

NATIONAL REPORT OF HUNGARY ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BEIJING PLATFORM FOR ACTION

Hungarian Government to the UN Commission
on Women at its forty-four session held at the
General Assembly, New York, in June 2000.

Submitted by the H
ungarian Government
on the Status of
Women in the
United States

The contribution of the Ministries, experts
and representatives of civic organisations and the government
to the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action in the
most areas of the Office for Women Issues.

from September 1995 and July 1999.

The government report was compiled
from state organisations, written co-
operation report based on the overview of sev-

This national report covers the period

Budapest, July 1999

I. OVERVIEW OF THE ACTIVITIES PERFORMED IN THE AREA OF THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN AND CONCERNING THE PROMOTION OF EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES.

The Hungarian National Machinery and the changes introduced in the period of 1995-

Machinery was introduced in 1994, in the form of a Government Resolution with the purpose of ensuring Women's Equal Status. The Hungarian Resolution with the purpose of which was the implementation of the National Machinery of Hungary. The administrative body of the name of the Office for Women's Policies, within the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, started its activities in 1994. It was later altered into the Office of Equal Opportunities.

of the advancement of women in Hungary. The Office of Equal Opportunities was not represented at the national and local levels of state administration. In the course of the implementation of this Action and inter-ministerial Committee was formed, which had two sessions during the period of time. The objectives of the committee was defined as the co-ordination of government administrative measures taken to ensure women's equal opportunities.

After the general elections, the new government cancelled the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs and established the Ministry of Social and Family Affairs.

The Office of Equal Opportunities was re-organised and had been affiliated to the Social and Community Relations Department within the Ministry of Social and Family Affairs.

The Hungarian Government issued the 1059/1999. (V. 28.) resolution on the establishment of the Council for Women's Issues on May 28, 1999. This council is formed within the Ministry of Social and Family Affairs.

The reforms in the administrative structures for the representation of various social interests. The 1st meeting of the Committee probably will be in September.

The responsibilities of the Council for Women's Issues:

1. To advise on the programming for action in the matter of legislation which are concerned with gender equality, to initiate new programmes and adjustments to legislation for the enhancement of equal opportunities."
2. To contribute/take part implementation of the programmes sponsored by intentional and national resources, in the development and announcement of research and action programme funds and the requirements for participation.
3. To review the reports and information documents concerning women's equal opportunities.

The Council consists of the following representatives:

The inter-ministerial committee has been cancelled and a new committee has been formed with member in the ranks of Head of department from each of the Ministries, and the Prime Minister's Office.

Six members of the Council have been delegated by civic organisations with a nation-wide scope of activities, the six representatives are appointed as members of the Minister of Social and Family Affairs.

Five members of the Council are appointed by the Minister of Social and Family Affairs from among experts who have shown outstanding results in their research and theoretical and practical work concerning the gender question.

Three members are appointed by the Minister of Social and Family Affairs from among representatives of civic organisations which have distinguished themselves by working for equal opportunities for men and women.

The Government calls on the ministers, directors of state institutions that the Council shall be

responsible for the preparation and registration of proposals for the government of equal opportunities shall include the Council's report and its proposals in supporting a

of the Council for Women's Issues functions as a inter-ministerial

The governi

the matters of women's advancement, and to monitor and co-ordinate their implementation.

Programme for Action, 1997, The Implementation of Resolutions Women's World Conference, Beijing Platform for Action

Since 1995 – presumably as a result of the national programme initiated on the basis of the adopted resolutions of the Beijing Conference and the preparatory process for joining the EU

activities initiated by NGOs with the purpose of implementing the measures taken by the government increased in number and have strengthened in

of Europe with the title "Equal Opportunities" of Women and Men. The seminar of

which women took place in Central and Eastern Europe and the World Conference

the rights of women in Budapest in October 1996. The framing of the ILO on employment was organised in November 1996.

the status of women. The In May 1997 the Parliament held an "open day" for the discuss

26) resolution for the implementation of the resolutions of the Government issued the 2174

tion. In Warsaw, a seminar was organised titled "The drawn up in the Beijing Plat

society. In October, 1997, Government delegates, and Development of Women's R

took part. delegates of governmental or

held with titled "WOMEN'98 – Women in Business" In November 1998, a confere

Office of Equal Opportunities, whose objective was to A former government body

led a media campaign in 1997/1998. The main message improve women's status in so

successful in different areas of life, not only victims of of this campaign was that wo

es. supporters of men

A museum exhibition may also become a means of raising publicy. An exhibition

organised titled "Women's Lives" by the Office of Equal Opportunities, in 1997. It cover

one hundred years of wome

tion were revised the earliest, for which the Ministry of Those items of the Program

involvement into the national programme for Action of the inter-ministerial

The responsibilities of the ministers should also be more clearly identified. assignment

re the Council for Women's Issues' work may be made more effective regarding the

ation and the evaluation/assessment of the programmes.

successful sections of the National Programme for Action were the ones dealing with

the human rights. The studies carried out on the implementation of the 2000

examples of legislation in Hungarian were the most determining factors in the representation of

Several important steps were taken in order to implement the Beijing Platform for Action when

the introduction of women's
ment decisions. This existing co-
inter-ministerial committee provided

the co-operation between the non-governmental
committee were initiated. These initiatives fu-
perspectives into the preparation processes
operation between the NGOs and the setting

the participants with valuable administrative experiences in the
gender equality. In the future, these experiences will serve as useful and reliable sources in the
work and activities of the Office for Women's Issues.

