
More women in ICT: empowering women in the digital world

ICT is another sector where women are under-represented and earn less than men. Parliament is calling for action to rectify the situation.

[The digital sector offers](#) highly skilled, well-paid jobs but fails to attract and employ many women..

Information and Communication Technology (ICT) is a growing sector that creates 120,000 new jobs every year. In 2014 it accounted for 4.2% of the EU's gross domestic product. However, by 2020, the EU will lack 900,000 skilled ICT workers.

Women are still under-represented in this sector: they are less likely to take up studies in this field and are much less represented in the ICT job market.

Women made up only 17.2% of the 1.4 million people who chose to information and communication technologies in the EU in 2015 and only 16.7% of the nearly 8.2 million employed as ICT specialists in the EU in 2016.

The situation is also dire compared to other industries. Women only take up 19% of managerial position in ICT whereas the average for other sectors is 45%.

Women empowerment in the ICT sector is one of the topics discussed during activities to mark [International Women's Day](#) at the European Parliament. In 2016 MEPs already adopted a resolution [on gender equality and empowering women in the digital age](#). German Greens/EFA member [Terry Reintke](#), author of the resolution, said: "We wanted to highlight there is a gender gap within what we call the digital revolution. There is a gap and very often women are left out.

We wanted to make suggestions how we can change that."

[Watch a Facebook live interview with her here.](#)

The EU already has many initiatives to promote and encourage women to take up ICT-related careers, including [EU Code Week](#), [Grand Coalition for Digital Jobs](#), [European Network of Women Web Entrepreneurs Hubs](#), the [Startup Europe Leaders Club](#), [European Digital Skills Awards](#), and the [EU Prize for Women Innovators](#).

Find out more

[Study: The underlying causes of the digital gender gap and possible solutions for enhanced digital inclusion of women and girls](#)

[Briefing: women in ICT](#)

[Briefing: gender equality in the EU's digital and media sectors](#)



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