



**EUROPEAN CENTRE OF THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN**  
***CENTRE EUROPÉEN DU CONSEIL INTERNATIONAL DES FEMMES***

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**Welcome to the European Centre of the International Council of Women (ECICW) new website.**

ECICW celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2011. Since 1961, ECICW members have been active in promoting women's participation in political decision making, advancing women's economic empowerment and working towards ending violence against women and girls.

Women and girls hold the key to sustained development and have the capability to improve the life of their communities. Unlocking the potential of our women to make them active in a wide range of issues, to ask them to advocate for gender equality and dedicate time to improve the quality of life for all, in our diverse societies, are some of our aims.

I am proud and honoured to have been elected ECICW President at the General Assembly in Barcelona in June 2011. Together with the new board we begin to steer this organisation towards the next fifty years.

Together we promise to do our best to continue to promote, raise awareness and strengthen ECICW by making it a dynamic and relevant Regional Council in Europe. We intend to spread the ideas and good practices of ICW and concentrate on the ever changing economic and social needs of our members.

Our strength is in thinking and acting together as a network. Through ICW and its 70 member countries worldwide, which range from the developed countries of the West to the under-developed societies, we have a vast and varied canvas on which to put our mark.

Let us all work together in the year ahead to achieve our goals in our locality, in Europe and Internationally.

Doris Bingley  
ECICW President