"Changing Roles" : A report on the Status of Women, 1997 was published in co-operation
with the TARKI (Institute for Social Research) and the Ministry of Labour, this publication
will be developed into a series of reports published yearly, to follow up the changes in women's
status.

The Detailed Discussion of the Implementation of the Items of The National Programme for Action

The deadline for implementation of The National Programme for Action was April
which date coincided with the stepping down of the former government.

1. The Advancement of Women's Rights as Human Rights

Measures Planned:

a) To carry out studies over-viewing and evaluating the current legislative
legislation by using comparative methods with the view of the harmonisation
EU.

b) To set up of an assistance service for women in legal matter, especially in
issue concerning the family.

c) Publication of information booklet on women's rights with special attention to the
examples and best practices.

d) Training programmes for those working in public administration on gender issues

A number of studies have been carried out, and proposals for legislative reforms have been
drafted. A telephone hot-line was established which was in service once a week. The practical
guide book has not been produced. Basic information on the status of women and men in all
sectors of social policy, and the principles of gender equality were not disseminated among the
administrative staff and decision makers of public administration.

2. Measures for the implementation of equal opportunity for men and women

Measures Planned:

a) Investigation into the implementation of administrative measures ensuring equal opportunities in
employment, drafting recommendation for further administrative steps to be taken.

b) Developing co-operation with the Council of the Representatives of Employers in order to discuss the ways of ensuring equal opportunities for women employees in
"collective contracts".

Training programmes and re-training programmes for the reintegration of women into the labour market
the special needs of these women, ... will be developed for women intending to take on public roles, participation in

should be off
of Training
Political decl

the introduction of guarantees and administrative ... was not followed by the p
The first so-called "pilot" law suit concerning ... measures to safeguard the
discrimination in employment (in a job advertisement) was ... the law's
publicly.

Training programmes and re-training programmes were not designed and intro
to assist women in their efforts to re-enter the labour market. A written pr
implementation of a strategic plan for women's employment is available at
Women Issues.

A training programme for women intending to enter public political sphere
leadership was developed and administered by the Hungarian Women's Associa
Academy).

3. Removing disadvantages of women and the advancement of women's so

Measures Planned:

- 1) Assessment and evaluation of the needs of women belonging to different social groups
- 2) Assessment and evaluation of family allowances and the various methods for assisting both men and women
prepared for the health related training system for women, especially for those
group leaders, pregnant women, older women and those living in deprived social

The assessment and evaluation studies have not been accomplished.

information about the sector ... professional recommendation will be drawn up in order to
gender sensitive machine ... perspective in culture and society in order to eliminate gender
indicators for the introduction and dissemination of the gender perspective was
state agencies and in 1994 at the various levels of the education system.

there is no programme available for the introduction of the ... as not been requested, a
gender perspective in bib

5. Preventing violence

Measures Planned:

- 1) Drafting a proposal for
domestic violence and eliminating violence in the
- 2) Recommendation for programmes for the p

Some advances should be acknowledged in legislation, (see section Violence Against Women)

Recommendations for the prevention of violence and educational programmes about the issues of violence against women within public education has not been offered.

6. Co-ordination of the Programme for Action

Measures Planned:

- a) Setting up of inter-ministerial committee for the co-ordination of state administrative measures to be taken in order to promote gender equality.
- b) Assistance will be provided for the co-ordination of the activities of NGOs in order to support their strengthening in structure and influence.

The inter-ministerial committee has been established.

The Civil Forum has been formed, "Civil Forum" provides opportunity for discussion between the representatives of women's organisations, trade unions, political parties, organisations of employers and employees, etc.

The society programme servicing the needs of civic organisations in the matter of programme

proposals was set up in 1976.

7. Collection and dissemination of information and publications

For social research and statistics, the working
and recommendations should be prepared in order to
data on women's status, as well as the analysis of the data

In order for the better employment of the
strategies of the collecting statistics should
include more
perspective

co-operation with
publication was the
under public

"Changing Roles", A Report on the Status of Women, 1997 was pu
TARKI (Institute for Social Research) and the Ministry of Labour
first of its kind and was well received by both experts, civic activists

ce for Women Issues,
e 30, 1999,
ns of the National Programme
ot been accomplished

The Activities of t
January
with special reference to th
for Action, which

analysis of the most crucial areas of women's
tic violence and sexual harassment in the
mediated
mediated
questions
ed their

The "Civil Forum" provided the forum
lives in Hungary: women's employme
workplace, prostitution, women's health and the environment, etc. and the
proposals for government action and legislation. The members of the Civil
the issues concerned in working groups. With the assistance of the CEDAW
for civic organisations the working groups identified the problem areas and

it clear that they find the working method of the Civil Forum, - in working groups - useful for their purposes and a fertile ground for public discussions, for making a variety of interests visible.

A training programme for the recognition and promotion of gender equality will be held for those working in state administration. In September 1999, the programme called "Managing Equality" will be launched within the framework of an European co-operation programme as part of international programme,

The development of a re-integration programme has been planned for the support of those women wanting to return to the labour market. The training of multipliers/trainers will start in 2000. The development of the training material for this programme is included in the Programme for Action.

