

KVINFO Annual Report 2013

A stand-up star, a crown princess, and a female correspondent from the world's hot spots – this is the extent of the difference between the personalities that have helped determine the year 2013 for KVINFO. The year included several other highlights - with key words such as gender research, Islamic feminism, and a prominent new face as the director of KVINFO. Below you can find a modest selection of KVINFO's activities in 2013.

We Build Bridges

When parties that share the same commitment meet, it generates new energy, it gives rise to ideas, and the seeds of change are planted. This can occur through one-on-one relations between mentors and mentees, when a Danish crown princess opens a dialogue with women in the Middle East, and when men and women run 42.195 kilometres side by side in an area where freedom of movement is always a gift and never a matter of course. Bridge building on many levels is what characterises the activities of KVINFO, locally, nationally, and globally.

The Mentor Network Receives 2 Million DKK so Work Can Continue in 2014

Since 2002, one of KVINFO's notable bridge building projects has been KVINFO's Mentor Network. The network has both had great significance in Denmark, for the many thousands of people involved, as well as abroad, including in several Arabic countries where the mentoring model has been used in several projects focused on political and economic empowerment. It was therefore a total surprise when the Mentor Network did not receive support, since in April 2013, the parties to the settlement in the Danish parliament, Folketinget, agreed upon the so-called Satspulje for 2014 and onwards. This could have resulted in the closing of the Mentor Network at the end of 2013, if new financing could not be secured. Based on the documented results generated by the network, a long list of politicians, public debaters, businessmen, and professionals working with integration urged the politicians through a petition to try to save the Mentor Network from closing down. At the end of December, the parties to the agreement granted 2 million DKK from Socialministeriet (the Ministry of Social Affairs) so that the work could continue in 2014. The transition amount corresponded to about half of the operations for each of the two previous years.

The Crown Princess Donates Fund Money to Partner after Meeting with KVINFO in Jordan and Morocco

During her visit to Jordan and Morocco in the autumn of 2013, the Danish crown princess Mary had the opportunity to meet KVINFO's cooperation partners and to inspect the projects in the two countries. The partners that the crown princess met, such as the chairman of the Mary Foundation, work to fight gender-related violence and to improve women's rights in society. Among other things during her travels, crown

princess Mary visited a Jordanian women's crisis centre and she watched a play on women's personal stories of violence, humiliation, and oppression in their marriage; she met rights activists and visited a Moroccan family court. Subsequently, the Mary Foundation donated 250,000 DKK to the women's crisis centre Tilila in Casablanca. The crisis centre is run by La Fédération de la Ligue Démocratique des Droits des Femmes (FLDDF), which is one of KVINFO's partners. The money will be used to strengthen the legal support for women who have been exposed to violence. KVINFO's Danish partners in these projects, which the crown princess visited, include C:ONTRACT, Danner, LOKK and Statsforvaltningen (the State Administration).

KVINFO Supports Marathon in Palestine

In April 2013, a marathon is held for the first time in the occupied Palestinian areas. As one of its main points, the race will emphasise that Palestinians - including Palestinian women – should also have the right to move freely, as stated in the Declaration of Human Rights, article 13. The Palestinian marathon in Bethlehem is organised by the Danish organisation Right to Movement, together with its Palestinian partners.

KVINFO's department for the Middle East and North Africa supports the race through its Funds for Dialogue and Cooperation on Women's Rights.

We Initiate Dialogues

To listen, reflect, and talk together. This is how we become wiser and this is how we get better at understanding and accepting each other and promoting diversity. At KVINFO, economists, diplomats, religious leaders, gay rights activists, and more can meet. This way, KVINFO starts discussions at the kitchen table, at debates, and out in the world.

Islamic Feminism – More Debate, and Now as a Book

During the spring of 2012 at a conference in Cairo, a large number of researchers and feminists discussed how one could be a Muslim feminist. In the autumn of 2013, a book will be published, titled *Feminist and Islamic Perspectives: New Horizons of Knowledge and Reform*, which compiles the speeches from the conference in one publication. The book will be launched at a one-day conference at the National Museum in Copenhagen, where several of the book's contributors will make presentations and engage in debates. Attending the event will be the Islamic feminist and editor of the anthology, Omaila Abou-Bakr, the Islamic scholar and former chairman of the Fatwa committee at Al Azhar University in Cairo, Sheikh Gamal Qutb, as well as the current Danish development minister, Christian Friis Bach (R).

The launch and conference in 2012 is in cooperation with KVINFO's partner organisation in Egypt, Women and Memory Forum, and with the Danish-Egyptian Dialogue Institute (DEDI).

