



2017/2210(INI)

15.11.2017

DRAFT OPINION

of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

for the Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality

on gender equality in the media sector in the EU
(2017/2210(INI))

Rapporteur: Lynn Boylan

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SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Employment and Social Affairs 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:

1. Notes that while women make up a clear majority of journalism and media graduates in the EU, they are still significantly under-represented at the decision-making level; notes that this under-representation is a major contributing factor to the negative and stereotypical portrayal of women in the media in the EU;
2. Considers that women working in the media will benefit from the general advancement of conditions for women in the workplace, including ending the gender pay gap, reducing precarious work, ensuring affordable and accessible childcare and boosting collective bargaining rights;
3. Considers that achieving equality for women at all levels, and particularly decision-making levels, in the media requires transparency in pay systems, gender-neutral classification, effective measures to end sexual harassment, reversing the onus of proof in challenging gender discrimination in the workplace, and desegregation of the workforce;
4. Calls for the adoption of a quota system in both public and private media organisations in order to ensure women's equal representation at the decision-making level; calls for Member State governments to link the award of public contracts in the media to obligatory gender-equality measures; notes the positive role of women's councils and women's equality officers in workplaces;
5. Calls for the Commission and Member States to provide financial support to women's organisations which are active in the sphere of promoting gender equality in the media;
6. Notes the positive role of media workers' unions and professional associations in promoting gender equality more effectively within their internal structures than has been achieved in the workplace; considers that such professional associations should play a key role in developing strategies for gender equality.