colleen Toomey, producer of the BBC film "Women in Black", which won the Gold Nike award in a competition sponsored by the Women's Information Service of the European Commission (see The Changing European Community section), will be sharing the 16,000 Ecu prize with the film's crew and the three widows in the film.

N E W S   I N   E U R O P E   A N D   T H E   W O R L D

THE UNITED NATIONS: The fourth report to the UN Secretariat on improvements in the status of women was recently published with in-depth information on the implementation of the action programme. The coordinator, Venezuelan Mercedes Pulido de Ericeno, whose term will soon come to a close, will be replaced by Rachel Mayania (Group of Equal Rights Headquarters, Room 5 - 3727 D, New York 10017). "Women's News", put out by the UN Secretariat in Vienna (Service de la Promotion de la Femme, Centre International de Vienne, BP 500, A-1400, Vienna, Austria) published an interview with Ms Pulido in which she stated that the goal set for 1990 - to have 30% of geographically distributed posts occupied by women - is feasible.

THE NAIROBI STRATEGY FOR THE PROMOTION OF WOMEN: With the assistance of the UN Secretariat, the International Court of Women (77 United Nations Plaza, New York 10017) has published a community action manual to assist in implementing the strategy. The manual illustrates a number of activities involving the energy sector, the environment, young and elderly women, food, housing, decision-making, etc.

NORDIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE: Some 10,000 persons from the five Nordic countries met from July 31 to August 7 in Oslo for the first regional conference since the world women's conference in 1985 in Nairobi. American research worker from the Adelphi University in New York, which revealed an acceleration of poverty among women. The assertion is based on a three-year survey conducted in the United States, Canada, Japan, the Soviet Union, Poland, France and Sweden. Featured at the Oslo conference was a report by Gertrude Goldberg, an American research workers from the New York Adelphi University, revealing more povery amongst women. Ms Goldberg based her conclusions on a three-year survey in the US, Canada, Japan, USSR, Poland, France and Sweden.

WOMEN CORPORATE LEADERS: The world association of women business leaders met last June in Stressa, Milan and Varese for its 36th world congress. Women from more than 20 countries from all continents participated in debates on "energy for development". The group published a special bulletin in several languages and elected Maria Grazia Randi Gatti (14, Corso Europa, Milan 20122) their new chairwoman. She will be replacing the Belgian Ms Dutry who will become honorary chairwoman.

The congress participants heard reports from the president of ENEA (Italian national nuclear and alternative energy board), Umberto Colombo; the Greek Energy and Industry Minister, Mr Peponis (current President of the EEC Council of Ministers); Paolo Fasella, Director General of Science, Research and Development of the EEC; and the Director General of the EEC's Joint Research Centres, Jean-Pierre Contzen. At the close of their work the participants adopted a motion



in which they stressed the importance of the rational use of conventional energy, the development of replacement energies and greater safety in the use of nuclear energy.

SWITZERLAND: The Sexual Equality Office recently opened in Geneva. For more information please contact Marianne Frischkencht, Département de Justice et de Police, 2, rue Henri-Fazy, C.P. 362, 1211 Geneva 362.

SWEDEN: Swedish state radio and television (Sveruges Radio ab, S-105 10 Stockholm) gives an overview of progress on equality of the sexes in the TV and radio sector in two publications: "Men and Women in Broadcasting" and "Something has Happened".

SAN MARINO: In the recent parliamentary elections held in San Marino 7 out of a total of 60 representatives elected were women, compared with 6 women in the preceding elections. Two of the women are Christian Democrats, 2 are Communists and 3 belong to a new group made up of the Unified Socialist Party and Socialist Understanding.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES: Diann L. Neu, co-director of the "Women's Alliance for Theology, Ethics and Ritual", explained during the Belgian leg of her European tour the goals of the "Women-Church" organisation, created in 1983 in the United States to offer women having studied liturgy and theology the opportunity to share their experiences.

THE UNITED STATES: The new inter-disciplinary seminar of the Laurie New Jersey Chair in Women's Studies (Rutgers Institute for Research on Women, Voorhees Chapel-Lower Level, Douglas College Campus, New Brunswick, NJ 08903) will start in January 1989. It is the sixth seminar of the series and will deal with leadership, power and diversity.

JAPAN: At the end of last year the office of the Japanese Prime Minister published a survey on women (useful address: Information Office, European Commission, Europa-House 9-15 Sanbancho, Chiyoda-Ku, Tokyo 2). The survey reveals that 87.9% of the persons questioned consider that women have more opportunities of finding employment; that 57.7% think that women's status in the companies that employ them has improved over the past ten years (men's assessment was slightly better than that of women); that 44% predict that in the future men and women will have equal status in the workplace; that 66.2% consider it desirable that women work (the highest percentage was registered among women); that 66.2% believe that the aim of a job is to earn money (men, by contrast, emphasised the opportunity offered by employment to broaden their human relations). On the subject of women working outside the home, the biggest concern expressed by men is that their children might not be adequately looked after, while women regret that they have to neglect their housework and do not earn enough money.

CHINA: The July issue of the Women of China magazine (China International Trading Corp., Guoji Shudian, P.O. Box 399, Beijing, China) takes up the situation of women in the world of politics with contributions by the Vice-President of the People's Supreme Court, the Ministry for the Textile Industry and the Deputy Director of the People's Bank of China. At the 7th National People's Congress, 21.3% of the elected officials were women, compared with only 0.1% at the preceding congress.

The September issue of Women of China includes a feature article on Li Xiaojiang, one of the founders of the first research centres on women's studies that was created in May, 1987 in Zhengzhou.

