Gender Mainstreaming in Committees and Delegations of the European Parliament

Study for the FEMM Committee

2014
Gender Mainstreaming in Committees and Delegations of the European Parliament

STUDY

Abstract

Upon request by the FEMM Committee, the study aims at assessing to what extent the Women's Rights and Gender Equality Committee (FEMM) of the European Parliament (EP) contributed to the effective implementation of gender mainstreaming in European Parliament activities. Gender mainstreaming (GM) in the work of AFET, AGRI, BUDG, ENVI and LIBE is also analysed. Moving from the assumption that one of the prerequisites for the success of GM lies within institutional factors and conditions, several social mechanisms are identified in the EP decision-making process. Their strategic use could contribute to better address men's and women's needs in European legislation and other policy-making.
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<td>Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific</td>
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<tr>
<td>AFCO</td>
<td>Committee on Constitutional Affairs</td>
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<tr>
<td>AFET</td>
<td>Committee on Foreign Affairs</td>
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<tr>
<td>AGRI</td>
<td>Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>ALDE</td>
<td>Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe</td>
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<tr>
<td>BUDG</td>
<td>Committee on Budgets</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAP</td>
<td>Common Agricultural Policy</td>
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<tr>
<td>CCC</td>
<td>Conference of Committee Chairs</td>
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<td>CDC</td>
<td>Conference of Delegation Chairs</td>
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<tr>
<td>CFSP</td>
<td>Common Foreign and Security Policy</td>
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<td>CONT</td>
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<td>CoP</td>
<td>Conference of Presidents</td>
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<tr>
<td>CRIM</td>
<td>Organised Crime, Corruption and Money Laundering</td>
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<tr>
<td>CSO(s)</td>
<td>Civil Society Organisation(s)</td>
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<tr>
<td>CULT</td>
<td>Culture and Education</td>
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<tr>
<td>DEVE</td>
<td>Committee on Development</td>
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<td>DROI</td>
<td>Sub-Committee on Human Rights</td>
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<tr>
<td>EAFRD</td>
<td>European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EC</td>
<td>European Commission</td>
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<tr>
<td>ECON</td>
<td>Economic and Monetary Affairs</td>
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<tr>
<td>ECOSOC</td>
<td>Economic and Social Council</td>
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<tr>
<td>ECR</td>
<td>European Conservatives and Reformists</td>
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**EEAS**  European External Action Service  
**EFD**  Europe for Freedom and Democracy  
**EGF**  European Globalisation Adjustment Fund  
**EIGE**  European Institute for Gender Equality  
**EMPL**  Employment and Social Affairs  
**ENP**  European Neighbourhood Policy  
**ENVI**  Committee on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety  
**EP**  European Parliament  
**EPP**  European People's Party  
**ESDP**  European Security and Defence Policy  
**EU**  European Union  
**FGM**  Female Genital Mutilation  
**FRA**  European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights  
**GIA**  Gender Impact Assessment  
**GM**  Gender Mainstreaming  
**GMA(s)**  Gender Mainstreaming Amendment(s)  
**Greens/EFA**  The Greens/European Free Alliance  
**GUE/NGL**  Confederal Group of the European United Left/Nordic Green Left  
**HLG**  High Level Group  
**IA(s)**  Impact assessment(s)  
**IC**  Institutional Capacity  
**IL**  Institutional Learning  
**IMCO**  Committee on Internal Market and Consumer Protection
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<td>Own Initiative Report(s)</td>
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<td>International Trade</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>IPA</strong></td>
<td>Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ITRE</strong></td>
<td>Committee on Industry, Research and Energy</td>
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<td><strong>JURI</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>LGBT</strong></td>
<td>Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transsexual</td>
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<td><strong>LIBE</strong></td>
<td>Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs</td>
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<td><strong>MEP(s)</strong></td>
<td>Member(s) of the European Parliament</td>
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<td><strong>MFF</strong></td>
<td>Multiannual Financial Framework</td>
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<td><strong>PETI</strong></td>
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<td><strong>POSEI</strong></td>
<td>Programmes d'Options Spécifiques à l'Eloignement et l'Insularité</td>
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<td><strong>REGI</strong></td>
<td>Regional Development</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>S&amp;D</strong></td>
<td>Socialists &amp; Democrats</td>
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<td><strong>SEDE</strong></td>
<td>Sub-Committee on Security and Defence</td>
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<td><strong>TFEU</strong></td>
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Aim of the study

The main aim of the study is to assess to what extent the Women's Rights and Gender Equality Committee (FEMM) of the European Parliament (EP) contributed to the effective implementation of gender mainstreaming in the European Parliament activities in the period between July 2011 and February 2013.

The analytical approach adopted in the study includes two relevant dimensions for the mainstreaming of the gender equality perspective within the policy-making process: institutional capacity and institutional learning.

One of the prerequisites for the success of the gender mainstreaming strategy lies within institutional factors and conditions. Four institutional capacity dimensions are relevant for an effective mainstreaming of the gender equality perspective in the policy process: the quality of civil servants and organisational characteristics; inter-departmental relations (organisational processes); the style of interaction between institutions and their social and economic environment; and evidence-based policies.

Another important aspect in analysing if and to what extent the consideration of gender differences is internalized within EP’s parliamentary committees’ work concerns institutional learning. The issue is how to extract useful knowledge from gender mainstreaming interventions (“what works?”), in order to obtain similar results in different contexts. This leads to the social mechanisms theoretical framework, which is used for effectively identifying the success factors that ensured effective implementation of different policies/programmes/projects (in this case gender mainstreaming).

The analysis of how and to what extent FEMM contributed to the effective implementation of gender mainstreaming in the EP’s activities in the period between July 2011 and February 2013 yields evidence of a well-developed legal and institutional framework for gender mainstreaming. However, there is room for improvement in its internal procedures and networking among different bodies.

Gender mainstreaming in the European Parliament: legal framework, main actors, procedures, and factors affecting the success of FEMM activities

Gender Mainstreaming bodies of the EP

Three specific bodies - with occasionally overlapping roles - are in charge of implementing gender mainstreaming in parliamentary activities and structures: FEMM; the High Level Group for Gender Equality and Diversity; and the Gender Mainstreaming Network.

- FEMM is the main body in charge of promoting gender equality and gender mainstreaming in all the EP’s policy and legislative processes. It promotes gender mainstreaming in the EP’s work through participation in legislative and non-legislative acts, influencing the gender mainstreaming of the work of the other committees, the preparation and follow-up of oral questions and plenary
resolutions, the commissioning of studies, the organization of public events, like International Women’s Day, hearings and workshops, and press releases.

- The **High-Level Group on Gender Equality and Diversity** promotes and implements gender mainstreaming within the EP’s structures and bodies, without having a direct role in the legislative process.

- The **Gender Mainstreaming Network (the Network)** made up of MEPs (one for each Committee) is in charge of implementing gender mainstreaming in the work of their respective committees/delegations and is supported by a network of EP administrators in the committee secretariats. The Network seems to have a potentially important role in mainstreaming gender issues into the work of their committees which can only be developed through a strong coordination amongst its Members and FEMM.

### Procedures for the implementation of gender mainstreaming

With regard to EP’s procedures for the implementation of gender mainstreaming in the legislative process of the European Parliament, it is worth stressing that FEMM is in fact a “horizontal” committee with competence on gender equality in all policy fields. On the one hand, this allows FEMM to intervene on every policy issue. However, since FEMM is rarely in charge of the legislative procedure and other committees must therefore accept its intervention, its power is limited. Not only does this status impact on FEMM’s power in promoting gender mainstreaming in the legislative process but it may detract from its standing among the members of the EP. However, interviews have brought out a relatively strong commitment on the part of FEMM members and a positive climate leading to effective networking between FEMM’s members irrespective of their specific political group.

In relation to the legislative process and interactions between the actors, a number of factors impact on FEMM’s success in promoting gender mainstreaming in the EP.

**FEMM’s role in the policy process**

In accordance with Rule 43 of EP’s Rules of Procedure, the EP President refers proposals for legislative acts and other documents of a legislative nature to the committee responsible for consideration. This first phase of the procedure is crucial for the role of FEMM in the procedure and thus its potential for mainstreaming a gender equality perspective into parliamentary decision-making.

In this phase, FEMM may be asked to produce an opinion (Rule 49) or act as associated committee (Rule 50). The experience in drafting the FEMM-LIBE report on proposal 2011/0129 (COD) for a directive establishing minimum standards for the victims of crime was highlighted by all interviews as a demonstration that **FEMM’s effectiveness** in including a gender equality perspective in the policy process is **greater** when it acts as a **joint committee** (Rule 51). In this case, the Rules of Procedure allow FEMM to effectively influence the drafting of the act since the committee responsible is obliged to consider amendments which focus on gender equality. On the contrary, when it acts as an opinion giving committee, the committee responsible is not obliged to take into account all or indeed any of the FEMM suggestions/amendments.
In this framework, the FEMM President has a relevant role in supporting FEMM’s requests for allocation of the associated or joint procedures. The Secretariat may also have an important role in this initial phase because it prepares the relevant interventions with the Conference of Presidents (CoP) and supports the negotiations.

**Reputation and authority of the FEMM rapporteurs**

A second relevant phase concerns the nomination of the rapporteur in charge. The selection of a successful rapporteur is based on the development of specific social mechanisms that enhance the actors’ role and reputation, like the actors’ certification, authority/reputation, etc. Indeed, the rapporteur’s success depends on his/her expertise, capacity for networking (outside formal structures) and political prestige, as well as his/her commitment to gender equality. Other actors with a relevant role in this phase are the Secretariat, the political group coordinators, and the policy advisors.

**The salience of the issue at stake in the public debate outside the EP**

Another relevant element impacting on FEMM’s effectiveness in supporting gender mainstreaming is the relevance of the issue in the internal and external policy debate. The more distinctly the issue at stake is already framed in a gender perspective in public debate outside the EP, the greater is the possibility for FEMM to introduce a gender perspective in the legislative process concerned.

Therefore, the development of salient issues in the area of gender equality or from a gender mainstreaming perspective outside Parliament can be seen as one way to heighten the awareness of the CoP with a view to FEMM involvement in the initial, crucial phase of EP policy process attribution: i.e. considering inclusion of FEMM as an associated or joint committee.

**Gender mainstreaming in the work of FEMM between July 2011 and February 2013**

**Opinions**

Within the period under scrutiny, FEMM finalised 33 opinions for 11 Committees (out of 23), including 718 suggestions/amendments on different issues, in the period considered. Of these, 210 have been fully (145) or partially approved (65). The highest number of suggestions/amendments included in the FEMM opinions was addressed toEMPL (with 10 opinions and 190 suggestions/amendments respectively). However, only 39.5% were approved. The approval rate is even lower in the other committees: 28% in AFET; 11% in LIBE; 5.5% in BUDG.

More than half (54.5%) of the 718 FEMM suggestions/amendments relate to “Gender data and tools”, a category including all those suggestions supporting the development and use of “gender statistics”, “gender disaggregated data”, “monitoring systems with a gender perspective”, “Gender Impact Assessment” (GIA) methodologies, and “Gender Budgeting”. Almost half of these (48,5%) relate to the “social and economic empowerment of women”, a category that includes suggestions supporting increased participation of women in the labour market through work-life balance actions, support for women’s entrepreneurship, and social and political empowerment.
For a better understanding of the possible reasons for inclusion or non-inclusion of the opinions’ suggestions/amendments, the analysis investigated three possible hypotheses:

1) the inclusion of opinion’s suggestions/amendments is related to the presence of female MEPs in the committee receiving the opinions; 2) the inclusion of an opinion’s suggestions/amendments is related to political party alignment between the FEMM rapporteur and the rapporteur of the committee receiving the opinions; 3) the inclusion of an opinion’s suggestions/amendments is related to the specific topics/issues covered by the opinion’s proposals.

With regard to the presence of female MEPs in the committee receiving the opinions, the analysis does not show a strong relation with the inclusion of the opinions’ suggestions/amendments in the report of the responsible committee. Furthermore, the inclusion of FEMM opinion’s suggestions/amendments in the report does not seem to be related with the FEMM and responsible committees’ rapporteurs belonging to the same political party. In relation to the third hypothesis, the analysis suggests that inclusion of suggestions/amendments of an opinion (thus a high/medium “impact” of the opinions) is closely related to the issues covered. A high proportion of suggestions/amendments are adopted when they refer to topics already recognized and accepted inside and outside the EP as “gender-related”, or when they do not touch upon particularly sensitive issues.

As to the 210 suggestions/amendments accepted in the final version of the reports as released by the competent Committee, these follow a similar trend in focusing generally on “Gender data and tools”, and “The empowerment of women” categories, while those not accepted relate to more incisive issues in reforming policy making from a gender perspective, such as gender quotas in politics, company boards and the judiciary, or the application of gender budgeting tools for the EU budget. Accordingly, accepted suggestions/amendments are more often those that are already acknowledged as gender related issues in the public debate.

**Gender Mainstreaming Amendments (GMAs)**

Besides opinions, under the period under scrutiny, FEMM members proposed 177 GMAs on 27 reports during the reference period. Most of the GMAs are addressed to the EMPL committee (20.9% of all amendments). Usually, GMAs just add the words “gender”, “female” or “women” in the text or introduce a reference to the promotion of gender equality. The analysis of the finalised procedures including GMAs (17 acts out of 27) suggests that that most of the GMAs are taken into consideration (85.6%). Indeed, EMPL, AFET and ENVI included all the GMAs received.

This may be related to the fact that there are few of them, often not implying radical changes to the amended text and, significantly, they can be tabled without following the complex procedures of opinions.

**Own-initiative reports**

FEMM – like any other EP committee - can also produce reports relevant to their competence. These are called “own initiative reports”, and are used to submit a motion for a resolution on a relevant topic not covered by a legislative proposal.
In the period under examination, FEMM drafted 18 own initiative reports. Particularly important, also, are those own initiative reports which deal with issues not so readily associated with gender equality that can be useful as a means of “paving the way” for the introduction of a gender perspective to apparently unrelated issues.

Joint committee procedure (Rule 51)

In the framework of its legislative work, FEMM was the responsible committee together with LIBE and JURI for four ordinary legislative procedures. The possibility of drafting reports jointly with another responsible Committee was considered by the MEPs interviewed to be very important, and the outcome very effective. Members highlighted in interviews that, in the joint committee procedure, FEMM can play a stronger role than in other procedures of cooperation with other committees because it can directly contribute to the drafting of the report from the very beginning and can have its own rapporteur. Consequently, the Directive (2012/29) establishing minimum standards on the rights, support and protection of victims of crime now takes into account the different needs of male and female victims.

Gender mainstreaming in the work of AFET, LIBE, AGRI, BUDG and ENVI

Analysis of the work of these committees between July 2011 and February 2013 shows that all the Committees considered, except BUDG, directly addressed gender issues albeit in different ways. Gender equality issues tend to be more extensively considered in the work of the AFET and LIBE committees.

AFET produced the largest number of legislative and non-legislative acts that include direct references to gender equality issues (41% of the acts produced in the period under review). References to gender equality mostly concern women’s rights and the fight against gender based violence.

Next comes LIBE, which included direct references to gender equality issues in 16.1% of legislative and non-legislative acts in this period. As in the case of AFET, the LIBE references to gender equality issues focus on citizens’ rights (citizens’ equal rights, irrespective of sex).

Only 7.7% of the ENVI legislative and non-legislative acts directly include references to gender quality issues. In these cases, they relate to the inclusion of gender issues in healthcare policies.

AGRI and BUDG did not produce reports or recommendations addressing gender equality issues in the period considered.

However, AGRI had drafted an important report just a few months before the period under examination: the Report on the role of women in agriculture and rural areas (2010/2054 (INI)), which addressed the socio-economic role of women in the agricultural sector and the need to improve their living conditions in rural areas. In this report, AGRI takes the view that, as part of the forthcoming reform of the CAP, the needs of women in rural areas and the role of women working in agriculture should be taken into account and
given priority with regard to access to services and social protection, in line with territorial needs in each Member State.

In the case of **BUDG** (in charge of the EU financial framework and the annual EU budgets), in contrast, the analysis shows that its reports do not directly take in the gender equality perspective. However, often, issues tackled could be considered from a gender perspective. This is, for instance, the case of the numerous reports issued on the approval of the mobilization of the European Globalisation Fund (accounting for 55% of the reports issued in the considered period), which could have considered gender differences in labour market reintegration after dismissal, and measures addressing the different needs of dismissed women and men, while stressing the importance of considering gender budgeting procedures.

Analysis of these committees’ work in the period under review also shows that the inclusion of a gender perspective is not directly related to the share of women rapporteurs and women in the committees. On the contrary, what seems to count is again the **salience** of the gender equality issues in public debate.

**Recommendations**

Based on the analysis above, the following main recommendations can contribute to improving the effectiveness of **FEMM’s work**:

- **FEMM Members** should continue their **efforts in stimulating debate** – inside and outside the EP – on specific aspects of gender equality that are overlooked or underestimated since the salience of the issue at stake is one of the most important elements in introducing a gender mainstreaming perspective in EP’s work. Public debate could be initiated with careful planning of own-initiative reports addressing **issues that are either new or overlooked**, or have the potential to have important consequences on the evolution of European legislation and its effectiveness. Furthermore, a wide range of events should accompany the decision to produce these reports, and the issues should be well communicated both inside and outside the EP. Again, the **consultation with stakeholders** during the drafting process should be made public, whenever possible, and the results and recommendations should be debated both in committees and/or in plenary.

- **In addition**, closer consideration is needed at the coordinators’ level in order to see **when to pursue joint or associated committee status** and when **FEMM should resort to different tools**. One way of paving the way towards closer cooperation with other committees would be to undertake **strategic planning** of associations with other committees when producing own-initiative reports. This might trigger a **pre-commitment mechanism**, by virtue of which it becomes very difficult for the other parliamentary committee to refuse cooperation with FEMM as associated or joint committee in the future.

- **FEMM coordinators should be duly selective in drafting opinions** and base this selection on the likelihood that the opinion will be positively received by the committee responsible. Several indications might be taken into consideration, including the availability of a **FEMM rapporteur committed to the issue at stake**.

- Regarding GMAs, **MEPs who are not members of FEMM should be involved in order to increase the number of people interested in and working on gender issues**.
issues. This should go hand in hand with drafting detailed and significant amendments.

- For a better understanding of the main issues at stake in the different committees, as well as fostering a more effective co-ordination of efforts directed towards gender mainstreaming, FEMM should encourage the other committees to appoint gender mainstreaming representatives who are also members of FEMM. Alternatively, networking and interactions with FEMM members should be further enhanced.

- Special attention should be paid to GIAs and other policy tools such as specific studies and analysis on gender equality and women’s rights issues carried out by EP’s Policy Departments and Impact Assessment units which are possibly the most valuable tools for increasing FEMM’s influence within the institution. To this end, specific gender training on how to include a gender perspective within EP’s work (especially for the assistants, the network of GM administrators and/or the FEMM secretariat) as well as promoting studies and analysis on women’s rights and gender equality contribute to improving knowledge and raising awareness of gender mainstreaming.
1. AIM OF THE STUDY AND ANALYTICAL APPROACH

**KEY FINDINGS**

- The main aim of the study is to assess to what extent FEMM contributed to the implementation of gender mainstreaming in European Parliament’s activities in the period between July 2011 and February 2013.
- Effective implementation of the gender mainstreaming strategy depends greatly upon Institutional Capacity (IC);
- IC depends on the adoption of key public management principles;
- Policy assessment tools (e.g. Gender Impact Assessment) are useful to improve Institutional Learning (IL);
- Generalization of findings is possible using the theory of social mechanisms.
- The study involved both desk analysis and field work, including interviews with MEPs and members of the Secretariat and an online survey addressed to national EP Information Offices.

1.1 Aims and contents of the study

Gender Equality is considered a fundamental right in Europe and is increasingly recognized as a key factor for achievement of growth, employment and social inclusion.

Since 1996, the EU has adopted a dual-approach strategy towards gender equality, which encompasses both pro-active intervention (gender mainstreaming) and reactive intervention (specific measures such as policies addressing the gender pay gap, gender discrimination, etc.) in tackling gender equality.

Gender mainstreaming is based on the recognition that women and men do not have the same resources, needs and preferences and that many structures, systems and policies are not gender neutral, but treat men’s experience as the norm.

The European Parliament has a long-standing tradition on gender mainstreaming, having adopted in 2002 a resolution on "Gender Mainstreaming in the European Parliament" in which the European Parliament committed itself "to adopting and implementing a policy plan for gender mainstreaming", the overall objective being "to promote equality of women and men through genuine and effective incorporation of the gender perspective in policies and activities, including decision-making structures and the administration". The Women's Rights and Gender Equality (FEMM) committee is in charge of promoting gender

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equality and gender mainstreaming within the work of the European Parliament and in all policy sectors. This study aims to assess how and to what extent FEMM actually contributed to the implementation of gender mainstreaming in the work of the European Parliament in the period between July 2011 and February 2013 and how effective it proved to be.

The study contains:

- a brief overview of gender equality strategies adopted in the EU (chapter 2);
- an assessment of the legal framework, main actors and procedures of gender mainstreaming in the EU and the European Parliament (chapter 3);
- a systematic and comprehensive analysis of the work of FEMM in supporting gender mainstreaming in the work of EP committees during 2011 and 2013, with due attention to the effectiveness of the tools adopted (chapter 4);
- an assessment of the work of the AFET, AGRI, BUDG, ENVI and LIBE in the area of gender equality independent of the input of FEMM (chapter 5);
- an outline of the main findings and recommendations as to how the effectiveness of FEMM could be enhanced further to the assessment (chapter 5).

Some annexes complete the study. Annex I includes a list of the legislative and non-legislative acts considered in the study and analytical grids of the acts directly addressing gender equality issues produced by the FEMM, AFET, AGRI, BUDG, ENVI and LIBE in the period concerned. Annex II presents the tools adopted for the study, outlining the face-to-face interviews and on line questionnaires.

1.2 The analytical approach: the use of social mechanisms for policy learning and dissemination

One of the prerequisites for the success of the gender mainstreaming strategy lies within institutional factors and conditions. In fact, adopting appropriate legislation and creating gender equality and gender mainstreaming bodies do not in themselves suffice to ensure effective implementation of the gender mainstreaming strategy. It also depends on the effectiveness of the implementation processes and certain institutional conditions, such as: quality of human resources, clear mandates, competence and vision in implementing gender mainstreaming policies, clear and transparent procedures, and involvement of all the relevant actors in all phases of the decision-making process.

1.2.1 Institutional capacity

In the literature, the above mentioned factors are associated with the issue of institutional capacity (IC). Institutional capacity is above all a normative notion. It is unclear whether

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it was raised first in the policymaking field or in the academic field, but it can be argued that the use of IC prospered in the former before being developed in the latter. As a consequence, IC “has rapidly moved from being an analytical concept to a prescriptive one”\(^4\). In the academic field, it is also used as a normative concept\(^5\).

At EU level, IC is defined as the set of characteristics related to human capital in the public sector and to the performance and success of public policies. The concept of "capacity" highlights the attention to be paid to the development of strategies and competences to maximise opportunities for policy implementation. The EU is interested in improving its IC because well-managed public institutions and well trained public servants are essential for the successful design and implementation of public policies. Moreover, policy programming with a gender perspective and the use of appropriate assessment tools (e.g. Gender Impact Assessment) calls for increased capacity as well as specific commitment.

According to the Means Guide\(^6\), in order to assess institutional capacity reference should be made to the:

- public management principles with the focus on performance of public administrations
- governance principles adequate to policy formulation and implementation within pluralistic arenas.

Within these dimensions, the principal areas of IC evaluation mentioned in the literature\(^7\) are:

- the quality of public employees;
- intra- and inter - organisational relations (organisational processes);
- the style of interaction between public bodies and their social and economic environment; and
- the use of appropriate policy-making tools.

The first area refers specifically to the public management dimension. In the particular case of gender mainstreaming, evaluations have shown that there is a lack of expertise on gender issues among European civil servants, as will be explained later on. In the context of this study, which concentrates on the European Parliament (EP), it is to be noted that...
the civil servants together with political groups and their staff and first and foremost the Members of the European Parliament are actors within a complex multi-dimensional, multi-national and multi-cultural decision-making environment.

The second and third areas, intra- and inter-organisational relations and the style of interaction between institutions and their social and economic environment, are related to the governance dimension. In analysing the governance dimension, the focus should also be on the role of the actors in the policy process (the legislative process in the case of the European Parliament – see Chapter 3 of this report).

In the policy analysis literature, both formal procedures and informal interactions are part of governance – one of the dimensions of institutional capacity. This dimension refers to the critical factors (conditions) that support public actors in responding to the risks and opportunities inherent in decision-making processes taking place in complex arenas, and which can help them to promote and manage cooperative problem-solving arrangements.

Theories about governance place major emphasis on the strategies adopted by institutions in order to pursue objectives in policy-making contexts. In modern democratic societies, these policy-making contexts are characterised by institutional fragmentation and a multiplicity of actors. Each of these actors is assumed to be sufficiently autonomous and able to mobilise resources to influence the evolution of policies. In this context, an alternative governing system to hierarchical and market-based systems can make a positive difference. This alternative governance is characterized by interdependence between organizations and continuous interactions between various actors (due to the need to exchange resources and negotiate objectives).

In addition, in theory, the governance model based on the interdependence between organizations and continuous interactions between various actors affects the controversial nature of decision-making processes positively and has the capacity to turn “zero sum games” into positive sum games (win-win). This focuses attention on the management of the decision-making processes and supports innovative forms of stakeholder participation, so as to ensure the necessary level of communication. Therefore, the main challenge of this governance model arises from the need to enhance networks of actors to build coalitions and cooperative arrangements, to resolve disputes, etc. Decision-making procedures in the European Parliament and at the European level in general can be characterised as practicing this governance model.

This study will therefore consider not only performance in the management of decision-making but also the plurality of actors involved in decision-making and implementation of the gender mainstreaming strategy and gender equality policies at the various different stages and levels. This will help to understand the way in which the gender dimension is incorporated into the process.

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1.2.2 The role of actors

In this respect, it seems useful to dedicate some more attention to the role of actors in the new governance system.

In modern societies, the complexity of problems means finding integrated solutions. Therefore, measuring institutional capacity includes examining whether the governance arrangements are able to manage a wide range of activities in a way that optimises outcomes for a wide range of stakeholders (win-win situations).

In this area the integration of private actors (e.g. Non-Governmental Organisations – NGOs; Civil Society Organisations - CSOs) appears of strategic importance in mobilizing resources (information, know-how, economic resources, etc.) and in improving communication. Consequently, “good governance” involves all the relevant actors in finding solutions as this provides access to a wider range of resources and can help decision-makers towards a better understanding of the features and implications of the respective problem/opportunity.

1.2.3 Policy-making tools

The ability of public institutions to draft evaluation plans and create monitoring and reporting systems is another dimension of IC. This is a matter of adopting the appropriate policy-making tools. Carried out at each stage of the policy cycle (formulation, implementation, evaluation), formal evaluation and assessments enable public institutions to base their policies on regularly updated knowledge and experience. Evaluations, like this study, therefore contribute to institutional learning and improved institutional capacity.

In addition, policy proposals at the European level have to be accompanied by explanatory statements which describe the need for new or amended legislation and show their coherence with EU legal principles, including the promotion of gender equality. Among the main tools used to this end at the EU level are impact assessments (IAs). For the assessment of gender mainstreaming policies, gender impact assessments (GIAs) should be carried out.

IA is both a European policy tool applied with the objective of better regulation and a procedure for ex ante evaluation of the social, environmental and economic impacts of Commission proposals. Launched in 2002\(^1\), the IA has since been further developed for targeted and transparent decision-making. In particular, IAs help structure the policy-making process, de-compose complex realities, identify cause-effect links and likely impacts select policy options (legislation, action plans, recommendations, etc) in a traceable way, and consider possible unintended consequences. IAs also empower citizens and respond to their right to know the reasons for political and regulatory choices. Finally, IAs foster better legislation with integrated policy objectives and enable institutional learning.

GIAs are used to identify the different effects existing or future EU policy has on men and women. GIAs examine whether the proposed legislation under scrutiny has positive or negative outcomes in terms of promoting gender equality and therefore can be used to improve quality and efficacity of legislation. The general purposes of GIAs are: helping to identify the right intervention strategies with gender equality already taken into consideration in the planning phase of new legislation, verifying planning quality in terms of equal opportunities in participation, and contributing to overall policy evaluation by providing benchmarks to measure the success of implementation of the gender mainstreaming principle.

While IAs are regular practices within the European Commission, the European Parliament has only recently introduced its own IA procedure. In 2011, the Committee of Legal Affairs of the European Parliament, with Angelika Niebler as rapporteur, presented a motion for a European Parliament Resolution aiming at further reinforcing IA procedures at both the Commission and Parliament level, urging the creation of an autonomous impact assessment structure for the European Parliament. This structure has recently been created within the new General Directorate for European Parliamentary Research Service. Its Directorate for Impact Assessment and European Added Value has recently supported the legislative own-initiative reports of FEMM on the Gender Pay Gap and EU legislation for the elimination of violence against women.

1.2.4 Institutional learning (IL)

IL is as complex as the decision-making described above. The main question is therefore, how to extract information from previously successful interventions with the objective to “learn what works” and to re-use this information (extrapolation) in new interventions for better or at least equally good results. For gender mainstreaming in the work of committees and delegations, IL consequently means analysing the decision-making process within FEMM, and of FEMM in cooperation with other committees.

In this study, we will approach the issue of “what works” using the “social mechanism” literature. Social mechanisms can explain how specific features of the governance structure, context-related factors (for example public meetings opposed to meetings behind closed doors), network configurations (for example political groups, Intergroups, or national delegations), or tools (for example opinions or GMAs) lead to desirable results while others lead to undesired results. Moreover, mechanisms have a good level of


13 This is called the “extrapolation problem”, as defined by Eugene Bardach, 2004.
generality, i.e. they work in fairly similar ways in different contexts, which allows for their transfer into new or different interventions, even though they are neither rules nor laws.

