

# DIVID€D TODAY...



# TOGETHER TOMORROW

# MAGAZINE

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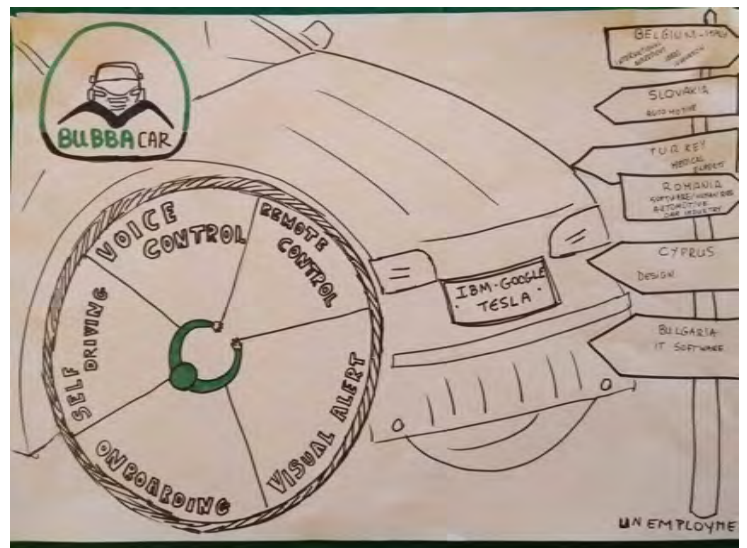
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# DISCRIMINATION OF GENRE

Based on a research lead for a Master thesis about Expo Milano 2015, this article concerns the theme of inequality. As it is a wide topic, only the genre inequality will be reported.

One part of the research consisted in interviewing the different chiefs and the main representatives working in the pavilions of the Universal Exposition. What emerged was that many conferences were held in Expo in order to focus on the theme of discriminations of genre, both in the field of work and in any other social institution in general. In particular, during Expo the importance of women was highlighted in terms of rights for women in the field of food. The latter, consist in some of the objectives which establish the association "Women for Expo". The meeting represented an occasion for reflecting on how much the female dimension is intrinsic in the theme "Feeding the planet, Energy for life". The Women's Weeks, and the project aim to guarantee an open and innovative debate regarding the alimentation challenges, without referring to prejudices. This initiative interchanged conferences and debates to entertainment moments such as readings, meetings and performances, which interpreted the nourishment as enrichment of mind and soul, involving artists, writers and singers coming from all over the world. During the development of these topics, it was discussed the challenge which every woman has to face day by day in order to establish themselves globally as growth engine (Expo2015, 2015).

The representative of the Emirates pavilion affirms, «We cannot speak about Middle East without thinking about the matter of genre». A gap of rights due to the strong shariatic component, determines the Medio-oriental social system. The Muslim jurists is essentially evolved inside a society of patriarchal type, and, accordingly, of a society that gave the woman a subordinate position in comparison to the man, especially in the circle of that complex of norms that regulate the personal statute and the right of family.

As previously mentioned, the Medio-Oriental societies belong to a patriarchal and sexist context. Undoubtedly, in such a context, it was hard for Islamic feminist movements to gain space in the society, vindicating equality of rights. The process of recovering such rights is not set in contrast with the religious practice, but, in reality, it finds its legitimation in religion, since it identifies the origin of the sexist discrimination created by the tradition, and not by the Islam

# DISPROPORTIONS OF GENRE IN THE FIELD OF WORK

However, at a more general level, discriminations of genre persist. If on one hand there are phenomena of emancipation and progress, on the other hand we can find abuses and violations. It still persists, in fact, disproportions of genre in the sector of the education, of the job, of the share to the political life. During the interview, Fathma, representative of the Emirates pavilion, declares that during the experience in Expo she has been a volunteer, as all the other women working in the Emirates pavilion. While, the persons who were employed as remunerated workers were only those belonging to the male genre, not a single woman. The interviewed affirms that it was a normal condition to be a volunteer worker because in their country the majority of women do not need to have a job and to obtain a salary. «In any case» says the lady, «where I live, it is not an obligation to stay at home and take care about children. Women indeed can have a job if they want, but I confirm that very often they are professionally obstructed in the field of work because of discrimination. Emancipation is still at a premature stage but it is not impossible; many protests are spreading in some Arabian countries». “Today we are gathered for a specific reason, which is satisfying and demonstrates that Expo Milano 2015 contains valiant subjects and worthy initiatives.

The Exposition demonstrates in a flexible way that diversity means treasure” said Roberto Arditti introducing a conference. “The declaration of intents regarding the global equalities in the field of work was signed in Europe by 14 Countries, but we have to work for the engagement of all the 28 Member States” declared Marco Buemi. “The Bill is a declaration of intents for valorising diversities in the field of work and what multicultural, multi ethnic and multi religious context better than Expo Milano 2015? «We decided to sign this Bill in order to take advantage of the Exposition occasion, which is a huge media event with high visibility» explained the President Giuseppe Sala « We did not want to miss the occasion of leaving a mark. The Exposition of Milan must represent a new model and this Bill will represent a tangible heritage of our involvement. Who enter the exposition site, feels an atmosphere of kindness and harmony which demonstrates that we are doing well. I would like to deposit at BIE, at the end of the Exposition, a document which contains all our initiatives favourable to diversity, in such a way that our model become the comparison for the next Universal Expositions. We would like that our mark will survive also in the future» (Expo2015, 2015). The theme of marginalisation of women in the labour market obviously refers to the division of the roles of genre inside the family, for which the assignment of procuring the income is submitted to the man and of guaranteeing the integration of the family and the reproduction of the work force to the woman. This is a hot topic that has been discussing for years.