L A T I N A M E R I C A
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IN URUGUAY a seminar on "young women in Latin America" was organised jointly by UNESCO, the Spanish Youth Institute and the Uruguayan Women's Institute (Ministerio de Educacion y Cultura, Reconquista 535, Montevideo, Uruguay). The participants drew up a final declaration containing a series of recommendations. The Uruguayan Women's Institute publishes and distributes brochures on Uruguayan women and how they relate to important issues such as work, violence committed against women, small and medium-sized businesses, the family, old age.

CHILE: Women helped to mobilise the "no" vote in the October 5 referendum in Chile. A "Commando of Women for a "No" vote" was set up in Venezuela by Venezuelan and Chilean women.

CUBA: The third "continental encounter" was held in Havana at the beginning of October under the auspices of the Frente Continental de Mujeres contra la Intervencion (the Continental Women's Front against Intervention) with the theme "Women in the 1980's in Latin America and the Caribbean: evaluation, prospects and challenges". For further information please contact: Esther Velis, Federacion de Mujeres Cubanas, Paseo 260, Velado, Havana, Cuba.

COLOMBIA: In Bogota the Pan American Health Organisation organised a meeting on health and well-being of Latin American women. For more information please contact Gladys Parentelli, Information Office of the European Communities Delegation, Avenida Orinoco, La Mercedes, Caracas 1060, Venezuela.

BRAZIL: "Malou", a series shown several years ago on the TV-Globo Brazilian television channel is also enjoying a resounding success in Europe. The heroine of the series is a young women sociologist trying to cope with unemployment, divorce, misguided youth, etc. In Brazil the show became so popular that the actress playing the main role is often stopped in the street by passers-by asking for advice.

PERU: The Centro de Documentacion sobre la Mujer (Centre for Documentation on Women), located on Ave. Arenales 2626, Lima 14, Peru, has published its first catalogue of 900 bibliographical entries on women's affairs. In its "Cuadernos Culturales" series, the Centre recently published a study on women during the colonial era. Another publication by the Centre recounts the life of Maria Jesus Alvarado Rivera, the founder of the "Evolucion femenina" movement, who died in 1971 at the age of 93.

"Manuela", a monthly Peruvian magazine (Av. Bolivia 921, Brena, Peru) is celebrating the tenth anniversary of the meeting during which a circle of friends came up with the idea of launching first a newspaper, then encounter and solidarity groups. Both the newspaper and the groups have spread to the entire country. Those participating in Manuela maintain that "Lima is not Peru".

PHOTO COMPETITION: with the theme of "Mujeres vistas por mujeres" (Women viewed by Women), a photography competition for all Latin American women is being organised by the European Commission's Information Office in Caracas.

Each participant may enter up to ten black and white or colour photos, with reference number and caption. The largest allowable format is 20 x 25 cm and the photos must arrive at the address indicated below no later than January 31, 1989.

First prize is \$1,000, second prize is \$500 and third prize is \$250. The winning photos will be part of a travelling exhibition that will include photos of women from the EEC.

Useful address: Comision de las Comunidades Europeas, Servicio de Informacion para America Latina, Edificio Comunidades Europeas, Av. Orinoco, Caracas, Venezuela.

Mailing address: Apartado 67.076, Las Americas, Caracas 1061-A, Venezuela

B O O K S , S T U D I E S A N D M E E T I N G S

The European University Institute of Florence (Badia, Fiesolana, 1, 50016 San Domenico, Florence) recently published "History, Women's History, Gender History" by Gisela Bock. The publication assesses the role of women as a social, cultural and historical category.

The Friedrich-Ebert Foundation recently published in German and French the proceedings of a seminar on "equality of men and women in society". The document is available from the Friedrich-Ebert Foundation, Haus Frankenwarte, Postfach 5580 - 8700 Wurzburg.

The International Labour Office released a study on equality in employment and the professional sector at the 75th session of the International Labour Conference held last June in Geneva. The very thorough publication contains sections on the definition of discrimination, on special protection and assistance measures, on specialised bodies for promotion, prevention, application and control, as well as recourse procedures. (ILO Publications, CH-1211 Geneva 22).

"Progetto", a bimonthly review of CISL, the Italian trades union, has published an interesting study by Paola Piva in its issue No. 45 on men and women in organisations. The author criticises shortfalls in the management of human resources (Progetto, via Boncompagni 19, 00187 Rome, Italy).

The Pen Pal List (1 Burnwood Drive, Wollaton, Nottingham England NG8 2DJ) publishes every quarter a list of women interested in corresponding with other women, mainly in Europe and the United States.

"A propos de l'éducation" (On Education) is the title of the first volume of "Recherches féministes" (Laval University, School of Social Sciences, multi-disciplinary feminist research group, Quebec, Canada G1K 7P4). Forthcoming issues will be devoted to the environment, religion and politics.

"News and Views", a brand new publication from the Women's Foreign Policy Council, directed by Bella Abzug and Mim Kelber (1133 Broadway, Suite 923, New York 10010), contains a compelling article on the role of women in foreign policy in the United States.

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific of the United Nations, located in the United Nations Building, Rajamnern, Av., Bangkok 10200, Thailand, has published a "Directory of Women Experts in Asia and the Pacific" featuring women in both the private and public sectors whose skills and expertise would be useful in a wide variety of fields.

The Athena Press (31220 La Baya Drive, Suite 110, Westlake Village, California 91362, USA) has released the first issue of the Athena Review, an "international journal to conquer violence in the home".

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2920 Luxembourg  
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Tel.: 40708

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Edinburgh EH2 4PH  
Tel.: 225 2058

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35, rua do Sacramento à Lapa  
1200 Lisboa  
Tel.: 60 21 99

**TÜRKIYE**

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37-39, rue de Vermont  
1211 Genève 20  
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