For this study, it can be assumed that mechanisms are basic elements of the decision-making process which influence the involvement of actors and their coordination in order to achieve the desired results. In line with Bardach, the hypothesis is that examining these basic elements in one case can show ways to reproduce this intervention successfully without going through the entire original decision-making process. The mechanisms approach can be seen as an effective way of isolating the factors that ensured successful decision-making.

Understanding mechanisms as basic elements of the decision-making process is consequently of great relevance for IL and also for improved institutional capacity, and in this case in particular for the further dissemination of successful gender mainstreaming.

A non-exhaustive list of different mechanisms to be considered when analysing institutional capacity for gender mainstreaming and gender equality is provided in the following table. It is divided into three typologies.

14 Ibid 11.
Table 1: Types and examples of mechanisms

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<th>Types of mechanisms</th>
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| 1) Mechanisms that generate engagement                   | **Creation of focusing events** explaining how a certain issue increases in salience, entering and climbing the policy agenda.  
**Framing** entails the creation and maintenance of a shared view: it helps communication and simplification of complex issues.  
**Diffusion, threshold effect and bandwagon**: the success of a practice resides in the number of participants adhering to it. Threshold effects point to the level at which actors perceive participation as beneficial and explain the reasons for entering into a partnership.  
**Attribution of threat and opportunity** explains why policy entrepreneurs respond with intense efforts to situations where they perceive that the window of opportunity may open, and more generally helps explain the actions pursued by an actor. |
| 2) Mechanisms that increase and/or diminish actors’ role and reputation | **Actor certification and de-certification**: this concerns the positive or negative validation of actors, their performance and their claims, by external authorities that can enhance or reduce the role of a specific actor  
**Authority/Reputation**: this is particularly relevant for institutional capacity; enhancing knowledge transfer and boosting participation are more likely to occur in the presence of a credible and trustworthy source  
**Public disclosure, naming and shaming**, the mechanisms defining the sanctions against defection or free riding. |
| 3) Mechanisms that develop better/smooth networking       | **Performance feedback**: this entails the production, handling, and interpretation of information on efforts and outcomes, in the light of previously established aspirations and goals.  
**Deadlines and commitments** are tools structuring future events and discarding other options. They favour pre-commitment to results and prevent procrastination tendencies.  
**Repeated interactions**: all mechanisms based on the observation and repetition of others’ behaviour, based on the fact that they later become permanent reasons for behaviour.  
**Rules of coordination**: they improve the capacity to anticipate moves, enhancing self-coordination by the actors in pursuit of an agreed objective. Different rules and modes can be defined: hierarchy, reciprocity, deferential adjustment, positive and negative coordination, voting. |

1.2.5 Contextual factors supporting policy innovation: the salience of the issue

It is acknowledged that the salience of issues at stake is one of the contextual factors that can make a policy transformation/innovation possible or not.\(^\text{15}\) The fact that an issue is considered relevant by public opinion and/or by political actors influences the feasibility of a certain policy transformation/innovation, favouring or blocking it. Moreover, salience is

one of the contextual elements that can be shaped by the actors’ intervention in order to modify the original context and make adoption of the specific policy they promote possible.

1.3 Research design and tools

On the basis of the analytical approach described in the previous section, the research activities involved both desk analysis and field work.

The desk analysis

The following main activities have been carried out:

- a review of the scientific literature and applied/evaluative research;
- a review of the legislative and non-legislative acts produced by FEMM and the other five Committees selected;
- analysis of available data on the gender composition of Committees and Delegations.

The review of the scientific literature and of the applied/evaluative research focuses on public policy analysis, process evaluation and gender mainstreaming standard practices as reflected in official EU, EIGE, EP and Member States' documents and manuals, including those of the European Commission Impact Assessment Framework on Social Impacts.

The aim is to extend knowledge of the approaches and tools that could be used by FEMM for further gender mainstreaming and for assessing its effectiveness, such as models of change and analysis of the policy process and of institutional capacity, as presented in the previous section.

The review is aimed at assessing the extent to which gender aspects are considered in decision-making in the EP and the degree to which FEMM activities influenced the work of other committees. To this end the analysis covered for the period in question:

- The legislative and non-legislative reports (with specific regard to opinions and Gender Mainstreaming Amendments - GMAs) carried out by FEMM in the period between July 2011 and February 2013;
- the legislative and non-legislative reports drafted by the five selected committees that have not received FEMM opinions. Thanks to this analysis, it was possible to advance further in determining if and to what extent gender mainstreaming aspects have been internalized into the work of the committees.

The focus is on the topics addressed and the possible reasons for inclusion (or exclusion) by the other committees. For a better understanding of the possible reasons for inclusion or non-inclusion of FEMM opinion suggestions/amendments, the analysis investigates
three possible hypotheses: inclusion of opinion suggestions/amendments is related to the presence of female MEPs in the committee receiving the opinions; inclusion of opinion suggestions/amendments is related to political party alignment between the FEMM rapporteur and the rapporteur of the committee receiving the opinions; inclusion of opinion suggestions/amendments is related to the specific topics/issues covered by the proposals in the opinion.

Similarly, the analysis of the legislative and non-legislative reports drafted by AFET, AGRI, BUDG, ENVI and LIBE\(^\text{17}\) in the period in question without any input from FEMM, considers the representation of women in the five Committees (members, chairs or vice chairs, rapporteurs and experts invited to hearings) and the presence of members who also belong to FEMM as possible factors influencing the Committees’ attention to gender equality issues. In addition, the topics addressed are analysed on the basis of a GIA methodology in order to assess to what extent gender issues have been mainstreamed in the committees’ activities and their relevance in the internal and external policy debate (salience).

The analysis of the committees’ activities was based on two analytical grids: one for FEMM opinions and one for gender mainstreaming aspects in the work of AFET, LIBE, ENVI, AGRI and BUDG (see Chapter 4 and 5 respectively). The completed analytical grids for the six committees considered are presented in Annex 1.

The analysis of the gender composition of Committees and Delegations by level of responsibility was based on the data available on the EP website.

\(^{17}\) Committee on Foreign Affairs (AFET); Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs (LIBE); Committee on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety (ENVI); Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development (AGRI); Committee on the Budgets. (BUDG).
2. GENDER EQUALITY AND THE GENDER MAINSTREAMING APPROACH IN THE EU

KEY FINDINGS

- The commitment of the EU to promoting gender equality started in the late fifties with the right to equal pay between men and women included in the Treaty of Rome. The 1997 Treaty of Amsterdam ranked equality between men and women among the fundamental principles to be incorporated into all policies. Over the years, many European Directives have been adopted to enhance equal treatment in the areas of work, pay, social security, and access to goods and services.

- Besides legislative actions, gender equality has also been promoted through other policy actions based on a dual approach strategy, which encompasses both positive actions (specific measures tackling gender inequalities) and gender mainstreaming.

- The introduction of the gender mainstreaming approach marked an important change from the previous EU action on equal opportunities for men and women, supporting a holistic approach with horizontal integration, across all policy areas, and vertical integration throughout all levels of the hierarchy.

- Another important step in supporting gender equality policies was the creation of the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE).

Gender equality, as defined by the Council of Europe (1998), “means an equal visibility, empowerment and participation of both sexes in all spheres of public and private life. Gender equality is the opposite of gender inequality, not of gender difference, and aims to promote the full participation of women and men in society”\(^\text{18}\).

Gender Equality is a time - and space - dependent phenomenon, and perspectives on equality have evolved over time. At least three historical waves of approaches to equality between the sexes can be distinguished\(^\text{19}\). They are: the equal treatment perspective, which focuses on the human rights of women and men; the women´s perspective, which stresses the empowerment of women and the added value that women can bring forth; and the gender perspective, which considers the relationship between men and women in all socio-economic and cultural spheres.

This section briefly summarises the main legislative and policy approaches adopted so far in the EU.


\(^{19}\) Horelli L.C and Gilroy R., The EuroFEM toolkit for mobilising women into local and regional development, Helsinki University of Technology, 1998.
2.1 The legislative framework

The commitment of the EU to promoting gender equality was established as early as 1957 with the right to equal pay between men and women included in the Treaty of Rome. The 1997 Treaty of Amsterdam ranked equality between men and women among the fundamental principles with the consequence that its incorporation into all policies was no longer an option but became an obligation. In this respect, Article 2 of the Treaty of Lisbon of 2009 refers to gender equality as a common value of all Member States, while Article 3 of the Treaty defines gender equality as one of the objectives of the Union. Gender equality is also enshrined in Article 23 of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights.20

Over the years, many European Directives21 have been adopted to enhance equal treatment between men and women. EU legislation covers the areas of work, pay, social security, and access to goods and services. Furthermore, legislation supports the establishment of common standards for women who are self-employed and assisting spouses.

Some significant legislative initiatives are pending. In 2008, the European Commission proposed a Directive amending Council Directive 92/85/EEC on the introduction of measures to encourage improvements in the safety and health at work of pregnant workers and workers who have recently given birth or who are breastfeeding.22 The proposal is blocked in the Council, as indeed is the Commission initiative of 2012 which aims at a 40% objective of the under-represented sex in non-executive board-member positions of publicly listed companies, with the exception of small and medium enterprises23. This proposal was preceded by the 2011 EP resolution on women and business leadership, which urged companies to attain a 'critical mass' of 30% female representation on management bodies by 2015 and 40% by 2020, calling on the Commission to adopt specific legislation, including quotas, should Member States fail to achieve this objective by 2012.

### 2.2 The policy framework and gender mainstreaming

Besides legislative actions, gender equality has also been promoted with various other policy actions.

Since 1996, the EU has pursued a **dual approach strategy**, which encompasses both **positive actions** (specific measures tackling gender inequalities, such as the gender gap, policies reconciling work and family life, etc) and **gender mainstreaming**.

While the **positive action principle** in the area of work is enshrined in Article 157(4) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU), article 23 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights supports this principle even more clearly by saying that “the principle of equality shall not prevent the maintenance or adoption of measures providing for specific advantages in favour of the under-represented sex”.

Alongside positive actions, **gender mainstreaming** is the main policy approach adopted at the international and European level to integrate gender equality. Gender mainstreaming is based on the recognition that women and men do not have the same resources, needs and preferences and that many structures, systems and policies are not gender neutral, but treat male experience as the norm. In this sense, the EU “shall aim to eliminate inequalities, and to promote equality between men and women” in all its activities (Article 8, TFEU).

Box 1 briefly summarizes the development of the gender mainstreaming principle at United Nations (UN) level, launched at the 4th UN Conference on Women in Beijing in 1995.

**Box 1: The Beijing Conference and gender mainstreaming**

Gender mainstreaming is a strategy to implement equality between men and women through the integration of a gender perspective in all policies, and was officially launched by the UN at the **Fourth World Conference on Women**. Its conclusions, which were later endorsed by the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC, 1997/2), established some important overall principles for gender mainstreaming, while a letter from the Secretary-General to heads of all UN entities (13 October 1997) provided further concrete guidelines on implementation of the strategy. The above-mentioned ECOSOC conclusions define gender mainstreaming as: “the process of **assessing the implications for women and men of any planned action**, including legislation, policies or programmes, in all areas and at all levels. It is a strategy for making women’s as well as men’s concerns and experiences an **integral dimension of the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation** of policies and programmes in all political, economic and societal spheres so that women and men benefit equally and inequality is not perpetuated. The ultimate goal is to achieve gender equality.”

The UN General Assembly twenty-third special session to follow up the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action (June 2000) further enhanced the mainstreaming mandate within the UN. In July 2001 the ECOSOC adopted another resolution (ECOSOC, 2001/41) focusing on gender mainstreaming which calls on the ECOSOC to ensure that the gender perspective is taken into account in all its work, including the work of its functional commissions, and recommends a five-year review of implementation of the ECOSOC conclusions 1997/2.
Gender mainstreaming activities at the European level are based on international spadework. In 1996, the Commission published the communication, “Incorporating equal opportunities for women and men into all Community policies and activities” (COM(1996)0067final), which defines gender mainstreaming as **mobilizing all general policies and measures** specifically for the purpose of achieving equality by **actively and openly** taking into account at the **planning stage** their possible **effects** on the respective situations of **men and women**. This means systematically examining measures and policies and taking into account such possible effects when defining and implementing them24.

The introduction of the gender mainstreaming approach marked an important change from the previous Community action on equal opportunities for men and women, which was based mainly on departmental activities and programmes funded under different specific budget headings25.

### 2.2.1 A holistic approach within the Commission

Gender mainstreaming, being an integrated approach, requires the mobilisation of new actors and resources with important implications for policy making:

- On the one hand, gender mainstreaming suggests that equal opportunities for men and women are no longer attainable through gender specific policies alone but require a **holistic approach** which incorporates equality goals into all policy areas. This means horizontal integration, across all policy areas, and vertical integration throughout all levels of the hierarchy.

- On the other hand, the gender mainstreaming approach assumes that in order to achieve equality it is necessary to **change the policy-making process** and the institutional or power relationships26. To this end:
  - **Policy decision-making and design** should provide for the involvement of women representatives (parity organisms) in partnerships, the development of gender-disaggregated data and indicators, and implementation of gender impact assessment procedures;
  - **Policy implementation** should provide for the creation of **parity coordination** offices within and between administrative departments, the design of monitoring systems and indicators, training and capacity building among public administrations, availability of sufficient resources, and involvement of parity organisms in all programming stages from project generation through project selection to implementation.

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24 Commission Communication of 21 February 1996 "Incorporating equal opportunities for women and men into all Community policies and activities", COM(96) 67 final. Similarly, in 1998 the Council of Europe (CoE) defined gender mainstreaming as: “...the reorganization, improvement, development and evaluation of policy processes so that a gender equality perspective is incorporated in all policies at all levels and at all stages, by the actors normally involved in policy making” (CoE, 1998).

25 Commission Communication of 21 February 1996 "Incorporating equal opportunities for women and men into all Community policies and activities" COM(96) 67 final.

o **policy monitoring and evaluation** should develop gender-related evaluation methodologies and skills.

Adoption of a mainstreaming approach thus entails **capacity building** among all policy stakeholders. It means identifying needs, adapting programme management tools and instruments, and mobilising political support and resources.

### 2.2.2 Strategies for gender equality

In more recent years, EU action on gender equality and gender mainstreaming was promoted by the **Roadmap for equality between men and women for the period 2006-2010**. Six priority areas of intervention were selected:

- creating equal economic independence and promoting equality in the business world;
- fostering the balance between professional activity and family life;
- promoting equal participation of women and men in the decision-making process;
- eliminating gender-based violence and the trafficking of human beings;
- eliminating gender stereotypes in society;
- promoting equality between women and men outside the EU.

In March 2010, the **Women's Charter** was presented, reaffirming the commitment of the Commission to making gender equality a reality in the EU, together with the guarantee that a strong gender dimension was being embedded in the Europe 2020 Strategy.

The Charter aims to promote:

- equality in the labour market and equal economic independence for women and men, to be achieved with the Europe 2020 strategy;
- equal pay for equal work and work of equal value, working with Member States towards a significant reduction in the gender pay gap over the next five years;
- equality in decision-making through EU incentive measures;
- dignity, integrity and an end to gender-based violence through a comprehensive policy framework;
- gender equality beyond the EU, pursuing the goal through external relations and with international organizations.

On the basis of the Women’s Charter and the Roadmap for equality between women and men 2006-2010, a new five-year **Strategy for equality between women and men for the period 2010-2015** was adopted. The Strategy represents the work programme of

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the European Commission on gender equality and highlights the contribution of gender equality to economic growth and sustainable development. It also supports the implementation of the gender equality dimension in the Europe 2020 Strategy, following the dual approach. The Strategy spells out actions under the five priority areas defined in the Women’s Charter with one additional area addressing cross-cutting issues relating to gender roles, legislation, governance and tools for gender equality. For each priority area, key actions to stimulate change and achieve progress are proposed.

In 2011, five years after the adoption of the first European Pact for Gender Equality, the European Council concluded a further pact to reaffirm and support once again the close link of the strategy with "Europe 2020, the European Union’s Strategy for jobs and smart, sustainable and inclusive growth" which largely lacks references to gender equality and transparent gender mainstreaming. Through the Pact, the Council urges the Member States and the Union to adopt measures to close gender gaps, to combat gender segregation in the labour market, to promote better work-life balance for men and women, and to tackle all forms of violence against women. It also reaffirms the Council’s commitment to reinforcing governance through gender mainstreaming by integrating the gender perspective into all policy areas, including extra-EU actions.

2.3 EIGE: a European institute for enhancing gender equality policy

Another important step in supporting gender equality policies at both the EU and the national level was the creation of the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) on the basis of Regulation (EC) No 1922/2006 with the aim to promote gender equality, fight discrimination based on sex, and raise awareness of gender equality. The main tasks of the institute are: collection, analysis and dissemination of comparable data on gender issues; facilitation of exchange of best practices as well as dialogue among stakeholders; and development of methods to improve the objectivity, comparability and reliability of data at the EU level. EIGE is also in charge of a wider framework of activities aiming at supporting the Council presidencies in monitoring progress in implementing the objectives of the Beijing Platform for Action.

31 European Council conclusions March 2006 7775/1/06.
3. GENDER MAINSTREAMING IN THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT: LEGAL AND POLICY FRAMEWORK, MAIN ACTORS AND PROCEDURES

KEY FINDINGS

- The EP as one of the European institutions is central to the promotion of gender equality and its competences in this field of action have increased over the years.
- Three specific bodies are in charge of implementing gender mainstreaming in parliamentary activities and structures: FEMM, the High Level Group for Gender Equality and Diversity, and the Gender Mainstreaming Network.
- Over the last 10 years, a set of activities and initiatives were implemented to intensify gender mainstreaming in the EP.
- Successful inclusion of a gender perspective in the legislative and non-legislative decision-making processes of the EP largely depends on the role of FEMM (competent committee or opinion giving committee) and on the reputation and authority of the FEMM rapporteurs.
- The institutional capacity on gender equality issues could be further enhanced through measures generating engagement (creation of focusing events or opening windows of opportunity), enhancing the capacities of the rapporteurs (training, administrative support) and enhancing the importance of and capacity for networking across parties and nationalities at both formal and informal levels.
- The proportion of women among MEPs has been increasing, with a notable advance in the 7th parliamentary term, when it reached 35.8% (May 2013). However, women are still poorly represented among Chairs and Vice Chairs, among the General Secretariat’s Director Generals and Directors, and among experts invited to EP hearings as speakers.
- Women and gender equality issues received little consideration in the press releases of the period July 2011–February 2013.

3.1 The main bodies in charge of supporting gender mainstreaming in the European Parliament

Three main bodies are in charge of supporting gender mainstreaming in the EP: the Committee on Women’s Rights and Gender Equality (FEMM); the High Level Group of Gender Equality and Diversity, and the Gender Mainstreaming Network of Chairs/Vice-Chairs of the 20 standing committees of the EP.

3.1.1 The Committee on Women’s Rights and Gender Equality (FEMM)

FEMM was set up in 1984 with the aim to promote gender equality within the work of the EP and in all policy areas. Since the introduction of the concept in 1995, the activities of FEMM have also included gender mainstreaming.
Within the EP, FEMM is in charge of:

- definition, promotion and protection of women’s rights in the Union and related Community measures;
- promotion of women’s rights in third countries;
- equal opportunities policy, including equality between men and women with regard to labour market opportunities and treatment at work;
- removal of all forms of gender-based discrimination;
- implementation and further development of gender mainstreaming in all policy sectors;
- follow-up and implementation of international agreements and conventions involving the rights of women;
- information policy on women.

The role of FEMM and the assessment of its effectiveness in promoting gender mainstreaming are further investigated in sub-chapters 3.3 and in chapter 4 of this study.

3.1.2 The High-Level Group on Gender Equality and Diversity

On 25 February 2004, the Bureau of the EP adopted a decision establishing a High-Level Group on Gender Equality with the aim of promoting and implementing gender mainstreaming within EP activities, structures and bodies. Since 2007, its mandate has also included Diversity.

The High Level Group is one of the working groups of the EP Bureau, led by one of the Vice–Presidents. The High Level Group collaborates with other EP bodies, and in particular the Conference of Presidents (CoP), FEMM (the FEMM chair is ex officio member of the High Level Group), the Conference of Committee Chairs (CCC) and the Conference of Delegation Chairs (CDC).

Within the 7th European Parliament legislature (2009-2014), the mandate of the High Level Group focused, on the one hand, on implementation of the Action Plan for the promotion of gender equality and diversity within the European Parliament Secretariat (2009-2013) as adopted by the Bureau on proposal of the High Level Group. On the other hand, it strived for the introduction of adequate administrative structures and procedures allowing for smooth integration of the equal opportunity principle in all parliamentary activities. Moreover, the Group is in charge of adopting measures ensuring a work-life balance for EP staff.

In the interviews, the 2012 initiative of the High Level Group to promote gender equality in the EP by encouraging women to apply for management positions at all levels and in particular in the middle-management received positive mention.

The High Level Group and FEMM have different and complementary roles. While the former is mainly charged with supporting equal gender representation at all administrative levels within the EP, FEMM concentrates on the preparation of EP’s decision-making regarding legislation and other political and budgetary activities in the fields of its competences.

3.1.3 The Gender Mainstreaming Network

Following the EP resolution on gender mainstreaming in the European Parliament of 2003 (2002/2025(INI)), the Network of Members on Gender Mainstreaming was set up as one of the tools to further the cause in the work of the parliamentary committees. It is composed of a Chair or Vice-Chair of each of EP’s 20 standing committees and meets on invitation of the FEMM secretariat.

In this legislature, the role of the network increased with the introduction of the Gender Mainstreaming Amendments (see below), which are tabled to reports of standing committees by the Chair of FEMM and usually in cooperation with the Gender Mainstreaming Member concerned.

The responses in the interviews and to the questionnaires underline the importance of the Network in supporting gender mainstreaming in the work of the EP, even though some hold that it does not make the most of its potential. In fact, the interviews reflected the need to create a more effective and formalized joint working system among the Gender Mainstreaming Network members who are now working independently of one another, apart from informal exchanges based on personal relationships among MEPs. According to the MEPs interviewed, the functioning of the Gender Mainstreaming Network could be improved if greater coordination were in place, setting minimum common objectives and topics, having internal gender training and supporting joint-working between the Gender Mainstreaming Network and FEMM. Closer coordination between the Gender Mainstreaming Network and FEMM could in particular mean greater scope in “supporting” FEMM suggestions/amendments and opinions in other Committees.

3.2 The main European Parliament resolutions and action plans for gender mainstreaming

The specific bodies charged with supporting gender mainstreaming in parliamentary activities and within EP’s General Secretariat mentioned above were established subsequent to the resolution of 2003 based on a FEMM own-initiative report (2002/2025(INI)). However, this resolution is only part of a whole series of activities implemented over the last 10 years to intensify gender mainstreaming in the EP.

Table 2 summarises the milestones of EP gender mainstreaming activities.
### Table 2: Main institutional steps in the promotion of gender mainstreaming in the European Parliament

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>Plenary resolution on Gender Mainstreaming in the European Parliament (2002/2025 (INI)).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>Set-up of the Gender Mainstreaming Networks for Members on the one hand and, on the other hand, of the network of administrative staff supporting gender mainstreaming in the committee secretariats, as suggested by the plenary resolution (2002/2025(INI)).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>The High-Level Group on Gender Equality was established following plenary resolution (2002/2025(INI)).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>Change of mandate and title of the High Level Group on Gender Equality and Diversity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>Plenary resolution on equality between men and women in the committees’ work: gender mainstreaming in the EP (2005/2149(INI)).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Plenary resolution on Gender Mainstreaming in the work of committees and delegations (2008/2245(INI)).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Adoption of the Action Plan for the promotion of gender equality and diversity within the European Parliament Secretariat (2009-2013) drafted by the High Level Group.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### 3.2.1 Gender mainstreaming reports

The **resolution of 2003** based on the FEMM report by Lissy Grüner launched gender mainstreaming activities in the EP not only by publicly committing FEMM to gender mainstreaming, but also by showing ways in which a policy plan for Gender Mainstreaming could be implemented. The resolution also strengthened the role of FEMM in this process. The resolution suggested adoption of a **Policy Plan for Gender Mainstreaming** with the overall objective of promoting equality between men and women by means of genuinely and effective incorporation of a gender perspective in policies and activities through GIAs and evaluations, also applicable to decision-making procedure and the administration.

The resolution proposed various additional measures including, most significantly: (i) the creation of a High-level Group on Gender Equality; (ii) mainstreaming gender in the work of the parliamentary committees and delegations; (iii) charging FEMM to draft an annual

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report on gender mainstreaming in the work of EP committees and delegations; and (iv) prioritising policy issues or policy areas where gender mainstreaming could be relevant.

Given this mandate, FEMM introduced new administrative procedures enabling the drafting of the Annual Report on Gender Equality and Gender Mainstreaming in the work of EP committees and delegations. Chairs and Vice-Chairs responsible for gender mainstreaming within each committee were invited by FEMM to meetings of the network to exchange views. Moreover, all parliamentary committees were called upon to contribute in writing to the report. To this end, FEMM prepared a questionnaire for each committee requesting information on: (i) the aims of the committee; (ii) the gender equality strategy and short- and long-term objectives to be achieved; (iii) implementation of the equality principle in the context of the committees' work, and (iv) expert assessment of equality between men and women, as well as consultation and cooperation between the committee and other departments within and outside the EP to enhance gender mainstreaming.

Furthermore, FEMM prepared the "Working Document on the Integrated Approach to Equality Between Men and Women in the Work of the Committees" (September 2006), which was the first EP assessment of the implementation of the integrated approach to equality between men and women in the political work of Parliament's committees and was developed subsequently into the report of Anna Zaborska43 leading to the resolution on "Equality between men and women in the committees' work: Gender mainstreaming in the European Parliament", adopted in plenary in January 200744.

In February 2008, the FEMM Chair and rapporteur, Anna Záborská, again convened the Chairs and the Vice-Chairs of the gender mainstreaming network to start preparation of what was to be the next report on gender mainstreaming. The resolution on Gender Mainstreaming in the work of committees and delegations (2008/2245(INI) was adopted before the elections in 2009. This resolution underlined that the majority of parliamentary committees generally attach importance to gender mainstreaming, while a minority of committees rarely if ever take an interest in the matter. Furthermore, the resolution draws attention to the fact that, despite an increase in women's representation in the EP (from 16.6% in 1979 to 35.8% in May 2013), there was still only a small proportion of female Members in top EP positions. Further actions should therefore be taken to enhance women’s participation in high level decision-making and support the EP’s role in promoting gender mainstreaming.

To this end, the 2008 resolution called for deeper implementation of the gender mainstreaming approach within the EP; for effective and coordinated cooperation between the High-Level Group on Gender Equality and Diversity, the Gender Mainstreaming Network of Chairs and Vice-Chairs of committees and inter-parliamentary delegations, and FEMM; for committees and delegations to play an active role in the regular assessments carried out under the auspices of FEMM; for the provision of training for MEPs and EP staff on gender equality and gender mainstreaming.

The third and, so far, last resolution on gender mainstreaming adopted in plenary in 2011 was based on the report drafted originally by Eva-Britt Svensson but was finalised under the auspices of the new FEMM Chair Mikael Gustafsson (2011/2151(INI)). It included a proposal for a 2011-2013 Policy Plan for Gender Mainstreaming in the Parliament which reflected FEMM’s awareness of the relevance of institutional mechanisms for implementation of the gender mainstreaming principle. Among the measures proposed were:

- “continued commitment at the level of Parliament’s Bureau, through the work of the High-Level Group on Gender Equality and Diversity;
- a dual approach – mainstreaming gender in Parliament’s activities through, on the one hand, effective work by the committee responsible, and, on the other, integration of the gender perspective into the work of the other committees and delegations;
- awareness of the need for gender balance in decision-making processes, to be achieved by increasing the representation of women on Parliament’s governing bodies, on the Bureaux of political groups, on the Bureaux of committees and delegations, in the composition of delegations and in other missions, such as election observation, and indeed by increasing the representation of men in areas where they are under-represented;
- incorporation of gender analysis into all stages of the budgetary process to ensure that equal consideration is given to women’s and men’s needs and priorities and that the impact of the provision of EU resources on women and men is duly assessed;
- an effective press and information policy which systematically takes gender equality into account and avoids gender stereotypes;
- continued submission of regular reports to plenary on the progress achieved in gender mainstreaming in the work of Parliament’s committees and delegations;
- focus on the need for adequate financial and human resources, so that Parliamentary bodies are provided with the necessary tools, including gender analysis and assessment tools, with appropriate gender expertise (research and documentation, trained staff, experts) and with gender-specific data and statistics; the Plan calls on the Secretariat to arrange regular exchanges of best practices and networking as well as gender mainstreaming and gender-budgeting training for Parliament staff;
- continued development of Parliament’s Gender Mainstreaming Network, to which each committee has appointed a member responsible for implementing gender mainstreaming in its work;
- attention to the importance of employing specific terminology and definitions which comply with international standards when terms are used in relation to gender mainstreaming;
- methodological and analytical support from the EIGE.”
3.2.2 Conclusions from an institutional learning point of view

The gender mainstreaming reports emphasized the main aspects of the internal functioning and decision-making processes of the EP which needed to be strengthened in order to achieve effective gender mainstreaming within the legislative and non-legislative activities of the EP. In this respect, the different structures established to enhance gender mainstreaming on the basis of the above-mentioned resolutions can be seen as contributing to mechanisms for increased commitment to women’s rights and gender equality, increased respect of the gender experts’ role and reputation and, finally, better and smoother networking within the EP for gender mainstreaming.

These effects could be further enhanced with more effective and better coordinated cooperation between the High Level Group on Gender Equality and Diversity, FEMM and the Gender Mainstreaming Networks. In this respect, mechanisms like performance feedback could improve the “production, handling, and interpretation of information efforts and outcomes”\(^\text{45}\) in relation to gender mainstreaming objectives as set out in the resolutions.

Moreover, given that, despite the structures put in place, gender mainstreaming in the work of parliamentary committees is still highly variable and essentially voluntary, resulting in a strong focus on women’s rights and gender equality in some areas and little or no apparent activity in others, there is a need to provide the actors in the EP with appropriate tools to gain a sound understanding of gender mainstreaming. This could entail an impetus for organizational learning and help in breaking with repetitive behaviour refusing gender mainstreaming in certain policy areas. In this respect, all the committees should avail themselves of in-house and external expertise to raise their awareness of the extent to which gender equality and women’s rights need to be improved in their area of competence. Such training could contribute to a greater ownership of the gender mainstreaming process of each committee by taking into account their specific features. This could also facilitate the active role of committees in the regular assessments carried out by FEMM.

