



**Women, Families, Careers**  
A Civil Society Forum in the V4 Spirit

supported by  
• Visegrad Fund  
•

**AT A DISTANCE - TOGETHER**  
*Hybrid Women's Conference of Visegrad Organizations*

The Visegrad Fund and the Hungarian Ministry of Human Resources, on August 28, 2020, organized the “**FAMILIES, CAREERS – A CIVIL SOCIETY FORUM IN THE V4 SPIRIT**” International Conference.

The venue was the Rubin Hotel in Budapest and in addition to the 60 participants, more than 40 people from Hungary and more than 60 people from around the world followed the event which was streamed online in real time, both in Hungarian and English.

**Civil organizations from V4 countries, considering family policy together**, were looking for answers on how to reconcile family responsibilities with workplace expectations. The revitalization of the economy through the employment of women has also emerged as an articulated issue. After all, the presence of as many women as possible in the labor market is vital for the economic development of a country.

**Our recommendations for decision makers will be based on the extensive survey which we are conducting in the V4 countries between August 24 and September 15, 2020.**

One of the signs of the joint thinking of the decision-makers and the civil organizations was the presence and presentations of **Dr. Attila Beneda, Deputy State Secretary for Family Affairs, Ministry of Human Resources**. In his presentation, **Dr. Beneda** pointed out that the V4 countries began discussing the challenges and the recommended actions of family policy at ministerial level two years ago. Furthermore, measures taken by the Hungarian government since 2010 demonstrate that strengthening the nation can be achieved with the support of families. In particular, different generations of women can help in this process.

Nine women and one man from the other V4 countries have come in person. Representatives of the **Czech Business & Professional Women, the Slovak Business Agency and the Polish Large Families Association Związek Dużych Rodzin "Trzy Plus"** all agreed that Hungary is family friendly. The presentations were followed by panel discussions entitled “**Women as Entrepreneurs**” and “**Women at the Workplace**”. The panelists, women who have held leading positions in several sectors, shared their experiences and good practices in the field of women's employment and the challenges they faced in reconciling family life.

In his closing remarks, **Czech Ambassador, HE Mr. Tibor Bial** emphasized the impact, actuality and significance that the conference could have in furthering cooperation between the Visegrad countries.

**On 20 August 2020, the day after the conference, the speakers and the organizers of the Visegrad Women's conference were greeted by Mónika Dunai, Member of Parliament, Chair of the Subcommittee on Women's Dignity**, in the Széll Kálmán Hall of Parliament. On the occasion, she talked about her personal political career, and provided a brief insight into the work and operation of the Parliament, including its history. She was pleased to answer questions from interested guests. As a worthy end to the Visegrad Women's program, we had an unusual tour guide in the person of **Mrs. Mónika Dunai**, who took the group around the Parliament building, which is one of the most beautiful buildings in the world.

**Further information:**

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**Encl.: CONFERENCE PROGRAM**

## WOMEN, FAMILIES, CAREERS – A CIVIL SOCIETY FORUM IN THE V4 SPIRIT

### International Conference

Date and Time: 28 August 2020, from 13:00 pm. to 19:30 pm.

(Official program: from 13:30 pm. to 18:00 pm.)

Venue: Rubin Wellness & Conference Hotel, Ballroom (1118 Budapest, Dayka Gábor utca 3.)

The main patron of the conference:

**Ms. Katalin Novák**

Hungarian Minister of State for Family and Youth Affairs  
of the Ministry of Human Capacities

Language of the conference: Hungarian and English

### PROGRAM

**13:00 - 13:30 Registration**

**13:30 - 14:00 Opening, Welcome**

**Ms. Andrea Ferenczi**, President of the AWCDH, project manager of the Visegrad Project, Chair  
**Dr. Attila Beneda**, Deputy State Secretary for Family Affairs, Ministry of Human Resources.

**14:00 – 15:00 Introduction of Partners**

**Dr. Júlia Fodor**, vice president, Hungarian Red Cross

**Ms. Aleksandra Januszewicz**, family sociologist, coordinator of “3 Plus line” helpline of Związek Dużych Rodzin “Trzy Plus” (Large Families Association), Poland

**Ms. Éva Horváth**, president, Women’s Entrepreneurial Club of Győr-Moson-Sopron County Chamber of Commerce and Industry

**Ms. Lenka Šťastná**, president, and **Ms. Ingrid Šurova**, member of the Presidium of Business & Professional Women, Czech Republic

**Ms Katalin Balla**, Policy officer, National Association of Large Families – NOE

**Ms. Katarína Gavalcová**, Manager of International Projects at Slovak Business Agency

**15:00 – 15:30 Presentations**

**Ms. Ildikó Modláné Görgényi**, adult education expert, head of the survey team of the Visegrad project

**Dr. Konczosné Prof. Dr. Márta Szombathelyi** PhD Habil István Széchenyi University

**15:30 – 15:45 Coffee break**

**15:45 – 17:45 Panel discussions**

Moderator: **Ms. Erika Farkas**, senior editor and presenter, Kossuth Radio

**15:45 – 16:45 Panel discussion I. “Women as entrepreneurs”**

Speakers:

**Ms. Henrieta Holúbeková**, entrepreneur, founder of House of Knowledge

**Ms. Eva Primus Kovandova**, director of Chamber of Commerce in Prague

**Ms. Obertolné Horváth Tímea**, entrepreneur, representing the Club of Győr-Moson-Sopron County Chamber of Commerce and Industry

**16:45 – 17:45 Panel discussion II. “Women at the workplace”**

Speakers:

**Ms. Kinga Joó**, Member of the European Economic and Social Committee, Vice Chair of the National Association of Large Families – NOE

**Ms. Aleksandra Januszewicz**, family sociologist, international director of Związek Dużych Rodzin “Trzy Plus” (Large Families Association), Poland

**Ms. Katalin Hajós**, “women in leadership” expert, representing AWCDH in the Best Workplace for Women Award Evaluation Committee

**17:45 – 18:00 Closing remarks: HE Mr. Tibor Bial**, Ambassador of the Czech Republic to Hungary

**Coordinator: Association for Women’s Career Development in Hungary**

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