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| C:\Users\forza\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCacheContent.Word\Logo EU.JPG | Addressing Sexual Violence Against Refugee WomenThis Project is funded by the *Rights, Equality and Citizenship (REC)* Programme of the European Union |

**Refugee and asylum-seeking women and sexual violence: European contexts**

**Thursday 14th December 1830-2030 (drinks reception 1745)**

**Waterside 3, Watershed, Harbourside, Bristol**

1745 – 1830 Drinks reception (Waterside 3)

1830 **Welcome**

*Dr Geetanjali Gangoli, Centre for Gender and Violence Research, University of Bristol*

1830 **The Mayor’s vision for refugees and asylum-seekers in Bristol**

*Councillor Asher Craig, Deputy Mayor, Bristol*

**1840 Panel 1: European contexts– refugee women and sexual violence**

*Chair: Rissa Mohabir, Trauma Awareness*

1840 **Sexual violence and RAS women – the European context and the ASVARW project**

*Fernanda Minuz, Istituto Cattaneo, Bologna*

1850 **GBV in the context of the refugee situation in Greece: prevention and response from emergency to normalization**

*Dr. Christos Iliadis, Symbiosis, Thessaloniki*

1900 **Forced marriage in Spain**

*Cristina Fernández-Bessa* *and Encarna Bodelón González, Antigona Research Group, Barcelona*

1910 **Trafficking of women for sexual exploitation in Italy**

 *Loretta Michelini, Mondodonna, Bologna*

1920 **Q&A to panel**

**1940**  **Panel 2: UK responses to FGM – research and practice**

*Chair: Rissa Mohabir, Trauma Awareness*

 1940 **FGM and honour-based violence**

 *Fadi Al-Zubaidi* *and Rania Ibrahim, Integrate UK*

 1950 **Prevention of FGM – working with affected communities**

*Saadye Ali, Community health advocate and sexual health nurse*

2000 **Community engagement to ending FGM in a generation; a multiagency approach’**

*Jackie Mathers*, NHS

**2010 Q&A to panel**

**2030** **Close**

**Chair and speaker bios**

**Councillor Asher Craig** has over 30 years’ experience as a community activist, leader, management consultant and now politician.  She has championed the needs of the voice-less, with a particular emphasis on the social-economic development of BME and under-represented communities, working at local, regional and national level across the public and VCS sector. Asher was elected as the Labour Councillor for the ward of St George West, Bristol in May 2016 and was appointed to the Cabinet with the wide-reaching portfolio of Neighbourhoods in August 2016.In March 2017 Asher was asked to step into the new role of Deputy Mayor – Communities, bringing into & elevating the issue of Public Health within this new portfolio.  She is committed to addressing discrimination and multi-level inequalities which impact diverse urban populations.  Asher is also a school governor, board member of a National Awarding Body and is a Trustee of Fairfield House, Bath - former home to Emperor Haile Selassie whilst in exile.

**Rissa Mohabir** has over 28 years’ experience as a trainer for medical doctors and homeopaths in the UK and internationally, notably in Serbia and Croatia (2000-2007) and currently offers trauma training programs to service providers. Rissa is timetabled to launch her publications in 2018, A Life Journey- Impact of War on Women -Refugee Women of Bristol and Leaving Our Homeland- Syria to Isles of Bute. Trauma Awareness Community Interest Productions & Publications is currently working on a community listening project with refugee services addressing unmet needs leading to a publication Disabled refugees with specific needs from shrapnel and bullet injury.

**Dr. Christos Illiadis** has a PhD in Ideology and Discourse Analysis (2012), from the Government Department at the University of Essex. He holds a BA and MA in Political Science and History. He has participated in various research programs on the fields of Human Rights, migrant integration and minorities, as also on Roma rights and inclusion. He currently collaborates with the Council of Europe as the National Coordinator in Greece for the JUSTROM program on Roma women access to justice and also with Symviosis for the implementation of the EU DG Justice funded project “Addressing Sexual Violence Against Refugee Women”. Since 2013 he is elected at the board of the Hellenic League of Human Rights.