In addition, FEMM might wish to build on the political will expressed in the resolutions and take a lead in implementing the various measures proposed with the resolutions, and in particular the policy plan. This could further clarify the role and responsibilities in gender mainstreaming of each of the different actors within the EP and lead to regular exchanges of best practices and improved networking for gender mainstreaming.

The gender mainstreaming reports also emphasise the relevant role of political groups in encouraging and providing support to women to take up leading positions in the decision-making process. Besides, they could contribute to the gender mainstreaming process by evaluating their programmes and activities from a gender perspective and by adopting their own strategies to bring women into political decision-making, while also highlighting gender equality in their programmes. To this end, they could make use of the so called “carrot and stick mechanism (...) in order to induce change in (...) behaviour\(^\text{46}\) of their members.

\(^{45}\) See Table 1.
\(^{46}\) Idem.
3.3 The role of FEMM in promoting gender mainstreaming

This section analyses the decision-making process with regard to gender mainstreaming of the work of EP committees and delegations, focusing on the role of FEMM.

3.3.1 Appointment procedures

All committees (including FEMM) are cross-party, reflecting the distribution of seats of the plenary\textsuperscript{47}, which takes into account the results of elections to the EP and the consequent size of the political groups, their decisions regarding their participation in committees, the procedural rules, and bargaining. The full and substitute members of a committee are selected by the political parties. FEMM is made up of 35 full members and 30 substitute members.

**Bureau and Coordinators**

Selection of Chairs and Vice-Chairs is part of the bargaining process for the establishment of political groups at the beginning of each new legislature. The bargaining takes place beyond the committee level. Consequently, the chairing of a committee by a specific political group is based both on the formal procedure (generally at the constitutional meeting after the elections) and on a bargaining process which takes place beforehand\textsuperscript{48}.

FEMM’s **Bureau** consists of a Chair assisted by four Vice-Chairs who set the agendas for meetings and chair meetings and voting sessions; it represents FEMM in public, performs other tasks attributed to Chairs by the Rules of Procedure and assumes a consultative role for the coordinators.

Within each committee, the political groups can designate one of their members as **coordinator**\textsuperscript{49}. The coordinators act as chairs of their group in the respective committee. Coordinators take decisions on the daily business of a committee, including appointment of rapporteurs, adoption of the committee’s annual work programme, requests for external expertise, etc. Consequently, the decisions of the coordinators need ex-ante delegation. However, the coordinators’ decisions can be overruled by a committee decision.

**Appointment of rapporteurs**

For each file, FEMM designates a so called rapporteur. Rapporteurs are responsible for guiding a legislative proposal, an own-initiative report or an opinion through Parliament procedures up to adoption in plenary. The appointment procedure starts with the

\textsuperscript{47} Please see Rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure. Due to the application of the d’Hondt system and a distribution according to preferences, the proportional distribution of political groups can vary slightly between committees while Rule 186 provides for a limitation of such differences. For some more in-depth analysis, please see also Virginie Mamadouh, Tapio Raunio, The Committee System: Powers, Appointments and Report Allocation, in: JCMS 2003 Volume 41. Number 2. pp. 333–51.


\textsuperscript{49} Rule 192, EP Rules of Procedure, 2013. Each political group selects a coordinator who is responsible for allocating tasks to the group members as its main spokesperson.
coordinators’ selection of the political group responsible. Selection of the political group is based on a point system but also on a number of other criteria that differ for each committee but usually include respect of the d'Hondt system, according to which seats in the EP are distributed among political groups following the result of the elections to the EP. Another success factor in these negotiations could consist in putting forward a particularly qualified Member as rapporteur. The political group assigned to draft the report selects the rapporteur among its committee members and pays a certain amount of points.

In parallel to the selection of the rapporteur, each of the other political groups has to nominate a shadow rapporteur to accompany the work of the rapporteur. The appointment of shadow rapporteurs is not part of the decision-making procedure at the formal level, but nevertheless in most cases it plays an important part in it. The task of the shadow rapporteurs is to gain insight into the work of the rapporteur, inform other members of their political group on the progress of deliberations and represent their group in the decision-making process. They provide advice on the relevant aspects of a report or opinion and draw up suggestions/amendments. Besides, notwithstanding the role of the coordinators, the shadows are the contact points for their group on the matter in question and also negotiate compromises on behalf of their groups. Their role has recently been formalized in Rule 192 of EP’s Rules of Procedure.

3.3.2 Overview of FEMM’s gender mainstreaming tools

FEMM promotes gender mainstreaming through the following activities and tools:

- **legislative, non-legislative or budgetary opinions and reports**; Gender Mainstreaming Amendments (GMAs); oral questions; and motions for resolutions;
- providing **resources** for the Gender Mainstreaming Network of Members to which each committee has appointed a Chair or Vice-Chair responsible for implementing gender mainstreaming in the work of their own committee;
- organisation of at least one annual **inter-parliamentary meeting** on the occasion of International Women’s Day, involving Members of Parliaments of the 28 EU Member States, candidate countries, and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe;
- **assessing gender mainstreaming** in the work of parliamentary committees and delegations, including assessment of failures to incorporate the gender dimension, to be submitted bi-annually to the plenary in form of a non-legislative own-initiative report.

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50 Ibid. 48.
3.3.2.1 Legislative activities

General remarks

Decision-making on proposals for new EU legislation is the most essential work of the EP. On equal footing with the Council, the EP also legislates in the area of women’s rights and gender equality.

FEMM is the EP committee having competence for this area, which is laid down and set out more in detail in Annex VII of EP’s Rules of Procedure. This means that FEMM will be called upon by the President of the EP as the committee responsible for drafting Parliament’s opinion on new Commission proposals for legislation in the field of gender equality and women’s rights.

The decision-making procedure to establish Parliament’s opinion is regulated for all fields of legislation in the same way, i.e. it is the same for all committees. The design of this procedure is influenced by the provisions of the TFEU on the procedure to be applied in the policy area in question and the different roles assigned to Commission, Council and Parliament in the respective legislative process. The most common legislative procedure is the ordinary legislative procedure but there are also special legislative procedures. Under the ordinary legislative procedure, the EP participates on equal footing with the Council in the decision-making process on new legislation. The rather general provisions of the TFEU on the design of the decision-making procedures are complemented with a number of other rules like inter-institutional agreements or the EP Rules of Procedure.

Legislative procedures with FEMM as the competent committee

The mandate of FEMM comprising women’s rights and gender equality in general, and in particular for women on the labour market, can be characterised as horizontal, as most other policy areas, be it transport, judicial cooperation in criminal matters, or sustainable development, have a gender or women’s rights perspective. While this entails that FEMM can theoretically deal with nearly all legislative initiatives sent to the EP, it is consequently rarely the competent committee in the legislative procedure, as legislation directly focused on women’s rights and gender equality is rather seldom. During this legislature, FEMM has dealt as the sole competent committee with only two legislative reports, firstly on Directive 2010/41/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council on the application of

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54 In short, Parliament’s opinion starts with the selection of a rapporteur in the committee concerned, who drafts a report. This report can propose acceptance of the Commission proposal as such, or to amend it or reject it. Within a timeframe set for each procedure, other Members have the opportunity to table amendments seeking to delete, amend or complete (parts of) the proposal. Other committees, for which the legislative proposal is also of relevance, have the opportunity to prepare opinions to the report. All amendments, those of the rapporteur, those of other Members and other committees are consequently put to the vote in the committee concerned. The vote could be facilitated by compromise amendments. The final report established through the vote is regarded as the recommendation of the committee to the plenary, i.e. the assembly of all 766 Members of the EP. After a reflection period of 4 weeks, the final report is put to vote in plenary with the possibility for political groups and groups of Members to table amendments. While informal or technical meetings could take place before the first reading is finalised, depending on the procedure foreseen in the Treaty, after adoption in plenary the EP will enter into formal negotiations with the Council on the final text of the legislation.
55 Before the Lisbon Treaty, this procedure was called the co-decision procedure, today still attested by the abbreviation “COD” related to the interinstitutional procedural number.
56 See, for example, Framework Agreement with the Commission in Annex XIV to EP’s Rules of Procedure.
the principle of equal treatment between men and women engaged in an activity in a self-employed capacity\textsuperscript{57} and on the proposal of the Commission to amend the so called "Maternity Leave Directive"\textsuperscript{58}.

However, FEMM can be responsible for a legislative proposal of the Commission jointly and on equal footing with other committees\textsuperscript{59}. Such has been, as detailed in sub-chapter 4.1., the case in the period under consideration for the Directive on Rights, support and protection of victims of crime: minimum standards\textsuperscript{60}, the European Protection Order\textsuperscript{61}, the Mutual recognition of protection measures in civil matters\textsuperscript{62} and the proposal regarding gender balance on boards of listed companies\textsuperscript{63}. While the latter two were drafted jointly with the Committee on Legal Affairs (JURI), the two former pieces of legislation were drawn up and negotiated together with the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs (LIBE). The so called "women on boards Directive is still awaiting negotiations and agreement with the Council.

Given the focus of this study on assessment of the work of FEMM regarding gender mainstreaming the work of other committees, analysis of FEMM’s work within the legislative process would be beyond our scope here. Attention is nevertheless to be drawn to the fact that there is some tension between two aspects: on the one hand, legislative activities are regarded as the most important decision-making procedures in the EP and are also for FEMM the main tool to implement their mandate and to realize gender equality and women’s rights for European citizens. On the other hand, the number of legislative initiatives coming from the Commission in this area is somewhat low and consequently also relatively few are the legislative activities of FEMM in which it was the lead committee.

While these circumstances are largely to be attributed to the provisions of the Treaty and the sole competences of the Member States in many of the areas particularly important for the advancement of women and gender equality, like education, health, and active labour market measures – to name but a few -, it could also be interesting to see whether the lack of new legislative initiatives might not also be attributable to the enhanced - but rather unsystematically organised - gender mainstreaming approach of the Commission.

In any case, it can be concluded that the low number of legislative files for which FEMM is competent has a potentially negative influence on its reputation among the Members of the EP in general (see also below). Indeed some of the MEPs interviewed underlined that "on several issues FEMM is considered irrelevant. [...] MEPS tend to neglect the work of FEMM in the discussion of political groups”. This aspect is particularly relevant because of the importance of "accreditation” as a crucial social mechanism to be reinforced to support FEMM’s role in implementing gender mainstreaming.

\textsuperscript{57} Lulling report, procedure 2008/0192(COD).
\textsuperscript{58} Estrella report, procedure 2008/0193(COD).
\textsuperscript{59} Rule 51 of the Rules of Procedure 2013.
\textsuperscript{60} Jiménez-Becerril Barrio/Parvanova, procedure 2011/0129(COD); DIRECTIVE 2012/29 OJ L 315 14.11.2012, p. 0057.
3.3.2.2 FEMM’s role as opinion-giving committee for the gender mainstreaming of the work of other committees

FEMM can contribute to the legislative and non-legislative files falling under the remit of other committees by drafting opinions\(^{64}\). Because of the horizontal nature of its competence, women’s rights and gender equality being involved in the majority of legislative proposals as mentioned above, FEMM is quite often asked to provide an opinion, or could decide to provide one on its own initiative. Preparing opinions therefore counts for a large amount of FEMM’s workload.

Not least to reduce this workload and enhance efficiency, in addition to drafting opinions, FEMM has in recent years\(^{65}\) developed a particular intervention strategy which is called “Gender Mainstreaming Amendments” (GMAs)\(^{66}\). Instead of drafting, amending and adopting an opinion in FEMM, only a few amendments with the aim to provide for a gender perspective in the report of another committee are put to the vote in FEMM and consequently tabled by the FEMM Chair, usually together with the Member of the Gender Mainstreaming Network of the committee in question, directly in the competent committee.

FEMM coordinators decide whether an opinion or GMAs should be tabled. The decision can depend on different circumstances, for example time constraints, or, more importantly, whether a reference text is already available\(^{67}\). GMAs have to focus strictly on the gender aspects of the given issue. The coordinators also decide whether the Chair and/or another FEMM member should be responsible to cooperate with FEMM secretariat to draft the GMAs.

From the desk analysis and interviews, it emerged that GMAs are more effective than opinions as they are more concise and more rapidly submitted and because they relate to key, specific and delimited issues.

**Consequences for FEMM’s role in implementing gender mainstreaming**

The status of FEMM as a committee which has fewer opportunities to take the lead in the decision-making process regarding EU legislation has consequences for its intervention capacity, as explained above. When FEMM is not in charge of the procedure, it has to induce the other committees to accept its intervention, which reduces its decision-making

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\(^{64}\) Rule 49 or 50 of the Rules of Procedure 2013.

\(^{65}\) Used since the beginning of the 7\(^{th}\) legislature in 2009. See also FEMM coordinators’ decision of 16 February 2011.

\(^{66}\) The procedure for tabling gender mainstreaming amendments is the following: when it is decided that a gender mainstreaming amendment is to be tabled on a report by another Committee, the FEMM Secretariat – in the name of the FEMM Chair - contacts the Chair/Vice-Chair in charge of gender mainstreaming in the committee responsible for the issue or a member of FEMM who is also a member of the competent committee or a member in the competent committee with knowledge in the field in question. This could be, for instance, the rapporteur/draft person, a Member who dealt with a similar issue previously or one of the shadow rapporteurs in the lead committee. FEMM coordinators have to receive the amendments one week before their planned adoption in FEMM. Once the amendments are adopted in committee, they are co-signed by the Chair and the respective Member of the competent committee and tabled directly within the deadline to the lead committee. The Secretariat will establish the final version of the amendments as adopted, get them signed, and table them formally. Moreover, at the coordinators’ meeting, the Secretariat will regularly update and circulate a table detailing all the reports on which it has been decided to table gender mainstreaming amendments.

\(^{67}\) Draft report, Working Document, Commission document, etc.
power regarding a particular file in any case. There are some indications that this could also more generally affect the mechanisms that increase and/or diminish the actors’ role and reputation, such as actor certification.

However, from the gender mainstreaming perspective, it could be argued that it enhances FEMM’s capacity to integrate a perspective on women’s rights and gender equality into a broad range of the work of the EP.

Such integration could be supported by the fact that the EP already has structures in place to facilitate gender mainstreaming throughout the legislative – and non-legislative - activities of the EP⁶⁸. Besides, FEMM members are also members of other standing committees, special committees and delegations (see Table 3), which could enable them to build up and use mechanisms that compensate for the possible negative effect created by the small number of legislative files in the remit of FEMM.

### Table 3: FEMM Members in other Committees (May 2013)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committees</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AFET - Foreign Affairs</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DROI - Human Rights</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEDE - Security and Defence</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEVE - Development</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INTA - International Trade</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUDG – Budgets</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONT - Budgetary Control</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON - Economic and Monetary Affairs</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMPL - Employment and Social Affairs</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENVI - Environment, Public Health and Food Safety</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITRE - Industry, Research and Energy</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IMCO - Internal Market and Consumer Protection</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRAN - Transport and Tourism</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REGI - Regional Development</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGRI - Agriculture and Rural Development</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PECH – Fisheries</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CULT - Culture and Education</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JURI - Legal Affairs</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIBE - Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFCO - Constitutional Affairs</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PETI – Petitions</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRIM - Organised Crime, Corruption and Money Laundering</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: IRS elaboration on data from European Parliament’s website [HTTP://WWW.EUROPAL.EUROPA.EU/COMMITTEES/EN/FULL-LIST.HTML](http://WWW.EUROPAL.EUROPA.EU/COMMITTEES/EN/FULL-LIST.HTML)

⁶⁸ Which can be related to mechanisms that develop better/smooth networking
3.3.2.3 Decision-making process and the role of actors

Conference of Presidents

Once the EP is called upon to express itself on a legislative proposal presented by the Commission or initiates a legislative proposal itself, the first step consists in a request of the President of the EP on behalf of the Conference of Presidents (CoP) to FEMM or another committee competent in the policy area in question in accordance with annex VII of the Rules of the Procedure to take the lead in drafting the EP position. Other committees may be asked to contribute with an opinion if the proposal or own-initiative report also falls within their competence.

Given the procedure, it can be concluded that the role of FEMM as opinion-providing committee is largely dependent on whether the CoP can identify a relevant dimension of women’s rights and gender equality in the proposal which also includes consideration of the potential impact of the proposal on women’s rights and gender equality. If the CoP considers that there is no gender perspective in the proposal, FEMM is not even asked to provide an opinion. In this case, FEMM might ask for the non-involvement decision to be reconsidered, but since the procedure to be followed when asking for revision of the initial allocation is very long and complex, anticipating the decision is crucial in order to influence the outcome whenever possible.

The crucial importance of this phase has been confirmed by the interviews with MEPs. As one of them put it: “A crucial step for getting gender mainstreaming through the legislative proposals is the phase of assignment of the committee/s in charge of a proposal”. Another MEP explained in greater detail: “The first phase in which the competent committee is appointed is crucial for FEMM’s intervention. If FEMM manages to be nominated as associated committee, the effect of its intervention is greater than when it is called upon to submit an opinion. The initial struggle undertaken within the Conference of Presidents aimed at obtaining a significant role is crucial because gender equality and gender mainstreaming are not always considered important issues.”

While the resolutions on gender mainstreaming, the establishment of the Gender Mainstreaming Network and the International Women’s Day event had positive effects on attention to gender mainstreaming across the EP as described above, other social mechanisms could be used to make better use of the opportunity of initial attribution of legislative and non-legislative reports by the CoP.

In particular, social mechanisms that generate engagement such as the so-called “Framing”, which entails the creation and maintenance of a shared view, can prepare a favourable decision-making environment – for example, through gender equality as a central objective of political groups. As a consequence, coordination between FEMM and the CoP could be facilitated as all actors move into the same direction of the agreed objective.

Another strong mechanism that generates engagement is the opening of a window opportunity. In fact, it has been shown that policy makers respond with intense efforts to

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70 Rule 188 of the Rules of Procedure
reach their goals in situations where they perceive that the window of opportunity may open\textsuperscript{71}. Classically, participation allows the actors to reach their goals by using resources at their disposal. Furthermore, attribution of opportunities is also a way to change interactions between actors from a zero-sum game to a positive-sum one.

Finally, creating focusing events can increase the \textbf{salience of issues} and their entry and ascent in the policy agenda. This is in line with the interview findings, to the effect that the role of FEMM in the process also depends on the attention paid by the CoP to gender issues. In this case, \textbf{promoting the salience} of a gender equality and gender mainstreaming approach outside Parliament is one way to heighten the awareness of the Conference members and influence their decision.

\textit{The Rapporteur and the Shadow Rapporteurs}

When FEMM starts a decision-making procedure, the \textbf{second crucial step} is the nomination of the rapporteur (for opinion). The role of the rapporteur is important as she/he has considerable influence on the integration of gender mainstreaming into a report or an opinion. The importance of the rapporteur’s role is widely recognized in the literature. As Neuhold points out: “In the majority of the cases studied, MEPs have been working in the respective sector and outside the EP for a number of years and were therefore able to acquire profound specialised knowledge, thereby contributing to effective and efficient problem-solving (“output legitimacy”).”\textsuperscript{72}

The same concept is also stressed in the interviews with MEPs: “It is really hard to identify which phase is more relevant phase for a successful gender mainstreaming. Nevertheless, I think that, in the legislative process, the identification of rapporteurs plays a major role in this ambit” and “The choice of a rapporteur is a crucial element for successful gender mainstreaming” (interviewed MEP).

In the rapporteur’s nomination procedure, the social mechanisms that enhance the actors’ role and reputation such as actors’ certification and authority/reputation are important for the selection process. In the literature on social mechanisms, the actors’ certification concerns the validation of actors, of their performance and of their claims by authorities. Assumptions on appropriate behaviour in certain political or administrative roles are influenced by the way important authorities act in these roles\textsuperscript{73}. The attribution of recognitions such as grants, awards, powers and responsibilities enhances the certification of the benefiting actor; on the contrary, withdrawing credits from an actor triggers a mechanism of \textbf{de-certification} which also reduces the image of the role. In this respect, it could be argued that FEMM members have fewer opportunities to work as legislative rapporteurs and to show their competences, a coincidence which at the same time detracts from the credit attributed to FEMM rapporteurs in general. Verification of this hypothesis is however beyond the scope of this study.

\textsuperscript{71}\text{Kingdon John W. “Agendas, Alternatives, and Public Policies.” Boston, Little Brown, 1984.}

\textsuperscript{72}\text{Christine Neuhold, The “legislative backbone” keeping the institution upright? The role of the European Parliament Committees in the EU policy making process, Op. Cit.}

\textsuperscript{73}\text{McAdam, D., Tarrow T., and Tilly C. Dynamics of Contention, Cambridge University Press, 2001, Cambridge, UK.}
On the contrary, the authority/reputation mechanism refers to the fact that knowledge transfer and increased participation are more likely to occur in the presence of a credible and trustworthy source. It is noted\textsuperscript{74} that a trusting recipient is more likely to accept the advice of the source, and trust is more likely when the source is perceived as trustworthy\textsuperscript{75}. Therefore, when the source is credible, i.e. perceived as knowledgeable and trustworthy, the recipient will be less suspicious of the offered conception and thus more open and receptive to its details. This increases the information that can be exchanged and decreases the costs of exchange. In other words, the selection of a trustworthy rapporteur is crucial for the success of FEMM interventions and of gender mainstreaming within the work of the EP as a whole. On this basis, it is recommended that, although interviewees stated that the selection of a rapporteur depended on his or her availability, the need for careful selection of rapporteurs for important files should be stressed.

Decisive factors for a successful FEMM report or opinion are expertise, networking capacity, political prestige and interest in gender equality and women’s rights issues on the part of the rapporteur\textsuperscript{76}. It is to be noted that this could also prevent the negative effect of de-certification.

As many interviewees pointed out: “The rapporteur needs to be a role model; others need to see you as a winner and then they follow you. You need to be convinced to be a winner, that you can do it. This means that the political groups need to identify rapporteurs capable of constant pushing, self-confident and strong.” “You can change mentalities only by doing and by getting respect (for example I never lost, even when I was in previous committees and MPs know this and trust me). Reputation and trust are essential.” “Everything depends on selecting the right persons that have a relevant political strategy.” “It is important that the rapporteur has a personal interest in gender equality issues. Otherwise the effectiveness of his or her action in passing the gender message is weaker.” The same social mechanisms apply to the shadow rapporteurs.

During the drafting phase, the rapporteur is the only one responsible for the content and the way the drafting process is carried out. In fact, the interviewees stressed the point that a good rapporteur does not limit himself or herself to the drafting of the report/opinion but in parallel carries out networking with other members of the committee (in particular with their own group and the shadow rapporteurs in the early stages in order to prevent conflicts in the final voting phase) and with members of other committees concerned with the report/opinion.

Interviewees explained that “The liaising (of the rapporteur) with the shadow rapporteur during the preparation of the proposal or opinion is essential to understand the openness for negotiation of the shadows and the common grounds”. “In the European Parliament, one of the major difficulties in gender mainstreaming consists in conveying the gender message and the specific topic first of all within a political group, as within large political groups there are different levels of attention and sensitivity to gender

equality issues. Once the gender message is passed within one’s own political group, extensive work has to be done to pass this message transversally to the other political groups represented within FEMM.” “A crucial factor for passing gender equality and gender mainstreaming amendment in EP legislative proposals depends on the capacity of a single MEP and her or his good will to pass the gender message. For instance, when I am a rapporteur I adopt an extensive communication strategy: I start immediately by communicating to the others that I will complete a report or opinion and then I continue by keeping them informed of all the stages I go through (writing the proposal/report draft, asking for opinions, etc.). In this way I attract attention on the issue, mobilize society and create expectations of a result.”

Thus, repeated interactions between the rapporteur and other Members are a relevant mechanism for success in the promotion of gender equality and gender mainstreaming as they contribute to better and smoother networking within and across political groups and committees. Apart from depending on the actors’ certification, these interactions can be the result of other mechanisms like the so called carrot and stick mechanism which “induces change in agents’ behavior by acting on their structure of preference”77.

The role of communication and networking skills in the final phase of the decision-making procedure

The interviewees also hold that this networking is totally informal and based on the personal communication skills of the Members as well as their commitment to successful gender equality policies.

Once the report or the opinion has been drafted and published, amendments can be tabled by Members up to the deadline set for every individual report or opinion. The vote on the report/opinion normally takes place in FEMM at one of the two meeting following the deadline for amendments. The vote in committee is often a formality, as compromises are prepared in informal meetings beforehand between the rapporteur and the shadow rapporteurs78 enabling “backroom deals [to be] agreed ahead of the final voting.”79

Follow-up of FEMM opinions to the reports of other committees

While the role of FEMM formally ends with the adoption of an opinion in the committee, it could be useful that the rapporteur follows-up on the inclusion of the opinion into the final version of the report80: “The rapporteur of FEMM that submitted the opinion will not take part in the final drafting phase of the proposal. It would, however, be extremely important for the procedure to allow the rapporteur’s opinion to be involved and explain the grounding of the suggestions/amendments proposed within the opinion as foreseen by Rule 49(6) of the Rules of Procedure. Currently, this occurs only on an informal basis and

77 See Table 1.
78 Accompanied by a staff member of FEMM secretariat who is responsible for establishing the order of voting on the amendments and organising the vote.
80 The opinions are attached to the reports. Committees can, however, decide to include parts of opinions into their report. Where such parts fall under the responsibility of the competent committee, they have to be put to the vote.
in some (few) cases. When it happens, it depends on the reputation of the rapporteur who drafted the opinion, of his or her personal and political contacts and on his/her capacity for negotiation.” (MEP interviewed) The rapporteur’s capacity to engage in networking with the members of the committee responsible and other political groups can therefore be called relevant for the inclusion of the FEMM opinion’s suggestions/amendments. The interaction at this stage is not formally regulated, although political groups may have their own internal rules on how to discuss positions to be taken on reports pending for adoption in plenary. Again, the relational and negotiation skills of the rapporteur can make the important difference for adoption of FEMM reports or of a gender perspective in the report of another committee.

Before the vote in plenary, only political groups or a group of 40 Members can present amendments, in principle only those already tabled in committee but voted down or compromise amendments. When FEMM acts as an opinion-giving committee, this phase formally represents an opportunity to present the amendments that were not considered in the report of the committee responsible. However, the interviews show that the presentation of amendments in plenary is perceived as a complicated procedure by individual Members who would have to convince others (either a political group or 39 other MEPs) to table amendments lost in the main committee. The difficulty stems from different considerations on the part of other Members, including low priority attributed to the issue by others. FEMM tabling amendments as a committee could be seen as an option but this needs a decision of the FEMM coordinators who could be overruled by their political groups. “Presenting amendments in plenary is extremely difficult also from a procedural point of view and therefore if FEMM wants to intervene on a specific topic it is crucial for it to act as a committee.” (interviewed MEP).

In cases of ordinary legislative procedure in which no first-reading agreement was reached, as for example on the Maternity Leave Directive, the rapporteur will continue its work as one of the major EP negotiators with the Council. For the second reading, the Council position is referred back to the committee responsible and the rapporteur will usually be the same as for the first reading.

The interviewees stressed the importance of the role of specific actors (such as the rapporteur), in particular in those cases in which not all the actors are necessarily committed to gender mainstreaming and, therefore, including the gender perspective in a final document is more difficult and implies careful consideration of the actors’ stakes and strategies.

Furthermore, in the case of a legislative report, the rapporteur will be the main pillar of the EP in the negotiations with the Council, be it informal or formal trilogues which entail a great deal of preparatory work, including written and oral communication with the relevant stakeholders, such as the shadow rapporteurs or national permanent representatives.

Summing up, the successful inclusion of a gender perspective in the legislative and non-legislative decision-making processes of the EP largely depends on the role of FEMM
(competent committee or opinion giving committee) and on the reputation and authority of the FEMM rapporteurs.

Therefore, the institutional capacity as far as policy making of the EP is concerned for men and women alike could be further enhanced through measures generating engagement (creation of focusing events or opening windows of opportunity), enhancing the capacities of the rapporteurs (training, administrative support) and increasing the attention to and capacity for networking across parties and nationalities at both formal and informal levels.

3.4 The presence of women in the European Parliament

To conclude this chapter on the framework within which FEMM activities take place, this section briefly illustrates firstly the share and role of women among MEPs and in committees, and then the attention to gender issues in EP media activity at both the European and national level.

The proportion of women among EP MEPs has been increasing, with a notable advance in the 7th parliamentary term. In May 2013 of the 754 MEPs, 270 (35.8%) were women. As shown in Figure 1, the gender composition of the EP Committees is highly differentiated. The incidence of women is highest in FEMM (91% of FEMM members) and lowest in the AFCO Committee (25%).

Only in 9 of the 23 EP Committees is the Chair a woman (DEVE, DROI, ECON, EMPL, ITRE, REGI, CULT, PETI, CRIM), while in 16 Committees men are better represented than women among Chairs and vice Chairs, with AFET, CONT and PECH having no women at all in these positions.

Figure 1: Presence of women in EP Committees (May 2013)

Source: IRS elaboration on data from European Parliament’s website
HTTP://WWW.EUROPARL.EUROPA.EU/COMMITTEES/EN/FULL-LIST.HTML

Own elaborations on information available in the EP website.
The share of women in EP delegations is shown in Figure 2. On average the proportion of women in EP delegations is 34.7%. Only in 8 delegations out of 41 is the Chair a woman.

**Figure 2: Share of women in EP delegations (May 2013)**

Women are also poorly represented among the General Secretariat’s Director Generals and Directors, as shown in Figure 3 below. Overall the share of women among General Secretariat’s Director Generals and Directors in May 2013 was 33%, ranging from the Communication General Directorate, with one Director General and three women Directors out of five overall, to the General Directorates of Finance, Innovation and Technology and the Legal Service, where all Directors are men.
**Figure 3: Number of women and men among the General Secretariat’s Director Generals and Directors (May 2013)**


Finally, the proportion of women experts invited to EP hearings as speakers in the period considered was on average 26%, with the highest share in FEMM, as may be expected. The proportion of women experts invited to EP hearings over the period considered was above average in DROI, ENVI, DEVE, AFCO, JURI and LIBE (Figure 4).

