



8.3.2018

DRAFT OPINION

of the Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality

for the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

on the situation in Hungary (pursuant to the European Parliament resolution of
17 May 2017)
(2017/2131(INL))

Rapporteur for opinion: Maria Noichl

(Initiative – Rule 45 of the Rules of Procedure)

PA_INL

SUGGESTIONS

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

- A. whereas Article 8 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) stipulates that equality between women and men is a fundamental principle of the Union, which must therefore also be a core concern of all Member States;
- B. whereas Hungary occupies, with 50.8 points, the second to last place in the European comparison of the European Institute for Gender Equality's Gender Equality Index 2017 and has, furthermore, lost 1.6 points since 2010;
 1. Notes the efforts taken in recent years to achieve a better reconciliation of work and private life; recalls the Commission's proposal for a directive on work-life balance for parents and carers¹ presented in April 2017 and encourages the Hungarian government to contribute to its swift adoption;
 2. Deplores the reinterpretation and narrowing of gender equality policies towards family policies and recalls the National Strategy for the Promotion of Gender Equality (2010-2021), which Hungary has not yet implemented;
 3. Notes the very low number of women in political decision-making positions;
 4. Is concerned about the impact of Hungary's Law on the Transparency of Organisations Receiving Foreign Funds on civil society organisations that receive funds from the EU, EEA and third countries and on the future functioning of non-governmental organisations, which include many women's rights organisations, which are crucial for the functioning and progress of society;
 5. Recalls that violence against women in Hungary, as in all other Member States, is a persistent structural violation of human rights; calls on the Hungarian government to ratify the Istanbul Convention as soon as possible;
 6. Stresses the importance of the right of women to self-determination and, in this context, the importance of respecting their sexual and reproductive rights, including the respect of patients' rights to a safe and non-violent birth;
 7. Strongly condemns, in this context, the ill-treatment and discrimination of Roma women in fields such as access to healthcare;
 8. Condemns the attacks on free teaching and research, in particular on gender studies, which have become the target of defamation campaigns.

¹ COM(2017)0253.