The report on National Social Security Legislation an EU Law on Equal Treatment of Men and Women in Hungary has been assessed and evaluated in co-operation with the PHARE Consensus Programme. The study has been launched in 1998 and the final report was drafted

II. FINANCIAL DATA

Report of the Ministry of Social and Family Affairs Department

	0	1995
		1110
	30 million HUF	
	20 million HUF	
	40 million HUF	
percentage of the above budget in the national budget		
	1,8%	
	3%	
of the National Programme for Action:		3. The finances allocated to the Imp
million HUF		1997
general reserve of the national budget for the year		These finances have been deducted from the 1997...

Statistics in the Appendix.

See separately: the report of Central

III. THE OVERVIEW OF SPECIAL AREAS INDICATED IN THE BEIJING PLATFORM FOR ACTION

WOMEN'S QUALIFICATIONS SINCE 1995

Education has a crucial role in defining women's status in society. It is necessary to provide higher and higher levels of education in order to fulfil the domestic and international responsibilities of women in the labour market.

In the Hungarian educational scene similar tendencies can be seen to those of the more developed countries concerning the level of qualifications and education. Differences can be observed, however, in the timing of women's catching up with men (the process started in Hungary in the 1960s). Additionally, there are certain distinguishable differences in the distribution of professions.

Since 1995, the level of women's education has been rising. The proportion of those who have received a secondary school diploma are 60% among these women. 60% graduated from non-comprehensive schools and 31% took part in vocational education. This distribution creates more opportunities for women, which process a longer period of time, further participation in higher education. However, those who are not able to get into higher education, have to face a difficult situation in the labour market. This can be considered - with some reservations - as a positive tendency since the "missing women" have received vocational education, where their proportion has increased slightly.

The segregation of professions according to gender is very strong in secondary vocational and trade schools. The situation is similarly to the situation found in developed countries, as female students seems to have increased slightly in technical and agricultural professions, which are considered to be typically male professions. However, it has not been enough feedback from the labour market yet to evaluate this phenomenon.

The number of participants in higher education has increased since 1995. The proportion of the female students has been rising steadily. In the year 1994/95, 54.4% in the academic year. The number of female students has been higher in universities than in colleges. (In universities their proportion has increased from 41.6% to 49.2%, while in colleges it seems to remain the same.) Women's participation in the various professional areas at higher educational level has significantly changed during the last three years. The proportion of women has risen in technical and agricultural majors and faculties, which are traditionally male professions. This can be explained in two ways. Courses and programmes in state administration and business management have been introduced in these faculties, which may be combined with the already existing courses. Women enrolled in these courses in a greater number. It is a well known fact that women can enter those

professional areas more easily, which have been devalued by the processes of economy, which phenomenon is followed by the fact that male competition weakens. It is clearly a favourable

administrative areas, which play a very important role in the development of market economy

has decreased in the field of modern state administration, while women's education, which is held to be the most intensified process

changeover to market economy

Generally speaking women in Hungary have realised

and the conditions in favour of their participation makes it requires qualifications. Consequently the younger generation makes efforts to maintain what is more to improve women's participation in all levels of education. This tendency is a positive one when compared to international statistics.

The Contents and Structure of Public Education

In educational theory and in theories of epistemology, the development of personality and production of values are almost completely based on the old centrally regulated traditions of education. Knowledge and the process of learning are assumed to be mainly pre-planned and this isaverse to those educational theories which are based on co-operation and public participation. Teaching thinking which is based on the complexity of values and the multiplicity of viewpoints, subjectivity and "otherness" are considered to be alien notions to the current educational practices. The present Hungarian public education is still based on prescribed contents, conveying information and promoting rote learning, as opposed to the acquisition of skills which are necessary to participate and succeed in a modern democratic society.

may lead to serious conflicts in the international culture of globalisation and information

questions, the issues of citizenship are almost "taboo" topics as yet

The policy makers of public education also aspire to participate in the process of joining

the European Union and they claim to comply with the respective decisions

UNESCO, which means that educational policies should pay special attention

and for assisting the students to acquire the development of the student's well rounded

formation of a democratic society. skills needed to be able to participate actively

to call attention to the stereotypical

The recent education theory and pra

views and attitudes which are predominant

the students' family background and the

It does not recognise the different needs of the new learners in learning styles and

strategies. The traditional, patriarchal treatment of the gender question (in fact, ignorance of

the gender question in education) hinders the students' successful participation and

contribution in the rapidly changing social institutions and structures and the students' ability

to participate in decision making, the needs and methods of the development of autonomous

the ambitions and courses.

According to the statistical data the deficiency of women's education has not posed a problem

so far. Generally women's qualifications are higher than men's qualifications. However, we

may foresee the dangers of the outdated educational structures and contents. The contents of

public education fail to provide women with up-to-date knowledge needed in the rapidly

changing economic situation. These needs are met mostly by private schools. The organisation of flexible education has more and more financial and infrastructural requirements, which women - because of their less favourable, traditional social status - are less and less able to meet.

Other deficiency of the structure of education is that it undervalues the importance of skills of citizenship, skills of self-expression and the skills of meaningful communication. Social literacy, which means the ability to practise the rights of citizens, inability to articulate, inability to identify problems, greatly contributes to the problems of personal and social development.

These deficiencies have been alleviated to a certain extent by training programmes of several Women's organisations, among which mobility training for women (Hungarian Women's Academy) leadership training (Hungarian Women's Academy) and participation in private enterprises were the most significant.

Although the structures of secondary and higher education have been continued/updated/reformed, they do not contain elements supporting more flexible education for women. Programmes for distant education are almost absent, though this is the type of education which could be adjusted to the different needs of women in different situations and age-groups. Educational programmes which would assist women in returning to work after many years spent with child rearing are not present yet in the Hungarian educational system.

