

Equal Pay Day, in Rovigo red bags on the road

The 13th April in Rovigo has been renamed “red bags day” and in that day tens of **women are going to march across the city and protest against the pay gap between men and women holding the same professional positions**. Each of them is going to carry under her arm the red bag with the words “Equal Pay Day” printed on it.

“We will try to focus public opinion attention on the issue of the discrepancy in wage bills still existing between the genders”, is the message sent by the Equality Councilor [Anna Maria Barbierato](#) and the President of the Equal Opportunity Commission [Maria Grazia Avezzù](#), who firmly believe in this initiative, supported by the Equal Opportunity Department of the Province of Rovigo.

The “Equal pay Day” will be divided into two parts. In the early afternoon institutions representatives, will meet at **Celio Palace, headquarter of the Province of Rovigo**, in order to talk about their experience in women discrimination and find a common strategy to fight them. Local institutions have already networked for two years at the “Provincial Table for Equal Opportunities”, in order to turn the principles of the “European Charter for equality of women and men in local life”, which was signed by all the 50 Municipalities of the province, into actions.

At the end of the meeting, the march of the red bags across the city will take place, reflecting the fact that women are moving for their rights. “Equal Pay Day” red bags will be given to all the participants, men and women, and they will be asked to carry it with them also the following days to go to work or to go shopping, meaning that this movement does not stop but, rather, increases.

Given the relevance of the event for the province of Rovigo, the invitation was extended also to National Equality Councilor, [Alessandra Servidori](#), Equality Councilor for Veneto Region, [Lucia Basso](#), and the national responsible for “Equal Pay Day” campaign, BPW-FIDAPA [Carla Bassi Ciani](#), who was the first in Italy to deal with this matter. At the round table Basso shall present her documentary *“Women and work – Stories of ordinary discrimination”*

Rovigo, 19/03/2010

Equality Councilor Office

Province of Rovigo