



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2023

Dear Soroptimists,

For International Women's Day 2023, Soroptimist International of Europe (SIE) proposes to focus on **gender inequalities**.

Together by calling on all women to wear two different shoes on March 8th, it will bring greater awareness to the continued global inequality women experienced in daily life.

As stated by the United Nations, "[gender equality is not a fundamental right, but a necessary foundation for a peaceful, prosperous and sustainable world](#)". Women currently represent 50% of the world population. Yet today, almost this half of the population does not have access to the same social or civil rights, educational or professional opportunities, or are victims of crime because of their gender.

Through the slogan **WALK IN DIFFERENT SHOES FOR GENDER EQUALITY**, we invite the Unions and Single Clubs to widely spread the campaign by:

1. posting (website and social media) the visual created for IWD 2023 and highlight three inequality facts that affect their country. Below you will find data about examples of inequalities in Europe and around the world.
2. printing and locally distributing the A5 flyer (universities, coworking spaces, gyms, stores ...)
3. Informing the local media.
4. inviting all other women's organisations, politicians, ect. to participate by wearing two different shoes on March 8.

This initiative can be incorporated into any plans your Union or Single Club may already have planned.

As with the READ THE SIGNS campaign, the visual will be available in several formats on **CANVA Pro** platform and for printing the A5 Flyer we offer you an InDesign template.

The slogan will be easy to adapt into your national language.

We also invite you to support our **social media** presence on 8 March by encouraging your members to film themselves walking in two different shoes to raise awareness on the inequalities that women encountered every day and post it online:

- Use an Instagram Story or Reel format (1080 x 1920 px) when filming;
- Post it on Union/club social media account;
- Tag SIE @soroptimisteurope on Instagram and @SoroptimistInternationalofEurope on Facebook;
- Add the hashtags #soroptimisteurope #westandupforwomen #equality #internationalwomensday #womensrights

EDITABLE PRINT & SOCIAL MEDIA MATERIAL

Flyer



Instagram



Facebook



Please contact siehq@soroptimisteurope.org to receive professional InDesign files and/or Canva link to make the necessary changes.

DATA EXAMPLES

How does your country share in equality?

See the needed improvements in your country in comparison to other countries in the EU:

[European Union | 2022 | Gender Equality Index | European Institute for Gender Equality \(europa.eu\)](#)

- **Uneven access to education (worldwide)**
 - 129 million girls are out of school worldwide
 - Only 49% of countries have achieved gender parity in primary education
 - <https://www.unicef.org/education/girls-education>

- **Gender pay gap (Europe)**
 - In Europe, women earned on average 13% less than men for equivalent work.
 - In the EU, 63.4% of women aged 15 to 64 have a job.
 - <https://www.swissinfo.ch/eng/business/swiss-gender-pay-gap-among-the-widest-in-europe/48077132>

- **Access to healthcare and sexual & reproductive health (worldwide)**
 - UN states that nearly 50% of global pregnancies are unintended. The lack of access to sexual and reproductive health services has severe impacts on women from economically disadvantaged backgrounds.
 - <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2022/05/access-to-healthcare-prioritize-woman-and-girls/>
 - Some of the sociocultural factors that prevent women and girls to benefit from quality health services and attaining the best possible level of health include:
 - unequal power relationships between men and women;
 - social norms that decrease education and paid employment opportunities;
 - an exclusive focus on women's reproductive roles; and
 - potential or actual experience of physical, sexual and emotional violence.
 - <https://www.who.int/health-topics/women-s-health>

- **Child marriage (worldwide)**
 - The total number of child brides is now estimated at 650 million (including girls under age 18 who have already married, and adult women who married in childhood). That's around 21% of all young women globally.
 - During the past decade, the proportion of young women who were married as children decreased by 15% (from 1 in 4 to 1 in 5).
 - <https://www.worldvision.com.au/global-issues/work-we-do/forced-child-marriage>

- **Gender based violence (worldwide)**
 - From a WHO 2018 report: 30% (= 736 million) of women around the world have experienced intimate sexual violence.

- *The 2 regions with the highest-known prevalence of intimate partner violence are Sub-Saharan Africa, where 33% of women aged 15-49 years have suffered IPV in their lifetime and South Asia, with 19%. Young women (15-19) are the most affected by IPV.*
- <https://genderdata.worldbank.org/data-stories/overview-of-gender-based-violence/>

- **Representation on Government level (worldwide)**
 - *As of 19 September 2022, there are 28 countries where 30 women serve as Heads of State and/or Government. At the current rate, gender equality in the highest positions of power will not be reached for another 130 years.*
 - *The 5 most commonly held portfolios by women ministers are: Family/children/youth/elderly/disabled; followed by Social affairs; Environment/natural resources/energy; Employment/labour/vocational training, and Women affairs/gender equality.*
 - https://www.unwomen.org/en/what-we-do/leadership-and-political-participation/facts-and-figures#_edn1