**Figure 4: Share of women experts in hearings between July 2011 and February 2013**


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83 The figures are own elaborations on the information available on EP’s website
3.5 Attention to gender issues in the EP’ media activities

In order to assess the attention given to gender issues in EP media activities and how the gender message and FEMM activities are diffused at the national level, two representatives of the EP Press services were interviewed and a questionnaire was sent to all the EP Information Offices in the Member States.

The representatives of the EP Press Service interviewed pointed out that gender equality is among the priority topics of the EP press services. Dedicated actions are implemented yearly in March, close to International Women’s Day, but the gender perspective is also considered on other occasions. The good practice examples included the joint workshop organized in June 2011 by FEMM, AFET, DEVE, DROI and the Delegation for relations with the Maghreb countries on “The role of women in the democratization process and governance changes in North Africa and the Middle East societies”, as well as the very recent Seminar for journalists on “EURO-Mediterranean Relations and the Arab Spring: two years on” of 4-5 June 2013, which included a specific session on the role of women in the democratic process since the Arab spring.

However, the assessment of how many times women and gender equality issues had been considered in the press releases of the period in question (July 2011–February 2013) shows a limited 5.5% of the total press releases. Two main obstacles stand in the way of greater attention being paid to gender issues, it emerged from the interviews: the lack of specific coaching and training on gender equality issues for new press officials, and the scant attention shown by many MEPs to gender issues unless there were points easily picked up in the press.

Scant attention to and coverage of gender equality issues (and especially of FEMM activities) is also a problem in the Member States, on the evidence of the responses to a questionnaire sent to the EP Offices in all the Member States.

The questionnaire was designed to investigate:

- the degree of attention paid to gender issues in European Parliament's media activities;
- the extent to which the European Parliament's messages in relation to gender equality are diffused at the national level;
- the extent to which FEMM’s activities are diffused at the national level;
- the importance of using EP communication tools to circulate an effective gender message regarding the European Parliament's work on gender equality and gender mainstreaming;
- the efforts of national level media to avoid gender stereotypes in their activities;
- the attention paid by national level media to the use of a gendered language in their media activities.

Each national EP Office was required to rate - with a score ranging from 0 (“not existing”/“not important”) to 5 (“very high”/“very important”) - the questions above.
The questionnaire was answered by 14 out of 28 national EP offices. Even if the results cannot be generalised, the questionnaires returned provide some interesting evidence of the activities carried out by the national EP offices and the attention of the national media to avoid gender equality stereotypes. In this section we present the main evidence emerging from the questionnaires returned.

According to the 14 EP Offices that responded, the attention to the EP and FEMM activities on gender issues in all the aspects investigated is average. There are, however, differences across the countries surveyed and across the gender issues investigated that reflect the level of awareness and attention to these issues in European Member States. Indicative in this respect are the answers to the questions relating to “the attention paid by national media to the use of a gendered language in their media activities” and the “efforts of national media to avoid gender stereotypes in their activities”, reported as very high by the Swedish EP office and high in Germany and Poland, but very low in Latvia, Lithuania, Croatia and Slovenia.

Coming to the media activities of the EP and FEMM on gender equality, the answers are highly differentiated. The “degree of attention paid to gender issues in European Parliament's media activities” is considered to be low on average, with an above-average rating by the EP offices of some Eastern European countries, namely Croatia, Lithuania, Poland and Bulgaria, but a lower than average rating by the EP Offices of the Nordic Member States (Finland and Sweden), Germany and Latvia.

The “extent to which the European Parliament's messages in relation to gender equality are diffused at the national level” is considered relatively low by most of the respondents, except for Bulgaria, which rates it very high. Even lower is considered the “the extent to which FEMM’s activities are diffused at the national level”, with only the Irish and the Dutch EP offices reporting a fair degree of diffusion in their country. In Austria, Latvia and Sweden, it appears that FEMM activities are not diffused at all at the national level.

Despite poor diffusion, “using EP communication tools to spread an effective gender message on the European Parliament's work on gender equality and gender mainstreaming” is considered relatively important, particularly in Bulgaria and Sweden, but also in six other countries (Austria, Czech Republic, Croatia, Ireland and Slovenia). On the contrary the German EP Office underlines that EP communication tools appear significant only for specific media or - in very few exceptional cases - when the issues addressed loom large in national debate. Social media, cooperation with women's associations, placing articles in women’s magazines and newspapers and online communication are highlighted as the most effective communication tools by the EP Offices of Croatia, the Czech Republic and Slovenia, while the EP Offices of Finland and Poland underline the effectiveness of introducing creative elements in communication tools. The role of cinema and video clips with positive messages by both women and men was mentioned by the EP offices of Lithuania and Malta. Information on the activities of the MEPs themselves is considered effective in this respect by the EP offices of Finland, Lithuania, Malta and the Netherlands, with the Lithuanian office also indicating the need for more cooperation with EIGE. The Dutch EP office underlines that seminars and press releases can sometimes be effective, but should not be overestimated. Visits to Brussels on gender equality issues can also be a good investment on some occasions.
Most of the EP Offices (11 out of 14) provide some examples of events or initiatives on gender equality and gender mainstreaming that they implemented in the period considered, mainly to celebrate International Women’s Day (March 8th) and disseminate information on FEMM activities, often with the participation of the country’s MEPs and the specialized press. It was the issue of women in management positions that received most consideration. Some interesting events indicated by the national EP offices were:

- In Bulgaria, in 2012 a prize for conveying a positive image of women in the media was created and obtained good media coverage.
- The Dutch EP office, in collaboration with a magazine for women in business, organised an event on International Women’s Day in Amsterdam with Commissioner Neelie Kroes (a role model for women in the Netherlands) and several Dutch MEPs, which was very well attended. The EP office also organised a visit to the European Parliament for a group of 18 female journalists from various national media focusing on important EU gender equality themes (women on boards, participation of women in the labour market, etc.).
- In Germany, Poland and Sweden, the EP offices organised seminars on women’s quotas on management boards. The Polish seminar was attended by a high number of journalists and stakeholders since this issue is widely covered in the Polish media.
- The Czech, Finnish and Slovenian EP Offices organised seminars to celebrate the 8th of March with the participation of national MEPs.
- In Lithuania, the EP office also organised, among other activities, an exhibition of satirical drawings on gender roles.
- The Maltese EP office organised an event in 2012 to mark International Women’s Day with the participation of the President of the European Women’s Lobby\(^\text{84}\), as well as members of women’s organisations. The event focussed on the need to increase female employment, the principle of equal pay for equal work and the need to allocate additional resources for family-friendly measures.

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\(^{84}\) The European Women’s Lobby is the largest umbrella organisation of women’s associations in the European Union (EU), working to promote women’s rights and equality between women and men. EWL membership extends to organisations in all 28 EU member states and the three candidate countries, as well as to 20 European-wide bodies, representing a total of more than 2000 organisations. http://www.womenlobby.org.
4. ANALYSIS OF FEMM ACTIVITIES

KEY FINDINGS

In the period under examination, FEMM drafted:

- Four legislative reports jointly with other committees. Drafting reports jointly is very effective because FEMM is recognized as being on equal footing with the other competent committee. Inevitably, this provides for a stronger role than when drafting opinions, even under the associated committee procedure.

- 18 own initiative reports (INIs), which are also a very useful tool that FEMM can use to “pave the way” to introduce a gender perspective in other than the “usual” fields; this contributes to increasing the “accreditation” of these fields as relevant for gender equality.

- 40 opinions, out of which 33 fully concluded, which correspond to a total of 718 legislative amendments or non-legislative suggestions, were analysed in the study. About one third (210) of these suggestions/amendments were fully (145) or partially adopted (65) by the committee concerned. Analysis of suggestions/amendments included in the final Committee report and of the non-included suggestions/amendments suggests that inclusion of FEMM suggestions/amendments is closely related to the issues covered: suggestions/amendments show a higher inclusion rate when referring to issues already recognized and generally accepted both inside and outside the European Parliament.

- FEMM MEPs also tabled a total of 177 GMAs to 27 reports. Seven out of 27 aimed at amending proposals for European legislation for a total of 43 amendments (24.2%). The majority of the GMAs (85.6%) were accepted in the 17 reports fully concluded in the period in question for which GMAs were tabled. The majority of GMAs in most cases simply add the words 'gender', 'female' or 'women' to the respective text. This increased the possibility for GMAs to be considered.

The principal aim of this chapter is to present and analyse the main activities (with specific regard to opinions and Gender Mainstreaming Amendments (GMAs) carried out by FEMM in the period between July 2011 and February 2013. Before focusing on opinions and GMAs, the chapter starts by briefly introducing the legislative and own-initiative reports produced by FEMM; it then goes on to review the opinions produced by FEMM to the reports of other EP committees and looks into the GMAs tabled by FEMM directly to reports and opinions of other committees.

4.1 FEMM’s legislative reports

Legislative proposals by the Commission falling under the competence of FEMM are referred to FEMM by the President of the EP. Applying the procedures set out in the previous chapter, FEMM appoints a rapporteur and drafts a legislative report which is followed by a vote in plenary.
In the period under examination, FEMM drafted four legislative reports jointly with other committees, of which two with the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs (LIBE), one of the other committees under analysis in this report. In the interviews, the possibility of drafting reports jointly was considered to be very important and effective as, in this particular procedure, FEMM is recognized as being on equal footing with the other competent committee. Inevitably, this provides for a stronger role than when drafting opinions, even under the associated committee procedure. FEMM has the same rights to influence the final text since its rapporteur can directly contribute to the drafting of the report from the very outset and participate in all formal and informal negotiations of the EP with Council and Commission.

One of these two reports drafted under the joint committee procedure, report 2011/0129(COD) on the proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing minimum standards on the rights, support and protection of victims of crime (COM(2011)0275), was not only considered by most of the MEPs interviewed a good practice in terms of inclusion of gender issues but also as representing best practice for the cooperation of LIBE and FEMM. As specified during the interviews, the process leading to attribution of the joint committee procedure was quite long and problematic at the outset. LIBE wanted to deal with this file on its own, without involving FEMM, which had made its request. The attribution conflict was sent to the Conference of Committee Chairs who, after discussion, finally decided to involve FEMM and activate a joint committee procedure. The actual cooperation produced very good results for both committees involved, which had the opportunity to integrate each their own specific competences. While initially LIBE adopted a more legalistic perspective, focusing on equal rights according to their mandate but with no specific focus on gender, the intervention of FEMM resulted in improvements of the text from the gender mainstreaming point of view. This example clearly points out the importance of the role of the FEMM President in obtaining the possibility to have access to the joint committee procedure and intervening in the Conference of Committee Chairs.

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Box 2: An example of joint committee procedure: Report on the proposal for a directive of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing minimum standards on the rights, support and protection of victims of crime (2011/0129(COD))

The Report was drafted within the ordinary legislative procedure in first reading. LIBE and FEMM committees worked together to draft the report, in accordance with Rule 51 of the Rules of Procedure. Teresa Jiménez-Becerril Barrio (LIBE) and Antonia Parvanova (FEMM) were the rapporteurs. The Report proposes amendments on the proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing minimum standards on the rights, support and protection of victims of crime (COM(2011)0275). The proposal follows the 2011 Council’s resolution on a Roadmap for enhancing the rights and protection of victims, in particular in criminal proceedings. On that occasion, the Council stated that action should be taken at Union level in order to enhance the rights, support and protection of victims of crime. The Directive aims to take significant steps forward at the level of protection of victims throughout the Union, in particular within the framework of criminal proceedings. The LIBE and FEMM Committees jointly amended the text of the Directive by adding several gender-related principles and specifications, besides specific provisions for child victims. More precisely, a broad non-discrimination principle is considered within all aspects of the report. The gender-related specifications regard:

- definition of the concept of victim that includes family members such as the spouse;
- procedures for the recognition of victims’ needs through specific individual assessments;
- standards for the satisfaction of the victims’ needs during criminal proceedings, such as interviews and medical examinations;
- the actions that the Member States should undertake in order to reduce the risk of victimization, through information and awareness-raising campaigns, research and education programmes.

Moreover, attention is paid to the terminology in use: for instance, “vulnerable victims” is substituted by “victims with specific needs”, as a victim of gender-based violence can have specific needs without being considered vulnerable. In detail, the report includes the following references to gender equality issues:

- (page 7) Parliament’s Committee adds reference to the Resolution of the European Parliament of 5 April 2011 on priorities and outline of a new EU policy framework to fight violence against women;
- (page 27) The rights provided for in this Directive shall apply to victims in a non-discriminatory manner, regardless of their residence status;
- (page 28) victims are those who have suffered harm, but also ‘family members’ i.e. the spouse, the person who is living with the victim in a committed intimate relationship on a stable and continuous basis having a joint household, the relatives in direct line, the siblings and the dependants of the victim;
- (page 36) Unless otherwise provided by other public or private services, specialist support services referred to in Article 7(3), shall as a minimum develop and provide: (...) b) targeted and integrated support for victims with specific needs,
such as victims of sexual violence, victims of gender based violence and victims of violence in close relationships, including trauma support and counselling;

- (page 43) Individual assessment of victims to identify specific protection needs. Victims of terrorism, organised crime, human trafficking, gender-based violence, violence in close relationships, sexual violence or exploitation, hate crime and victims with disabilities shall be duly considered.

- (page 44) Right to protection of victims with specific protection needs during criminal proceedings. All interviews with victims of sexual violence, gender-based violence or violence in close relationships, unless conducted by a public prosecutor or a judge, are conducted by a person of the same sex, if the victim wishes so, and if the course of proceedings will not be prejudiced.

- (page 45) Member States shall take appropriate action, including through the internet, aimed at raising awareness about the rights set out in this Directive, reducing the risk of victimisation, and minimising the negative impact of crime and the risks of secondary and repeat victimisation, in particular by targeting groups at risk such as children, victims of gender-based violence and violence in close relationships. Such action may include information and awareness raising campaigns, research and education programmes, where appropriate in cooperation with relevant civil society organisations and other stakeholders.

- (page 52) The Rapporteurs share the Commission’s proposal to make a reference to vulnerable victims, but prefer the wording of ‘victims with specific needs’. The terminology used in the Commission’s proposal, defining this category of victims as “vulnerable victims” could be seen as unintended discriminatory naming. Many victims, including victims of gender-based violence do not like to be associated with vulnerability. However, a victim of gender-based violence can have specific needs without being seen as vulnerable.

- (page 53) In order to further assess circumstances and victims’ characteristics, the Rapporteurs also introduce additional definitions, namely "gender-based violence" and "violence in close relationship". Gender-based violence refers to violence that is directed against a person because of his or her gender. Violence in close relationship includes violence perpetrated by intimate partners or ex-partners or other family members and leads to discrimination and violations of the fundamental freedoms of the victims.

- A specific insight regards “Understanding the gender dynamics of victims' rights”. The Rapporteurs set a clear obligation that support for victims with specific needs recognizes gender dynamics and operates within a gender equality and human rights framework. The Rapporteurs trust that such an approach is also vital for avoiding secondary victimisation of victims of gender-based violence.

Within the period in question, FEMM also drafted a legislative own-initiative report which requests the Commission to put forward a legislative proposal on the principle of equal pay.

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88 2011/2285(INL), Report with recommendations to the commission on application of the principle of equal pay for male and female workers for equal work or work of equal value (Rapporteur: Edit Bauer).
4.2 Own Initiative Reports (INIs) drafted by FEMM

FEMM – like other EP committees - can draft non-legislative reports on issues within their competence which do not necessarily refer to a basic document of the European Commission. They are called "Own Initiative Reports" (INIs) and are used to put an issue on the political agenda and provide for an opinion of the EP on this issue through a motion for a resolution adopted in plenary. Most importantly, committees can draft so-called legislative own-initiative reports. Before drawing up any such report, a committee must obtain the permission of the Conference of Presidents. The Conference of Presidents has two months to take a decision and has to justify a refusal.

The Table below show the list of the INIs drafted by FEMM in the period under scrutiny in this study. The INIs concern various different topics including: the situation and role of women in non-EU countries; issues related to the labour market (such as women’s working conditions or women and business leadership); and conditions of specific vulnerable groups of women (such as single mothers and elderly women).

Within the period in question, FEMM also drafted a legislative own-initiative report which requests the Commission to put forward a legislative proposal on the principle of equal pay.

Particularly important and innovative with regard to the topics considered in the own initiative reports are the role of women in the green economy and another dealing with climate change, as well as a report assessing the impact of the economic crisis on gender equality and women’s rights. These reports deal with issues not so easily associated with gender equality. However, they can be deemed as a very useful tool that FEMM can use to "pave the way" to the introduction of a gender perspective, also in other than “usual” fields, thus contributing to increase the “accreditation” in gender terms of these fields.

Table 4: Overview of FEMM INIs in the period considered

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Procedure reference</th>
<th>Title of the report</th>
<th>Rapporteur</th>
<th>Political Party</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2011/2285(INL)</td>
<td>Report with recommendations to the commission on application of the principle of equal pay for male and female workers for equal work or work of equal value</td>
<td>Edit Bauer</td>
<td>Group of the European People’s Party (Christian Democrats)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012/2301(INI)</td>
<td>Report on the impact of the economic crisis on gender equality and women’s rights</td>
<td>Elisabeth Morin-Chartier</td>
<td>Group of the European People’s Party (Christian Democrats)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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90 In accordance with Article 225 TFEU and Rule 41 of EP’s Rules of Procedure.
91 2011/2285(INL), Report with recommendations to the commission on application of the principle of equal pay for male and female workers for equal work or work of equal value (Rapporteur: Edit Bauer).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Procedure reference</th>
<th>Title of the report</th>
<th>Rapporteur</th>
<th>Political Party</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010/2043(INI)</td>
<td>Report on transposition and application of Council directive 2004/113/ec implementing the principle of equal treatment between men and women in the access to and supply of goods and services</td>
<td>Zita Gurmai</td>
<td>Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012/2116(INI)</td>
<td>Report on eliminating gender stereotypes in the EU</td>
<td>Kartika Tamara Lotard</td>
<td>Confederal Group of the European United Left - Nordic Green Left</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012/2129(INI)</td>
<td>Report on prevention of women’s age-related diseases</td>
<td>Roberta Angelilli</td>
<td>Group of the European People’s Party (Christian Democrats)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012/2046(INI)</td>
<td>Report on women’s working conditions in the service sector</td>
<td>Iratxe García Pérez</td>
<td>Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012/2035(INI)</td>
<td>Report on the role of women in the green economy</td>
<td>Mikael Gustafsson</td>
<td>Confederal Group of the European United Left - Nordic Green Left</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011/2197(INI)</td>
<td>Report on women and climate change</td>
<td>Nicole Kill-Nielsen</td>
<td>Group of the Greens/European Free Alliance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011/2244(INI)</td>
<td>Report on equality between women and men in the European Union - 2011</td>
<td>Sophia In 't Veld</td>
<td>Group of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011/2198(INI)</td>
<td>Report on women’s situation in war</td>
<td>Norica Nicolai</td>
<td>Group of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011/2049(INI)</td>
<td>Report on the situation of single mothers</td>
<td>Barbara Matera</td>
<td>Group of the European People’s Party (Christian Democrats)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010/2115(INI)</td>
<td>Report on women and business leadership</td>
<td>Rodi Kratsa-Tsagaropoulou</td>
<td>Group of the European People’s Party (Christian Democrats)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4.3 Review of opinions produced by FEMM

The main aim here is to assess the “impact” \(^92\) of legislative amendments and non-legislative suggestions included in FEMM opinions by analysing if, and if so to what extent, FEMM contributions have been integrated in the resolution adopted in plenary. The analysis started from the Commission’s legislative proposal and the draft report of any parliamentary committee for which a FEMM opinion was prepared. For each opinion, a grid was created including document details and the analysis.

4.3.1 Analytical grid for assessment of FEMM activities\(^93\)

The grid is structured in 3 sections:

1. The first section includes several details which identify the procedure and the actors involved.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date, procedural reference of the act (on which the FEMM opinion is drafted)</th>
<th>Name of the act</th>
<th>Name of the Committee responsible for the act and name and political group of the Committee’s rapporteur</th>
<th>Opinion adoption date by FEMM and Name and political group of the Committee’s rapporteur</th>
<th>FEMM vote results</th>
<th>No. of FEMM suggestions included in the act</th>
<th>Gender aspects in the Committee final report not derived from FEMM opinion (no. paragraphs)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

2. The second section lists the main issues covered in the FEMM opinion, e.g. FEMM’s legislative amendments or non-legislative suggestions, as well as any other aspects regarding women’s rights and gender equality included in the final report of the committee concerned. With regard to the latter, we deemed it worthwhile to consider the attention paid to gender issues independently of FEMM amendments or suggestions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Main issues/topics covered by the FEMM opinion (for example pay gap, discrimination, etc.)</th>
<th>Gender suggestions included in the committee’s final report</th>
<th>Other gender aspects included in the committee’s final report</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

3. The third section presents a synthetic assessment which identifies the degree (low, medium, high) to which women’s rights and gender equality are reflected in the final version of the legislative/non-legislative resolution by taking into account the FEMM suggestions/amendments, and any other women’s rights and gender equality issues proposed by the committee responsible. This analysis will also serve to detect whether women’s rights and gender equality are considered without input from FEMM.

**Synthetic assessment:**

\(^92\) In this paragraph section the word impact is used in brackets as a synonym for effect with no relation to any counterfactual analysis.

\(^93\) On legislative/non-legislative acts approved in the period between June 2011 - February 2013.
The study analyses 33 opinions drafted by FEMM\textsuperscript{94}. The 33 grids completed with document details and analysis are included in Annex 1, which is to be considered an integral part of this chapter. Annex 1 also includes an overview table of these opinions covering the title of the document/resolution to which they refer and an outline of the essential elements of their content.

The opinions were drafted for 11 committees (out of then 21\textsuperscript{95}). Given that the majority of opinions were prepared for EMPL (10 out of 33), it is to be noted that the competences of EMPL and FEMM are closely linked, that gender issues are therefore more readily “associated” with employment topics and that, consequently, FEMM is much more likely to be proposed or to propose itself to draft opinions on these topics.

Apart from the opinions to EMPL reports, FEMM prepared four opinions each for CONT and ITRE reports, three opinions each for LIBE and AFET reports, two opinions each for BUDG, CULT, DEVE, and ECON reports, and one opinion each for JURI and PECH reports.

As the following table shows, the 33 opinions include a total of 718 legislative suggestions/amendments. About one third (210) of these suggestions were fully (145) or partially adopted (65) by the committee concerned, while considerable differences can be observed between the different committees for which they were drafted.

**Table 5: FEMM suggestions by committee for which the opinions were drafted and by level of inclusion (full or partial inclusions)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committee</th>
<th>Nº of OPINIONS</th>
<th>Nº of SUGGESTIONS</th>
<th>FULLY APPROVED</th>
<th>PARTIALLY APPROVED</th>
<th>% FULLY+ PARTIALLY APPROVED</th>
<th>% Women in the Committee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AFET</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>28,1%</td>
<td>29,8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUDG</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5,6%</td>
<td>33,3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONT</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>64,3%</td>
<td>33,9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CULT</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>27,3%</td>
<td>41,9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEVE</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>56,5%</td>
<td>30,0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>33,3%</td>
<td>30,5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMPL</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>39,5%</td>
<td>50,5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITRE</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>14,3%</td>
<td>31,1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JURI</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>52,6%</td>
<td>26,5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIBE</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>11,5%</td>
<td>42,9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PECH</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>23,5%</td>
<td>30,6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>33</strong></td>
<td><strong>718</strong></td>
<td><strong>145</strong></td>
<td><strong>65</strong></td>
<td><strong>29,2%</strong></td>
<td><strong>30,6%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As mentioned previously, it was EMPL that received most suggestions/amendments (190 out of 718) and that also shows a relatively high percentage (39.5%) of approved suggestions/amendments. Among the other committees considered in the analysis, AFET also ranks among the committees that seem to pay particular attention to gender issues.

\textsuperscript{94} In the period under examination FEMM drafted 40 opinions. The study analyses the 33 opinions that fully completed their procedural iter and/or were available on the EP website.

\textsuperscript{95} 20 standing committees plus 1 temporary committee: CRIM.
with a 28% inclusion rate for the 64 suggestions/amendments provided in the three opinions received.

By contrast, **LIBE** received a high number of suggestions (104) in only three opinions but showed a much lower rate of inclusion, a mere 11%. The likelihood of seeing suggestions or amendments included in **BUDG** reports is rather low as only one of the 18 suggestions/amendments was included (less than 6%), indicating that the mainstreaming of gender issues in budgetary files still seems particularly difficult.

### 4.3.2 Assessment of the opinion’s gender “impact”

Furthermore, the 33 opinions were analysed and assessed according to the level of “impact” in the final version of the acts for which they were drafted. The “impact” was measured according to the number of suggestions/amendments originally proposed by **FEMM** that were taken on board by the respective Committee to whom they were addressed (see Table 6).

**Table 6: Gender “impact” of FEMM opinions on reports of other committee**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committee</th>
<th>ABSENT</th>
<th>LOW</th>
<th>MEDIUM</th>
<th>HIGH</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
<th>N</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AFET</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>33,3%</td>
<td>66,7%</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>100,0%</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUDG</td>
<td>50,0%</td>
<td>50,0%</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>100,0%</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONT</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>50,0%</td>
<td>50,0%</td>
<td>100,0%</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CULT</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>50,0%</td>
<td>50,0%</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>100,0%</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEVE</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>50,0%</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>50,0%</td>
<td>100,0%</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>100,0%</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>100,0%</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMPL</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>11,1%</td>
<td>88,9%</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>100,0%</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITRE</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>100,0%</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>100,0%</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JURI</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>100,0%</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>100,0%</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIBE</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>100,0%</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>100,0%</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PECH</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>100,0%</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>100,0%</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>3,0%</td>
<td>39,4%</td>
<td>48,5%</td>
<td>9,1%</td>
<td>100,0%</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Out of 33 opinions analysed, 2 were considered to have had a strong “impact” as more than 50% of their suggestions/amendments were included into the final version of the Committee report (see Annex I for details of the content of the respective suggestions/amendments).

Most of the proposed suggestions/amendments regard the importance of **gender budgeting** as a **good governance** tool and a better understanding of the **benefits** both men and women can obtain from EU policies and interventions. The fact that gender budgeting is particularly mentioned and proposed is particularly interesting as this is not yet a strong salient issue. Nevertheless it has to be noted that the reference here is to the

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96 A high “impact” was assumed when more than 50% of FEMM’s amendments/suggestions were included, medium impact for less than 50% of amendments/suggestions included, and low impact had to be assumed when less than 10% of the suggestions/amendments tabled by FEMM were taken into account.
importance of the tool and not explicitly to its application. Other issues covered by the proposed suggestions/amendments refer to the role of women, development policies, the importance of female empowerment in social and economic contexts and the importance of having gender disaggregated data and statistics.

The majority of opinions (15 out of 33) were considered to have had medium “impact”, i.e. less than half of the suggestions/amendments were included. The issues most frequently tackled by the suggestions/amendments are:

- inclusion of a gender perspective within the European policy-making process;
- full and effective participation of women in politics and in public and economic life;
- the importance of providing gender training and ensuring effective participation of women in political and civil society bodies, especially where they are presently under-represented;
- adoption of specific measures targeting vulnerable groups of women;
- the importance of closing the gender pay gap;
- the importance of tackling gender segregation in the labour market and difficulties in combining care and workplace related obligations; and
- the importance of collecting systematic and comparative gender disaggregated data to fight poverty and social exclusion.

Nevertheless, a substantial group (13 out of 33) of opinions was considered to have had low impact (less than 10%, see footnote 72). In this case, issues tackled were related to the EU’s strategic human rights policy and on subjects related to the competitiveness of enterprises and on the real incidence and application of a gender budgeting policy in Europe.

One opinion out of 33 had to be labelled as having no impact. In this opinion, the amendment aimed at implementation of a gender dimension at all levels of the budgetary process, i.e. starting from a respective analysis of the situation of men and women in Europe, and on from the budget decision-making process to inclusion of a gender mainstreaming perspective in the resources allocation within the European Financial Framework.

4.3.3 Assumptions on the reasons for inclusion or exclusion of suggestions/amendments of FEMM opinions in reports of other committees

For a better understanding of the possible reasons for inclusion (or exclusion) of suggestions/amendments, an analysis was carried out on the basis of three possible hypotheses:

1) the inclusion of suggestions of FEMM opinions is related to the presence of female MEPs in the Committee receiving the opinions;

97 The hypotheses were identified on the basis of the literature review and confirmed as important factors influencing the decision-making process during the face-to-face interviews.
2) the inclusion of opinion’s suggestions is related to political party concordance between the FEMM rapporteur and the rapporteur of the Committee receiving the opinions;

3) the inclusion of opinion suggestions is related to the specific topics/issues they cover.

Hypothesis 1: There is a relation between the inclusion of FEMM suggestions/amendments and the number of women in the receiving committee.\(^{98}\)

The results for the first hypothesis are illustrated in Figure 5. Each “dot” refers to a committee and shows the combination of two variables: the x-axis reflects the percentage of women in the committee; the y-axis reflects the percentage (full plus partial) of inclusion of opinions suggestions/amendments. The figure shows the correlation between the percentage of women in each committee and the possibility of suggestions/amendments being or not being included. The figure demonstrates that there is a **weak relation** between these criteria and it seems that the presence of women in a committee does not have a strong influence on the inclusion of FEMM’s suggestions/amendments.

On the one hand, this could be explained by questioning the assumption that women in any case support measures enhancing gender equality and women’s rights. On the other hand, and with a view to institutional learning and to repeating successful interventions, it prompts consideration of the more complex social mechanisms in the decision-making process, like “actor certification”\(^{99}\). In this respect, MEPs stated during the interviews that the personal capacities of the rapporteur (such as networking) and his/her “accreditation” in the political arena are seen as much more important elements than their gender.