Urgent steps to be taken are the following:
1. To examine and improve the textbooks and educational materials used in public education with the set purpose of ensuring equal opportunities for male and female students.

2. To include gender sensitivity in all areas of the educational areas prescribed in the NCO, and the gender perspective for teacher training which should include, as an integral part, the curriculum contents and the teaching techniques.

3. To develop programmes for in-service teachers to promote conscious and gender sensitive teaching techniques.
4. To develop programmes for in-service teachers to promote conscious and gender sensitive teaching techniques.

5. To develop programmes for in-service teachers to promote conscious and gender sensitive teaching techniques.

6. To develop programmes for in-service teachers to promote conscious and gender sensitive teaching techniques.

7. To develop programmes for in-service teachers to promote conscious and gender sensitive teaching techniques.

8. To develop programmes for in-service teachers to promote conscious and gender sensitive teaching techniques.

9. To develop programmes for in-service teachers to promote conscious and gender sensitive teaching techniques.

Nutrition and Lifestyle

It is a widely known fact that eating habits are mainly formed by cultural traditions. Hungarian

cuisine is tasty, but it uses a lot of fat, salt and all of which are known to have harmful effects on our health. The role of women is very important in spreading healthy nutrition habits, as they are

responsible for women's initiatives in this important

at least two year two positive models health issue.

started in 1996 and was sponsored by the World Bank and circulatory diseases. The programme aspires

programme intends to address women in the first nutrition habits easier than men. It is typical that

The programme called "Heartfriend Bank". Its objective was the reduction to promote healthy nutrition in Hungary, place, who are believed to acquire men prefer traditional meals.

important result of the health educators is that breast feeding has become a kind of fashion. The number of 0-6 month old infants

breast feeding has increased. (In 1997, 63.4% of the infants were fed by breast

this number has been rising ever since. According to a survey among pregnant

by lifestyle, healthy nutrition and keeping fit were thought to be the most

fact fed women

the programme was organised called "Women's Health Means Family's Health" by

of Association of Nurses in 1997. This programme promoted the philosophy that

women have a determinant role in the forming of a family's harmonious lifestyle.

A the

students of secondary schools, more female students smoke than male students. 11.0

4% of adult men and 27% of women smoke. An Act of protection of Non-Smokers was

passed in 1999 by the Hungarian Parliament. An anti-smoking organisations' association was

established by the National Public Health Policy Department, within the scope of Policy

of Harmful Addictions

deaths due to ... ed between

fact women ... s show that ... tion are the

Unfortunately, women do not lag behind men in alcohol use. The cirrhosis of liver among women has been increasing rapidly. This number

1987-1993.

The most common diseases and prevention programmes

International data show that many deaths could be easily avoided, in spite in Hungary and in Bulgaria frequently die of these diseases.

In 1997, 50% of the diagnosed HIV patients were women (71 persons among school girls ametropia (error of reflection), spinal complaints a

leading health problem causes. Recent statistical data show that among the age group of 14-34 problems related to the deformation of backbone have risen.

Special exercises for improving healthy carriage are included in the syllabus of the University of Physical Education. Screenings are also introduced in order to prevent the occurrences of spinal complaints.

In the case of women older than 19 of age, registered at a family doctor health problems is high blood pressure.

The Hungarian Menopause Society was founded in 1996, which organizes menopause clubs all over the country.

In case of women older than 65, 12-14% suffer from osteoporosis, which is registered in the morbidity index.

As part of the national osteoporosis programme 93 osteoporosis centres have been

established all over the country. Most of which are based at gynaecological screening centres. In

the case of women older than 75, heart diseases, diabetes mellitus and cerebrovascularis are the

most commonly occurring type cancer is breast cancer. Elderly women belong to the

most endangered age group. Although one third of breast cancer is diagnosed with

age younger than 50.

The rate of diseases is worse among women, but the rate of death is worse among men. The

reason can be that women are more sensitive in judging their state of health than men.

Additionally, the most common disease of women can be successfully cured. Women's way of

life is healthier than men's. They lead a more regular and moderate life, consequently number of

diseases is lower for them than in the male population.

Aggravating circumstances are

a.) the offended is under 12.

b.) the offended is being brought up, looked after or medically treated by the perpetrator.

c.) more persons practice sexual intercourse
conscious of each other's actions.

The action is qualified more severe if the
grievance of the offended under 12 and is ag

In respect to public act of indecency the 198
way as the above.

interfere with the independent sexual growth of a young
person.

The 195/AS of the Penal Code prohibits of the production of pornography
under the 1998/XXXVII Act about the modification of the Penal Code

The Penal Code regulates the act of trafficking in persons among Crimes against freedom
human dignity. 175/BS(1). Those selling, purchasing somebody, handing, taking some
over in recompense, exchanging or getting somebody for another person with this purp
committing crime. Besides the basic form of the crime, 175/BS regulates the crime in
circumstances. It decrees punishment of the action in the preparatory interval for

The Status of the Victims in Criminal Procedures, the Protection of Victims

A new Criminal Proceeding Law has been introduced which is to
regard 2000 to extend the rights of the offender of crime victims

The Minister of Interior has issued the 1999/4 order related to the
the ministry and the duties of the autonomous organisations below
respect to the protection of victims. Its 3. and 4. points deal with the
sexual crimes and the offended children under age. In case the victim
has to be treated the way not to suffer more psychic damages.

can apply for compensation. Under age offended parties, victims (and their relatives)
sexual crimes and crimes committed against life, offended parties of enduring bodily

with the attention not to offend the victim
must be paid to the protection of victims

off parties, victims of sexual crimes and in cases
terrified persons

f victims has been drawn
The concept related to the

- The proposal related to reducing the damages of victims of violent crimes by the state has been drafted.

