

INTERNATIONAL  
CONFERENCE:

# Strength – courage – solidarity

## Girl\*’s and young women\*’s empowerment

organized by: **Garance ASBL** ● **Autonomia Foundation** ● **Autonomes Frauenzentrum Potsdam e.V.**

when: **11th October 2021**  
**International Day of the Girl\***  
**9:00 – 14:30**

where: **Tour à Plomb (In Real Life)**  
**Rue de l’Abattoir 24,**  
**1000 Bruxelles**

PMR Accessible: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/bDttFoUJBe2b6Xvi7>

info/press: **Hind Acil, Garance asbl**  
**hindgarance@gmail.com**

under the Matronage of: **Sylwia Spurek MEP**

On the **International Day of the Girl\*** and with the **support of Erasmus+**, we have the honor and pleasure to invite you to participate in our International Conference about Girl\*’s and young women\*’s empowerment: Strength - Courage - Solidarity.

This conference’s aim is to **share the findings of our empowerment project**, initiate social change, and **encourage the formation of Girls\* Empowerment Centers in other cities and countries**.

Our project’s goal is to **enhance the participation of girls\* and young women in their role as engaged citizens in all spheres of social, public and economic life**. We believe that empowerment and primary violence prevention play a key role.

At the conference we will discuss following issues:

- **theory and practice** of girl\*’s and young women\*’s empowerment as a tool for gender equality
- **intersectional perspective** in empowerment work
- **how to open and run girl\*’s empowerment centers**
- **how to implement empowerment education** for girls\* and young women\*
- **how to be an empowerment educator**
- **recommendations and standards** for policies and decision makers.

The COVID19 pandemic highlighted and aggravated structural inequalities as well as the precarity of girls\* empowerment work. The observations made during the project helped to identify the needs to firmly establish girls\* empowerment work as one pillar of gender equality policy and programming.

We will have the honor to present to you the results of our two years of work on girl\*’s and young women\*’s empowerment. These analyses are based on the combined forces and knowledge the Autonomia Foundation in Kraków with its Girls\* Empowerment Center, the Autonomes Frauenzentrum Potsdam with its Girls\* Club Mädchentreff Zimticken, and Garance ASBL in Brussels with its Merida program.

We will have the pleasure of listening to **different international speakers**, who will have the opportunity to share their knowledge and expertise in this domain. (more below).

The conference is organised in **live format**. This is the best chance to **meet, discuss, plan future actions and projects and create networks**.