Full Attendance at the Debate Meeting Sheds New Light on Faith and Sexuality

In September 2013, KVINFO, SABAAH, and the Municipality of Copenhagen play host to a public meeting on faith and sexuality. At the meeting, Danish and international speakers will debate the words of the holy scriptures on sexuality and homosexuality, and they will investigate how LGBT people (lesbians, gays, bisexuals, and transsexuals) can find room in their religions to practice their sexuality. The meeting is opened by the minister of equal opportunities, Manu Sareen, and the Integration Mayor of the Municipality of Copenhagen, Anna Mee Allerslev. Apart from the foreign guests, in the concluding panel discussion representatives from the religious communities in Copenhagen will participate.

We Share Knowledge

As a knowledge centre for gender, equal rights, and diversity, KVINFO has passed on knowledge, documentation, research, and more. Among other things, in 2013, this took place in cooperation with a wide range of players – from museums and embroidery experts to researchers and students. We also used a wide range of channels. E.g. conferences, online publications, and debate meetings. Activities took place both in Denmark and abroad.

Museums Examine Gender

Three days into April 2013, the Danish museum world will put diversity on the agenda with a large international conference on how museums can be inclusive of everyone. Together with IMR, The Danish Institute for Human Rights, KVINFO will host a special museum day on 23 April, focusing on gender. 80 international and Danish museum people and experts will work together to prepare strategic recommendations on how the gender dimension should be incorporated, both for employees and management as well as for the museums exhibits. It is the international organisation, The Inclusive Museum, that has chosen Denmark as its host country for its 6th conference, with the National Gallery of Art and Danish Agency for Culture as the main players.

Yearly Conference: Gender and Politics in Transition

On April 13 2013, KVINFO hosts 6) the yearly conference of Danske Foreningen for Kønsforskning (Danish Association for Gender Studies). The theme is gender and politics, and the keynote speakers are professor in feminist theory, Clare Hemmings, London School of Economics and Political Science, professor in gender research, Nadjie Al-Ali, University of London, and journalist Annegrethe Rasmussen. Among other things, the conference offers an analysis of the anarchist and women's rights activist Emma Goldman, from a sexual-political and feminist perspective. Professor Nadjie Al-Ali will also present the status of the situation in the Middle East and North Africa, where the Arabic spring is setting new agendas and changes are potentially underway in regards to established hierarchies and classical gender representations. The conference will also look at the American presidential election from a gender perspective. It is the journalist

Annegrethe Rasmussen, the newspaper's information correspondent in Washington, who will present a picture of a political landscape that is still characterised by political standpoints defined by gender, ethnicity, and so on.

A Visit from an Embroidery from Morocco in Copenhagen and Silkeborg

Needlework and knowledge sharing will go hand in hand when a small group of women from Réseau Femmes Artisanes Marrakech, a network of female artisans in Morocco, will visit Denmark at the end of November. The programme will include workshops in Copenhagen and Silkeborg, where numerous people interested in embroidery will meet for presentations and then try their hand at embroidery, under the expert guidance of the Moroccan embroidery experts. The project in Morocco supports the financial involvement and leadership of women, and apart from design and product development, the project also includes training in marketing, accounting, sales, etc. The embroidery event is held by KVINFO, The Danish Design School, and Silkeborg Internationale Kvindenetværk (Silkeborg International Women's Network) in cooperation with Silkeborg Museum.

We Present Notable Profiles

The funny, the sharp, and the important. During the year, KVINFO has played host to correspondents and ministers and handed out awards. 2013 ends with the notification of a significant change at KVINFO.

The Foreign Affairs Correspondents Participate in the 8th of March Celebrations at The Black Diamond

At the International Women's Day at the Black Diamond on 8 March 2013, a sold-out Dronningesal will focus on female foreign affairs correspondents. Together with The Royal Library, KVINFO has invited the foreign affairs correspondents Mette Fugl, Vibeke von Sperling, Simi Jan, Puk Damsgaard, and Mahvish Ahmad. Puk Damsgaard will participate by video interview, since she was suddenly called to cover the unrest in Syria. The stand-up comic Sanne Søndergaard opens the evening and the duo marstal:lidell end the night with an interview and a showing of their video "Sista Is the Trigger of the World". The evening's host, foreign affairs correspondent Annegrethe Rasmussen, presents the programme.

