



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2014 - 2019

Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality

2015/2074(BUD)

16.6.2015

OPINION

of the Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality

for the Committee on Budgets

on the mandate for the trilogue on the 2016 draft budget
(2015/2074(BUD))

Rapporteur: Barbara Matera

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SUGGESTIONS

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

- A. whereas Parliament, the Council and the Commission agreed in a joint declaration in November 2013 that the annual budgetary procedures applied to the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) 2014-2020 would integrate, as appropriate, gender-responsive elements;
- B. whereas gender stereotypes and the substantial gender pay gap that continues to exist might prevent or discourage women from starting or advancing their careers, leading to inequality, which has an adverse impact on the economy and significant implications for job creation; whereas access to public services, which remain an important employment sector for women, is crucial for women's economic independence and empowerment; emphasises that the Commission must do more to promote education and training for women and girls, specifically in the fields of science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) and information and communications technology (ICT) – fields in which a significant skills gap exists and which hold huge potential for future growth; whereas there will be an estimated 7.7 million STEM jobs by 2025 and an estimated 825 000 unfilled vacancies for ICT professionals by 2020;
- C. whereas violence against women is an obstacle to true equality between women and men; whereas there is a lack of available and comparable data in the area of violence against women in the EU, but the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) provides access to existing statistical data and information;
- D. whereas according to recital 10 of Regulation (EU) No 1381/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme for the period 2014 to 2020, 'it is essential that in the implementation of the Programme the name 'Daphne' be maintained in relation to the specific objective that is aimed at preventing and combating violence against children, young people and women, so as to keep the Daphne programmes' profile as high as possible';
 - 1. Reaffirms its request to use gender budgeting consistently throughout the whole budgetary procedure and the Multiannual Financial Framework, and to use budgetary expenditure as an effective tool for promoting gender equality and, to that end, suggests that an external working group be set up to increase transparency of the budgetary process as regards gender budgeting;
 - 2. Emphasises that, under Article 8 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, the promotion of equality between men and women is a fundamental principle of the EU; recalls that the issue of gender equality should be incorporated into all policies and addressed at all levels of the budgetary process;
 - 3. Calls for the adoption of 'gender budgeting' in both European and national strategies for more effective promotion of gender equality; highlights the need to earmark increased

funding for the fight against all forms of violence and discrimination against women and girls;

4. Calls on the Commission to allocate funding to programmes promoting and supporting women's entrepreneurship and access to microfinance, mainly under the Competitiveness of Enterprises and Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (COSME) programme and from the European Social Fund (ESF) and the Youth Employment Initiative (YEI) as well as all structural funds and the EFSI;
5. Call on the Member States to make use of the funds available under the European Social Fund and the European Regional Development Fund to promote gender equality, more specifically in the field of employment, not merely by implementing gender mainstreaming, but also by providing measures aimed directly at disadvantaged groups of women, taking due account of the impact of the economic crisis, investing in high-quality public services and, specifically, guaranteeing adequate provision of high-quality services at affordable prices for childcare, elderly care and care of other dependent persons, and calls for genuine budgetary transparency in respect of the funds (ESF, PROGRESS, DAPHNE) allocated to gender equality policies;
6. Stresses the need to fund educational campaigns aimed at combating gender stereotypes and raising awareness of equal rights and equal opportunities under the Erasmus+ programme;
7. Calls on the Commission to set up a European monitoring centre on gender violence within the existing EIGE, and, to this end, increase its workforce by one; considers that the budget of the EIGE should otherwise remain stable;
8. Reiterates its previous calls to keep the Daphne programme as a separate heading within the Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme;
9. Reiterates its demand to further develop gender-specific indicators and data to allow assessment of the EU's general budget from a gender perspective and to monitor efforts on gender budgeting.

RESULT OF FINAL VOTE IN COMMITTEE

Date adopted	16.6.2015
Result of final vote	+: 26 -: 4 0: 0
Members present for the final vote	Daniela Aiuto, Beatriz Becerra Basterrechea, Malin Björk, Anna Maria Corazza Bildt, Viorica Dăncilă, Iratxe García Pérez, Anna Hedh, Elisabeth Köstinger, Agnieszka Kozłowska-Rajewicz, Angelika Mlinar, Maria Noichl, Marijana Petir, Terry Reintke, Liliana Rodrigues, Jordi Sebastià, Michaela Šojdrová, Ernest Urtasun, Elissavet Vozemberg, Jadwiga Wiśniewska, Anna Záborská, Jana Žitňanská
Substitutes present for the final vote	Inés Ayala Sender, Izaskun Bilbao Barandica, Biljana Borzan, Louise Bours, Stefan Eck, Ildikó Gáll-Pelcz, Clare Moody, Branislav Škripek, Dubravka Šuica, Marc Tarabella