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\(^{98}\) Among institutional mechanisms, it is assumed that “the success of a practice resides in the number of participants adhering to it” (table 1). The hypothesis is linked to the assumption that women are more in favour or women’s rights and gender equality than men. The fact that the members of FEMM are almost all women could support this impression.

\(^{99}\) See table 1.
Hypothesis 2: There is a relation between the inclusion of FEMM’s suggestions/amendments and the fact that the FEMM rapporteur and the rapporteur of the competent committee belong to the same political group

This hypothesis refers to the social mechanism of “framing”, which “entails the creation and maintenance of a shared view”. Members who are part of the same political group could be perceived as more easily sharing the same view as the political group creates an environment of communication and cooperation as well as a certain “bandwagon” effect. The following figure shows, however, that no strong relation can be observed. On the contrary, when the rapporteurs belong to different political groups, the percentage of inclusion seems even to be slightly higher (29.9% against 28.6%).

This result was confirmed by the experience of Members. During the interviews, Members underlined the horizontal character of gender issues which inevitably enter into all the other issues and all the political groups. Many of the Members interviewed reported cases of very positive collaboration with rapporteurs of other parties based on personal contacts and on the importance attributed by both to women’s rights and gender equality topics.

100 For “framing” and “bandwagon effect”, please see table 1.
Hypothesis 3: There is a relation between the inclusion of FEMM suggestions/amendments and the specific issues covered by the report and the opinion

According to the study’s analytical approach (see chapter 1), the perception of an opportunity for an actor to reach his/her goals can considerably influence the actor’s readiness to invest effort and to cooperate. In the parliamentary context, preparing suggestions/amendments and tabling opinions are “windows of opportunities” to influence political decision-making by adapting the content of a future EP resolution to Members’ political objectives and principles. It could thus be concluded that issues high on the political agenda prompt more amendments as Members are keen to leave their mark in the outcome of a piece of legislation or a parliamentary statement on an issue which receives also public attention or at least attention in their constituency.

Taking further into account that the content of suggestions/amendments is closely related to the subject addressed by the report, on the one hand this exercise aims to examine the hypothesis that committees responsible for areas in which the acceptance of the gender perspective is generally higher are more receptive for FEMM’s suggestions/amendments while, on the other hand, it also looks into whether FEMM suggestions/amendments on certain subjects have a better chance of being accepted by the receiving committee.

For the third hypothesis, each FEMM opinion was classified according to the content of suggestions/amendments among the total of 718 suggestions/amendments proposed in all the 33 FEMM opinions. Classification is made on the basis of seven broad policy issues (see Figure 7) because of the high number of suggestions/amendments and their heterogeneity. Some suggestions/amendments refer to more than one policy area. The figure below thus shows the distribution of 718 suggestions/amendments according to the seven broad policy areas.
Figure 7: Policy issues covered by suggestions/amendments of FEMM opinions issued between July 2011 and February 2013 in percentage of the total number of the opinions (one amendment could be classified in more than one policy area)

Legend:
VAW: Violence against women, Trafficking, Genital mutilation
HUMAN RIGHTS: Gender Human Rights, LGBT rights, Multiple discrimination (disable/migrants)
EDUCATION: Gender participation in school/university, gender stereotype, gender in education
TOOLS: Gender budgeting, gender statistics, gender training, gender pay gap, GIA, quantitative targets
EMPOWERMENT: Women's empowerment in employment and social affairs, female entrepreneurship, reconciliation, gender segregation, political/economic participation, gender stakeholders involvement
SERVICES: Access to health/social services for women
OTHER POLICIES: gender in development, sport, energy, fisheries

As can be seen in the figure, two policy areas were mentioned in more than or close to half of the FEMM opinions:

- “Gender data and tools”, a category including all those suggestions/amendments supporting the development and use of “gender statistics”, “gender disaggregated data”, “monitoring systems with a gender perspective”, Gender Impact Assessment (GIA), methodologies, and “gender budgeting”. These issues were mentioned in more than half (54.5%) of the opinions.

- The “social and economic empowerment of women”, a policy area that covers the support of a stronger presence for women in the labour market through work-life balance actions, support for women's entrepreneurship, and empowerment. These issues could be found in close to half of the FEMM opinions (48.6%).

Other themes were addressed to a lesser extent:

- 27.3% of the suggestions concerned violence against women and trafficking in women;
- 21% suggested inclusion of a gender perspective in human rights;
- 18% aimed at inclusion of a gender perspective in education and training; and
- Around 16% addressed gender differences in access to services (health etc.).
In the second step, a similar content analysis and classification was also carried out analysing the FEMM suggestions/amendments adopted in the final reports of the other committees. In this case, each FEMM suggestion/amendment adopted was allocated to one of the seven broad policy areas previously identified for the opinion classifications.

As will be seen in the graph below, the 210 suggestions/amendments of FEMM adopted in the final reports of the other committees show a similar picture, with suggestions/amendments addressing gender data and tools as well as the social and economic empowerment of women amounting together to more than 60% of all suggestions/amendments included in the final reports.

**Figure 8: FEMM suggestions/amendments by broad policy area included in the final report of the receiving committee in percentage of all suggestions/amendments adopted**

4.3.4 Results and conclusions

This section outlines the main results and conclusions deriving from the analysys carried out on FEMM activities during the period under scrutiny in this study.101

The analysis and the classification of the FEMM opinions according to their suggestions/amendments and of the FEMM suggestions/amendments included in the final report of the Committee for which they were drafted, clearly show that “Gender data and tools” as well as the “social and economic empowerment of women” are frequently subjects of FEMM suggestions/amendments. At the same time, they have also a better probability of being adopted by the committee responsible than, for example suggestions/amendments addressing violence against women.

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101 The wide effects that these results might have for the improvement of gender mainstreaming in the EP are presented in a comprehensive way in the final chapter of this study which is aimed at drawing conclusions and recommendations from all the analysis carried out during the study.
The figure below provides additional evidence for this conclusion showing the distribution of FEMM opinion suggestions/amendments within the subgroup of opinions assessed at high, medium and low impact.

**Figure 9: Included FEMM opinion suggestions/amendments by impact and broad policy issues**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>VAW</th>
<th>Human Rights</th>
<th>School</th>
<th>Tools</th>
<th>Empowerment</th>
<th>Services</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>6.7%</td>
<td>12.9%</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
<td>31.4%</td>
<td>31.4%</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>8.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
<td>20.7%</td>
<td>13.8%</td>
<td>31.0%</td>
<td>17.2%</td>
<td>6.9%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>4.9%</td>
<td>9.8%</td>
<td>16.8%</td>
<td>35.0%</td>
<td>38.2%</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
<td>8.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low</td>
<td>12.1%</td>
<td>15.5%</td>
<td>8.6%</td>
<td>24.1%</td>
<td>24.1%</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
<td>10.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In the case of the opinions with high impact, the majority of the suggestions approved regarded Tools (31%) and Empowerment (17.2%). Opinions with a medium impact (123) follow a similar trend, while those with low impact show a more evenly spread composition of issues. Both these two broad issues are quite common when dealing with gender. The importance of having specific gender data and tools available is nowadays widely accepted in the political and public opinion inside and outside the European Parliament. The same applies to recognition of the importance of supporting/increasing social and economic empowerment for women.

This suggests that the inclusion of FEMM suggestions/amendments (thus from opinions with a high/medium impact) is closely related to the issues covered: suggestions/amendments show a higher inclusion rate when referring to issues already recognized and generally accepted both inside and outside the European Parliament. This

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102 This result is presented without further reflection regarding the stereotypical image of "weak women" needing "empowerment".
conclusion is additionally reinforced when considering the FEMM suggestions that were not accepted in the final version of the text as released by the competent Committee\textsuperscript{103}.

**Figure 10: FEMM suggestions/amendments not adopted in the final resolution by broad policy area**

![Bar graph showing percentage of FEMM suggestions/amendments not adopted by broad policy area.]

In this case, the distribution is more even. Maybe astonishingly, the two broad policy areas in which most suggestions/amendments were not adopted are still related to "Gender tools" and "women empowerment". However, these suggestions/amendments are usually more incisive in reforming policy-making or are more innovative – for example: they do not simply say that gender budgeting is to be recognized as an important tool, but may explicitly refer to the effective application of gender budgeting procedures for the EU budget\textsuperscript{104} or to the effective implementation of gender quotas in politics, company boards, the judiciary, or in EU Election Observation Missions. In the case of suggestions/amendments included in the broad policy issue labelled "VAW", very sensitive issues such as those related to female sexual and reproductive rights were mentioned.

### 4.4 Review of the Gender Mainstreaming Amendments (GMAs) tabled by FEMM

As pointed out in Chapter 3, a new procedure\textsuperscript{105} has been in place since the start of the 7\textsuperscript{th} legislature, namely Gender Mainstreaming Amendments (GMAs).

In the period in question, FEMM MEPs tabled a total of 177 GMAs to 27 reports. Within the period examined, 17 reports to which GMAs were tabled were finalised.

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\textsuperscript{103} Some changes might have occurred between this final version and the very final text of EP Resolutions. However, it was not possible to carry out this analysis as the opinions were drafted in different periods and were at different stages of the policy process.

\textsuperscript{104} Gender budgeting is included only when generically proposed as a tool to be supported.

\textsuperscript{105} For more information on the procedure, please see chapter 3.
Table 7: Overview of finalized reports to which GMAs were tabled

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committee</th>
<th>Report Title</th>
<th>Rapporteur</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AFET</td>
<td>Draft report on a European Parliament recommendation to the Council on the modalities for the possible establishment of a European Endowment for Democracy (EDD)</td>
<td>Ana Maria Gomes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFET</td>
<td>Draft report on the review of the EU’s human rights strategy</td>
<td>Marie-Christine Vergiat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENVI</td>
<td>Draft motion for a resolution on the climate change conference in Durban (COP 17)</td>
<td>Nicole Kill-Nielsen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEVE</td>
<td>Draft report on Advancing Development through Trade</td>
<td>Corina Crețu, Mikael Gustafsson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEVE</td>
<td>Draft report on the Fourth High-Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness</td>
<td>Corina Crețu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMPL</td>
<td>Draft report on Corporate Social Responsibility: promoting society’s interests and a route to sustainable and inclusive recovery</td>
<td>Mikael Gustafsson, Elisabeth Morin-Charter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMPL</td>
<td>Draft report on employment and social aspects in the Annual Growth Survey 2012</td>
<td>Marije Cornelissen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMPL</td>
<td>Draft report on Social Investment Pact - as a response to the crisis</td>
<td>Antigoni Papadopoulou, Mikael Gustafsson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMPL</td>
<td>Draft report on the mid-term review of the European strategy 2007-2012 on health and safety at work</td>
<td>Edit Bauer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMPL</td>
<td>Draft report Social Business Initiative - Creating a favourable climate for social enterprises, key stakeholders in the social economy and innovation</td>
<td>Mikael Gustafsson, Rodi Kratsa-Tsagaropoulou</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENVI</td>
<td>Draft report The protection of public health from endocrine disruptors</td>
<td>Antonyia Parvanova</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IMCO</td>
<td>Draft report on a new strategy for Consumer Policy</td>
<td>Constance Le Grix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IMCO</td>
<td>Draft report on a strategy for strengthening the rights of vulnerable consumers</td>
<td>Mikael Gustafsson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JURI</td>
<td>Draft report on a corporate governance framework for European companies</td>
<td>NM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIBE</td>
<td>Draft report on enhanced intra-EU solidarity in the field of asylum</td>
<td>Raül Romeva I Rueda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PETI</td>
<td>Draft report on the EU Citizenship Report 2010: Dismantling the obstacles to EU citizens’ rights</td>
<td>Zita Gurmai</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Looking at these 17 reports fully concluded, it is clear that the majority of the GMAs (85.6%) were accepted (Table 8). Indeed, EMPL, AFET and ENVI included all the GMAs received.

Generally speaking, the majority of GMAs in most cases simply add the words 'gender', 'female' or 'women' to the respective text, be it a proposal for legislation of the Commission or an own-initiative report of a parliamentary committee. Besides, there are requests for gender disaggregated data and gender statistics.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committee</th>
<th>N° of Acts</th>
<th>n° of Amendments</th>
<th>% of GM Amendments</th>
<th>Fully+Partially approved</th>
<th>Fully approved</th>
<th>Partially approved</th>
<th>Fully+Partially approved</th>
<th>Fully approved</th>
<th>Partially approved</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AFET</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>9,3%</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>100,0%</td>
<td>77,8%</td>
<td>22,2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEVE</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10,3%</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>80,0%</td>
<td>80,0%</td>
<td>0,0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMPL</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>35,1%</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>100,0%</td>
<td>85,3%</td>
<td>14,7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENVI</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>12,3%</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>100,0%</td>
<td>100,0%</td>
<td>0,0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IMCO</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10,3%</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>90,0%</td>
<td>70,0%</td>
<td>20,0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JURI</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3,1%</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>66,7%</td>
<td>33,3%</td>
<td>33,3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIBE</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10,3%</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>90,0%</td>
<td>90,0%</td>
<td>0,0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PETI</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>9,3%</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>22,2%</td>
<td>22,2%</td>
<td>0,0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>100,0%</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>85,6%</td>
<td>75,3%</td>
<td>10,3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5. GENDER MAINSTREAMING IN THE WORK OF AFET, AGRI, BUDG, ENVI AND LIBE

KEY FINDINGS

- In the period under examination, AFET, ENVI and LIBE directly addressed gender issues, albeit with varying intensity. However, in all the five committees, attention to gender equality issues could have been extended to other issues treated in their legislative and non-legislative reports.

- AFET shows the highest proportion of non-legislative reports and recommendations directly addressing gender equality issues (41% of the reports and recommendations drafted in the period considered). The main issues covered were women's human rights and the fight against violence against women.

- LIBE shows a relatively low (16.1%) number of reports directly addressing gender equality issues in the period under consideration, mainly referring to discrimination on grounds of sex and multiple discrimination, the rights of immigrant women, and the protection of victims of crime. This is probably due to the fact that this committee is, among other responsibilities, competent for equality of all citizens' rights, excluding gender equality for which FEMM is competent.

- ENVI has included a gender perspective to reports on public health, which equals 7.7% of its reports in the period under consideration.

- AGRI did not produce reports or recommendations addressing gender equality issues in the period considered. However, in January 2011, it issued a report on the role of women in agriculture and rural areas.

- None of the BUDG reports issued in the period in question directly address gender equality issues, although this aspect could well have been introduced in some of them.

- The number of men and women members of a committee does not seem to be a relevant factor in supporting the internalization of a gender perspective within the five selected Committees’ activities in the period analysed. Rather, gender aspects have better chances of being included in the committees’ reports and recommendations when they are related to issues that are already recognised in external debate and public perceptions.

- However, the presence of an equal share of women within the committees is extremely important not only for equity issues but also because they can have a significant role in supporting the introduction of a gender perspective for issues that are not high on the political agenda or that are “new” in the gender equality debate.
5.1 The methodological approach

Following the analysis of FEMM’s activities presented in the previous chapter, this chapter focuses on the activities of five other parliamentary committees (AFET, AGRI, BUDG, ENVI and LIBE) in order to assess whether and, if so, to what extent, gender equality issues were addressed in the period between July 2011 and February 2013 without any input from FEMM.

The analytical approach is as described in section 1.2., focusing on those institutional factors and social mechanisms that could indicate if and how gender equality issues were addressed in the period between July 2011 and February 2013 in the five Committees without any input from FEMM. In this section we also consider the representation of women in the five Committees (members, chairs or vice chairs, rapporteurs and experts invited to hearings) and the presence of Members who are also members of FEMM as possible factors influencing the Committees’ attention to gender equality issues.

To this end, a desk analysis of the legislative and non-legislative reports and recommendations produced by the above-mentioned committees in the period in question was carried out, complemented with face-to-face and written interviews with some of the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of these committees. For a better overview, a grid has been drawn up, which is structured in three sections and can be found in Annex I:

1. the first column presents the main references identifying of the legislative/non-legislative reports and recommendations (name of the act, date, procedural reference, name of the committee responsible for the act and name of the committee’s rapporteur and his/her political group);
2. the second column describes the main policy topics directly addressing gender equality issues covered in the document;
3. the third column presents a concise assessment of the level (low, medium, high) of inclusion of a gender perspective.

This chapter is structured in a similar way: sections 5.2 to 5.6 present detailed assessment of the activities of each committee from a gender perspective; the last section concludes with a comparative overview of the attention to gender equality issues in the activities of the five selected committees and the possible factors accounting for the differences among the five committees in the period under examination.

5.2 Gender mainstreaming in AFET

The Committee on Foreign Affairs (AFET) is composed of 151 members, including 75 substitutes, 45 of whom are women (of which 24 substitutes). Nine members of AFET are also members of FEMM (6% of the members of the Committee). There are no women on the Bureau of AFET.

Considering that only 29.8% of AFET Members are women, it is difficult to ensure gender balance in rapporteurships. In the period considered for this study (July 2011 and February 2013), 20.6% of rapporteurs were women. However, as highlighted in the
interviews, AFET is paying increasing attention to ensuring that rapporteurs will reflect the gender composition of the committee.

Regarding the involvement of women experts in hearings, the representation of women appears higher than the EP average in the period between June 2011 and March 2013: of the 9 AFET hearings held since June 2011, 5 involved women as expert speakers and 22.7% of the experts invited were women. In the interview, the AFET Chair took the view that gender balance in hearings could not always be ensured as the principle criteria for participation were expertise and availability. However, a more systematic approach when choosing experts for hearings could be promoted if not only the political groups but also the committee secretariat and the Policy Department paid more attention to gender balance among the experts invited to hearings and workshops.

According to Annex VII of EP’s Rules of Procedure, AFET is responsible for:

- the **Common Foreign and Security Policy** (CFSP) and **European Security and Defence Policy** (ESDP);
- **relations with other EU institutions and bodies**, the UN and other international organisations and inter-parliamentary assemblies for matters falling under its responsibility;
- **strengthening political relations with third countries**, particularly those in the immediate vicinity of the Union106.
- **opening, monitoring and concluding negotiations on the accession** of European States to the Union (i.e. the enlargement process). The European Parliament monitors the developments and progress in the accession, candidate and potential candidate countries. To this end, the AFET appoints standing rapporteurs for the accession of new EU countries, and the rapporteurs draft progress reports on the country of their remit every year.
- **issues concerning human rights, the protection of minorities and the promotion of democratic values** in third countries. In this context the committee is assisted by a subcommittee on human rights.

Regarding the legislative process, the Foreign Affairs Committee rarely deals with legislative files. However, it must give consent to international agreements and it negotiates the external financing instruments within the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF).

In the period between July 2011 and February 2013, the Foreign Affairs (AFET) Committee completed 34 reports and recommendations. Of these:

- The majority (27 of the 34) were **own initiative reports**, mainly containing recommendations to Council, Commission and the European External Action

106 AFET is playing an increasingly important role in relation to the conclusion of international agreements, since the European Parliament has to give consent for the conclusion of agreements with third countries. The AFET has appointed standing rapporteurs to monitor negotiations on international agreements with third countries, like the **Association Agreements** with Eastern Partnership countries; **Partnership on Cooperation Agreements** with some Asian Countries, **Framework Agreements** with Japan, South Korea, New Zealand and Australia, **Strategic Framework** with Canada
Service (EEAS) on the negotiation of international agreements or on EU development strategies relating to various fields, inter alia human rights, enlargement, digital freedom in foreign policies, security/defence;

- six were recommendations issued in relation to Article 218 TFEU, mainly on the draft Council Decisions on the conclusion of the Association or Partnership and Cooperation Agreements;

A significant share of AFET’s reports and recommendations that were analysed contain specific gender-related aspects (14 out of 34), while other reports deal with issues that could have an indirect impact on gender equality, as detailed in the section below.

5.2.1 Consideration of gender equality issues in AFET’s reports and recommendations

The following Table 9 shows in detail, for each of the 14 reports and recommendations that explicitly include a gender perspective, the main gender-related issues, the rapporteur’s political affiliation and whether he or she is a member of FEMM. 12 out of 14 rapporteurs are men. Only one of the two female rapporteurs is also member of FEMM. Furthermore, the rapporteurs reflect the proportions of the political groups: 6 belong to EPP, 3 to the Greens/EFA, 2 to ALDE, 2 to S&D, 1 to ECR and 1 to the EFD.

Table 9: Gender mainstreaming in the work of AFET: Reports and Recommendations directly addressing gender equality issues without interference from FEMM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Procedure reference</th>
<th>Title of the report</th>
<th>Rapporteur</th>
<th>Gender policy topics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010/0310(NLE)</td>
<td>RECOMMENDATION on the draft Council decision on the conclusion of a Partnership and Cooperation Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, on the one hand, and the Republic of Iraq, on the other</td>
<td>Mauro Mauro EPP</td>
<td>• Raising awareness of human rights including specifically women’s rights</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 2011/2008(INT)      | REPORT on the state of implementation of the EU Strategy for Central Asia         | Nicole Kill-Nielsen Greens FEMM member | • Female employment (including entrepreneurship)  
|                     |                                                                                   |                             | • Gender balance in all sectors of life  
|                     |                                                                                   |                             | • Economic and social emancipation of women as a lever for countries’ development  
|                     |                                                                                   |                             | • Female education (including business education)  
|                     |                                                                                   |                             | • Raising awareness of human rights including women’s rights |
| 2011/2133(INT)      | REPORT containing the European Parliament’s recommendations to the Council, the Commission and the EEAS on the negotiations of the EU-Georgia Association | Krzysztof Lisiek EPP        | • Raising awareness of gender equality and women’s rights  
|                     |                                                                                   |                             | • Gender pay gap |

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Procedure reference</th>
<th>Title of the report</th>
<th>Rapporteur</th>
<th>Gender policy topics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2011/2157(INI)</td>
<td>REPORT on the review of the European Neighbourhood Policy and Marek Siwiec S&amp;D</td>
<td>Mário David EPP</td>
<td>• Raising awareness of human rights including specifically women’s rights • Political participation of women and representation of female interests in the democratic process • Participation of women in conflict resolution, negotiations and peace building processes • Female migration • Implementation of gender equality actions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011/2191(INI)</td>
<td>REPORT on the application of Croatia to become a member of the European Union</td>
<td>Hannes Swoboda S&amp;D</td>
<td>• Raising awareness of gender equality and women rights • Female employment • Gender pay gap • Political participation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011/2245(INI)</td>
<td>REPORT with a proposal for a European Parliament Recommendation to the Council on the procedures for the possible establishment of a European Endowment for Democracy (EED)</td>
<td>Alexander Graf Lambsdorff ALDE</td>
<td>• Raising awareness of gender equality and women rights • Political participation of women • Gender balance in all sectors of life • FEMALE employment • Fight against gender-based violence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012/2025(INI)</td>
<td>REPORT on enlargement: policies, criteria and the EU’s strategic interests</td>
<td>Maria Eleni Koppa EPP</td>
<td>• Raising awareness of gender equality and women rights • Implementation of gender mainstreaming policies • Political participation of women (mainly accession process) • Female employment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012/2036(INI)</td>
<td>REPORT with a proposal for a European Parliament recommendation to the Council on the 67th session of the United Nations General Assembly</td>
<td>Alexander Graf Lambsdorff ALDE</td>
<td>• Raising awareness of gender equality and women rights • Political participation of women • Fight against gender-based violence (FGM) • Participation of women in conflict resolution, negotiations and peace building processes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012/2088(INI)</td>
<td>RECOMMENDATION TO THE COUNCIL on the EU Special Representative for Human Rights</td>
<td>José Ignacio Salafranca Sánchez-Neira EPP</td>
<td>• Raising awareness of human rights including specifically women’s rights • Fight against gender-based violence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012/2095(INI)</td>
<td>REPORT on the role of the Common Security and Defence Policy in the eventuality of climate-driven crises and natural disasters</td>
<td>Indrek Tarand Greens</td>
<td>• Protection of women as vulnerable group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Procedure reference</td>
<td>Title of the report</td>
<td>Rapporteur</td>
<td>Gender policy topics</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012/2137(INI)</td>
<td>REPORT on EU-China relations</td>
<td>Bastiaan Belder EFD</td>
<td>- Fight against gender-based violence (forced abortions or sterilisation)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012/2062(INI)</td>
<td>REPORT on the review of the EU’s human rights strategy</td>
<td>Rui Tavares Greens</td>
<td>- Raising awareness of human rights including specifically women’s rights</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Fight against gender-based violence (FGM)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Harmonization of women’s rights in the different countries’ laws</td>
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<td>- Political participation of women</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Situation of women in the Arab States</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012/2026(INI)</td>
<td>REPORT on EU strategy for the Horn of Africa</td>
<td>Charles Tannock ECR</td>
<td>- Raising awareness of human rights including specifically women’s rights</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Political participation of women</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Participation of women in conflict resolution, negotiations and peace building processes</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Fight against gender-based violence (FGM)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Gender balance in all sectors of life and women’s empowerment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Situation of women in the Horn of Africa and improvement of women’s rights in Somalia through EU action</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Participation of women in conflict resolution, negotiations and peace building processes</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Fighting violence against women during conflicts</td>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
<td>- Implementation of action plan regarding women, peace and security</td>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Situation of women in Afghanistan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Monitoring of the geographic and gender balance of staff in the EEA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As can be seen in the table above, the main gender-related issues/topics covered by the reports are:

- raising awareness of women’s rights and gender equality;
- raising awareness of human rights including specifically women’s rights;
- harmonization of women’s rights in the different countries’ laws;
- participation of women in public life (elective offices and political decision-making bodies) and representation of female interests in the democratic process;
- participation of women in conflict resolution, negotiations, peace building processes;
- fighting gender-based violence and gender stereotypes;
- gender balance in all sectors of life;
- female employment (including entrepreneurship);
- the gender pay gap;
- economic emancipation and empowerment of women as a lever for countries’ development;
- female education (including business education);
- female migration;
- implementation of gender equality plan/actions;
- implementation of gender mainstreaming policies.

Besides producing its own reports and recommendations, AFET has adopted guidelines for negotiations that contain amendments on gender equality and women’s rights in all the financial instruments for the 2014-2020 negotiation (Common Implementing Regulation, Pre-Accession Instrument, European Neighbourhood Instrument, Partnership Instrument, Instrument for Stability, European Instrument for Human Rights and Democracy).

The majority of reports that include gender aspects refer to the promotion of the participation of women in all sectors of economic and public life in third countries. Specific attention is paid to achieving full equality with regard to the gender pay gap and the equal treatment of women and men at work.

The reports recognise the role played by women as drivers of economic development and pay particular attention to women’s representation and interests. These should be strengthened both in the partnership between the EU and the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) countries and by involving women’s organizations, in the on-going processes of democratic transitions. In particular, the participation of women is promoted in parliaments, ministries, top government positions, decision-making positions in local administrations and the management of public companies.

Attention to gender issues is also highlighted in the reports dealing with the Common Foreign and Security Policy with regard to the need to combat violence against women in situations of conflict and the specific conditions for women in some countries (e.g. in Afghanistan, where the military intervention has not led to construction of democratic structures and improvement in living conditions for the majority, and in particular for women and girls). The close links between the issues of peace, security, development and gender equality are also recognised.

Some reports deal with human rights’ topic in close relation with women’s rights. Specifically, the EU institutions and the Member States are urged to encourage third countries to make clear provisions for women’s rights in their legislation. Moreover, it is stressed that countries qualified as not making progress in democracy should see the Union’s support reduced, particularly where they infringe certain core principles, including gender equality.

The fight against gender-based violence is specified in relation to the fight against gender stereotypes, female genital mutilation, forced abortions and sterilization.

A good example to highlight some of the factors supporting the implementation of gender mainstreaming in AFET activities in the period considered, is the Report presented in Box 1 below.

As in the case of FEMM opinions, the gender balance does not seem to play an important role, while the salience accruing to issues addressed in political debate and in public perception is confirmed as an important mechanism for gender mainstreaming. Hence in
this case too, the relation between gender balance and gender mainstreaming may not be apparent, even though the representation of women in political decision-making is essential to having women’s interest represented, especially on those issues that are not widely addressed in public debate or where the gender perspective is more difficult to address.

**Box 3: High level of GM: Report on the review of the European Neighbourhood Policy (2011/2157 (INI))**

The rapporteurs were male and did not belong to FEMM, as is the case with most of the other AFET reports including aspects having high impacts on gender equality. In this case the issues addressed were widely present in external debate and public opinion, as the Report deals with the importance of gender equality for democratic transitions, including those in the Arab Spring.

In detail, in recital A) the importance is highlighted of respecting and promoting democracy, human rights and fundamental freedoms, with specific attention both to women’s rights and sexual orientation. With regard to this last aspect, the report clearly considers the principle of equal opportunities within a broad approach, not limited to gender.

The report pays particular attention to women's representation and female interests. In this regard, it stresses that the partnership between the EU and the ENP countries and their respective civil societies should be strengthened, also involving women’s organizations. The participation of women in the on-going processes of democratic transitions in the Arab Springs is considered crucial, as well as their participation in all sectors of economic and public life and in particular in parliament, ministries, top government posts, decision-making positions in the public and local administration and the management of public companies. To achieve these objectives the European Parliament encourages the adoption of action plans for gender equality.

Attention to gender issues also concerns respect of human rights, which should be continuously monitored, also with regard to the rights of women. In particular, violations should entail a progressive limitation of bilateral cooperation. Also related to human rights are mobility and migration. In this regard, the EU is called upon to enhance the accessibility and channelling of EU funds into projects aimed at informing migrants of their rights and responsibilities, with particular reference to the rights of women within vulnerable groups.

5.2.2 Other issues to be addressed from a gender perspective

As anticipated, other AFET reports/recommendations deal with issues in third countries that, even if not explicitly related to gender issues, could be addressed more effectively if a gender perspective was included:

- the fight against all forms of discrimination;
ensuring respect of human rights, fundamental freedom, legal status, democracy, judicial system reforms, good governance and transparency of decisional processes, social and employment reforms (job creation and improvement of working conditions);

promotion of entrepreneurship;

sustainable economic growth and reduction of poverty;

rural development and food security;

sustainable social and environmental development;

education and vocational training;

fight against organized crime, trafficking in human beings and illegal migration.

