

To YOUNG BPW NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES and YOUNG BPW MEMBERS

Dear Colleague,

Young BPW Europe Information

I am pleased to send you some information on Sorrento Congresses, EU directive proposal on quota, Young fellowship application and next steps.

A **Young BPW Europe Report** was made for the Young BPW International Standing Committee in October, [on BPW Young Page](#), click [here](#), I am pleased to share with you this brief for information.

Three weeks after her initial plan to impose gender quotas on company boards met with strong opposition, EU Justice Commissioner Viviane Reding unveiled a new proposal. The aim of Reding's new proposed directive, released on 14 November, is to increase the gender diversity of corporate boards throughout the EU by setting a minimum objective of **40% female board members by 2020**.

The proposal is expected to apply to around 5,000 publicly listed companies in the EU. It does not apply to businesses with fewer than 250 employees and an annual worldwide turnover of less than €50 million. The 40% target is binding, but not reaching it does not mean that there will be sanctions against a company.

Eleven EU member states as well as the 'European Economic Area' member state Norway have already introduced legal instruments to promote gender equality on company boards. In eight of these countries, the instruments cover public undertakings. Meanwhile, in two-thirds of the member states, no legal measures were introduced and no significant progress has been made in recent years.

For more information:

- Press release: [Women on Boards: Commission proposes 40% objective](#)
- Memo: [Questions and Answers: Proposal on increasing Gender Equality in the Boardrooms of Listed Companies](#)
- DG Justice: [Women on Boards: Commission proposes 40% objective](#)
- DJ Justice: [Proposal for a directive on improving the gender balance among non-executive directors of companies listed on stock exchanges and related measures](#)
- Communication: [Gender balance in business leadership: a contribution to smart, sustainable and inclusive growth](#)

The [IDEO.org Fellowship Program](#) fosters design leaders of the future. Basically, it's a mash-up of wildly passionate and talented people from the design, business and social sectors: three IDEO designers and a collection of promising leaders from around the globe. For twelve months, these Fellows are working, learning, growing and innovating to make the world a better place.

Interested? [Apply to become a 2013-14 IDEO.org Fellow!](#) Applications are due January 3, 2013 at 5:00 pm PST.

Young BPW Europe - Common Work and Next steps:

The next **Young Europe Newsletter** is in preparation, as well as, **tools for Young BPW Recruitment** to support you at club and Federation level in Europe.

Would you wish to promote your event, initiatives, and share good practices, please send me the information.

Starting in January 2013, I would like to have a **regular contact** with Young BPW National Representative either via skype and email to start working together on a common strategy. Doodle date will be sent in December.

In the second part of 2013 a **Young BPW Europe event** will be organized, keep the period in mind. Fixed date should be sent in December.

Thanks.

Best regards

Miette

Miette Dechelle

Young BPW Europe Representative 2011-2014

www.bpw-europe.org/young-bpw-europe