Harassment in the Workplace

With respect to harassment in the workplace, in 1992 two Members of the Parliament presented a proposal, which was refused by the Parliament.

Researches

- About domestic violence: Morvai, Krisztina
- Women in gaol: empirical research starting in September (OKKVI – Fehér, Lenke)

Conferences

1996- 'East-West Conference on Prostitution and Trafficking in Women'. Three-day training for women's NGOs, conference on the topic of prostitution, force for prostitution and trafficking in persons. Organisers: Kádár, Zsuzsa; Fehér, Lenke. Sponsors: GAATW (main sponsor), COLPI, IOM, and Autonomous Trades Unions' Association.

1997- FEDIP – Finding the Way out Together Conference 'For a Europe without Prostitution and Trafficking in Persons'. (80 foreigner and 250 Hungarian participants) Publications: 100 Questions and Answers about Prostitution, the documents of the conference are under printing)

1998- The conference of the Boarding school at Rákospalota. Sponsors: Ministry of Social and

Publications

- "Changing Roles" Report on the Status of Women, 1997. TARKI – Ministry of Labour
- Women Organisations

Working with Victims of Prostitution and Trafficking in Persons

Handbook to Manuscript

Following: development and implementation of effective methods for the violence, also introduced reforms in legislation.

Steps to be taken

- Drafting a plan for the elimination of

of public education

WOMEN AND ARMED CONFLICT



Hungarian government

1974-1975, 1976-1977, 1978-1979, 1980-1981, 1982-1983, 1984-1985, 1986-1987, 1988-1989, 1990-1991, 1992-1993, 1994-1995, 1996-1997, 1998-1999, 2000-2001, 2002-2003, 2004-2005, 2006-2007, 2008-2009, 2010-2011, 2012-2013, 2014-2015, 2016-2017, 2018-2019, 2020-2021, 2022-2023, 2024-2025

geographical restrictions which earlier ruled to accept refugees only from Europe. (1) Hungary is now open to accommodate refugees from outside Europe as well.

1989-1998, 13 187 applications were handed in for the recognition of refugee status. The applicants who received the refugee status in 1998 were women and 1 414 were

Applications for a refugee status are processed at the Office for Refugees and are placed at refugee camps and community shelters. A certain amount of the budget and the budget of the Ministry of Interior is designated to basic needs, (food and shelter). These finances cover the expenses of the Office for Immigration and the maintenance of the community shelters.

to apply for the refugee status in Hungary stay at the camps provided by the Office for Immigration and the other half is placed in shelters provided by the military at the border crossing checkpoints.

Regulated rules - have to be observed in the refugee camps and at the community shelters.

In the refugee camps are taken care of for free. In addition, those who do not have a small sum of pocket money after three months of stay in one of the

Women are recognised and respected in the refugee camps. Special attention is given to women, together, and to keep the traditional social role of women in

provided for the purpose of making it possible for the refugees from different cultural and religious backgrounds to observe their

employing social workers and volunteers to assist the professional social workers to give special help and attention to women. In addition, children of primary school age are given education in their native language.

The refugee situation makes it possible, when the conditions are favourable, to provide separate groups to the

refugee camps. Psychological treatment for the traumatised women and children and post-trauma treatment are also provided.

Office for Refugees and
with children in refugee

it would be desirable to call the attention of UNHCR and local governments to the situation of single



of finances to provide for the the Office for

Half of those provided by the Office for the military at

Strict - though community and

Those who are older than

camps.

Cultural and religious care is taken to keep respect.

All assistance required different nationalities religious customs.

Carries make all the

be initiated to support women in their coping with their new

circumstances. Social programs

in the community shelters

it may cause public health danger that people who r

ely from the inhabitants of the shelter, while those who stay at

cannot be placed

to stay in quarantine until after health screening

refugee camps a

take place in the community shelter, however, even in those cases

Health screening

who are screened share the accommodation and sometimes even

when it takes p

not tested.

beds with those

of the Constitution, especially in the Balkan War situation which has led to the

of the increased number of immigrants - for economic or political reasons - to cross the

working conditions

it was observed that the accommodation situation of the refugees at

the military shelters at the immigration checkpoints are overcrowded and consequently they

to meet the most fundamental hygiene needs in order to avoid diseases

for men and women. No detergent, soap, etc. are provided

man for citizen rights ordered the closing of Miskolc community shelter and one

the Balassagyarmat community shelter.

of the Hungarian Helsinki Committee, the system of community shelters must be

a strategically structured refugee shelter system which should be guided by a

clearly defined refugee policy. Such institutionalized system of community shelters which exist

in Hungary today are unknown in the European Union. In addition, the Hungarian Helsinki

Committee proposed to ensure the suitable financial resources from the state budget, in order

to improve the quality of the refugee camps and in order to cover the costs of responsible

strategic planning and decision making. Further financial resources should be allocated to

Office for Refugees and Immigration.

and the situation of media has frequently become a controversial issue in the last Hungary. Public arguments about the imminent media legislation are influenced interests of party politics - making it difficult to clarify the real functions of the characteristic directions seem to be outlined. In the printed press and electronic public events - the discussion of party politics.

icipation is not considered to be political participation; the microphone of "public sphere" is not negotiated. As a consequence, the value of civic participation and the contribution is low. Criticism of the public sphere and encouragement of the expression of civic interests and comments are not approached in the other direction.

of the global economic flows as a result of economic globalization. These, together with the TV commercials, intend to convey the messages of a consumer society free from difficulties. These types of the media do not take on as a mission of discussing the issues of public importance and public opinion.

