

---> **Conference**
in honour of
Hanna Beate Schöpp-Schilling

Feminism and Cultural Diversity

Berlin, 6 May 2009

 **HEINRICH BÖLL STIFTUNG**

 Deutsches Institut
für Menschenrechte

Feminism and Cultural Diversity – Frictions and Synergies

Conference

in honour of Hanna Beate Schöpp-Schilling
Wednesday, 6 May 2009, 1.00 p.m.
Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung

The relationship between feminists and advocates of cultural diversity has always been complex. The invocation of cultural diversity has often served as a pretext for ignoring and undermining claims of gender equality as they are enshrined in international human rights treaties. The UN Convention for the Elimination

of all Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) therefore obliges States Parties to take steps towards reforming those cultural patterns which have supported traditional gender roles.

The Berlin Conference, jointly organized by the Heinrich Böll Foundation and the German Institute for Human Rights, aims at a systematic analysis of both tensions and possible affinities between women's rights and cultural diversity.

The conference will take place in honour of Hanna Beate Schöpp-Schilling, member of the CEDAW committee for 20 years, who left the committee at the end of 2008.

Background ↑ Agenda ↓

13.00 Welcome

Barbara Unmüßig, Member of Executive Board,
Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung

Frauke Seidensticker, Member of Executive Board, German Institute for Human Rights

13.30 Culture and equality: Interference and infringement

Anne Phillips: Professor of Political and Gender Theory, The London School of Economics and Political Science
→ Q and A – discussion

14.30 CEDAW Art. 5 and the concept of culture

Frances Raday: Professor of Law, Hebrew University of Jerusalem
→ Q and A – discussion

15.30 Coffee break

16.00 Panel discussion

Women's rights in different cultural contexts: Examples for challenges and solutions

Jamila Bargach, Director, Fondation Si-Hmad Derhem, Casablanca, Examples from a Northern African context (Morocco)

Heiner Bielefeldt, Director, German Institute for Human Rights, Examples from a European context (Germany)

Sherri Helgason, Director, National Aboriginal Initiative, representative of the Canadian National Human Rights Commission, Examples from a Northern American Context (Canada)

Catherine Mumma, free consultant, former Commissioner of the Kenya National Human Rights Commission, Examples from an African context (Kenya)

18.00 Reception

in honour of
Hanna Beate Schöpp-Schilling



For registration:

Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung e.V.

Event office

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Venue:

Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung e.V.

Schumannstr. 8 · 10117 Berlin

Fon +49 30 285 34-0

How to reach the venue:

Metro: U6, station: Oranienburger Tor

Bus: Line 147, bus stop: Friedrichstr./Reinhardtstr.

Tram: M1, M12, tram stop: Oranienburger Tor

Walking distance: 9 minutes