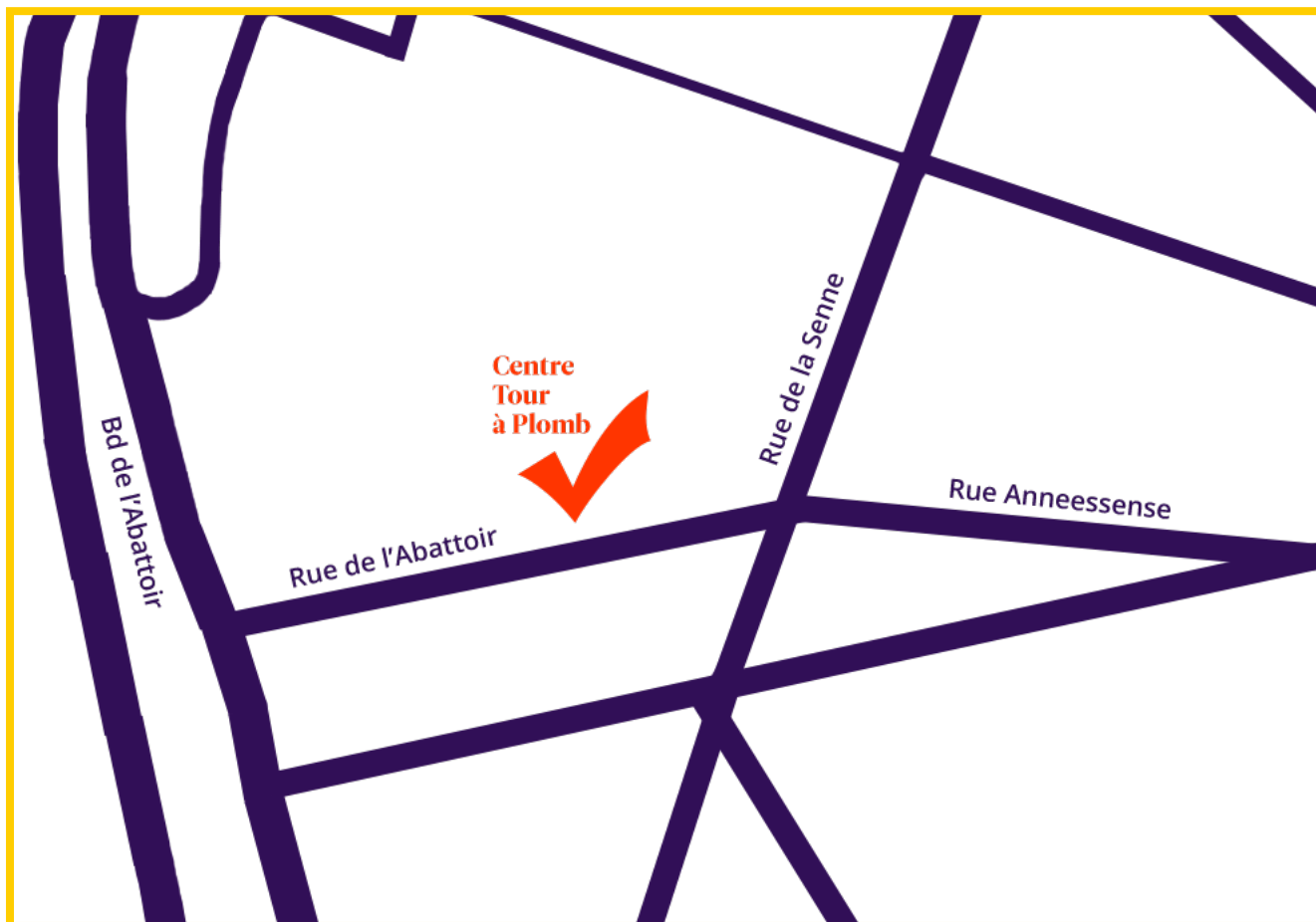
**All participants will receive paper copies of publications developed as project results (in English, German, Polish or French).**

Strength – courage – solidarity

Girl\*'s  
and young women\*'s  
empowerment

To Confirm your participation,  
please fill in the next form:

<https://forms.gle/r2FXEkHYn9pNEUDu7>



### Presentation of the partners:

**Autonomia Foundation (Poland):** created and runs the first Polish Girls' Empowerment Centre and the Girl's Repair Café.

**Autonomes Frauenzentrum Potsdam e.V. (Germany):** Zimticken Mädchentreff girls\* club was established in 1996 and is a project of the Autonomous Womens' Centre in Potsdam, Germany.

**Garance ASBL (Belgium)** is a feminist NGO based in Brussels and active in the field of the primary prevention of gender-based violence on girls and women.



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## Program:

### Introduction Speech:

#### **Courage Matters: why progress needs brave female leaders**

**Sylwia Spurek** - Ambassador of Autonomia; member of European Parliament Girls Empowerment Center, Group of the Greens / European Free Alliance, vice-chair of the Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality EP

### Keynote speakers:

#### **Why we need empowerment education and spaces for girl\*'s and young women\*'s empowerment.**

**Ewa Rutkowska** - member of the Board of Autonomia Foundation and Antidiscrimination Education Society empowerment, antidiscrimination trainer and expert, teacher, author of reports and publications on equality and education.

**Catriona Graham** - Policy and Campaigns Officer  
// European Women's Lobby

**Marlize Andre** - representing WIDE+ network

### Q&A

### **Presentation of project results**

Presentation of the different intellectual outputs:

- Operating Model for Girls\*' Empowerment Centres
- Empowerment education curriculum for girls\* and young women\*
- Competence model and training program for empowerment educators for girls\* and young women\*
- Model of Girls\*' Empowerment – Standards and Recommendations

### Q&A

### Keynote speakers:

#### **Good practices on the national level: The Contact and Coordination office for work with girls in the state of Brandenburg (KuKMA).**

**Bianca Strzeja**

**Girl\*' and young women\*'s voices**

### Q&A

### Outro

### Networking

### **Exhibition: WHY WE NEED NEW HEROINES.**

WAVE has just published a 28-page brochure with cartoons by female artists, who imagined and presented their vision of an inspirational role model, the character of a Shero – a female hero, a role model who is an agent of positive change in society.

### Lunch