All of these issues can be addressed in ways that improve women’s rights and living conditions and reduce gender inequalities – preconditions for achieving the objectives of the common security and defence policy, association agreements, enlargement and neighbourhood policies pursued by the European Union.

An example of an AFET report that could have had a gender impact if a gender perspective was integrated is the *Interim Report on the draft Council decision on the conclusion of the Agreement establishing an Association between the European Union and its Member States, on the one hand, and Central America, on the other (2011/0303(NLE) - A7-0360/2012)*. In this report the European Parliament (through AFET) calls upon the Council to stress that this agreement marks a decisive step forward in the integration of Central America and goes far beyond the mere questions of free trade. The agreement aimed at supporting the development and consolidation of human rights and democracy, a sustainable economy and social and environmental development. It further aimed at establishing a framework for legal security and certainty to stimulate the flow of goods, services and investments. Furthermore, the recommendation insists that social cohesion can only be achieved by reducing poverty, inequality, social exclusion and all forms of discrimination through proper education, including vocational training. It also proposes the establishment of regional trade academies both in Latin American regions and across EU Member States, aiming at building capacity among SMEs by providing training sessions on the preconditions for trading agricultural products, goods and services with the partner region. These actions, if implemented, could improve the economic and social situation of men and women and reduce their level of poverty. Given that the report emphasizes that social cohesion can be achieved by eliminating discrimination and inequality through education and training, it would have been important to identify women as a priority target of these interventions. Moreover, this agreement opens up new and interesting possibilities for dialogue on the fight against organized crime and the protection of human rights, while it fails to mention specifically the need to ensure women’s rights and the fight against gender-based violence, which is very widespread in Central America. This aspect could have been given due importance, especially considering recital F, which affirms that the Parliament has expressed its concern over violence against women in its resolution of 11 October 2007 on the murder of women.

107 The AFET rapporteur responsible for this report was José Ignacio Salafranca Sánchez-Neyra (EPP).
(feminicide) in Mexico and Central America and the role of the European Union in fighting the phenomenon.

5.2.3 Conclusions

AFET's activity in the period analysed is characterized by medium and high gender mainstreaming implementation in many of its reports (mainly own initiative reports), including the adoption of directives that contain amendments on gender equality and women’s rights in all the financial instruments for 2014-2020 that were negotiated (Common Implementing Regulation, Pre-Accession Instrument, European Neighbourhood Instrument, Partnership Instrument, Instrument for Stability, European Instrument for Human Rights and Democracy). More precisely, a significant proportion of AFET reports and recommendations analysed contain specific gender-related aspects (with medium and high impacts), while many other reports include references to issues that could have gender equality “impact” if a gender dimension was applied.

Considering that AFET deals with EU foreign policy issues, in some instances with reference to development strategies, and relations with third countries wishing to establish association agreements with the EU or to become EU Member States, many of the issues treated concern respect for fundamental rights and the rule of law that these countries must ensure. Particularly significant is the provision contained in some reports on the conditionality of EU financial support for respect for women’s rights. This is why the main gender-related issues covered by the documents regard in particular: raising awareness of human rights including, specifically, women’s rights; the harmonization of women’s rights in the different countries’ laws; the fight against gender-based violence (mainly FGM, forced abortions/sterilization, trafficking and sexual exploitation) and gender stereotypes; women’s participation in public life (elective offices and political decision-making bodies), conflict resolution, negotiations, peace-building processes and processes of democratic transition.

Third countries and candidate countries are asked to respect women’s rights also with regard to employment and general living conditions. In this respect, the documents analysed address the issue of female employment (including entrepreneurship supported by microcredit), the issue of women’s economic emancipation as a lever for the development of third countries, the gender pay gap, female education (including business education), and gender balance in all sectors of social life, as well as implementation of gender equality actions and gender mainstreaming policies. In particular, gender equality is considered to hold great potential for achievement of the Europe 2020 objectives by contributing to growth and full employment (Report on Enlargement: policies, criteria and the EU’s strategic interests (2012/2025 (INI)).

A gender perspective could have been applied to other issues addressed by AFET in many of the reports/recommendations analysed. These reports deal with the common security and defence policy, association agreements, enlargement and the neighbourhood policies pursued by the European Union while promoting economic, social and democratic reforms in the concerned countries. It has therefore been possible to identify several intervention areas that could have been significantly integrated with a gender perspective such as:
the fight against all forms of discrimination, the protection of human rights, fundamental freedoms, the rule of law, democracy, judicial system reforms, good governance and transparency of decisional processes;

social and employment reforms (job creation and improvement of working conditions);

promotion of entrepreneurship;

sustainable economic growth and reduction of poverty;

rural development and food security;

education and vocational training;

the fight against organized crime, and trafficking in human beings and illegal migration.

Finally, it is worth stressing that some acts make reference to all possible discrimination grounds (disability, age, race, nationality, etc.) by considering the principle of equal opportunities within a broad approach not exclusively centred on gender.

5.3 Gender mainstreaming in AGRI

The Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development (AGRI) is composed of 88 members (including 44 substitutes), of whom 33 are women (20 substitutes). The overall percentage of women on the Committee amounts to 37.5%. Six members of AGRI are also members of FEMM (equivalent to 8% of the Committee’s members). The Chair is a man, and only one of the four Vice-Chairs is a woman.

In the period considered for this study (July 2011 to February 2013) women accounted for 15% of rapporteurs. However, as highlighted by interviews, there is awareness of the importance of achieving equilibrium between numbers of male and female rapporteurs, as are the equal representation of men and women overall.

In relation to the involvement of women experts in hearings, only one AGRI hearing was held during the period analysed (in June 2011), and women were involved as expert speakers (25% of the total speakers).

The Committee is primarily responsible for examining and, where necessary, amending the European Commission’s legislative proposals by preparing reports for subsequent adoption by the European Parliament in plenary. The powers and responsibilities of this committee are more important than ever, since the Treaty of Lisbon came into force as the European Parliament has now the power of co-decision on equal footing with the Council on the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP).

In detail, AGRI is responsible for:

- development of the CAP;
- rural development, including the activities of the relevant financial instruments;
- legislation on:
Policy Department C: Citizens’ Rights and Constitutional Affairs

- veterinary and plant-health matters, animal feeding stuffs, provided such measures are not intended to protect against risks to human health,
- animal husbandry and welfare;
  - improvement of the quality of agricultural products;
  - supplies of agricultural raw materials;
  - the Community Plant Variety Office;
  - forestry.

In the period between July 2011 and February 2013, AGRI completed 20 reports and recommendations. The majority (14 of the 20) are legislative reports, while six were own initiative reports.

5.3.1 Consideration of gender equality issues in the Committee’s activity

None of the documents completed in the period considered directly included gender-related aspects as such. However, gender equality is an issue that has greatly interested the Committee, as shown by its "Report on the role of women in agriculture and rural areas" (2010/2054 (INI)) drafted six months before the period analysed (January 31st, 2011). It is likely that the relatively high presence of women in AGRI (37.5% relative to the EP average of 35.8%) with 2 female Vice-Chairs, and six FEMM members stimulated greater awareness of and attention to gender issues, also on issues not high on the political agenda and public debate.

The report was indicated during interviews as an important step towards the common aim of eliminating disparities between men and women from the agricultural sector and provides a framework to develop the role of women in the agricultural sector in both economic and social terms and improve their living conditions in rural areas.

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108 The AGRI rapporteur responsible for this report was Elisabeth Jeggle (EPP), also member of the Subcommittee on Human Rights (DROI).
Box 4: High level of GM: Report on the role of women in agriculture and rural areas (2010/2054 (INI))

This report highlights that a competitive agricultural sector geared towards multifunctionality is an essential basis for sustainable development strategies and for more far-reaching entrepreneurial activities in many regions. This type of potential is part of a process of increased diversification of economic activity that has not yet been fully exploited in all areas. Implementation of sustainable development strategies is especially important as rural areas are particularly characterised by population ageing, low population density and, in these cases, depopulation.

Development of the agricultural sector is particularly significant for women. The report stresses that about 42% of the 26.7 million people working regularly in agriculture in the European Union are women and at least one holding in five (around 29%) is managed by a woman.

Thanks to years of effort with policies for women and the intensive public promotion of education, advice and business start-up initiatives, inter alia under the second pillar of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), there have clearly been significant successes in improving men’s and women’s living conditions in the countryside.

The basic challenge for women remains that of combining work in agriculture with responsibility for the family in rural areas where women are expected to provide care for the family and or the elderly. To address this challenge, support services and affordable and accessible structures are needed. In this respect, the report points out that efforts have to be directed at the improvement of living conditions in order to offer women and their families reasons for staying in the area and making a successful life there. In particular, it emphasises that the wide range of rural businesses, including service-oriented businesses (e.g. farm tourism, direct marketing, social services, such as care of the elderly and childcare, learning on farms within the context of all-day schooling) in rural areas should be supported in a sustainable way via the CAP, also opening up new prospects and paid employment opportunities for women and significantly facilitating reconciliation of family life and work.

Therefore, it urges the Commission and the Member States to abide by their commitment to improve broadband provision in rural areas as a way to boost competitiveness and the growth of small businesses. In particular, it calls for the promotion and support of electronic forms of enterprise management among women in rural areas, such as e-business, which make it possible to do business irrespective of the distance from large urban centers. Moreover, special emphasis needs to be placed on the role of women in achieving the objectives of the Europe 2020 strategy, with reference in particular to initiatives focusing on innovation, research and development. In short, all over the rural world, female work has to be developed in terms of women’s key role in agriculture, their expertise and their competence in this sector. The role of women in initiating, developing and managing “farm diversification” projects is significant. The report calls for women’s entrepreneurial initiatives to be encouraged, in particular through the promotion of female ownership, networks of female entrepreneurs, and provision in the financial sector to facilitate access to investment and credit for rural businesswomen.
Further measures have to be developed to favour the empowerment of women living in rural areas. Particularly significant is the provision to set up a database on the economic and social situation of women and their involvement in business in rural regions in order to optimise the use of data already available (e.g. from Eurostat) for the purposes of tailoring policy measures. Also significant is the training and counselling provision for women with a specific rural focus and the possible creation of a European rural women's network (or a network of women's associations), especially considering the important role played by the existing women's networks at various levels, particularly in terms of the local promotion of rural areas. Moreover, these networks need more political and financial support in view of their major contribution to achieving greater equality, particularly as regards the launching of local development projects.

Despite the significant contribution made by women to local and community development, their participation in the relevant decision-making is still inadequate. In this respect, the report calls on the Member States to support increased participation in the political process on the part of women, including their representation on the boards of institutions, companies and associations.

Attention is also paid to spouses of farmers and self-employed women farmers in terms of social protection, including maternity benefits. In connection with this issue, it is stressed that European policies regarding the living conditions of women in rural areas must also take into account the living and working conditions of female immigrants employed as seasonal farm workers, especially as regards the need for adequate accommodation, social protection, medical insurance and healthcare.

Finally, AGRI takes the view that, as part of the forthcoming CAP reform, the needs of women in rural areas and the role of women working in agriculture should be taken into account and given priority as regards access to certain services and aid, in line with the local needs in each Member State. It also calls for the new EAFRD Regulation to provide for specific measures to support women in the 2014-2020 programming period entailing a beneficial impact on female employment in rural areas.

5.3.2 Other issues to be addressed from a gender perspective

A significant number of analysed AGRI reports tackles issues potentially linked to gender, containing several intervention areas that could be significantly integrated with a gender perspective as the horizontal report detailed above:

- Revitalizing and developing rural areas
- Development of outermost regions
- Population ageing and depopulation
- Strategies for the competitiveness of the agricultural sector (quality scheme, marketing, renewable energy, more efficient food chains, etc.)
- Promotion of agricultural trade
- Fighting food wastage and distributing food products to needy people.
In general, each measure aimed at developing the agricultural sector can affect the rural population in terms of the economic and living conditions of these territories. In particular, these measures could affect women’s living conditions because many women work in this field and could have been addressed in the reports.

One example of an AGRI report that could be explored in a gender perspective is the REPORT on Proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down specific measures for agriculture in the outermost regions of the Union (2010/0256 (COD) - A7-0321/2011)\(^{109}\). The programme of options specific to the remote and isolated nature of the outermost regions (POSEI) plays a crucial role in supporting and developing farming and the processing industry in these regions. If the POSEI programme did not exist, it would be difficult for these sectors to remain viable, owing to the economic difficulties faced by the outermost regions as a result of their geographical location and the limited scope that they have for diversification. It is necessary to maintain the development and enhancement of competitiveness for traditional agricultural activities in these regions, including the production, processing and marketing of local crops and products. In particular, AGRI underlines in its amendment no. 14 that “agricultural production plays a vital role in revitalising rural areas and encouraging people to stay in them, and the outermost rural areas are particularly affected by population ageing, low population density and in some cases depopulation”.

As already mentioned, the quality of rural life is definitely linked to gender issues. In particular, there is a significant correlation between rural development and female labour, and indeed between the active role of women in the sustainable economic growth of these areas and reduction of the depopulation process. For these reasons, women could have been taken in account as specific target of measures and intervention to promote agriculture in these areas and the own-initiative report mentioned above shows a way on how this could be implemented.

5.3.3 Conclusions

None of the AGRI reports in the period under examination deal directly with gender equality issues, although direct attention to gender equality is to be seen in a previous Report on the role of women in agriculture and rural areas (2010/2054 (INI)), which places the focus on women's contribution to agricultural sector development and represents the overall action framework to support the role of women in the agricultural sector in both economic and social terms and improve their living conditions in rural areas.

Every measure that aims at combating social exclusion in rural areas can contribute to improving the situation for women, for they face a greater risk of poverty than men. Likewise, every measure that supports agricultural production and trade may affect female employment as development in the agricultural sector is particularly significant for women. Indeed the report on the role of women in agricultural and rural areas mentioned above stresses that “about 42% of the 26.7 million people working regularly in agriculture in the European Union are women and at least one holding in five (around 29%) is managed by a woman”. The significant correlation between the active role of women in

\(^{109}\) The AGRI rapporteur responsible for this report was Gabriel Mato Adrover (EPP).
this sector and the sustainable economic growth of these areas is also reflected in the reduction of the depopulation process.

For these reasons a significant part of AGRI reports analysed, dealing as they do with issues potentially important for women, gender aspects could have been integrated easily – for example, by identifying women as recipients of the interventions, or by explicitly considering the effects that certain measures can have on them.

5.4 Gender mainstreaming in BUDG

With 43 members and the same number of substitute members, the Committee on Budget is mainly responsible for drafting Parliament's position on the EU's annual budget. 33.3% of the committee members and substitutes are women, a share slightly lower than the overall share of women among MEPs. Of these women 35.1% are permanent members and 30.9% are substitutes, while one woman is Vice Chair. Moreover, 3 of the BUDG members are also FEMM members (equivalent to 3.6% of the Committee's members). The share of members belonging to the EPP party (59.1%) is higher than in the other Committees.

As to women experts’ involvement in the committee hearings, it is to be noted that only two experts out of 28 participating in the 6 hearings held by the Committee in the period analysed were women.

Furthermore, BUDG is in charge of preparing the negotiations of the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF or financial perspective) which determines the framework for the annual budgetary procedures for a period of 7 years.

In detail, BUDG is responsible for:

- the MFF of the Union’s revenue and expenditure and the Union's system of own resources;
- the budget of the European Parliament;
- prerogatives, namely the budget of the Union as well as the negotiation and implementation of interinstitutional agreements in this field;
- Parliament's estimates according to the procedure defined in the Rules;
- the budgets of the decentralised bodies;
- the financial activities of the European Investment Bank;
- the budgetisation of the European Development Fund, without prejudice to the powers of the committee responsible for the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement;
- financial implications and compatibility with the multiannual financial framework of all Community acts, without prejudice to the powers of the relevant committees;
- keeping track of and assessing implementation of the current budget notwithstanding Rule 78(1), transfers of appropriations, procedures relating to the establishment plans, administrative appropriations and opinions concerning building-related projects with significant financial implications;
• Financial Regulation, excluding matters relating to the implementation, management and control of the budget.

5.4.1 Consideration of gender equality issues in the Committee’s activity

In the period July 2011 and February 2013, the Budget Committee issued 38 reports, of which:

• one followed the ordinary legislative procedure;
• one followed a consultation procedure;
• one was an own-initiative report;
• 35 were related to the budgetary procedure.

Most of the latter regard the mobilization of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund (EGF) for reintegration in the labour market of workers made redundant due to the global financial and economic crisis110, while the rest refer to other EU financial instruments and the EU budget:

• EGF: 21 reports;
• European Solidarity Fund: four reports;
• EU budget: 11 reports;
• EP budget: one report.

Even though incorporating the gender perspective into the budget is a practice generally acknowledged at the EU level, especially through promotion of gender budgeting processes, detailed analysis shows that reports do not include direct references to gender equality and gender mainstreaming.

This is even more astonishing as the reports on the EU budget include direct references, for example to the promotion of youth as one of the most valuable resources for EU growth, and to the adoption of concrete actions to bring down the youth unemployment level, while no references whatsoever are made to the promotion of women’s potential for EU economic growth.

5.4.2 Other issues to be addressed from a gender perspective

As previously pointed out, even if not explicitly related to gender issues many of the topics tackled by BUDG could be addressed according to a gender perspective. In particular, reports issued on the approval of the mobilization of the EGF could be considered in terms of reintegration of the unemployed (both women and men) in the labour market. In fact, it is expected that the proposals for the mobilization of the EGF will contribute to women’s

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110 The European Globalisation Adjustment Fund has been created in order to provide additional assistance to workers suffering from the consequences of major structural changes in world trade patterns.
reintegration in the labour market, as the EGF includes measures for labour market reintegration of workers through active employment measures, training and vocational training schemes, and women have to be considered key beneficiaries of such measures. This is even more relevant considering that women usually suffer from multiple discriminations on the labour market. For instance, according to the Report on the proposal for a decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on the mobilisation of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund, in accordance with point 28 of the Inter-institutional Agreement of 17 May 2006 between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline and sound financial management (application EGF/2011/015 SE/AstraZeneca from Sweden), the EGF fund will be used by the Swedish authorities for reintegration in the labour market of 700 workers of Astra Zeneca. The package mainly targets women as they account for 63% of the total workers benefiting from the scheme. Even though the package includes active labour market measures (i.e. job search assistance, occupational guidance, training and retraining, aid for self-employment, job search allowances, mobility allowances, and measures to stimulate older workers) that will also involve reintegration of women in the labour market, no explicit references to women are made and no measures are designed considering the different needs of women and men.

5.4.3 Conclusions

Even though gender mainstreaming (taking into consideration the gender equality perspective in all policy areas) is the main pillar of the gender equality policies at the EU level, numerous reports have shown that gender mainstreaming is more common in “soft” policy areas (such as human resources) than in “hard” policy areas (such as budget): “in spite of the clear commitment on the application of gender equality to all policy areas and programmes, certain policy fields are protected from “interference”, most notably the harder areas of finance, capital markets and the more technical ones such as transport etc. Gender issues are more easily accepted in “soft” areas dealing with human resources development (such as employment and training policies) than in “hard” areas which receive most financial support.”

Analysis of the reports issued by the Budget Committee shows, in fact, that BUDG's financial reports (relating to the EU financial framework) do not directly consider the gender equality perspective. However, the gender perspective could be indirectly considered given that most of the measures approved have potential positive impact on women. For instance, such is the case with proposals regarding the mobilization of EGF, where the importance of considering gender budgeting procedures could be mentioned.

In drafting a gender-oriented budget it would be possible to adopt an approach that integrates economic and social aspects, inasmuch as an economy cannot be competitive, dynamic and healthy if behind the productive, commercial, and financial processes, there is not a stable, cohesive and just society, where the rights, resources and capabilities of the people are adequately developed.

5.5 Gender mainstreaming in ENVI

Counting 65 permanent members and 66 substitutes, the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety Committee is the largest legislative committee in the European Parliament. The political groups show a higher share of S&D (29.0%) than in the other four committees considered and a relatively high share of Greens (9.7%).

As to women’s presence within the Committee, half of its permanent members and substitutes are women: 30 permanent members and 31 substitutes. Moreover, its four Vice-Chairs include a woman. 11 of the ENVI members are also members of FEMM (equivalent to 8% of the committee’s members). 31% of the rapporteurs between July 2011 and February 2013 were women.

The work of the Committee in the field of environmental policy comprises issues ranging from regulation of toxic chemicals to preservation of Europe's biodiversity. The Committee also works towards promoting a resource-efficient and sustainable Europe. The fight against climate change is at the heart of the Committee’s work. In the field of Public Health, ENVI strives to propose European solutions to health-related problems.

Entering into details on its activities, ENVI is in charge of:

1. Environmental policy and environmental protection measures, in particular concerning:
   - air, soil and water pollution, waste management and recycling, dangerous substances and preparations, noise levels, climate change, protection of biodiversity;
   - sustainable development;
   - international and regional measures and agreements aiming at protecting the environment;
   - restoration of environmental damage;
   - civil protection;
   - the European Environment Agency;
   - the European Chemicals Agency;

2. Public health, in particular:
   - programmes and specific actions in the field of public health,
   - pharmaceutical and cosmetic products,
   - health aspects of bioterrorism,
   - the European Medicines Agency and the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control;

3. Food safety issues, in particular:
   - the labelling and safety of foodstuffs,

112 HTTP://WWW.EUROPARL.EUROPA.EU/COMMITTEES/EN/ENVI/HOME.HTML
- veterinary legislation on protection against risks to human health; public health checks on foodstuffs and food production systems,
- the European Food Safety Authority and the European Food and Veterinary Office.

Between July 2011 and February 2013, the Committee issued 39 reports, three of which were non-legislative reports, 12 own initiative reports and 15 co-decision (i.e. legislative) procedures. Most of the reports issued in this period focus on environmental policy and environmental protection measures:

- Environmental policy and environmental protection measures: 24 reports;
- Public Health: nine reports;
- Food Safety: six reports.

5.5.1 Consideration of gender equality issues in the Committee’s activity

Analysis of all ENVI reports issued in the reference period shows that of 39 reports, three make explicit reference to gender issues.

**Table 10: Gender mainstreaming in the work of ENVI: Reports directly addressing gender equality issues without interference from FEMM**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Procedure reference</th>
<th>Title of the report</th>
<th>Rapporteur</th>
<th>Gender policy topics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2011/0339(COD)</td>
<td>REPORT on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a Health for Growth Programme, the third multi-annual programme of EU action in the field of health for the period 2014-2020</td>
<td>Françoise Grossetête EPP</td>
<td>Gender mainstreaming in healthcare policies Sex-disaggregated data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012/2066(INI)</td>
<td>REPORT on the protection of public health from endocrine disrupters</td>
<td>Åsa Westlund S&amp;D</td>
<td>Public health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012/2258(INI)</td>
<td>REPORT on the European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing</td>
<td>Kartika Tamara LIOTARD GUE/NGL FEMM Member</td>
<td>Work life balance Active ageing Gender pay gap</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Report on the European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing (2012/2258(INI) - A7-0029/2013) is one of the ENVI reports carried out in the period analysed that includes a gender equality perspective.
**Box 5: High level of GM: Report on the European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing (2012/2258(INI))**

The rapporteur, Ms. Katrina Tamara Lirotard, is a FEMM member as well, which might have favoured the mainstreaming of a gender perspective within the report. Furthermore, the adoption of a gender perspective might also have been favoured by the fact that women’s active ageing has been a policy issue at both the national and EU level in the last few years. In fact, it is widely acknowledged that women live longer than men and usually have poorer health conditions.

This own-initiative report aims at supporting the Commission with its Strategic Implementation Plan on the European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing. The initiative is considered to be necessary due to the demographic changes in the European population characterised by continuous demographic decline and population ageing. One relevant issue is whether the conditions in EU Member States can in fact guarantee that people are able to age in an active and healthy way. Moreover, as stated by the report, the issue of active and healthy ageing does not regard only old people, but to a very considerable degree also young people, as it is necessary to create conditions that allow them to age well (actively and healthily).

The Committee’s proposals refer to all strands of the EC Strategic Implementation Plan on the European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing:

- Pillar 1: Prevention, screening and early diagnosis;
- Pillar 2: Care and cure;
- Pillar 3: Active ageing and independent living;
- Horizontal issues.

While the report pays particular attention to gender issues, they are not taken equally into consideration in the three strands of the initiative. For instance, *gender issues are mostly considered with regard to active ageing and independent living and among the horizontal issues.* Indeed, gender equality is mentioned as a mainstream element in the points regarding employment, pensions and horizontal issues in all three pillars. The report invites the Commission to:

- “include a work-life balance issue in its strategy for active and healthy ageing;
- consider that active and healthy ageing encompasses a gender equality dimension, among others;
- emphasise that further reforms of the pension systems are necessary in order to keep them adequate, sustainable and secure, with special attention to reducing the gender pay gap in work and consequently in pensions;
- reinforce the adequacy of pensions by combating gender discrimination on the labour market, especially by reducing career and pay gaps;
- draw up a strategy aiming at achieving equal opportunities for all European citizens in the field of healthcare”.

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113 Report on the European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing.
5.5.2 Other issues to be addressed from a gender perspective

Analysis of all ENVI reports issued in this period shows that, except for the three reports mentioned above, the remaining regard primarily technical issues that are not specifically related to gender equality issues. However, many of them could better internalise a gender perspective considering the impact they could have in improving living conditions for both women and men. Among these we may count, for instance: reports issued on EU funds and programmes in the environment, public health and food safety field (Report on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the establishment of a Programme for the Environment and Climate Action (LIFE) 2011/0428(COD); Report on a resource-efficient Europe (2011/2068(INI); REPORT on the review of the 6th Environment Action Programme and the setting of priorities for the 7th Environment Action Programme – A better environment for a better life (2011/2297(INI). All these could have further indirect impacts on gender equality with regard to employment, due largely to the indirect contribution of EU funds in this field to increase the participation of women in the green economy.

5.5.3 Conclusions

Analysis of the reports of ENVI issued between July 2011 and February 2013 shows that the gender perspective is mainstreamed in its legislative and non-legislative activity when dealing with aspects related to active and healthy ageing and other issues related to women’s health.

However, there are a few reports not related to healthcare policies, but on the mobilization of EU funds within EU environmental strategies and programmes which could result in increased participation of women in the green economy and improvement of living conditions for both women and men.

5.6 Gender mainstreaming in LIBE

LIBE is characterized by a strong female presence:

- 28 of the 55 LIBE permanent members are women;
- 20 of the 58 substitute members are women;
- three of the four Vice-Chairs are women;
- 21 of the LIBE members were also members of FEMM (equivalent to 17.6% of the Committee’s members);
- 41.2% of the LIBE rapporteurs between July 2011 and February 2013 are women, of which 35.3% are also members of FEMM;
- women were invited as speakers to all 5 hearings held by the committee between July 2011 and February 2013 and represented 26% of all speakers invited.

As to the political composition, relative to the other committees considered the Committee members show a relatively high share of Greens (11.8%) and ALDE representatives (14.7%).
LIBE is responsible for:

- protection within the territory of the Union of citizens’ rights, human rights and fundamental rights, including the protection of minorities, as laid down in the Treaties and in the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union;
- measures needed to combat all forms of discrimination other than those based on sex or those occurring at the workplace and in the labour market;
- legislation in the areas of transparency and of the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data;
- establishment and development of an area of freedom, security and justice, with, in particular:
  (a) measures on the entry and movement of persons, asylum and migration,
  (b) measures on integrated management of the common borders,
  (c) measures on police and judicial cooperation in criminal matters;
- the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction and the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights, Europol, Eurojust, Cepol and other bodies and agencies in the same area;
- determination of clear risk of serious breach by a Member State of the principles common to the Member States.

In the period between July 2011 and February 2013, the Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs (LIBE) Committee issued 31 Reports and recommendations:

- five own-initiative reports;
- 17 reports and recommendations issued in the framework of ordinary legislative procedure (in first, second or third reading);
- three recommendations under the consultation procedure;
- six in the consent procedure.

5.6.1 Consideration of gender equality issues in the Committee’s activity

While most of LIBE’s reports and recommendations analysed do not contain direct and explicit references to gender equality, five directly consider gender issues in the text of the proposal or in the LIBE amendments. The table below offers an overview of all reports that have directly addressed gender equality issues.
Table 11: Gender mainstreaming in the work of LIBE: Reports directly addressing gender equality issues without interference from FEMM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Procedure reference</th>
<th>Name of the report</th>
<th>Name and political group of the Committee’s rapporteur</th>
<th>Gender policy topics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2009/0164(COD)</td>
<td>Report on the proposal for a directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on minimum standards for the qualification and status of third country nationals or stateless persons as beneficiaries of international protection and the content of the protection granted (recast)</td>
<td>Jean Lambert Greens</td>
<td>Gender specifications with regard to beneficiaries of international protection; Genital mutilation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012/2032(INI)</td>
<td>Report on enhanced intra-EU solidarity in the field of asylum</td>
<td>Kyriacos Triantaphyllides GUE/NGL</td>
<td>Rights of immigrant women; Women asylum seekers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The “Report on the proposal for a decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on the European Year of Citizens” (2011/0217-COD) is one of the LIBE reports, which includes a gender equality perspective.

Even though FEMM was not involved in the drafting of the report and neither did it provide any amendments, the mainstreaming of a gender perspective within the text may have been favoured by the presence of two rapporteurs (LIBE and EMPL, the opinion giving committee) who are both also members of FEMM.

Furthermore, the fact that gender equality is one of the principles enshrined within the EU Charter has been fundamental for the uptake of a gender perspective.

The report regards the European Commission proposal for a European Year of Citizens (2013) aiming at filling the gaps in the general knowledge of what EU citizenship involves, as numerous studies show that the visibility of Union citizenship is poor, as is awareness of the concrete benefits it provides to EU citizens. The report maintains that European citizenship should be strengthened at all levels and at every stage of the democratic process, to make citizenship a transversal dimension of EU policies and a key priority in all areas of EU action, matching EU policies with EU values, interests and needs of citizens.

As to the mainstreaming of a gender perspective, the report underlines that equality between women and men is one of the rights guaranteed by the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union and, therefore, it should be enshrined within the actions promoted by the European Year of Citizen.

