

**Conclusion by Danièle Muller-Tulli, President of FECRIS  
of the Women in Cults, Gurus and Victims Conference  
Sofia Bulgaria, May 21, 2016**

The title for our reflection during this “Women in Cults, Gurus and Victims” was not chosen by chance.

Today, all international organisations, the UN, Council of Europe, have placed a special emphasis on “gender”. Why?

Because it is not only a way to repair harm done to women over decades, but above all a society cannot be called “democratic” if the question of equality between men and women is not seriously dealt with.

The added value of the FECRIS is without a doubt the diversity of the presentations as well as the geographic diversity of the speakers, who came from North America and Eastern and Western Europe to support their colleagues from Bulgaria, where the CRNRM “Research Centre for New Religious Movements”, located in Sofia, is a member of our Federation.

The dean of the SALSIT University, State University of Library Studies and Information Technologies, Prof. Stoyan Georgiev Denchev, a remarkable personality in the political, diplomatic and cultural worlds, was unfortunately not able to open the conference as expected. However, he sent a warm welcoming letter to the participants, reminding them of the importance of the respect of human values in democratic societies, as well as the importance of information and prevention against deviant groups.

During this enriching day, the speakers from FECRIS showed that women in cults suffer serious harm to their integrity and dignity. The testimony of a former follower of a group directed by a woman provided a touching illustration.

It has shown, once again, that the cultic system is a totalitarian system that does not respect the fundamental freedoms that are the foundation of democratic societies. Their practices must be continually condemned.

FECRIS commits to doing so through its actions in international organisations.