According to the evidence of international and Hungarian surveys, time spent with the "consumption of media" has risen, which phenomenon goes parallel with the increase in the significance of the socialisation effects of the media. This process can be observed among the younger generations in Hungary, as well. Young people's way of thinking, their value systems.

ence by the media. In individual way in Hungary, it is not only the images and behaviour are shown by the media. The media is also defined by the social division of labour, the which permeate inequalities. Stereotypical representations of for those searching for identity. The conveying of one-sided images of the acceptance of those images as real. Therefore it is the images of women and relationships of the TV, the electronic media and press.

between 1995-1997, in the fact that women are still presented as consider their own beauty as the most important issue, and perceive pleasing the eye. In reality, women represent themselves in all e occupied by men earlier, and those women who live more and t a new life-style. This life-style is more and more visible. The ty-oriented women appears mainly in commercials. The other men shown in commercials is "the image of the housewife, who geratedly wealthy environment suggesting that a women world and within the flat, housework, cleaning and scrubbing. These images zines, as well.

specialists in 1996, which in the form of hidden that they challenged the ons of advertisements are an rights drawn up in the 97, contain only general prohibitions and limitations, e.g. it forbids advertisements which would offend the

The
ive
mai
med

under the pretext of pro
ompare
the meaning
and the first

of the expression of civic interests and comments are not approached
in the other direction.

time spent with the
increase in the
significance of the socialisation effects of the media. This process can be observed among the
younger generations in Hungary, as well. Young people's way of thinking, their value systems.

and behaviour are shown
by the impulses receiv
development of social
Women may serve as
female images may und
extremely important
which are presented

There has been no
passive participant
their main social f
professions which
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stereotypical imag
stereotypical and
generally appear
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dominate in wom

A great number of giant posters were exhibited in the
emphasised the treatment of women as sexual objects
pornography. Certain posters turned out to be so pro
tolerance of the otherwise patient and uninvolved public. The
mainly based on economic interests and the basic principle
constitution. An Act on advertising, introduced in Scot
prohibitions and limitations, e.g. it forbids advertisements which would offend the

dignity and would encourage violence, and which would be deemed to be frightening and harmful to the moral development of children and the young.

The Act assigns the task of monitoring of the advertisements to the Office for the Protection of Consumer Rights and to the Office of Fairness of Competition in Economy.

The predomination of economic power and the promotion of consumer culture seems to severely underestimate the importance of those norms and requirements which should be negotiated by the general public.

Human relations, feelings, tolerance, the issues of equality and credibility and the issues of private life are topics which are difficult to introduce into the world of advertising and consumer culture. The borderlines of economic, public and private spheres generally remain undiscussed and consequently unquestioned.

It is a well known practice in the Western European countries that self-regulating organisations participants of the media take care of the concerns of the public.

Regulating Organisation for Advertisers exists formally in Hungary its role in the making, and its efficiency is insignificant.

Members of an organisation Club for the Public, analysing TV news and two soap operas, stated that news programmes were definitely male centred and reinforced the existing gender stereotypes. Topics presented by men and women were actively separated in news programmes. Men speak about state affairs, while women speak about affairs which are considered to be local and insignificant, and many times scandalous and extreme. Women are often presented as infantile beings. Male roles appear in the news. News programmes often used the image of women to convey ideologically loaded convictions. When analysing the Beijing Conference, the news about this conference was made ridiculous. Research results on the attitudes suggested by the news programmes show that the real world of women is the private

national attitudes in Hungary. The Media Act prohibits any regulations which would restrict the freedom of the media, however, it prohibits those representations which are harmful to the public dignity. A group of women's organisations started a campaign in public discourse on the Media Act. The purpose of the campaign was to restrict the representations containing sexist pornographic images and representations which are harmful to the public dignity (Working Group-Air, Forum Against Violence, Green Women)

These images because presenting women in this way may contribute to the violence against women. To present the theme of violence against women, a women's organisation, NANE, Women together Against Violence organised an exhibition of "Women's Presses". This exhibition has been displayed at various

of journals

Although guidelines

An Act in Hungary the soap women women to be "Only women negative the repo

and trivialised, and most often were relegated to the sphere of the private. Popular TV soap opera series programmes public power is a male affair sphere.

Very few initiatives are directed to change the Act which was introduced in 1996. One of the sexist representations which would be in connection with restricts representations would encourage

It is necessary the public acceptance of violence against women, a women's organisation exhibition with the title of exhibition since 1998.

Women's NGOs very rarely have the opportunity to start media campaigns or to influence the media through conferences. During the general elections 1998, the Programme Office initiated a campaign called "Women's Votes '98" to inform women via the media.

It is a positive phenomenon that several daily papers regularly present written testimonies of successful women. However, it is a negative phenomenon that newspapers publish articles about women, whose content and style are undisputedly against women, sometimes using some of the characteristics of stereotypical images of women. This is the case of the Parliament Celebration of Women's Day in 1999.

The ways of changing the female image (by a non-person) has been a social process which discriminates women who reject stereotypical gender roles.