**Encarna Bodelón González** is lecturer in Philosophy of Law at the Law Faculty of the Universitat de Barcelona. She is Director of the Antígona Research group of the UAB, a research group focused on rights and society with a gender perspective and Co-director of the postgraduate programme Gender and Equality (UAB) and of the postgraduate programme on Gender Violence (UAB). She is member of the Catalan Inter-University Institute of Women and Gender Studies and of the Jurist Women Association.

**Cristina Fernández-Bessa** is a Researcher at the Antígona Research group of the Universitat Autonoma de Barceloan (UAB), a course instructor in the Degree of Criminology at Universitat Oberta de Catalunya and member of the board of the research group Observatory of the Penal System and Human Rights of the University of Barcelona. She holds a Ph.D. in Law and Political Sciences and a Master in Penal Systems and Social Problems from the University of Barcelona, as well as a Diploma in International Critical Criminology. Dr. Fernández-Bessa has taken part in a number of European and national research projects on liberty and security, migration and borders, public space management, imprisonment, violence against women, surveillance, and refugee women, and has published on these topics (in Spanish, Catalan, English, French and Italian).

**Fernanda Minuz i**s a teacher, researcher and activist in two fields: language teaching and feminism.She has taught Italian Language at the Johns Hopkins University – SAIS Europe, master courses in Language Teaching, in-service courses for teachers in Italy and abroad. She participates in/coordinates national and European projects. As for language teaching to migrants, projects focus on migrant children in school; language for the labour market; illiterate adult learners and refugees.As a member and former president of the "Orlando" association (Bologna), she participates in projects promoting women's empowerment and, in the field of migration, supporting social cohesion, active citizenship of native and migrant women, transnational citizenship, gender violence.

**Integrate UK** is a youth-led charity that harnesses young people’s energy and potential to work towards equality and cohesion. Using a youth-led, creative and educational approach, the charity empowers young people to challenge, speak out against and campaign for change around issues that affect them. Starting in 2007 with four terrified girls writing poetry about FGM, it has grown from strength to strength and now has well over 150 members who campaign for changes to policies around health, law and education. The young people also deliver peer education for students and training for frontline professionals nationally.

**Saadye Ali** is a Doctoral student at the University of the West of England. Her current research study is on the ‘Prevention of female genital mutilation (FGM) in the United Kingdom; working with affected communities. This study seeks to investigate the effectiveness of national interventions aimed at young people to eradicate FGM, using participatory methods. Saadye is an experienced sexual health nurse and is currently working with Refugee Women of Bristol to deliver FGM awareness sessions in schools. She is also a member of the Bristol community advocates group and mentors a group of young people in Bristol (Empowering), who campaign against FGM nationally. In her previous role, Saadye was a co-chair of the multi-agency safeguarding FGM group and co-chair of Refugee Women of Bristol.

**Jackie Mathers** has completed 10 years of nurse training but was never taught about FGM or the impact it had one women girls and family life. In 2006 I started on my journey of personal development to learn about FGM. This work has always had a strong link with FGM affected communities and the professionals they come in to contact. There is now an established training program for professionals from all background to learn about FGM, the emotional and physical impact on women and girls and consider how to safeguard future generations. The foundation of this work has been community engagement. This involves listening to the voice of young people, women and families, it also has a role in educating them on the law, child protection procedures and supporting their campaigning to end gender based violence. This has been one of my most rewarding areas of my work.

**Loretta Michelini** is the founding member and President of the MondoDonna Association. Since 1986, she has been involved with immigration issues from a gender perspective. She designed and run the first Institutional Centre for foreign people in Italy, in the Municipality of Bologna. She has been also involved in vocational training activities for migrant communities, managing pilot projects aimed at supporting job inclusion for foreign women.