



2018/2119(INI)

4.12.2018

POSITION IN THE FORM OF AMENDMENTS

of the Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality

for the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs

on the European Semester for economic policy coordination: Annual Growth
Survey 2019
(2018/2119(INI))

On behalf of the Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality: Ernest
Urtasun (rapporteur)

AMENDMENTS

The Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality presents the following amendments to the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs, as the committee responsible:

Amendment 1

Motion for a resolution

New Recital

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

whereas the principle of gender equality is a core value of the EU; whereas Articles 8 and 10 TFEU lay down the obligation of gender mainstreaming, stating that the EU must aim to eliminate inequalities, promote gender equality and combat discrimination in all its policies and activities;

Amendment 2

Motion for a resolution

New Recital

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

whereas persistent gender gaps, such as the 18.2 % gender employment gap, the 16.2 % gender pay gap and the 36.5 % gender pension gap, among others such as the gender gap in decision-making processes, are still significant in the EU; whereas urgent efforts are needed to eliminate these gaps, as they remain one of the main barriers to achieving gender equality and an unacceptable form of gender discrimination;

Amendment 3

Motion for a resolution

New Recital

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

whereas addressing the gender pension gap, which stands at an average of nearly 40 % in the EU and results from inequalities accumulated throughout the course of women's lives and their periods of absence in the labour market, is of the utmost importance; whereas the provision of care services is instrumental to an effective response to women's labour shortages;

Amendment 4

Motion for a resolution
New Recital

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

whereas underfunded public services and cuts to social services, including healthcare, education, housing, childcare and long-term care services, have a particular impact on women, as they often fill the gaps in caregiving, education and other kinds of family support, typically without remuneration, which perpetuates women's disproportionate responsibility for care;

Amendment 5

Motion for a resolution
New Recital

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

whereas the quality of care provisions varies greatly within and among the Member States, and among private and public settings, urban and rural areas, and age groups;

Amendment 6

Motion for a resolution New Recital

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

whereas women are underrepresented in ICT and are generally employed in low-quality digital jobs; whereas there are gender gaps in access to and the use of digital technologies; whereas including more women in the digital economy could have a significant impact on economic growth;

Amendment 7

Motion for a resolution New Recital

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

whereas the European Semester should contribute to the realisation of the European Pillar of Social Rights and monitor the delivery of all 20 key principles, with a particular emphasis on ensuring equality of treatment and opportunities between women and men, the right to equal pay for work of equal value, and the right to affordable care services of good quality; whereas the focus of EU economic governance should be shifted from the narrow objective of GDP growth towards well-being and convergence with high minimum standards for gender equality;

Amendment 8

Motion for a resolution New Paragraph

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

Regrets once again the absence of gender

mainstreaming in the Europe 2020 strategy and calls on the Commission and the Council to introduce a gender equality pillar in the strategy and an overarching gender equality objective;

Amendment 9

Motion for a resolution New Paragraph

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

Reiterates its concern about the lack of a gender perspective and indicators within the framework of the European Semester, and calls on the Commission and Member States to ensure greater inclusion of a gender mainstreaming perspective in the formulation of country-specific recommendations, convergence programmes and national reform programmes, by setting qualitative targets and measures that address persisting gender gaps, and to systematically apply the principles of gender budgeting;

Amendment 10

Motion for a resolution New Paragraph

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

Reiterates its call on the Commission to facilitate the monitoring of the employment and poverty reduction headline targets and the impact of reforms over time, by requesting that Member States use gender-segregated data, and to define additional gender-specific indicators; requests that the macroeconomic imbalance scoreboard be enriched with social indicators, including gender inequality indicators, which must be on an equal footing with economic

indicators;

Amendment 11

Motion for a resolution New Paragraph

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

Calls on the Commission and Member States to use gender-disaggregated data in their monitoring process where possible, in particular with regard to the participation of women in the labour market;

Amendment 12

Motion for a resolution New Paragraph

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

Reiterates its concern about the lack of good-quality, affordable and accessible childcare and long-term care services for older people and people with disabilities and chronic illnesses, which is one of the reasons for the underrepresentation of women in the labour market; stresses the need to prioritise action to tackle the problems of unemployment, poverty and social exclusion, which affect women most of all, particularly those from disadvantaged backgrounds, with a particular emphasis on sustainable employment/good-quality jobs conferring rights and good-quality public services that ensure social inclusion, especially in the areas of education, healthcare, childcare, care for people with support needs, public transport and social services; calls on the Member States to improve public investment in care services and to monitor their quality, affordability and accessibility;

Amendment 13

Motion for a resolution New Paragraph

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

Stresses that unemployment, poverty and social exclusion are of great concern, particularly among women; points, therefore, to the importance of maintaining the focus of the European Semester on delivering smart, sustainable and inclusive growth, with greater coordination of national and EU policy, in order to create more good-quality jobs in the EU, thereby addressing gender employment and the pay and pension gaps;

Amendment 14

Motion for a resolution New Paragraph

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

Is concerned about vertical and horizontal labour market segregation throughout the EU, gender pay and pension gaps, and the low number of women involved in decision-making processes; stresses that the employment rate of women is still below that of men; underlines that the employment gap is especially high for mothers and women with care responsibilities;

Amendment 15

Motion for a resolution New Paragraph

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

Calls on the Commission and the Member States to monitor women's labour participation on the basis of the number

of hours worked per week, contract types, and women's financial independence, and to fight female poverty on that basis; calls for an increase in the minimum wage to at least a living wage, for binding measures to bring about wage transparency and for pay audits to be carried out at company level, in order to achieve equal pay for equal work and for work of equal value in all sectors and professions; calls, furthermore, on the Member States to unblock the Women on Boards Directive; urges the Council to reach a swift agreement on the proposal for a directive for a better work/life balance, including on equal and affordable childcare and life-cycle care services for working parents and carers to enable them to better reconcile their private and professional lives;

Amendment 16

Motion for a resolution New Paragraph

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

Points out the importance of monitoring the number of NEETs as a percentage of the total population aged 15 to 24, among other auxiliary indicators, and stresses that special attention must be paid to young women and girls, as there is a considerable difference between the sexes when it comes to the proportion of NEETs in this age group;

Amendment 17

Motion for a resolution New Paragraph

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

Calls on the Member States to strengthen their efforts to improve the digital skills

that citizens need on the labour market, with a particular focus on minimising the gender gaps in this field; stresses the urgent need to improve women's education and employment in ICT sectors and to facilitate their access to high-level positions;

Amendment 18

Motion for a resolution New Paragraph

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

Calls for policies supporting women's entrepreneurship, facilitating their access to finance and business opportunities, providing tailor-made training and establishing measures for the reconciliation of professional and private life;

Amendment 19

Motion for a resolution New Paragraph

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

Calls on the Commission to carry out a gender impact assessment of the structural reforms implemented so far and suggests that the European Institute for Gender Equality be involved more closely in all stages of the European Semester;

Amendment 20

Motion for a resolution New Paragraph

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

Invites once again the Commissioner(s) responsible to discuss the gender aspects

*of the Annual Growth Survey with the
Committee on Women's Rights and
Gender Equality each year;*