The journal was initiated and sponsored by Feminist Network, with additional occasions. Because of the lack of financial resources the journal has not been published yet in 1999.

Establishing an alternative public space for women, free from the negative image suggested by the media. A journal called "Feminist Network" was published since 1994, which critically discusses the stereotypes against women. At the same time it offers models of alternative gender roles. The journal is supported financially.

Women's participation in a wider area is in gender studies.

Computer technology makes it possible for women to receive and send information in a public context. A mailing list was introduced on the Internet for the area of interest. The HIR-NOK internet electronic web site provides opportunities for sharing information for women and on women in Hungarian. HIR-NOK offers information in the following topic areas: women's issues in Hungary, gender studies, the latest news and information on women's issues and employment, issues, education, arts and sciences, etc.

There is an opportunity to change the

Theoretically women working in the traditional areas of media may change negative schemes. As the commercial radio and TV channels the number of women has risen in the profession of journalism.

st a few

However, the profession is rather segregated, women work mainly as reporters or as TV presenters. Due to the inner mechanisms of the profession women are foreign correspondents only in exceptional cases. It is a positive example that women were appointed the chief editors of two nationwide daily newspapers. It is important for the women working in journalism as well, to be informed about discrimination against women and to acquire attitudes free from stereotypes.

1997. It characterises the...
women's issues, which...

...of raising public... An exhibition was...
...the Office of Social...
one hundred years of women's emancipation in Hungary.

Several difficulties occur in the "relationship" of the mass media...
by the special situations of transition...
released from the pressure of one-party system and during the period of...
ocracy both the public electronic media and the private press and electronic...
ing involvement of the government in order to political parties as well.

Several difficulties occur in the "relationship" of the mass media...
can be...
Mass m...
transition...
media...

It is worth paying attention to the phenomenon that media makers have the only aim...
maintaining the freedom of press, while they fail to consider another fundamental constitution...
right, the freedom of speech... of they regard the two rights as identical.

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maintaining the freedom of press, while they fail to consider another fundamental constitution...
right, the freedom of speech... of they regard the two rights as identical.

The...
...as the only possible way of...
civil/public and political interests

The...
...as the only possible way of...
nervously, being unable to feel

the participants of the media should also be...
the changes in the political system did not...
sensitive transition situation the democratic...
governments so far were not willing to introduce any administrative measures, claiming that...
very often programmes aiming at raising the public awareness can be easily misinterpreted and...
political views and interests. These... however, could not serve their

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purpose of founding a democratic society based on parity. The training of journalists...
...
ation of employment policies for the inclusion of the minorities, the disabled and...
have been an effective way of influencing public acceptance.

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the steps to be taken are the following:

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communication with the participants of self-regulatory organisations in...
business and draw up of guidelines for fair representation. To encourage them...
to observe these guidelines.

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to organise a training programme dealing with the issues of gender within the regular...
courses for journalists and media experts.

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to...
participation basis, drawing their attention to the significance of the...
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to...
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and in the written media.

to...
to initiate a media monitoring programme which would call attention...
stereotypical representations of men and women, and which would bro...

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of the gender roles seem to have been strengthened since the In Hungary the tradition

women those experiencing poverty are the old-age pensioners, those bringing up children on maternity benefit and the housewives. Among men most of them are dependent old-age pensioners and employees. Concerning ethnic groups poverty is particularly high among those bringing up children on their own and those living alone. It is known that over a certain point poverty is growing with the number of the family members, among large families there are more people living in poverty.

A significant division in the status of women among different social layers is noticeable. Women bringing up more children are in the most disadvantageous situation regarding their financial condition and also their chances for employment. Their health conditions can be characterised as disadvantageous as well since they are burdened heavily, which situation includes several diseases. Other women, on the other hand, support the arrangement of the household, though it is to be stated, and its effects will arise only in the long run. The Institute for Behavioural Sciences at the SOTE (Semmelweis University) has started a project with the aim of large scale co-operation from all areas of social life. The project is in the processes of carrying out the surveys, but the first partial results are available. These results underline the description given above added the alarming facts concerning domestic violence.

The difference between the typically male and female jobs is that the latter has less prestige and is paid worse. More women than men work in jobs not requiring skills and fewer women in leading positions. These differences cannot be the results of the differences in qualifications. Within certain jobs there are also differences between the genders concerning the workplaces (branch, employer) to the men's advantage (they work in better-paid jobs).

It also has to be emphasised that in such new activities as private business women are in more disadvantageous conditions. They are those who set up businesses – which are mostly small ones, exist on the principle of self-exploitation therefore they are less protected. Moreover, a higher percentage of self-employed women work in commerce where the rate of bankruptcy is higher.

Though in some cases the data are controversial, as a summary it can be stated that women's working life should be placed before family life. They are trying to coordinate the two spheres of their lives and would like to decrease the time spent at the workplace. Women's status is determined by the financial conditions and the opportunities than the family situation is rather affected by these difficulties when trying to balance the two spheres of their lives and would like to decrease the time spent at the workplace. Women's status is determined by the financial conditions and the opportunities than the family situation is rather affected by these difficulties when trying to balance the two spheres of their lives and would like to decrease the time spent at the workplace.

1 January 1999, which offers the schooling benefit and the possibility of having children and being supported by both parents without distinction.

The Government introduced a new system to support families with children better conditions. The family allowance and childcare benefit have become child rights improving bringing them up. Benefits supporting the family without distinction.