Furthermore, the report underlines that all rights entailed in European citizenship should be granted to all citizens without discrimination of any kind on grounds of gender, race, age, disability or professional qualifications.

The report also emphasizes that the 2013 European Year of Citizens must encourage people of both sexes to participate actively in the next European Parliament elections both as voters and as candidates.

5.6.2 Other issues to be addressed from a gender perspective

Besides the above reports, which explicitly include a gender equality perspective, the vast majority of LIBE reports and recommendations contain no explicit reference to gender equality.

Adopting a gender perspective would have enriched other LIBE reports. For example, European statistics on crime is one of LIBE’s intervention areas where a gender equality dimension would be relevant. Such is the case in particular of the European statistics on trafficking or other crimes related to gender-based violence: for example, the Proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and the Council on European statistics on safety on crime (2011/0146(COD)). The LIBE Rapporteur asked for rejection of the proposal because some of the information to be collected by the statistical system (such as questions regarding victimisation) was considered poorly defined and at risk of misinterpretation. The collection of data on victims (especially victims of domestic violence) is a crucial issue in relation to which many studies show the importance of gender related aspects.

5.6.3 Conclusions

LIBE is active in the field of human rights, EU citizens’ rights, issues related to immigration, police and judicial cooperation in criminal matters and in charge of the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction, the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights, Europol, Eurojust, Cepol, etc.
Analysis of the 31 reports issued by LIBE between July 2011 and February 2013 reveals that only five of the 31 reports directly consider the gender perspective in the proposals made. These refer mainly to issues regarding discrimination on grounds of sex and multiple discrimination as well as the rights of immigrant women.

However, many of the topics covered by the Committee could be enriched (especially those concerning migration issues and collection of data and statistics with specific regard to gender-based acts of violence and trafficking) with application of a gender perspective.

5.7 Overview of gender mainstreaming in the five selected committees and conclusions

Comparison of the activities carried out in the five Committees considered for the period under examination provides some indications of the factors that support gender mainstreaming in the activities of the EP when FEMM is not directly involved.

Comparison focuses on the representation of women in the committees and the topics addressed by the committees in a gender perspective.

5.7.1 Representation of women in the five selected committees

Members

Several EP resolutions call upon the political parties in the Member States to ensure gender balance in their electoral lists with a view to equal representation of men and women in the EP. Equal participation of women in decision-making is seen as one of the main tools to realize women’s rights and an important step towards gender equality. Consequently, the first step was to analyse the composition of the five committees from a gender perspective.

As shown in Table 12, ENVI and LIBE have a proportion of female full members and substitutes that is much higher than the overall EP average, while AGRI presents a share only slightly higher than the EP average, and AFET and BUDG show lower shares. None of the selected committees has a Chairwoman, and the presence of women among the Vice-Chairs varies from 3 in LIBE to none in AFET\(^\text{114}\). Some members of the selected committees are also members of FEMM, with the highest number in LIBE, followed by ENVI and AFET.

Experts invited to hearings and workshops

As specified in chapter 2, the gender mainstreaming resolutions of the EP call upon the parliamentary committees and delegations to ensure gender balance also with regard to experts invited to committee hearings and workshops as a means to promote gender equality. During the period considered, four of the 5 selected committees had women speakers in all the hearings, the only exception being AFET, with 5 hearings out of 9 with women speakers. The share of women speakers in hearings ranged from 22.7% in AFET to

\(^{114}\) For more information on the appointment of Chairs and Vice-Chairs, see chapter 3.
38.5% in ENVI compared to an average presence of women speakers in the EP hearings in the period under consideration of 25.8%\textsuperscript{115}.

\textsuperscript{115}For more information of women speakers in hearings, see figure 4 in chapter 3.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committee</th>
<th>% Women among members and substitutes</th>
<th>% of members who are also members of FEMM</th>
<th>Political representation (%)</th>
<th>Women Chairs or Vice-Chairs</th>
<th>% Women experts invited as speakers at hearings in the reference period</th>
<th>Hearings with women speakers in the reference period</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AFET</td>
<td>29.8</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>35.1 EPP, 24.7 S&amp;D, 10.4 ALDE, 8.4 ECR, 8.4 Greens, 5.8 GUE/NGL, 3.9 EFD, 3.2 NI</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>22.7</td>
<td>5 out of 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGRI</td>
<td>37.5</td>
<td>8.2</td>
<td>39.2 EPP, 26.2 S&amp;D, 9.5 ALDE, 9.5 ECR, 6.0 Greens/EFA, 1.2 GUE/NGL, 4.8 EFD, 3.6 NI</td>
<td>2 Vice-Chairs</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>1 out of 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUDG</td>
<td>33.3</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>27.3 S&amp;D, 59.1 EPP, 9.1 ALDE, 4.5 GUE/NGL, 4.6 NI, 3 ECR, 2 EFD</td>
<td>1 Vice-Chair</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
<td>1 out of 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENVI</td>
<td>45.6</td>
<td>8.1</td>
<td>29.0 S&amp;D, 32.3 EPP, 13.0 ALDE, 3.2 GUE/NGL, 9.7 Greens, 9.7 ECR, 3.2 EFD</td>
<td>1 Vice-Chair</td>
<td>38.5%</td>
<td>3 out of 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIBE</td>
<td>42.9</td>
<td>17.6</td>
<td>28.0 S&amp;D, 29.4 EPP, 14.7 ALDE, 4.4 GUE/NGL, 11.8 Greens, 8.8 ECR, 2.9 EFD, 9. NI</td>
<td>3 Vice-Chairs</td>
<td>25.4%</td>
<td>5 out of 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total EP</td>
<td>35.8</td>
<td></td>
<td>43 out of 113 (38%)</td>
<td></td>
<td>25.8%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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5.7.2 Gender equality issues addressed in the reports of the five selected committees during the period considered

Table 13 shows that all committees considered, except BUDG and AGRI\(^{116}\), directly addressed gender issues in the period in question, albeit with varying intensity. However, in all of them, attention to gender equality issues could have been extended to other issues treated in their legislative and non-legislative reports, as shown in the detailed assessment presented in the sections above.

AFET shows the highest proportion of non-legislative reports and recommendations (only one is a legislative report) directly addressing gender equality issues (41% of the reports and recommendations drafted in the period considered). The main issues covered were women’s human rights and the fight against violence against women.

On the other hand, LIBE shows a relatively low (16.1%) number of reports directly addressing gender equality issues in the period under consideration. This is probably due to the fact that this committee is, among other responsibilities, competent for equality of all citizens’ rights, excluding gender equality, for which FEMM is competent. It could be assumed that this has led to some reluctance on taking up women’s rights and gender equality issues combined with scant attention to gender mainstreaming. In fact, only five of the 31 reports examined directly consider the gender perspective. In accordance with LIBE’s competences, these mainly refer to discrimination on grounds of sex and multiple discrimination and the rights of immigrant women. However, the gender perspective could also have been extended to other topics covered by the committee, and in particular other issues in the area of migration and the collection of data and statistics regarding gender-based violence and trafficking in human beings.

ENVI has included a gender perspective in reports on public health, accounting for 7.7% of its reports in the period under consideration, while little attention is paid to gender equality in other reports which could have an indirect impact on gender equality, such as the mobilization of EU funds within EU environmental strategies and programmes. Here, the indirect effects could include increased participation of women in the green economy and improved living conditions for both men and women.

AGRI did not produce reports or recommendations addressing gender equality issues in the period considered. However, in January 2011, it issued a report on the role of women in agriculture and rural areas (2010/2054 (INI)) addressing the socio-economic role of women in the agricultural sector and the need to improve their living conditions in rural areas.

\(^{116}\) In the case of AGRI, while none of the documents completed in the period considered included directly gender-related aspects as such. However, gender equality is an issue that has greatly interested the Committee, as shown by its “Report on the role of women in agriculture and rural areas” (2010/2054 (INI)) drafted six months before the period analyzed (January 31st 2011).
Table 13: Overview of gender equality issues addressed by the five selected Committees in the period from July 2011 until February 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committee</th>
<th>Number of reports issued in the period</th>
<th>% Women rapporteurs</th>
<th>Number (and %) of reports directly addressing gender equality issues</th>
<th>Issues treated directly addressing gender equality</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| AFET      | 34                                     | 20.6                | 14 (41.2%)                                                      | - Awareness raising with regard to women’s rights and gender equality  
- Harmonization of women’s rights in the different countries’ law  
- Women’s participation in public life and representation of female interests in the democratic process  
- Women’s participation in conflict resolution, negotiations, peace building processes  
- Fight against gender-based violence and gender stereotypes  
- Gender balance in all sectors of life  
- Female employment and entrepreneurship  
- Gender pay gap  
- Economic emancipation and empowerment of women for development  
- Female education  
- Female migration  
- Implementation of gender equality plan/actions  
- Implementation of gender mainstreaming policies |
| AGRI      | 20                                     | 15                  | 0 (in the period considered)  
1 (shortly before the period considered) | Report on the role of women in agriculture and rural areas (2010/2054 (INI) January 2011 |
| BUDG      | 38                                     | 31.8                | 0                                                               | - Proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a Health for Growth Programme, the third multi-annual programme of EU action in the field of health for the period 2014-2020  
- Protection of public health from endocrine disrupters  
- European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing |
| ENVI      | 39                                     | 45.2                | 3 (7.7%)                                                        | - Protection of victims of crime  
- Sex discrimination and multiple discrimination  
- Multiannual Framework for 2013-17 for the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA)  
- Rights of immigrant women and women asylum seekers  
- Equality in civil rights |
| LIBE      | 31                                     | 41.2                | 5 (16.1%)                                                       | - Protection of victims of crime  
- Sex discrimination and multiple discrimination  
- Multiannual Framework for 2013-17 for the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA)  
- Rights of immigrant women and women asylum seekers  
- Equality in civil rights |

None of the BUDG reports issued in the period in question directly address gender equality issues, even though this aspect could have been introduced in some of them, such as the numerous reports issued on the mobilization of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund (accounting for 55% of the reports issued in the period considered), where the regulation requires a gender-balanced approach. Accordingly, measures addressing the different needs of dismissed men and women could have been addressed to meet the gender differences in labour market reintegration after displacement.
5.7.3 Factors influencing gender mainstreaming in the five selected committees

The above analysis provides some indications as to the factors that may have affected the extent to which gender equality issues were internalised in the five Committees’ activities in the period under consideration.

These indications are consistent with the results of the analysis of the FEMM activities conducted in chapter 4, but they are difficult to generalise, given the limited time period considered, without further in-depth research.

Gender balance representation does not seem to be a relevant factor supporting the internalization of a gender perspective within the five selected Committees’ activities in the period analysed. Rather, when looking to the issues dealt with by the reports analysed, a possible explanation of adoption of a gender perspective is in line with the results for FEMM (see chapter 4): gender aspects have better chances of being included in the committees’ reports and recommendations when they are related to issues that are already acknowledged in external debate and public perceptions. This means that gender issues that are higher on the political agenda and have reached public attention are more likely to be addressed by the committees, as shown in the case of AFET.

Indeed, AFET has the lowest share of women among its members and no women as chairpersons or vice-chairpersons. However, the salience of the issues treated in AFET regarding gender equality values in third countries is relatively high, as emerges from a recent Flash Eurobarometer (2013) on “Women in developing countries”. The Eurobarometer shows that at least nine out of ten EU respondents think that gender equality improves the way societies function and that all aid programmes should take specific account of women’s rights117. Conversely, the scant attention of LIBE to gender discrimination issues, besides the division of roles with FEMM, may have to do with the fact that gender discrimination is not considered a widespread phenomenon in Europe and that European citizens perceive discrimination as already overcome in many countries, even if this is not always true. Indeed, the latest Eurobarometer survey on discrimination (November 2012) reports that fewer Europeans than in 2009 (31%; -9 percentage points since 2009) consider discrimination on the grounds of gender to be widespread in the EU and the proportion of Europeans who believe this type of discrimination to be rare or non-existent has increased from 56% in 2009 to 64%, while a larger number of people think that discrimination on the grounds of ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation, religion and age is widespread118.

The female share in committee members, on the other hand, does not seem to affect attention to gender equality issues to any great extent, at least in the period under consideration in the five committees analysed. However, as pointed out during interviews, awareness should be raised within political groups regarding the need for gender balance among rapporteurs and other leadership roles as an important means of gender mainstreaming, being an essential condition for women’s interests to be better represented.

The presence of an equal share of women within the committees is extremely important not only for equity issues, but also because they can have a significant role in supporting the introduction of a gender perspective for issues that are not high in the political agenda or that are “new” in the gender equality debate. For example, in the case of ENVI, the large share of women members within the Committee may have had an influence in introducing a gender perspective in the legislative proposals relating to public health.
6. CONCLUSIONS AND POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

KEY FINDINGS

- Several social mechanisms can be identified in the EP decision-making process, relevant to successful implementation of gender mainstreaming in the work of all parliamentary committees, i.e. those that generate engagement (creation of focusing events, framing, creating opportunity), those that enhance the actors’ role and reputation (actors’ certification, authority/reputation), and those related to increased networking capacity (at both the formal and informal level).

- Successful inclusion of a gender equality perspective in an EP legislative or non-legislative procedure largely depends, on the one hand, on the role attributed to FEMM and, on the other hand, on the reputation and authority of the FEMM rapporteur. This can be enhanced by public debate as it helps recognition of a gender perspective in a certain policy area.

- It also depends crucially on the salience of the different aspects of gender mainstreaming at the cultural, social and political level. The effectiveness of FEMM strictly depends on the fact that the vast majority of MEPs consider gender issues as a fundamental aspect of the type of society that the Union is trying to build.

- The main tool that FEMM can use in this respect is careful planning of its own-initiative reports addressing issues that are either new or overlooked. In order to improve the potential of this instrument in raising awareness and stimulating debate, it seems necessary to focus specific attention on communication – again inside and outside the EP – and to involve other related committees in drawing up the reports.

- The opportunity to plan own-initiative joint reports with other committees could pave the way to increased recognition as associated committee; joint reports, as well as the interaction during its preparation and communication, could activate a pre-commitment mechanism, whereby it becomes very difficult for the second Parliamentary Committee involved to refuse close cooperation with FEMM in the joint or associated procedure at a later point.

- In order to increase their effectiveness, FEMM opinions could be more selective in choosing which should be proposed. Indeed, GMAs seems to have greater chances of success than suggestions/amendments made in opinions, possibly also because, very often, they are rather simple and in any case very precise.

Assessment of how and to what extent FEMM effectively contributed to the implementation of gender mainstreaming in European Parliament activities in the period between July 2011 and February 2013 shows a fairly well developed legal and institutional framework for gender mainstreaming, which, however, needs to be strengthened through targeted measures that should at the same time be easy to implement.

In this chapter, the main findings of the analysis are presented, as well as the main strengths and weaknesses of gender mainstreaming in committees and delegations. Based on the analysis of institutional features and issues dealt with in different committees,
suggestions are provided as to how FEMM and other committees can better reflect men’s and women’s interests and needs in EP activities.

6.1 Main findings

6.1.1 Social mechanisms as a tool to analyse the EP’s decision-making process with regard to inclusion of a gender perspective across its committees’ activities

The study shows that several social mechanisms can be identified in the EP decision-making process, relevant to successful implementation of gender mainstreaming in the work of all parliamentary committees. As explained below, they call for FEMM interventions in several phases of the decision-making process with a view to influencing legislative or non-legislative procedure so that a gender perspective can successfully be integrated. Generally speaking, for the inclusion of gender equality and gender mainstreaming, mechanisms across the board can be strategically applied, i.e. those that generate engagement (creation of focusing events, framing, creating opportunity), those that enhance the actors’ role and reputation (actors’ certification, authority/reputation), and those related to increased networking capacity (at both the formal and informal level).

6.1.2 Gender mainstreaming in the European Parliament: legal framework, main actors, procedures and mechanisms affecting the success of FEMM activities

The analysis set out in chapter 3 shows that the legal and institutional framework supporting gender mainstreaming in the EP is formally well developed. The dedicated bodies mentioned below have been created and internal procedures have been introduced to incorporate a gender perspective into the legislative and non-legislative processes across all policy fields and the internal structures and bodies of the EP.

Three specific bodies are currently supporting gender mainstreaming in parliamentary activities: on the one hand, the Committee on Women’s Rights and Gender Equality (FEMM), the High Level Group on Gender Equality and Diversity (HLG), and the Gender Mainstreaming Networks of Members (GM network), and on the other hand officials in committee secretariats. These three bodies have different roles.

- FEMM is the main body in charge of promoting women’s rights and gender equality, including gender mainstreaming, in EP legislative and non-legislative processes. Like the other standing committees, it may act as the lead committee drafting reports, in exceptional cases on the same footing with another committee in the joint committee procedure. Besides, FEMM can draft opinions, on some occasions as a more influential associated committee, and table GMAs to the reports of other committees.

- The High-Level Group on Gender Equality and Diversity (HLG) has the responsibility of promoting and implementing gender mainstreaming within EP internal activities, structures and bodies.

- The Gender Mainstreaming Network of Members (GM network) is composed of Chairs or Vice-Chairs (one for each Committee) who have been appointed as responsible for implementing gender mainstreaming in the work of their
Gender Mainstreaming in Committees and Delegations of the European Parliament

committee. They are assisted by Gender Mainstreaming Administrators. Both networks are coordinated by FEMM.

With regard to parliamentary procedures, the particular status of FEMM as a "horizontal" committee with competence for women's rights and gender equality in all policy fields and with particular emphasis on women on the labour market merits particular attention. This status has significant consequences for its intervention capacity:

- FEMM is rarely in charge of the legislative procedure and a major part of its activities concentrate on influencing the work of other committees so that gender aspects are integrated in all policy fields. While this entails extensive intervention capacity, it makes also FEMM dependent on the willingness of the other committees to accept its intervention provided through an opinion or GMA.

- Like other MEPs, FEMM members are also members of several committees and delegations, which means a large network but also a very heavy workload. Personal commitment to women's rights and gender equality issues is therefore a precondition for motivated and continuous participation in FEMM activities.

- In addition, the small number of legislative procedures has the potential to lower the standing of FEMM among MEPs with possibly negative effect on the commitment of its members. Analysis of FEMM activities and the interviews has however brought out the strong commitment of FEMM Members to improving inclusion of a gender perspective in European politics in all fields. This commitment is also reflected, according to Members, in a good level of cooperation across political groups, compared to other committees.

Given this backdrop, it is important for FEMM to use formal and informal tools to achieve inclusion of a gender perspective in all EP activities. In this respect, the interviews brought out the importance for FEMM of the initial phase of a parliamentary procedure, when the EP Presidency and the Conference of Presidents (CoP) select the responsible (lead) committee and the opinion-giving committee(s) and, occasionally, attribute joint or associated committee status. In this phase, FEMM’s role has turned out to be largely dependent on the interest of the CoP in gender equality and on the potential relevance for women's rights and gender equality of the respective file. If the CoP considers that there is no potential gender impact, FEMM can even be excluded from any cooperation or can be forced to insist on its participation in an often long and difficult process. In this framework, the capacity of the FEMM President in supporting FEMM's request for the recognition of FEMM's role is particularly important. The FEMM Secretariat may also have an important role in this initial phase, because it prepares the files and supports the negotiations.

Furthermore, issues related to gender equality and gender mainstreaming perceived as salient outside Parliament have been observed to increase the awareness of the CoP and positively influence their decision on the degree of FEMM involvement. It seems therefore that it could be useful for FEMM to use its power and tools to create such salient issues. In addition, there is the need for strong negotiating and persuading capacity on the part of the FEMM President and Vice-Chairs supported by the political groups and the Secretariat.

A second crucial phase is identification of rapporteurs for reports (lead committee) and opinions (opinion giving committee). Both the interviews and the literature show that
selection of a successful rapporteur is based on the activation of specific social mechanisms that heighten the actors’ role and reputation (actors’ certification, authority/reputation, etc.). Indeed, the rapporteur’s success depends on his/her expertise, networking capacity (which is completely informal), political prestige and commitment to gender equality issues. Other relevant actors in this phase are the political group coordinators, the Secretariat and the policy advisors. Political group coordinators decide how reports and opinions should be distributed among its members according to a previously established point system, while the Secretariat and policy advisors provide technical assistance to the organizational aspects of the selection of the rapporteur and support the interactions between the two committees.

As research into the issues on the agenda of selected EP committees shows, the relevance of the policy area subject of the parliamentary procedure in the internal and external policy debate also influences the success of an intervention of gender mainstreaming in this area. As mentioned previously, FEMM is more likely to be involved in the legislative or non-legislative decision-making procedure when the gender perspective of a policy area is already recognized in public debate and the media. Besides, recognition of a gender perspective in a policy area enhances FEMM activities directed towards the internalization of gender mainstreaming across EP’s procedures and bodies.

To summarise, successful inclusion of a gender equality perspective in a legislative or non-legislative procedure of the EP largely depends, on the one hand, on the role attributed to FEMM and, on the other hand, on the reputation and authority of the FEMM rapporteur.

Consequently, from an institutional learning point of view, FEMM could further develop its external activities like hearings, workshops, the International Women’s Day event and other events attracting attention to women’s rights and gender equality issues (creation of focusing events). While each procedure can be regarded as a potential window of opportunity for the inclusion of a gender perspective, effectiveness could be increased by greater use of the tool of a yearly work programme to identify not only the focusing events but also to plan FEMM interventions strategically. Besides, the work programme could assist political groups and coordinators in strategic preparation of intervention by particular members for certain files. This could help to make use of the “actor’s certification” for files with a priority for FEMM. Coordination of the Gender Mainstreaming Network could be further improved to establish a true basis for cooperation across committees and political groups for a better recognition of the needs of men and women in EP policy making.

6.1.3 Gender mainstreaming in the work of FEMM between July 2011 and February 2013

The analysis presented in chapter 4 took into consideration 33 opinions for 11 committees (out of 23 in total), including 718 suggestions/amendments on different issues. Of these suggestions, 210 (29%) were fully (145) or partially integrated into the report of the lead committee (65).

Most of FEMM’s opinions were drafted to be included in reports of EMPL (with respectively 10 opinions and 190 suggestions/amendments), but of these only 39.5% were approved. The approval rate is even lower in other Committees: 28% in AFET (out of 64 suggestions/amendments); 11% in LIBE (out of 104 suggestions/amendments); 5.5% in BUDG (only 1 amendment approved out of 18).
Analysis of the suggestions/amendments by broad policy area shows that even if they are very numerous, they focus mainly on a limited number of issues (7), and usually those for which integration of the gender perspective is already recognised in public debate and/or does not touch on very “sensitive” issues, e.g. reproductive health and/or contraception or abortion or approaches to gender-based violence.

When classified by broad policy themes, most of the FEMM suggestions/amendments tackle two different topics:

- More than half (54.5%) of the 718 FEMM suggestions/amendments relate to “Gender data and tools”, a category including all those suggestions supporting the development and use of “gender statistics”, “gender disaggregated data”, “monitoring systems with a gender perspective”, Gender Impact Assessment (GIA) methodologies and “Gender Budgeting”.
- Almost half (48.5%) relate to the “social and economic empowerment of women”, a category that includes suggestions/amendments for a greater presence of women in the labour market through work-life balance actions, and support for women's entrepreneurship and empowerment.

Other themes are less well covered by FEMM suggestions/amendments:

- 27.3% of the suggestions/amendments relate to violence against women and female trafficking;
- 21.0% to the inclusion of a gender perspective when dealing with human rights issues;
- 18.0% to the inclusion of a gender perspective in education and training;
- 15.2% to gender differences in access to services (health etc.).

The **210 FEMM suggestions/amendments which were included** into the report of the lead committee follow a similar distribution, with a greater concentration in the “tools” and “women empowerment” categories. The approved suggestions/amendments are thus even more closely related to issues already considered and accepted in public debate as having different effects on men and women. This conclusion is confirmed through analysis of suggestions/amendments that have been ignored or rejected by the lead committee. They cover areas in which the inclusion of a gender perspective is usually more incisive in reforming policy-making or more innovative, e.g. gender quotas in politics, company boards and the judiciary which will imply major reforms within Member States or application of gender budgeting tools (and not the mere recognition of their importance) for the EU budget (only one amendment on the implementation of gender budgeting as a possible tool was accepted).

Neither the proportion of women in the lead committee, nor the political group affiliation of the rapporteurs appear to affect the inclusion rate of FEMM suggestions and opinions in lead committee reports. Rather, what appears relevant is the issue at stake (whether or not it is generally recognized as important and/or easy to be accepted as not implying major reform at the European and national level) and the capacity of the rapporteur in
supporting her/his opinion (his/her expertise, capacity of networking and political prestige as well as his/her commitment on gender equality issues).

In addition to suggestions/amendments in opinions, the study considered **Gender Mainstreaming Amendments** (GMAs) proposed by FEMM members in 17 reports that concluded the procedure within the timeframe considered.

The analysis shows that most of the GMAs are found to have been accepted. This is probably related to the fact that GMAs are tabled directly to the report in small numbers and often represent minor changes that do not alter the fabric of the text.

In the majority of cases GMAs simply add the words “gender”, “female” or “women” to the text or introduce reference to the promotion of gender equality. In other cases, GMAs point to the need to collect gender disaggregated data and statistics (comparable to the “tools” policy area mentioned in opinions).

In the period under examination, FEMM drafted 2 legislative reports jointly with LIBE. In the interviews, the possibility of drafting reports under the joint committee procedure was considered to be very important and very effective. In this particular procedure FEMM can cooperate on equal footing with the other committee and can directly contribute to the drafting of the report from the very beginning.

FEMM drafted 18 own-initiative reports in the period under consideration. These reports are important as they allow FEMM to bring issues into the political agenda. Although the reports deal with issues not so readily associated with gender equality, they can be deemed a very useful tool which FEMM can use to “pave the way” to the introduction of a gender perspective also in less “usual” fields, thus contributing to increasing “accreditation” of these fields in terms of gender.

6.1.4 Gender mainstreaming in the work of the AFET, AGRI, BUDG, ENVI and LIBE Committees

The analysis presented in chapter 4 shows that, except for BUDG, all the Committees analysed directly addressed gender issues in their reports, albeit with varying intensity.

Given the issues treated in each committee, we expected attention to gender equality to be stronger in the AFET and LIBE Committees than in the others since they are mainly concerned with human rights and anti-discrimination issues.

In fact, AFET shows the highest proportion of reports and recommendations directly addressing gender equality issues (41% of reports produced in the reference period). The main issues dealt with relate to respect for the human rights of women and the fight against gender based violence.

On the other hand, LIBE shows 16.1% of reports directly addressing gender equality issues. This is probably due to the particular approach adopted by this Committee, with the focus on equality of citizen’s rights and no specific focus on sex as a discrimination ground.
With 7.7% of its reports and recommendations directly addressing gender-related issues, ENVI shows that it is possible to tackle these issues also in policy fields seemingly not related to gender equality. All the three reports directly addressing gender issues related to public health. Also, they all had a woman MEP as rapporteur.

AGRI did not produce reports or recommendations addressing gender equality issues in the period considered. However, in January 2011 it issued a report on the role of women in agriculture and rural areas (2010/2054 (INI)), addressing the socio-economic role of women in the agricultural sector and the need to improve their living conditions in rural areas. In this report, AGRI takes the view that, as part of the forthcoming reform of the CAP, the needs of women in rural areas and the role of women working in agriculture should be taken into account and given priority as regards access to services and social protection, in line with the territorial needs in each Member State.

None of the BUDG reports and recommendations issued in the period in question directly address gender equality issues, even if this aspect could easily have been introduced in some of the issues treated. This is the case, for example, in the numerous reports issued on the approval of the mobilization of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund (accounting for 55% of the reports issued in the period in question). These could have considered gender differences in labour market reintegration after dismissal, and measures addressing the different needs of dismissed women and men, stressing the importance of considering gender budgeting procedures.

The female share of committee members does not appear to particularly affect attention to gender equality issues, even if, in the case of ENVI, the large share of women members may have had an influence in introducing a gender perspective in the legislative proposals relating to public health. On the other hand, again the salience of gender equality issues in public debate appears more relevant, as shown in the case of AFET: AFET has the lowest share of women among its members and no women as chairpersons or vice-chairpersons, although it addresses gender equality in non-EU countries on issues largely deemed relevant by public opinion.

6.2 Suggestions and recommendations

This section draws some suggestions and recommendations from the evidence collected in the course of the work. In particular it first considers possible improvements in the strategy of FEMM as a political body in charge of the mission of securing the full recognition of women’s rights and gender equality in EU legislation and operations. Subsequently it suggests some measures to strengthen the Secretariat of the Committee and improve the instruments it can use.

The starting point of this exercise consists in full recognition of the fact that achieving the goals stated above depends crucially on the salience of the different aspects of gender mainstreaming at the cultural, social and political level. The effectiveness of FEMM strictly depends on the fact that the vast majority of MEPs consider gender issues as a fundamental aspect of the type of society that the Union is trying to build. Clear evidence of this lies in the fact that the Parliamentary Committee which, according to our research, shows the greatest attention to gender issues is AFET. This is not surprising; when discussing foreign policy, accession procedures, trade agreements or development aid it is
quite natural to address the question of women’s rights, women’s participation in democratic life, and the role of women in social and economic development. On this type of issues there is substantive agreement not only on the values to be preserved but also on the fact that improving the condition of women is extremely useful in order to build a better and wealthier society.

Therefore the first question is what FEMM can do to improve the salience of gender issues on the agenda of the European Parliament. The following are the main recommendations:

- **to stimulate debate** – inside and outside the EP – on specific aspects of gender mainstreaming that are overlooked or underestimated. The main tool that FEMM can use in this respect is **careful planning of its own initiative reports addressing issues that are either new or overlooked**, or again are potentially able to generate important consequences for the evolution of European legislation and its effectiveness. In order to improve the potential of this instrument in raising awareness and stimulating debate, it seems necessary to **focus specific attention on communication** – again inside and outside the EP – by organising events at which decisions to produce reports should be announced, consultation with stakeholders made public whenever possible, and the results and recommendations debated.

- **to involve other related committees in drawing up the reports**. One example could be the AGRI report on the role of women in agricultural and rural areas; in this case an initiative by FEMM to draft a **joint report** would probably have enhanced its external “impact “as well as its authority within the EP.

