



European Professional Women's Network

**EuropeanPWN President Mirella Visser nominated as one of 50 people most influencing the European agenda**

**Paris, 3 October 2007** - Mirella Visser, President of EuropeanPWN, the leading network for professional women in Europe, has been nominated by a distinguished panel of opinion-leaders from across the European Union as one of the EV50 – the 50 most influential Europeans of the year. She is one of six nominees in the category “campaigner of the year”. Mirella’s nomination is for her work in promoting the professional progress of women and gender diversity programmes to help women and corporations succeed together. Voting for the winner of this award will take place until 12 November on the publication’s website EV50.org and the winners will be announced at a gala dinner on 27 November in Brussels.

Commenting on this nomination, Mirella said *“I am really thrilled by this nomination. It is recognition of the work we do at EuropeanPWN in supporting professional women across Europe and helping develop leadership skills. Our network is truly European – a network of networks through which we share experience, best practice and ideas. To be recognised in this way is very exciting for all our members and corporate partners IBM and Deloitte.”*

Mirella has been a Board Member of EuropeanPWN since it was founded in 2001, and under Mirella and previous presidents Margaret Milan and Avivah Wittenberg-Cox, the Association has grown to a membership of over 3 000 women of 90 nationalities in 14 cities most recently across Germany and in Scandinavia. In addition to membership growth, there has also been a huge surge in activity within the network and in the number of women across Europe sharing best practice and ideas through the interactive platform available to members. Mentoring programs, training events, VIP speaker events, publications in the Women@Work series and Think Tank collaborative research are just some of the activities that take place across Europe.

As Mirella Visser states *“Our success is testimony to the fact that women are taking the lead and companies and societies are noticing the difference. Our state-of-the-art technology and the support of our corporate partners are keys to our sustained growth as we expand into additional European cities.”*

EuropeanPWN has taken the lead in lobbying for diversity on corporate boards through the publication of its bi-annual EuropeanPWN Board Women Monitor, and also publishes regularly on subjects such as diversity, women on boards, mentoring and networking. Mirella and the EuropeanPWN board members and local network presidents are frequent speakers at conferences and international gatherings. *“Women are adding value throughout Europe. EuropeanPWN is about sharing across cultures and learning from diversity so that women can take the next step in driving Europe’s future”* concludes Mirella.

**EuropeanPWN** is a pan-European cross-sectoral networking and training platform for executive and professional women with an international outlook. Our association’s objective is to promote the professional progress of women and give them the tools, networks and training they need to assume leadership.

Today, we count over 3000 members of 90 different nationalities from virtually all business sectors. Participating networks are located in Amsterdam, Barcelona, Brussels, Copenhagen, Geneva, London, Lyon, Madrid, Milan, Nice-Côte d’Azur, Oslo, Paris, Stockholm and Vienna.

Visit our website for more information: [www.EuropeanPWN.net](http://www.EuropeanPWN.net)

**For more information on EV50 and to vote: [www.EV50.com](http://www.EV50.com)**

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