



**2015/2154(DEC)**

29.1.2016

## **OPINION**

of the Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality

for the Committee on Budgetary Control

on discharge in respect of the implementation of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2014, Section III – Commission and executive agencies  
(2015/2154(DEC))

Rapporteur: Barbara Matera

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## SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality calls on the Committee on Budgetary Control, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions into its motion for a resolution:

- A. whereas, as stated in art. 8 of TFEU, equality between women and men is one of the values on which the European Union is founded and the Union promotes it. Whereas gender equality must be mainstreamed in all policies and therefore this has to be taken into account in the budgetary procedures;
- B. whereas, given the continuous involvement of the Commission, the Council and Parliament, the Union's budgetary process provides an opportunity for the planning and assessment of progress towards gender equality within the Union;
- C. whereas gender budgeting should be based on a clear methodology that identifies gender issues within the general budget of the Union, and, when possible, assesses whether policies will reinforce or diminish existing inequalities between women and men;
- D. whereas the European Parliament has repeatedly asked the Commission to promote the use of gender mainstreaming, gender budgeting and gender impact assessment in all policy areas and the Court of Auditors to incorporate a gender perspective into its assessment of the implementation of the Union budget;
- E. whereas the Court of Auditors confirms in its annual report on the implementation of the budget concerning the financial year 2014 that Union spending is a significant tool for achieving policy objectives and puts emphasis on the high-level political aims to be translated into useful operational targets, with common result indicators,
  - 1. Stresses that the promotion of equality between women and men should be integrated into all policy areas; reiterates therefore its call for the implementation of gender budgeting at all stages of the budgetary process, including the implementation of the budget and assessment of its implementation;
  - 2. Reminds the Commission that some budget lines may be indirectly furthering gender inequality by having adverse effects on women when implemented; therefore calls on the Commission to use gender budgeting analysis of both new and existing budget lines and, where possible, make necessary policy changes to ensure that gender inequality does not occur indirectly;
  - 3. Reminds the Commission of its fresh commitment to Budgeting for Results and reiterates the Parliament's demand to include in the common set of result indicators for the implementation of the Union budget as well as gender-specific indicators, which would allow for better assessment of the implementation of the budget from the gender perspective;
  - 4. Calls on the European Commission to include the gender perspective in its future reports on the evaluation of the Union's finances based on the results achieved; calls on the Commission to find satisfactory solutions to the problems that have arisen as regards

gender budgeting and gender impact assessment;

5. Calls on the Commission to produce an assessment of the impact that EU financing has had on promoting gender equality;
6. Invites the European Union to increase the share of the European Social Fund dedicated to develop high quality public services at affordable prices for childcare, care for the elderly and dependent adults (for which are still women that in most cases take care for them) taking also into account the evidences provided by Gender Equality Index, recently developed by European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE);
7. Welcomes the Commission's efforts to cut administration expenditure by including a number of programmes under one heading, but is concerned that the objectives of the Daphne Programme will not be met under the umbrella of the Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme; notes that the Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme managed to sign only a few grant agreements in 2014; encourages the Commission to ensure full implementation and transparency of the budget appropriations for the programme;
8. Calls on the European Court of Auditors to include in its annual report and its special reports, as part of the performance audits, a greater focus on the Equality, Equity and Ecology principle on top of the classic tryptic (Economy, Efficiency, Effectiveness);
9. Calls on the Commission and Member States to implement full training of public officials involved in spending decisions to ensure full understanding of the effects their decisions have on gender equality;
10. Calls on all the EU institutions to assess whether there is genuine parity as regards the distribution of posts within the institutions and bodies of the EU, providing gender-by-gender statistics on staff numbers and grades as part of the discharge procedure.

## RESULT OF FINAL VOTE IN COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

<b>Date adopted</b>	28.1.2016
<b>Result of final vote</b>	+: 22 -: 6 0: 0
<b>Members present for the final vote</b>	Daniela Aiuto, Maria Arena, Catherine Bearder, Malin Björk, Anna Maria Corazza Bildt, Iratxe García Pérez, Mary Honeyball, Vicky Maeijer, Angelika Mlinar, Angelika Niebler, Maria Noichl, Marijana Petir, Terry Reintke, Jordi Sebastià, Ernest Urtasun, Beatrix von Storch, Jadwiga Wi niewska, Jana Žit anská
<b>Substitutes present for the final vote</b>	Izaskun Bilbao Barandica, Stefan Eck, Eleonora Forenza, Ildikó Gáll-Pelcz, Constance Le Grip, Clare Moody, Julie Ward
<b>Substitutes under Rule 200(2) present for the final vote</b>	Pedro Silva Pereira, Claudiu Ciprian T n sescu, Kristina Winberg