New Director Announced

After almost 24 years in that position, KVINFO's director, Elisabeth Møller Jensen, will retire as of 1 February 2014. KVINFO will publicly announce the decision in November 2013. The director position was posted, and the head of KVINFO's board, deputy manager for the further education at Danmarks Medie- og Journalisthøjskole (Danish School of Media and Journalism), Dorthe Olander, said in connection with this:

"Elisabeth Møller Jensen has had an extraordinary contribution to the development of equality and understanding of gender significance, both at home and internationally. Elisabeth Møller Jensen has a well-developed sense for scheduling and implementing projects at precisely the right times. KVINFO has also been privileged to have a director that has both had the courage and the ability to participate in the most

crucial social debates. In mid-January 2014, it will be publicly announced that, from 1 February, KVINFO's new director will be Nina Groes.

We Develop Tools

KVINFO will gladly share methods or knowledge - our own or that of others- which can benefit an agenda aimed at equality. Publications, conferences, and new versions of known databases are among the year's activities.

Barbara Annis Introduces Gender Intelligence in Denmark

On 17 April 2013, The Danish Chamber of Commerce and KVINFO will host the conference "Getting women in leadership positions" at Børsen, for members of the Danish Chamber of Commerce. Later the same day, KVINFO offers an invitation to the public meeting "Gender Intelligence Forum" at The Black Diamond. The keynote speaker at both events is the American expert in inclusive leadership, Barbara Annis, who KVINFO has invited to Copenhagen. It is the first time that Barbara Annis presents her work on "Gender Intelligence" for a large audience in Denmark. Among other things, the method builds on brain research that establishes differences between the two genders and that we should not ignore the differences that we know exist. The fundamental principles in Barbara Annis's toolbox are that she helps companies to understand these differences and to work consciously towards changing stereotype attitudes among employees. This results in more women and far greater diversity in the management and boards of the companies.

Launching Barbara Annis's Book, "Lad Os Arbejde Sammen"

Nyt Nordisk Forlag and KVINFO invite you to an interview and reception with Barbara Annis at the Blixen hall in October 2013 at the Royal Library in Copenhagen. The occasion is the publication of Barbara Annis's and John Gray's book, in Danish, titled "Lad os arbejde sammen - Afskaf misforståelser mellem mænd og kvinder på arbejdspladsen" (Let us work together – Eliminate misunderstandings between men and women in the workplace). Barbara Annis is an expert within inclusive leadership and has developed the method "Gender Intelligence", which builds upon knowledge from brain research. The event builds on KVINFO's cooperation with Barbara Annis on gender and leadership from the spring of 2013, when KVINFO held two events with Barbara Annis, one at the Danish Chamber of Commerce and the other on its own at The Black Diamond.

KVINFO Marks the 10th Year of Moroccan Family Law with a Conference

With the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the adoption of a reform of the Moroccan family law, colloquially called the Modouwana, KVINFO assigns the Moroccan-American lawyer and researcher Leila Hanifi the task of preparing a status report for the 10 years of development in the legal status of Moroccan women. The report will be presented in November at a large 2-day conference in Rabat, where KVINFO invited women's organisations, judges, politicians, lawyers, and human rights activists to a dialogue on the

results of the law and the need for new initiatives. At the conference, a mediation guide will also be presented, which is the result of 7 years' cooperation on conflict mediation in the country's family courts, between the Danish public administration and the Moroccan education for judges, Institut Supérieur de la Magistrature.

KVINFOs Expert Database Chosen as Best Practice in EU

KVINFO's expert database will be chosen as one of EU's best practices in 2013; as a tool that promotes female experts in the media. In the EU, female experts constitute only 24.4% of the media experts – despite the fact that more women than men are taking longer educations. This is shown in a study by the English researcher Karan Ross, carried out by EIGE, European Institute for Gender Equality. Women and media was a focus area under the Irish presidency in the EU. In connection with this, EIGE has collected best practices in the EU and prepared several reports with a focus on gender and media. Apart from KVINFO's expert database, which also includes the sister database "Who is She" in Lebanon, Jordan, Egypt, and Palestine, a total of 14 other European best practices are chosen.

Anniversary Site Celebrations 100 years of Suffrage for Everyone

In 2015, it will be 100 years since Danish women and male workers obtained the right to vote for Parliament. In 2013, KVINFO launches the site "Politisk Valgret 100 År" (Political Suffrage 100 Years), where historical facts and current news on the celebration in 2015 will be presented on an ongoing basis.

KVINFO is the Danish Centre for Gender, Equality and Ethnicity. The key role of KVINFO is to initiate research and disseminate information and findings, and to contribute to the development of an equal society.

For more info, visit kvinfo.org

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