

Mission Statement

Expert Group for Gender Equality in R&D in Slovakia

The Expert Group for Gender Equality in R&D in Slovakia wants to create an active and efficient national platform for experts in gender issues, leaders in R&D area, relevant political decision-makers and other stakeholders.

The overall objectives of our group are:

- to promote gender equality in R&D in Slovakia
- help to improve potential of women in science in general and avoid „waste of talents“ in this area
- help to avoid gender-based discrimination in the field of science.

Based on numerous research results we believe that:

- the potential of women is not sufficiently exploited
- the existence of gender-based discrimination in science is still present
- the implementation of gender dimension in the management of academic and research institutions is still unique and does not work in practice
- the lack of women in senior positions means that their voice in decision-making processes is not heard and it also means the absence of role models for young female scientists.

Our specific objectives are:

- **networking:** regular meetings of the Expert Group, communication and collaboration with other relevant stakeholders
- **research and monitoring:** consistent identification and continuous monitoring of the current situation in Slovakia
- **promoting:** promotion of gender equality; dissemination of information about „women in science“ agenda as the key point of the Expert Group Mission; improving public /professional awareness about the role of women in science.

All members of the group support the Mission Statement. They agree on the minimum of two meetings a year and on participating in active communication, information exchange and other forms of collaboration. The Institute of Social Sciences and Humanities of Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica has the responsibility for managing and coordinating the group activities during the period of the Gendera project (2009 – 2012).