

SHORT REPORT

This year's European Women's Academy kicks off



The start of this year's European Women's Academy (EWA West) was a great success. 17 talented women learnt in 4 days of intense skill trainings and inspiring conversations at the beautiful Gut Boltenhof in Brandenburg, Germany, the tips and tricks of leadership and successful campaigning.

Six top-notch trainers passed on their knowledge about how to build your campaign (Ian Marquardt) what is important in public speaking (Simon Bucknall), how to deal with difficult situations in door-to-door election campaigns (Kiki Bakker), how to put data to use (Max Sundermann), what is new in social media (Anna Vetter) and taught them techniques about how to fundraise best (Laura Owen). What was even more important than that, however, was to learn to trust in one's own qualities and abilities.

"You need to start believing in yourselves. Others can do it too, so why can't you?" said Annelou van Eggmond, Vice President of the ALDE Party, in an inspirational talk on women in politics on the last night of the Women's Academy.

It may still be a long way until the so-called glass ceiling is successfully shattered, but thanks to the European Women's Academy, ELF and its cooperation partners make an important contribution to achieve just that.

The trainings of the European Women's Academy, which will be continued in November 2019 and January 2020, will build upon what was learnt in the workshops during the past weekend and will ensure that the participants are well prepared for future political challenges.