

INSPIRE Centre for Excellence on Inclusive Gender Equality in Research and Innovation

INSPIRE 2nd Conference

**Inclusive Gender Equality in R&I from an Intersectional Perspective:
Lessons from INSPIRE for the evidence base, practice & policy**

Townhall Europe, Square de Meeûs 5-6, 1000 Brussels, Belgium

16-17 April 2026

Over the last four years, the Horizon Europe project INSPIRE Centre for Excellence on Inclusive Gender Equality in Research & Innovation (R&I) has promoted inclusive and intersectional approaches to gender equality across the European Research Area. The project is ending at a critical time. Debates on the future of the ERA and society's demands for equality and inclusion are intensifying, while backlash against these principles is growing.

The INSPIRE 2nd Conference will discuss progress towards inclusive gender equality in research and innovation, highlighting key project findings, tools, and resources. It will also involve policymakers, researchers, equality practitioners, and other stakeholders in a dialogue on sustaining change and addressing future challenges.

Draft agenda*

16th April	INSPIRE Evidence and Practice
13:00-13:45	Registration & networking lunch
13:45-14:00	Opening
14:00-15:30	Building up the Evidence Base: Key research findings from INSPIRE <i>Presentations & panel discussion from INSPIRE's research leaders</i>
15:30-16:00	<i>Coffee break & networking</i>
16:00-18:00	Communities of Practice as agents of change: Lessons from INSPIRE's Communities of Practice (CoP) <i>Panel discussions with INSPIRE's CoP leaders</i>
17th April	Integrating inclusive gender equality into the EU's R&I policy ambitions
09:00-09:50	What's next for FP10? Embedding Inclusive Gender Equality at the heart of future R&I policy
09:50-10:40	Embedding the gender dimension in R&I
10:40-11:10	<i>Coffee break & networking</i>
11:10-12:00	Intersectionality as a foundation for inclusive change in R&I
12:00-12:50	Widening & sustaining change
12:50-13:20	Where do we go from here?
13:20-13:30	Closing remarks
13:30-14:30	<i>Lunch & networking</i>

*This agenda is subject to change; a final agenda will be circulated closer to the event.