Gross National Income (GNI)

Net foreign interest expenditure	-200 601	-182 474	-177 786
Foreign dividend			
Dividend distributed	3 665	4 041	5 602
Dividend received	-58 535	-110 183	-217 037
Balance of dividend	-54 870	-106 142	-211 435
Net income of property	-255 472	-208 616	-206 618
Retained revenue of Companies	-99 572	-170 013	-292 162

Population, 1 January 1998

	Male	Female	Total
Population	4 817 562	5 274 227	10 091 789

Population by age groups, 1 January 1998

0-4	269 644	254 995	524 639
0-14	893 417	851 209	1 744 626
15-49	2 582 486	2 550 635	5 133 121

Urban/rural population, 1 January 1998

	Male	Female	Total
Urban	3 016 256	3 393 398	6 409 654
Rural	1 801 306	1 880 829	3 682 135
Total	4 817 562	5 274 227	10 091 789

Population growth rate, 1998

Male: -0.4
Female: -0.5

Population decrease (%)

-0.5

Total fertility rate, 1998: 1.33

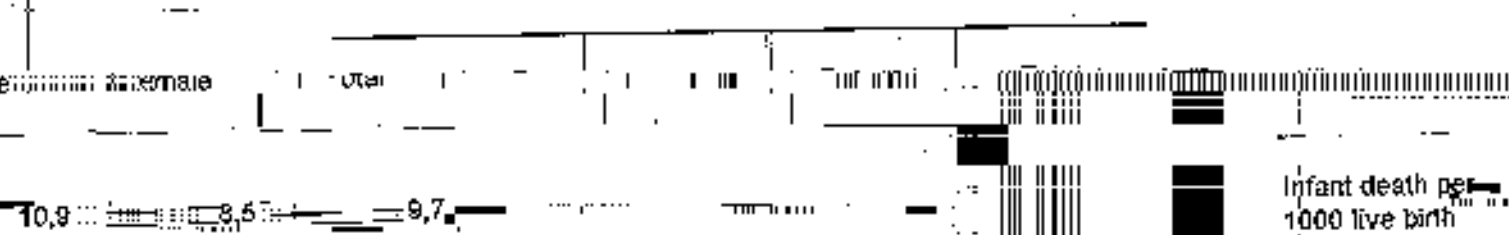
Fertility rate for women aged 15-

26.1

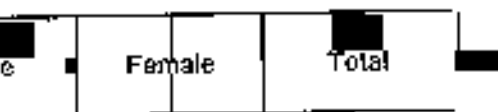
Life expectancy at birth, 1998

	Male	Female	Total
Life expectancy at birth	66,1	75,1	70,48

Infant mortality rate, 1998



Mortality rate, 1998



Under five death per 100,000 population, 1998: 6,16

Contraceptive rate, 1993: 72,6 %

Health personnel, 1993: 99,5

HIV prevalence (per 10000 population), 1998: 0,763

Infant death per 1000 live birth

Under

Under five death per 100,000 population

Maternal d

Contracept

% of births

HIV preva

Gender equality in education

Ratio of hours in primary and secondary education combined (1998) 1.21%

Ratio of literate females to males at ages 15-24 (1996) 0.95

**Economic activity of population aged 15-74
1998**

	Male	Female	Total
Unemployment ratio, %	8,5	7,0	7,8
Employment-population ratio	54,9	41,0	47,7
% of labour force engaged			
in agriculture,	10,4	4,1	7,5
in industry,	41,2	25,6	34,2
in services	48,5	70,3	58,3

**% of labour force by employment status
1998**

	Male	Female	Total
<i>Employee</i>	81,3	88,7	84,6
<i>Member of co-operatives</i>	1,9	1,1	1,5
<i>Member of partnership</i>	4,2	2,6	3,5
<i>Self-employed</i>	12,1	6,5	9,4

HUNGARY

GDP and GNI at current prices 1995-1997

	1995	1996	1997
Gross Domestic Product			
in million HUF	5 685 390	6 968 839	8 540 237
Gross Domestic Product			
in million USD*	44 666	45 185	45 733
Gross National product			
in million HUF	5 225 358	6 393 965	7 819 389
Gross National product			
in million USD*	41 573	41 908	41 871
Per capita GDP, in HUF	548 836	676 315	841 039
Per capita GDP, in USD*	4 316	4 367	4 167
Per capita GNI, in HUF	476 676	510 838	510 838

exchange rates =

SO

Calculated

Source: I

Household income per capita

Year	HUF/year/capita
1995	189 984
1996	214 071
1997	254 646

Housing and environment

	Male	Female	Total
Floor space per persons	26,5	28,3	27,4
No. of persons per room	1,49	1,42	1,46
% population with access to adequate sanitation (sewerage or latrine)	99,7	99,6	99,6
% population with access to improved water (piped water or public standpipes)	99,9	99,9	99,9
% population with access to electricity	99,9	99,9	99,9
Urban population per square kilometre	0,4507		
Land per capita			

Human security and social justice

	Male	Female	Total
No. of victims of violence per 1000 people	43,7	20,1	31,4
No. of persons in prison per 1000 people	280,4	15,6	142,0

Source: Ministry of Interior



Indicators on Education

Country	Year	Male	Female	Total
		Adult literacy rate of 15+ years		
		Literacy rate of 15-24 years		
		Net primary enrollment ratio		
		% reaching grade 5		
		Net secondary enrollment ratio		
		Average number of years of schooling		