# ROMANIAN SOCIAL INTEGRATION PROGRAMMES

Social protection is often an issue in any state, because it implies cost from the common budget. Discussion regarding distribution of funds for the categories of people privileged are continuous and sensitive.

In Romania, there are many programs designed to prevent and overcome situations that affect citizens wellbeing. Labor market intervention, social insurance and social assistance are implemented on national level by Romanian policies and supervised by European commissions.

Social protection programs must have as their primary aim the prevention of social exclusion by improving life quality. The European Union is funding countries in need and the internal affair ministry decides how it uses the money. The ministry makes contracts with NGO's which design projects covering the needs. The NGO's are funded and use the money transparently under the supervision of a European Commission. Contracted NGO's work in collaboration with the Regional Social and Medical Assistance Direction. They offered medical services, rehabilitation services (house rehabilitation, psychological assistance, social and juridical counseling).

There are also some income supplements allocated for the socially disadvantaged class. One of them is the children allowance which is given irrespective of the family's income. We also have a family sustenance allowance . The minimum guaranteed income, help for house heating and the budget for disabled people. For the direction of social assistance, to allocate these funds properly, they investigate every case in part and determine their needs.

In conclusion, social services in Romania may face improvements due to a short history into taking part of European Union and not being fully aligned with the cultural structure proposed by legislation.

# HOW TRADITIONS INFLUENCE OUR FUTURE CULTURAL HERITAGE

Facing daily unpredictability, European Union is confronting with a situation that may escalate. Despite spending funds on inclusion and integration into making all countries as a whole unit, European Union is still struggling with understanding and cooperation between countries.

Accordingly, to Independent, „Germany' spent more than €20bn on refugees in 2016'. This might be traced down to how traditions influence each country culture and how this principle can affect the whole environment of the country.

Even though Germany government is trying to integrate as many refugees as they can, the process is taking slowly and pressure already raises onto the officials. People nowadays are afraid of mixing their traditions and customs with them. The debate between the two parties, con's and pro's is heating up into the European Union Parliament, because countries from central Europe disagree with integrate refugees into their own land, for example Hungary closes the border and they have in plan to build a fence around borders. Speaking about traditions, European Union as a whole is still a young entity and forcing cultures to cooperate under the same flag it may be difficult.

Eastern countries have a strong sense of staying together and not allowing to easily integrate people into their culture, even though they are warm and welcoming people. On the other hand, western cultures have a predisposition to be more liberal and because of their history into having colonies all over the globe, they tend to integrate easier and accept others. In Romania, is unusual to have people of other color or refugees, but last year in the north of the country, an African refugee from Ivory Coast was taking into a program and integrated into the community.

Despite being different and having a strong connection with our traditions, the time of change is here and even though we are facing rough periods, only a strong and united cooperation between people can make a future heritage prosperous.

# GAME TIME !

R	R	A	C	I	S	M	S	A	I	Q	B	D	N	G
H	A	E	R	E	Q	K	H	G	M	F	G	I	Q	L
I	W	I	F	Z	V	B	K	L	M	B	J	C	R	O
Q	Z	I	X	U	J	P	W	Y	I	W	L	T	E	B
C	C	P	N	M	G	Z	T	Q	G	T	P	A	Z	A
T	V	I	J	T	J	E	E	W	R	H	Z	T	O	L
H	U	Y	N	W	Y	R	E	V	A	L	S	O	I	I
O	P	P	R	E	S	S	I	O	N	A	A	R	Y	Z
M	A	A	O	V	Q	A	W	H	D	S	S	S	S	A
E	Q	Z	X	V	B	U	U	I	O	D	D	H	C	T
L	L	Q	U	G	E	B	A	K	O	F	J	I	N	I
E	Q	W	E	G	J	R	K	L	P	G	K	P	T	O
S	Q	W	E	X	P	A	T	R	I	A	T	E	A	N
S	V	Z	K	J	F	S	A	Y	O	T	H	J	L	K
S	E	G	R	E	G	A	T	I	O	N	Y	B	V	M

Refugee

Immigrant

Racism

Inequality

Globalization

War

Segregation

Slavery

Homeless

Poverty

Dictatorship

Expatriate

Oppression

R	R	A	C	I	S	M	S	A	I	Q	B	D	N	G
H	A	E	R	E	Q	K	H	G	M	F	G	I	Q	L
I	W	I	F	Z	V	B	K	L	M	B	J	C	R	O
Q	Z	I	X	U	J	P	W	Y	I	W	L	T	E	B
C	C	P	N	M	G	Z	T	Q	G	T	P	A	Z	A
T	V	I	J	T	J	E	E	W	R	H	Z	T	O	L
H	U	Y	N	W	Y	R	E	V	A	L	S	O	I	I
O	P	P	R	E	S	S	I	O	N	A	A	R	Y	Z
M	A	A	O	V	Q	A	W	H	D	S	S	S	S	A
E	Q	Z	X	V	B	U	U	I	O	D	D	H	C	T
L	L	Q	U	G	E	B	A	K	O	F	J	I	N	I
E	Q	W	E	G	J	R	K	L	P	G	K	P	T	O
S	Q	W	E	X	P	A	T	R	I	A	T	E	A	N
S	V	Z	K	J	F	S	A	Y	O	T	H	J	L	K
S	E	G	R	E	G	A	T	I	O	N	Y	B	V	M

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