



## **Lilian Hofmeister**

Austria's Candidate for  
the Committee on the  
Elimination of Discrimination  
against Women 2015-2018

## Key Professional Activities

Lilian Hofmeister is a judge with over 30 years of active engagement in the field of women's rights, in particular elimination of discrimination against women.

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|-------------------|--|
| <b>Since 1998</b> | Substitute Justice at the Austrian Constitutional Court  |
| <b>2010-2012</b>  | Chairwoman of the Austrian Association for the Access of Women to Justice                      |
| <b>1997-2003</b>  | Member of the Austrian Federal Equal Treatment Commission at the Federal Chancellery           |
| <b>1996-2003</b>  | Chairwoman of the Working Group on Equal Treatment at the Austrian Federal Ministry of Justice |
| <b>1976-2010</b>  | Career as Judge in Austria   |

- Member of the Austrian Delegation at the 54th (2010) and 57th (2013) sessions of CSW in New York, USA
- Research Project in South Africa on the national implementation of Art. 5a CEDAW (2009)
- Founding Member of UNIFEM National Committee Austria (now Austrian National Committee for UN Women) (1997)
- Legal expert and Member of the Austrian Delegation at the 4th UN World Conference on Women in Beijing, China (1995)
- Consultant as legal expert for the Austrian Protection Against Domestic Violence Act (1993)
- Teaching activities on the topic of women's rights, human rights and justice in academic institutions (e.g. University of Vienna, University of Linz, Renner Institute, Rosa Mayreder College)

Lilian Hofmeister holds a Doctor juris degree from the University of Vienna.

## Selected Publications

Menschenrechte für Frauen und Kinder (Human Rights for Women and Children), In: Arbeitskreis für Gleichbehandlungsfragen Universität Innsbruck (Working Group on Equal Treatment University of Innsbruck), 1/2000

Frauenrechte sind Menschenrechte (Women's Rights are Human Rights), In: STREIT 4/1993;

Frauen und Rechtswissenschaft – ein Männerproblem (Women and Legal Sciences – a male problem), In: Journal für Rechtspolitik 3/1993

# Lilian Hofmeister

Austria's candidate for the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women for the term 2015-2018

Lilian Hofmeister is Austria's first-time candidate for the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women. Throughout her career, Justice Hofmeister has proven expertise on the topic of discrimination against women within the context of various institutions such as courts, public offices, non-governmental, as well as non-profit organisations.

As a judge at several Austrian courts, Lilian Hofmeister acquired first-hand experience in addressing challenges regarding discrimination against women in daily life as well as expertise on the implementation of women's rights at a national level. Her long-standing work in the judiciary, and in particular in the fields of women's access to justice and domestic violence, is also why she considers these topics as two of her priorities for her candidacy to the Committee.

Lilian Hofmeister has repeatedly worked as a legal advisor to develop instruments for the protection of girls and women against discrimination. Moreover, she contributed to the realisation of projects and educational programmes aiming at the strengthening of women's rights (e.g. Belarus, South Africa).

“The fight for the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women is an on-going challenge and requires continuous engagement and personal commitment, which I am ready to provide.”



## **Lilian Hofmeister's Priorities for the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women**

- Promoting women's access to justice and equal treatment of women and men in the judicial system on a structural level;
- Working towards the realisation of de iure and de facto justice between women and men in daily life;
- Combating violence against women in the domestic and public sphere;
- Enhancing the understanding of the social status of women and of their supportive role within family structures;
- Fostering human rights education with a specific focus on girls' and women's rights in order to enhance young women's participation in public life;
- Fostering the full implementation of the CEDAW at the international and national level.

## **Fostering Implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women**

The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, which entered into force in 1981 and counts more than 180 States Parties, laid the foundations for the international protection of women's rights. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women is the body of 23 independent experts monitoring the national implementation of the Convention. Due to the Optional Protocol to the Convention, currently counting more than 100 States Parties, the Committee is also mandated to receive individual communications and to initiate inquiries into situations of grave or systematic violations of women's rights.

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