



2016/2144(INI)

16.12.2016

OPINION

of the Committee on Budgets

for the Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality

on EU funds for gender equality
(2016/2144(INI))

Rapporteur: Eider Gardiazabal Rubial

PA_NonLeg

SUGGESTIONS

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

- A. whereas the Strategic Engagement for Gender Equality 2016-2019, published in December 2015, highlights the key role of EU funding in support of gender equality, one of the European Union's founding values;
 - B. whereas Article 8 TFEU states the following: 'In all its activities, the Union shall aim to eliminate inequalities, and to promote equality, between men and women';
 - C. whereas, in its report on the revision of the MFF 2014-2020¹, Parliament must give greater support to effective integration of gender mainstreaming so as to combat all forms of discrimination;
 - D. whereas the goal of gender equality in Europe is still far from being achieved, according to the 2015 Gender Equality Index published by the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE);
 - E. whereas gender budgeting entails the introduction of the gender perspective at all levels of the budgetary process, from planning and preparation to auditing and evaluation, and the need to increase EU funding to promote gender equality;
 - F. whereas the lack of specific gender indicators and of collection of gender-disaggregated data, as well as insufficient implementation strategies, regrettably makes it impossible to achieve correct financial and budgetary accountability with a view to evaluating the gender equality impact of EU policies;
 - G. whereas the Gender Equality Index 2015 – Measuring gender equality in the European Union 2005-2012, published by the EIGE in 2015, sets out a detailed assessment and a sound methodology of measuring gender inequality in full alignment with the principle of gender mainstreaming;
 - H. recalling the Interinstitutional Agreement between Parliament, the Council and the Commission on Better Law-Making of 13 April 2016, in particular Articles 20 to 24 thereof on ex-post evaluation of existing legislation as a basis for further action;
 - I. welcoming the efforts undertaken in introducing gender-specific indicators and collecting gender-disaggregated data in some EU legislative measures and policies such as in the European Social Fund (ESF);
1. Regrets that the implementation of the EU budget does not currently match the EU's high-level commitment to gender equality;
 2. Calls for all budget titles to pursue ambitious and clear gender targets and gender mainstreaming standards, and to specify the amount to be allocated to individual policy objectives and actions in order for them to be more transparent and not overshadow

¹ Texts adopted, P8_TA (2016)0309.

gender objectives; believes that gender equality should be embedded as a distinct policy objective in all titles of the EU budget;

3. Calls for gender-specific indicators and criteria to be applied, where applicable, in the project selection, monitoring and evaluation phases of all actions that receive funding from the EU budget, and for the systematic collection of gender-disaggregated data on beneficiaries and participants, including as regards instruments backed by the EU budget, while avoiding overregulation;
4. Looks upon the EU-level funding of EUR 6.17 billion allocated in the current MFF for achieving the objectives of this gender-strategic engagement as a first step, and asks for an increase in this amount in the next MFF; considers that this increase should be based on the evaluation of existing legislation as agreed in the Interinstitutional Agreement between Parliament, the Council and the Commission on Better Law-Making;
5. Calls for strong and effective gender budgeting and gender mainstreaming to be incorporated and implemented in the post-2020 generation of EU funding programmes, with a view to increasing EU funding for measures to combat gender discrimination, while taking into account the following aspects:
 - i) identifying the implicit and explicit gender issues;
 - ii) identifying – where possible – the allied resource allocations; and
 - iii) assessing whether the EU funding programmes will continue or change existing inequalities between women and men (and groups of women and men), girls and boys and patterns of gender relations;
6. Calls for the methodology of the Gender Equality Index 2015 – Measuring gender equality in the European Union 2005-2012, published by the EIGE in 2015, to be adopted for measuring gender inequality as a basis for planning and implementing EU funding programmes.

RESULT OF FINAL VOTE IN COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

Date adopted	8.12.2016
Result of final vote	+ : 22 - : 5 0 : 2
Members present for the final vote	Nedzhmi Ali, Richard Ashworth, Jean-Paul Denanot, Gérard Deprez, José Manuel Fernandes, Eider Gardiazabal Rubial, Jens Geier, Ingeborg Gräßle, Zbigniew Kuźmiuk, Vladimír Maňka, Clare Moody, Paul Rübig, Petri Sarvamaa, Patricija Šulin, Eleftherios Synadinos, Indrek Tarand, Monika Vana, Marco Zanni
Substitutes present for the final vote	Xabier Benito Ziluaga, Bill Etheridge, Ivana Maletić, Andrey Novakov, Derek Vaughan
Substitutes under Rule 200(2) present for the final vote	Clara Eugenia Aguilera García, José Blanco López, Edouard Ferrand, Valentinas Mazuronis, Claudia Schmidt, Nils Torvalds