



The XXX BPW International Congress
“BPW International: 90 years of
Women’s Empowerment for Sustainable Development”
Orlando, Florida, USA • 21-25 August 2020



**Maria Susana FERNANDEZ IGLESIAS, Candidate for Chair of Standing Committee on Legislation
 BPW International**

Last name and first name	FERNANDEZ IGLESIAS, Maria Susana
Member of	BPW Madrid, BPW Spain
Nominated by	Silvia Vigata Gonzalez, President, BPW Spain
Consent of own Affiliate	Nominated by her own Affiliate
BPW Offices held	<p>Local Club: BPW Madrid Executive Member From 2019 to 2020</p> <p>Federation: BPW Spain From 2010 to 2020</p>
Positions in other Voluntary Organizations	<p>ASEM (Asociación Empresa Mujer) BPW Spain, partner since 1999. Responsible for the Legal Aspects Committee of ASEM during the years 2011 to 2018.</p> <p>Member of the International BPW International Legislative Committee since 2005</p> <p>Member of the Legal Committee of BPW Spain Since 2019</p> <p>Representative in CEOE (Spanish confederation of business organizations) Legal Commission representing BPW Spain since 2019.</p> <p>Member of the Executive Committee of the Oviedo Chamber of Commerce (from 2018 to the present)</p> <p>Member of the equality board in FADE –Asturian Federation of Entrepreneurs, (from 2018 to the present)</p> <p>Member of the Collegiate Internal Advisory Council of the Oviedo Lawyers Association (from 2018 to the present).</p>





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Related Experience / Qualifications (e.g. CV, resume)

- Degree in Law from the University of Oviedo (1994).
- Master in Franchises Training Center of Post-Graduate Business Administration, Universidad Politecnica de Madrid (CEPADE)
- Legal Compliance and Auditor of ISO 19600-2015 Compliance Management System

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

Lawyer with her own office in Oviedo, specialized in Civil and Commercial Law since 1994. In July 1999 she founded her own firm, in which at this moment is composed of a team of five professionals under her responsibility, all with university degrees.

Lawyer expert in Gender Violence, lawyer by ex officio since the creation of the Special Turn of Violence against Women in Spain.

Chief Executive Officer of the Franchise Consultancy “Centro Franquicias”.

Professor in Centro Superior de Estudios y Formación Empresarial Garrigues (Madrid) 2009 to 2014. CESMA, Business School (Madrid). (2009 and 2010).

IEN, Industrial Business School, belonging to the Escuela Técnica Superior de Ingenieros Industriales de Madrid. (2009 to 2014).

CEPADE, Post-graduate Training Center for Business Administration belonging to the Polytechnic University of Madrid. (2009 to 2014).

Professor in the courses of the University of Oviedo (2003 to 2006).

- Regular lecturer and speaker in courses, talks and conferences on Franchises and on women’s issues.
- Organizer of Franchise Conferences and Workshops in Chambers of Commerce.
- Trainer of the “Oviedo Emprende” from the City of Oviedo and Chamber of Commerce of Oviedo, Years 2012 to 2017 and in “Gijón Impulsa” 2016.

Lecturer at the First Ibero-American Symposium of the Franchise 2018
Professor in the Water Master of the College of Chemistry of Asturias.

PUBLICATIONS:

Co-author of the book, “La Franquicia Tratado Práctico y Jurídico” The Practical and Legal Treaty Franchise, Piramide Editorial 2010. 2nd Edition 2014. (Economy and Business Collection and adapted to the European Higher Education Area).

- Award for the best work of analysis and research on the Franchise. Sif&co Valencia 2010.





