**Report on Gender Equality and Economic Growth**

**in BSR and EAP countries.   
Qualitative and Quantitative Approach**

EUSBSR FORUM FOR GENDER EQUALITY& ECONOMIC GROWTH, 3.0, 2020 – 2022

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**Winnet Ccentre of Excellence® at the University of Szczecin conducted a qualitative and quantitative study that aimed to measure the relation between Gender Equality and Economic Growth in European Countries**. Marta Hozer-Koćmiel, Małgorzata Guzowska and Anna Gdakowicz contributed to the quantitative study. Sandra Misiak-Kwit, Małgorzata Wiścicka-Fernando, and Shihan Fernando dealt with the qualitative analysis. The qualitative research was conducted by focusing on real-world scenarios from Poland, Sweden and Estonia. Britt-Marie Torstensson, Gertrud Åström, Sirje Vällmann, and Virve Transtok were responsible for the field survey and the questionnaire development process.

The first section of the report consists of a description of a **quantitative study** made in order to understand the relation between Gender Equality and Economic Growth in Baltic Sea Region (BSR) and Eastern Partnership (EAP) countries. The second section contains the summaries of the completed **qualitative studies** based on Estonia, Poland and Sweden.

The comparison of the findings of the quantitative and qualitative studies reveals some similarities between the two. In all the constructed models positive influence of capital on economic growth was proved. The same issue was underlined by the surveyed entrepreneurs, that in order to grow they need proper financial means. Without those resources the opening of the company or some investments would not be able to occur. The quantitative analysis showed that gender equality variables did not have in general statistically significant effect on GDP per capita. The same conclusion was formulated by the entrepreneurs from Sweden, Poland and Estonia: no significant gender barriers were experienced. The reason of the latter statement could be the fact that the interviewees were innovative and successful entrepreneurs, certainly beyond the average.