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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Best Book of the Franchise World Award. Florence (Italy) 2011. - Award of the Xunta de Galicia for the contribution that this book has had for the dissemination in University and the company of this commercial system. Francoist, Vigo, 2012. - - Asturfranquicia Award (Gijón, 2013) to the book The Practical and Legal Treaty franchise, for its teaching effectiveness, for its excellence in training and for its contribution to the improvement in quality in the Franchise. - Franchiworld Award 2014 for the best book on Franchises, awarded in Bucharest (Romania) 2014 - Co-author of the Book “La Franquicia” of the publishing house Aranzadi, Collection Grandes Treaties - Collaborator of Women, business and the Law 2018 and 2020. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director and presenter of the TV program “Franquiciate” of TeleAsturias and collaborator in radioprograms and TV RPA and EsAsturias TV. • Member of the Jury of the International Prize, Best Woman Franchise of the World, special award for the Best Franchisee in the World, Florence (Italy 2013).
<p>Statement by Candidate (Maximum 500 words)</p>	<p>In my years of membership in the BPW International Federation, I learned that Teamwork struggling to achieve goals has to be done with dedication.</p> <p>I have been actively involved in Associations of Women Entrepreneurs and Directors for many years. As a member of the International Legislative Committee I have been able to participate in several projects and studies under the direction of Da Enrichetta Bellini like women’s leadership, the presence of women in corporate management bodies, the wage gap, child marriage, gender-based violence, among other topics.</p> <p>Many of them have made progress on the situation of decades past. Countries are gradually getting to introduce regulations that require equal pay and the necessary presence of women in management. There’s still a long way to go. That is why I think this Committee has a wonderful opportunity to be the voice in international organizations of many women, entrepreneurs and directors. I would like to form a team of lawyers who are experts in different fields to make teams that allow us to present studies and legislative proposals both at the level of each member country, as well as at the level of international organizations.</p> <p>I propose the creation within the Legal Committee of a “Working Group” consisting of several lawyers and/or experts in Business Associations whose objective will be to support regulatory developments that facilitate and promote the empowerment of women in all types of economies and cultures of the different countries. To this end, it is desirable to exchange information from different countries whose business practices can serve as an example to other communities.</p>





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A second “Working Group” has to be able to conduct studies on country regulations on everything that relates to women at work. With particular emphasis on getting ways to make equal pay a fait accompli, as well as to enhance the presence of women in leadership positions. To this end, I propose the holding of conferences of The Visibility of those countries that are engines of these changes, with examples of companies highlighted by their measures implemented in equality. It is important to encourage the implementation of Equality Plans in companies and to analyse the positive outcome that these plans have in their income statements, both in large and small enterprises. In this sense, the conferences of visibility have an effect called from one company to another. If we can get companies to change their philosophy, it will facilitate legislative changes.

Another “Working Group” that is unfortunately still needed is that related to everything that has to do with Gender Violence and crimes of sexual harassment and abuse within business organizations. In this sense, it is more necessary than ever to continue to raise awareness of many countries, pushing for a change in laws and prohibiting abhorrent practices such as female mutilation.

I think we have a lot of work to do, and I am willing to devote some of my time to contributing to all these objectives by leading this International Legislative Committee.

A written Supporting statement (Maximum 200 words) by nominating affiliate

María Susana Fernández Iglesias is a very active member of our Federation. She is the representative of BPW Spain in the Legal Commission of the Spanish Confederation of Business Organizations and was for several years responsible for the Legal Affairs Committee of the Association Asem Women’s Company BPW.

She is an exercise lawyer who this year turns 25 years old in this profession to which she has dedicated herself in body and soul. A woman fighter and committed to the fight for women’s rights, she became the face of the Corps of Lawyers specialized in this field.

She has combined her activity at the head of his law firm with the management of a Business Consultancy specializing in Franchises. An active and restless woman who makes herself devote part of her time to non-governmental and business organizations such as the Oviedo Chamber of Commerce.

We are very proud to work with her and endorse her candidacy because we think that her conciliatory character and her passion in everything that makes her worthy of our trust. It also has the unanimous support of the Board of Directors of its Club BPW Madrid and the Board of Directors of BPW Spain.

*Silvia Vigata Gonzalez
President, BPW Spain*