Looking at the differing effectiveness of the various avenues along which FEMM can influence European legislation, all interviewees were unanimous in recognizing that the possibility of being recognized as joint committee for a specific piece of legislation greatly improves its ability to influence the final outcome. The so called victims directive has often been cited as an example of best practice exactly for this reason. Obviously, this possibility is not frequent, and therefore it is the task of the President to understand when to fight for such recognition and when, on the contrary, FEMM should resort to different tools. From this point of view, the following are the main recommendations:

- the already mentioned opportunity to plan own initiative reports which foresee close cooperation with other committees could pave the way to increased recognition as associated committee; in analytical terms this is due to the fact that the decision to start such an own initiative report, as well as the interaction during its preparation and communication, could activate a **pre-commitment mechanism**, whereby it becomes very difficult for the second Parliamentary Committee involved to refuse association of FEMM to one of their reports at a later point.

As far as the **opinions** are concerned it was suggested during the interviews that there is a need **to be more selective** in choosing which should be proposed, and the authors of the present study agree with this approach. As a matter of fact, fewer than one third of the suggestions included in the 33 opinions analysed have been fully or partially accepted, and this can be put down to the relative inflation of suggestions/amendments (718 in the period of reference). On this point, the following is the main recommendation:
• Selection should be based, on the one hand, on the likelihood of the opinion being positively received by the relevant Committee, and, on the other, on the basis of the availability of rapporteurs who have both the interest and the time to work on it.

On the other hand, as far as the GMAs are concerned, the study has shown – albeit not conclusively, due to the restrictions of the required analysis - that the chances of success are greater than for suggestions/amendments made in opinions, possibly also because, very often, they are rather simple and in any case very precise. Here the recommendation could concern:

• the expediency of partnering with individual MEPs who are not members of FEMM in drawing up the GMAs in order to extend the number of people involved in gender issues. Of course, this should entail drafting detailed and truly significant amendments.

This latter point raises the question of the Gender Mainstreaming Network and the High Level Group. In theory, they should be important gender mainstreaming instruments within the EP but, in fact, most of the interviews reveal a rather low opinion of their effectiveness. For the latter body it was not possible to collect enough information to be able to formulate suggestions and recommendations. As far as the Gender Mainstreaming Network is concerned, on the other hand, a way of exploiting its obvious potential is, as far as possible, to streamline its composition according to the following recommendation:

• the possible organisational step to improve the effectiveness of the Network is to strive to ensure that all (or at least the vast majority) of the gender mainstreaming representatives are also members of FEMM. This could be a crucial step towards a better understanding of the main preoccupations of the different committees as well as fostering more effective co-ordination of the efforts put into gender mainstreaming.

Finally, as far as the strengthening of the Secretariat is concerned, we suggest paying special attention to the present effort to introduce systematic Impact Assessments (IA) in the work of the Parliament with the aim of improving regulatory quality. This process has been quite successful within the Commission in improving the quality of regulation and at the same time offers a unique opportunity for FEMM to internalize their missions in the work of the Parliament. The fact that IA is still in an embryonic stage offers a unique opportunity to boost the influence of FEMM in quality assessment of the reports and legislative proposals. Parallel to this, the support offered by several studies produced by EP Policy Department on gender issues are also to be considered as a crucial tool. From this point of view, the following are the main recommendations:

• starting training exercise for the permanent staff on the general philosophy and technicalities of IA and on Gender Equality;

• promoting specific studies (for example, in relation to own initiative reports) on the issues of Gender Impact Assessment (GIA) and Gender Budgeting in order to build the necessary analytical tools and raise awareness (again inside and outside the EP) of the promise of such instruments, including evidence of situations in which they have worked particularly well in improving gender mainstreaming;
requesting the provision of gender studies by the EP Policy Department in order to improve awareness and recognize expertise on gender.

Strong calls of FEMM in activating GIA is possibly the most valuable tool to enhance its influence within the EP. As already shown by research carried out on the effects of IA within the European Commission, the procedure for intersectoral scrutiny and stakeholder consultation implicit in IA, if correctly implemented, activates the mechanism of blame avoidance according to which the different proponents are compelled to pay attention to the different aspects of regulatory quality. To recapitulate, gender mainstreaming as a necessary component of regulatory quality therefore means reaffirming the central place that women’s rights and gender equality should occupy in the work of the European Parliament.
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Policy Department C: Citizens’ Rights and Constitutional Affairs


ANNEX I: FEMM OPINIONS AND REPORTS OF AFET, AGRI, BUDG, ENVI AND LIBE

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## Overall overview on FEMM opinions

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<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>SC Standing Committee (SC)</th>
<th>SC Rapporteur</th>
<th>SC Rapporteur political group</th>
<th>FEMM Rapporteur</th>
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<th>SC Rapporteur political group</th>
<th>FEMM Rapporteur sex</th>
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<th>% of included FEMM sugg/amend. - full</th>
<th>% of included FEMM sugg/amend. - part</th>
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<th>n° sugg/amend. fully included</th>
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<td>Motion for a European Parliament Resolution with observations forming an integral part of its Decision on discharge in respect of the implementation of the budget of the European Institute for Gender Equality for the financial year 2010</td>
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<td>% of included FEMM sugg/amend - part</td>
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<tr>
<td>Motion for a European Parliament Resolution with observations forming an integral part of its Decision on discharge in respect of the implementation of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2010, Section III - Commission and executive agencies</td>
<td>CONT</td>
<td>M</td>
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<td>ECR</td>
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<td>Motion for a European Parliament Resolution on the European dimension in sport</td>
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<td>ECR</td>
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<td>Motion for a European Parliament Resolution on the preparation of the multiannual financial framework regarding the financing of EU cooperation for African, Caribbean and Pacific States and Overseas Countries and Territories for the 2014–2020 period (11th European Development Fund)</td>
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<td>Motion for a European Parliament Resolution on the European Semester for economic policy coordination: implementation of 2012 priorities</td>
<td>ECON</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>EPP</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>EPP</td>
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<td>Motion for a European Parliament Resolution on the Statute for a European Cooperative Society with regard to the involvement of employees</td>
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<td>EFA</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>S&amp;D</td>
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<td>EPP</td>
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<td>Motion for a European Parliament Resolution on mobility and inclusion of people with disabilities and the European Disability Strategy 2010-2020</td>
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<td>EPP</td>
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<td>SC Rapporteur political group</td>
<td>FEMM Rapporteur sex</td>
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<td>ALDE F</td>
<td>S&amp;D</td>
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<td>Draft European Parliament Legislative Resolution on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on a European Union Programme for Social Change and Innovation</td>
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<td>S&amp;D F</td>
<td>EPP</td>
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<td>Motion for a European Parliament Resolution on promoting workers' mobility within the European Union</td>
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<td>EPP M</td>
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<td>38,9%</td>
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<td>Motion for a European Parliament Resolution on the Green Paper: From challenges to opportunities: towards a common strategic framework for EU research and innovation funding</td>
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<td>GUE/NGL</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>S&amp;D</td>
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<td>Draft European Parliament legislative Resolution on the proposal for a directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on energy efficiency and repealing Directives 2004/8/EC and 2006/32/EC</td>
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<td>EFA</td>
<td>F</td>
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<td>Draft European Parliament legislative Resolution on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending the Staff Regulations of Officials and the Conditions of Employment of Other Servants of the European Union</td>
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<td>F</td>
<td>S&amp;D</td>
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<td>Draft European Parliament legislative Resolution on the proposal for a directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on combating the sexual abuse, sexual exploitation of children and child pornography, repealing Framework Decision 2004/68/JHA</td>
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<td>EPP</td>
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<td>ECR</td>
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<td>ALDE</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>S&amp;D</td>
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<td>Motion for a European Parliament Resolution on the situation of fundamental rights in the European Union (2010 - 2011)</td>
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<td>S&amp;D</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>EPP</td>
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<td>9,1%</td>
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### Assessment of gender mainstreaming in the work of FEMM activities

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<th>Type (legislative/non legislative) and Name of the act</th>
<th>Name of the Committee responsible for the act and name and political group of the Committee’s rapporteur</th>
<th>Opinion adoption date by FEMM and Name and political group of the Committee’s rapporteur</th>
<th>FEMM Vote results</th>
<th>No. of FEMM amendments included in act out of the total no. of FEMM amendments tabled in the opinion</th>
<th>Gender aspects in the Committee final report not deriving from FEMM opinion (No. paragraphs)</th>
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</table>
Rapporteur: Marian Harkin  
Political group: ALDE | 30.05.2012  
Rapporteur: Vilija Blinkevičiūtė  
Political Group: S&D | 24 out of 24 positives votes | YES ALL  
YES GREAT PART  
YES BUT ONLY PARTIALLY | None |

**Main issues/topics covered by the opinion (for example pay gap, discrimination, etc.):**

- Equal access to the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund (EGF) to all employment contracts, including low skilled female workers;
- Gender disaggregated data;
- Measures to stimulate workers who

**Gender amendments included in the Committee’s final report:**

Amendment 2, Recital 4 a (new). The detrimental effect of job losses is exacerbated for certain groups who find reintegration into the labour market more difficult, particularly for low-skilled or unskilled female workers, single mothers and women with caring responsibilities. The financial and economic crisis and its impact on reduced public sector funding in turn has led to the further loss of jobs and to further insecurity for millions of women, notably those on temporary or part-time contracts and engaged in seasonal work. Equal access to EGF therefore should apply to all employment contracts. (partly integrated in Recital 4 b (new))

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119 Legislative/non legislative act that concluded their procedural iter and/or were not available on the EP website in the period between June 2011 - February 2013.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Main issues/topics covered by the opinion (for example pay gap, discrimination, etc.)</th>
<th>Gender amendments included in the Committee’s final report</th>
<th>Other gender aspects included in the Committee’s final report</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| are at risk of poverty as women; - Allowances for child care and care for other dependents; - Microcredit to support workers as single mothers; - Inclusion of gender equality experts to measure the impact of the EGF. | **Amendment 3, Recital 5 a (new)**  
In accordance with Articles 8 and 10 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, the Commission and the Member States should ensure that the implementation of the priorities, financed by the EGF contribute to the promotion of equality between men and women, taking into account, in addition, the European Pact for Gender Equality 2011-2020. Effective implementation of the principle of equality between men and women should include data and indicators broken down by sex, gender equality objectives and criteria, involving gender equality bodies in various stages of implementation, in particular in planning, monitoring and evaluation. (partly integrated in the Recital 10 b and partly in Article 18, par. 3 a (new)) | |
| | **Amendment 9, Article 7, par.1, subpar.1, point c**  
measures to stimulate in particular disadvantaged workers and those who are at higher risk of poverty, such as women – especially single mothers – or older workers to remain in or return to the labour market. (partly integrated in Article 7, par.1, subpar.1, point c) | |
| | **Amendment 12, Article 8, par.2, point c**  
the identification, where applicable, of the dismissing enterprises, suppliers or downstream producers, sectors, and the categories of targeted workers using gender segregated data;  
(fully integrated, but reworded in Article 8, par.2, point c) | |
| | **Amendment 13, Article 10**  
The Commission and the Member States shall apply the principle of equal treatment between men and women, which means that they shall not tolerate any discrimination whatsoever on grounds of sex, and that they shall ensure that equality between men and women and the integration of the gender perspective are promoted during the various stages of the implementation of the financial contribution, in particular when selecting target groups and establishing criteria and indicators and beneficiaries. | |
Main issues/topics covered by the opinion (for example pay gap, discrimination, etc.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender amendments included in the Committee’s final report</th>
<th>Other gender aspects included in the Committee’s final report</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(partly integrated in Article 10)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amendment 14, Article 14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Expenditure shall be eligible for a financial contribution from the dates set out in Article 8(2)(f) on which the Member State starts the personalised services to the targeted workers or the administrative expenditure to implement the EGF in accordance with Article 7(1) and (3) respectively. In the case of farmers, expenditure shall be eligible for a contribution from the date set in the delegated act taken in accordance with Article 4(3).</td>
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<tr>
<td>(fully integrated in the Recital 18 b (new))</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amendment 18, Article 19, par.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>By 1 August of every second year, and for the first time in 2015, the Commission shall present to the European Parliament and to the Council a quantitative and qualitative report on the activities under this Regulation and Regulation 1927/2006 in the previous two years.</td>
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<td>All data in the report where possible shall be segregated (broken) down by sex.</td>
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<td>(partly integrated in Article 19, par.1)</td>
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**Synthetic assessment: medium**

The FEMM Opinion had a low/medium impact. Two out of twenty-one amendments were fully integrated and five partially. Some topics covered by the opinion are not taken into account in the final Committee’s report and in particular the allowances specifically for child care and care for other dependents; microcredit measures to support workers as single mothers and the inclusion of gender equality experts to measure the impact of the EGF.

The first amendment integrated stresses the further loss of jobs and to further insecurity for millions of women, particularly for low-skilled or unskilled female workers, single mothers and women with caring responsibilities and those on temporary or part-time contracts and engaged in seasonal work, and equal access to EGF therefore should apply to all employment contracts; the second one calls on Member States to ensure that the implementation of the priorities, financed by the EGF contribute to the promotion of equality between men and women, taking into account, in addition, the European Pact for Gender Equality 2011-2020, and that effective implementation of the principle of equality between men and women should include gender disaggregated data and indicators; the third one stresses the importance of measures to stimulate workers who are at higher risk of poverty, such as women; the fourth and the seventh ones stress the importance of using gender segregated data; the fifth one underlines that Member States shall apply the principle of equal treatment between men and women; the sixth recalls Article 8(2)(f) on which the Member State starts the personalised services to the targeted workers or the administrative expenditure to implement the EGF.
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Main issues/topics covered by the opinion (for example pay gap, discrimination, etc.):
- Integration of women in labour market;
- Equality in decision-making;
- Reconciliation between work and family life;
- Flexible forms of employment and implementation of services to support families with children;
- Boosting female entrepreneurship;
- Gender budgeting, gender analysis and gender impact;
- Gender disaggregated data

Gender amendments included in the Committee’s final report:
Amendment 2, Recital 4 a (new). In line with the European Strategy for Gender Equality 2010-2015, the Union should make better use of women’s potential, thereby contributing to the Union’s overall economic and social goals by getting more women into the labour market and into good quality jobs. In particular the employment rates of older women, single parents, disabled women, migrant women and women from ethnic minorities are still relatively low and there is therefore a need for remaining gender gaps to be reduced in both quantitative and qualitative terms. **Recent reports presented by the Commission itself on the extent of compliance with the Charter of Fundamental Rights, as well as governance and sustainability studies by the World Bank and the United Nations, show that the incorporation of women into the labour market and, in particular, equality in political decision-making, encourage transparency and participation and reduce corruption. Thus, the participation of women in enterprise and decision-making**

Other gender aspects included in the Committee’s final report:
Article 4, par.2. Promote equality between women and men by implementing gender mainstreaming in all its axes and activities and putting into practice positive action to promote gender equality, combat discrimination based on sex, racial or ethnic origin, language, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation, and contribute to fulfilling the obligations under the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities with regard, inter alia, to education, work and employment and accessibility.
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<tr>
<td>in the economic and business spheres is a proven factor in improving competitiveness, productivity and innovation. (partly integrated in Recital 4 e (new))</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amendment 3, Recital 5. The Programme should pursue a coherent approach to promoting employment and combating social exclusion and poverty, while keeping sight of the objective of gender equality and in gender mainstreaming (…) (fully integrated in the Recital 5)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amendment 5, Recital 8 a (new) The Programme should take into account that improving working conditions also involves making working hours and forms of employment more flexible, creating services to support family life, improving leave conditions and other mechanisms to support working parents. (fully integrated in the Recital 8 a (new))</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amendment 7, Recital 15. Making microfinance more available on the Union’s young microfinance market calls for the institutional capacity of microfinance providers, and in particular non-bank microfinance institutions, to be stepped up in line with the Commission Communication 'A European Initiative for the development of microcredit' and the Commission report on 'Promotion of Women Innovators and Entrepreneurship'. (fully integrated in the Recital 15)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amendment 8, Recital 18. Pursuant to Articles 8 and 10 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, the Commission and the Member States should ensure that the mainstreaming of gender equality and anti-discrimination objectives help to promote equality between men and women in all the programme’s axes and activities, and that the European Pact for Gender Equality (2011-2020) is also taken into consideration. Regular monitoring and evaluation should be carried out to assess the way in which gender equality and anti-</td>
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<td>discrimination issues are addressed in the Programme’s activities. Effective application of the principle of gender equality should include gender-aggregated data and indicators and objectives and criteria focused on gender equality. (partly integrated in the Recital 18)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amendment 9, Recital 18 a (new)</td>
<td>The ‘gender equality’ and ‘non-discrimination’ sections of the Community Programme for Employment and Social Solidarity – Progress are incorporated into the Rights and Citizenship Programme. However, the European Union Programme for Social Change and Innovation should, in its activities, aim to improve women’s labour force participation, working conditions and promoting a better balance between professional and private life. (fully integrated in the Recital 18 b (new))</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amendment 12, Article 4, par.1, point d a (new)</td>
<td>Promote workplaces offering various possibilities for workers to achieve a healthy balance between professional and private life; (fully integrated in Article 4, par.1, point d a (new))</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amendment 15, Article 5, par.2 a (new)</td>
<td>Where it is appropriate, a gender-sensitive approach shall be used at the allocation of the funds. (fully integrated in the Article 5, par.2 b (new))</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amendment 16, Article 5, par.3 a (new)</td>
<td>Funding for programmes and activities that promote women’s rights and gender equality is key to ensuring that the Union programmes reflect the Union’s Treaty commitments to equality between women and men, hence the Union, the Commission and Member States should make sure that gender budgeting, gender analyses and gender impact are thoroughly taken into consideration in all phases of the process, including projects, definition, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. (partly integrated in the Article 5, par.2 b (new))</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amendment 17, Article 6, par.1, point 1, point a Gathering of data and statistics, as well as development of common methodologies, classifications, indicators and benchmarks, where appropriate broken down by gender and age group; (fully integrated in Article 6, par.1, point 1, point a)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amendment 20, Article 13 With a view to regular monitoring of the Programme and making any adjustments needed to its policy and funding priorities, the Commission shall draw up biennial monitoring reports and send them to the European Parliament and the Council. Such reports shall cover the Programme's results and the extent to which the principles of gender equality and gender mainstreaming have been respected and anti-discrimination considerations, including accessibility issues, have been addressed in all the Programme’s axes and activities. Wherever possible, data shall be gender-aggregated. (partly integrated in Article 13)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amendment 22, Article 15, point d a (new) Provide social partners and civil society organisations at Union and national level with financial support for gender equality-related projects and research in the field of employment and social inclusion. (partly integrated in Article 15, par.1, point d)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Amendment 23, Article 16, par.2, point c Specialist bodies provided for under Union law, with particular focus on sectoral agencies linked to youth, training or gender equality issues, such as the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work or the European Institute for Gender Equality; (partly integrated in Article 16, par.2 a (new))</td>
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</table>
Synthetic assessment: medium

The FEMM Opinion had a medium impact. Seven out of twenty-eight amendments were fully integrated and six partially. Some topics covered by the opinion are not taken into account in the final Committee’s report and in particular the female entrepreneurship.

The first amendment integrated stresses the integration of women into the labour market and, in particular, equality in political decision-making, encourage transparency and participation and reduce corruption; the second one stresses the main objective of gender equality and in gender mainstreaming; the third one focuses on improving working conditions, creating services to support family life, improving leave conditions and other mechanisms to support working parents; the fourth one recalls the Commission report on ‘Promotion of Women Innovators and Entrepreneurship’; the fifth stresses the promotion of equality between men and women in all the programme’s axes; the sixth one underlines ‘gender equality’ and ‘non-discrimination’ sections of the Community Programme for Employment and Social Solidarity – Progress aiming to improve women’s labour force participation, working conditions and promoting a better balance between professional and private life; the seventh stresses the promotion of workplaces offering a healthy balance between professional and private life; the eighth calls for a gender-sensitive approach in the allocation of the funds; the ninth one stresses the implementation of gender budgeting, gender analyses and gender impact; the eleventh one recalls the importance of gender disaggregated data; the thirteenth one recalls the respect of the principle of gender gender mainstreaming; the twelfth one asks to provide for a financial support for gender equality-related projects in the field of employment and social inclusion; the thirteen one recalls, among the sectoral EU Agencies, the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work or the European Institute for Gender Equality.

The FEMM amendment on Article 4, par.2, point a, has not been integrated, but the paragraph refers as well to the implementation of gender equality and non-discrimination.
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**Main issues/topics covered by the opinion (for example pay gap, discrimination, etc.)**

Main issues/topics covered by the opinion relate to women’s empowerment in social policies. In particular:

- Promotion of gender equality and equal opportunities allocations;
- The European Social Fund support to gender equality;
- Redress multiple discrimination;
- Implementation of gender budgeting assessment for all ESF actions;
- Economic independence of women and reconciliation between work and family life;
- Combating gender stereotypes in

**Gender amendments included in the Committee’s final report**

- Amendment 3, Recital 5
  In addition to these priorities, in the less developed regions and Member States, and with a view to sustainable growth and employment opportunities, the efficiency of public administration should be improved and the institutional capacity of stakeholders delivering employment, education and social policies should be strengthened. (fully integrated in Recital 5)

- Amendment 5, Recital 7 a (new)
  The ESF should increasingly support gender equality through investment in care services, employment opportunities for women, education and skills upgrading, and the combating of violence against women. The ESF should also redress the multiple discrimination faced by, among others, migrant women, Roma women, women with disabilities, lesbians and older women.

**Other gender aspects included in the Committee’s final report**

- Article 3, par.1, point c, point ic (new)
  Promoting active ageing without poverty, with particular regard to women;

- Article 3, par.1, point c, point iii
  Combating all forms of discrimination and promoting the rights of people suffering discrimination based on sex, gender identity, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation and ensuring equal opportunities;

- Article 7
  The Member States and the Commission shall promote equality between men and women through mainstreaming throughout
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<td>Career selection; - Access to affordable healthcare services, including sexual and reproductive healthcare. - Actions to eliminate gender-based violence; - Access to pre-school childcare structures; - Indicators and data disaggregated by gender; - Statistics on gender segregation in the labour market and gender stereotypes in education and training.</td>
<td>(fully integrated in the Recital 7 a new) Amendment 6, Recital 10 The Member States and the Commission should ensure that the implementation of the priorities financed by the ESF contribute to the promotion of equality between women and men in accordance with Article 8 of the Treaty. Evaluations have shown the importance of taking gender equality objectives into account in all dimensions of programmes, while ensuring that specific actions are taken to promote gender equality. Member States should ensure that a Gender budgeting assessment is carried out for all ESF actions and for all actions for which ESF funding is a part. The ESF should promote the implementation of the relevant Union policies. (partly integrated in Recital 10) Amendment 8, Recital 11 In accordance with Article 10 of the Treaty, the implementation of the priorities financed by the ESF should contribute to combating discrimination based on sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation, paying particular attention to those who face multiple discrimination. The ESF should support the fulfilment of the obligation under the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities with regard inter alia to education, work and employment and accessibility. The ESF should also promote the implementation of the relevant Union policies and the transition from institutional to community-based care. (fully integrated in Recital 11) Amendment 10, Article 3, par.1, point a, point iv Equality between men and women, economic independence of women and men and reconciliation between the professional and private life of men and women; (partly integrated in Article 3, par.1, point a, point iv) Amendment 13, Article 3, par.1, point b, introductory part Investing in education, skills, training and life-long learning through: (fully integrated in Article 3, par.1, point b, introductory part)</td>
<td>the preparation and implementation of the programmes, as referred to in Article 7 of Regulation (EU) No [...]. The ESF shall also support specific targeted actions as referred to in Article 3, and, in particular, in Article 3(1)(a)(iv), with the aim of increasing the sustainable participation and progress of women in employment, reducing gender-based segregation in the labour market, combating gender stereotypes in education and training, combating gender-specific stereotypes of occupational profiles and professions, addressing the feminisation of poverty, promoting reconciliation of work and personal life for all and equal sharing of care responsibilities between women and men. Member States shall ensure that gender equality is promoted at all stages of the operational programmes by means of gender budgeting assessments. Annex 1, point 2, point 3 number of supported micro, small and medium-sized enterprises, cooperative enterprises, enterprises of the social economy which are under female leadership or having a majority of women in the executive or supervisory board Annex 1, point 2, par.2 These data are to be provided in the annual implementation reports as specified in Article 44(1) and (2) and Article 101(1) of Regulation (EU) No [...]. All data without specific gender relevance shall also be broken down by gender and by NUTS...</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amendment 14, Article 3, par.1, point c, introductory part Promoting social inclusion, and combating poverty and discrimination through (fully integrated in Article 3, par.1, point c, introductory part)</td>
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<td>level.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amendment 16, Article 3, par.1, point c, subpoint iii Combating all forms of discrimination based on sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation; (fully integrated in Article 3, par.1, point c, subpoint iii)</td>
<td>Annex 1, point 3, point 4 c new women remaining in a precarious jobs situation</td>
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<td>Amendment 20, Article 5, par.1, subpar.2 Common and programme specific output indicators broken down by gender relate to partially or fully implemented operations. Where relevant to the nature of the operations supported cumulative quantified target values shall be fixed for 2022. Baseline indicators shall be set at zero. (fully integrated in Article 5, par.1, subpar.2)</td>
<td>Annex 1, point 4, point 3 e new women, one year after leaving, who remain in precarious job situations or being economically independent.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amendment 24, Annex, point 4, indent 3 a new statistics indicating a reduction in gender-based segregation in the labour market (fully integrated in Annex, point 4, point 3 b new)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amendment 25, Annex, point 4, indent 3b new statistics indicating that gender stereotypes in education and training are being successfully combated (fully integrated in Annex, point 4, point 3 d new)</td>
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**Synthetic assessment: high**

The FEMM Opinion had a high/medium impact. Eleven out of twenty-five amendments were fully integrated and two partially. Some topics covered by the opinion are not taken into account in the final Committee’s report and in particular the contrast of gender stereotypes in career selection, the access to affordable healthcare services, including sexual and reproductive healthcare and the access to pre-school childcare structures.

The first amendment integrated stresses the importance to reach a sustainable growth and employment opportunities; the second underlines that ESF should increasingly support gender equality and should also redress the multiple discrimination faced by, among others, migrant women, Roma women, women with disabilities, lesbians and older women; the third one stresses that evaluations have shown the importance of taking gender equality objectives, ensuring a gender budgeting assessment; the fourth and the tenth ones stress the attention to persons who face multiple discrimination; the fifth one underlines the importance of economic independence of women and men and reconciliation between the professional and private life of men and women; the sixth one stresses the importance of training; the seventh one underlines to combat poverty and discrimination; the eighth one stresses the contrast to all forms of discrimination based on sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation; the ninth one highlights the importance of data and indicators broken down by gender; the eleventh one stresses the number of projects that increase the sustainable participation and progress of women in employment; the twelfth one recalls statistics indicating a reduction in gender-based segregation in the labour market and the thirteenth one stresses statistics indicating that gender stereotypes in education and training are being successfully combated.

Other gender aspects not included in the FEMM opinion have been included in the Committee’s final report. In particular, the promotion of active ageing without poverty, with particular regard to women (art.3); the contrast to all forms of discrimination and promotion of the rights of people suffering, ensuring equal opportunities (art.3); the promotion of equality between men and women through mainstreaming, with the aim of increasing the sustainable participation and progress of women in employment, reducing gender-based segregation in the labour market, combating gender stereotypes in education and training, combating gender-specific stereotypes of occupational profiles and professions, addressing the feminisation of poverty, promoting reconciliation of work and personal life for all and equal sharing of care responsibilities between women and men (art.7); the support to micro, small and medium-sized enterprises, cooperative enterprises, enterprises of the social economy which are under female leadership or having a majority of women in the executive or supervisory board (annex 1); the importance of gender disaggregated data in the annual implementation reports (annex 1); the reference to women remaining in a precarious jobs situation (annex 1) and to those, who remain in precarious job situations or being economically independent, one year after leaving (annex 1).
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**Main issues/topics covered by the opinion (for example pay gap, discrimination, etc.)**

- Reinforcing the growth of EU economy and creating more jobs for women and men;
- Exploit entrepreneurship potential among young people and women;
- Fostering female entrepreneurship and female SMEs;
- Providing micro-lending (loans)

**Gender amendments included in the Committee’s final report**

Amendment 4, Recital 11
Female entrepreneurship and female SMEs provide a key source for increasing the degree of female employment and thereby capitalising to a greater extent on women’s level of education. Female entrepreneurship also ensures business dynamism and innovation, the potential of which is far from being harnessed in the Union, with an increase in the number of women entrepreneurs resulting in a positive impact and an immediate contribution to the economy overall. Women are particularly highly motivated in self-employment because running their own businesses enables them to set their own working hours and thus to reconcile work and family life better. In an unstable economic climate measures to support female entrepreneurs are easily neglected. (fully integrated in Recital 11 c new)

**Other gender aspects included in the Committee’s final report**

Recital 11
The Programme should particularly address SMEs, as defined in Commission Recommendation 2003/361/EC of 6 May 2003 concerning the definition of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises. In the application of this Regulation, the Commission should consult all relevant stakeholders. Particular attention should be paid to micro enterprises, enterprises engaged in craft activities, the self-employed, the liberal professions and social enterprises in any sector of activity. Attention should also be paid to the characteristics and requirements of young entrepreneurs, new and potential...
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<td>- Gender disaggregated data; - Facilitation to funding to female entrepreneurs; - Provide appropriate guidance to all interested in starting up an SME, especially young and women; - Give particular support to women in rural areas; - Implementation of gender quotas in the Committee assisting the EC.</td>
<td>Amendment 7, Recital 12 a (new) Whereas, micro-lending (that is to say loans below EUR 25 000) are provided by the financial intermediaries under the guarantee scheme. There is no specific micro-lending window foreseen under the Programme, as this would constitute an overlap with the &quot;Programme for Social Change and Innovation&quot; proposed by the Commission on 6th October 2011, which specifically covers micro-lending. (fully integrated in the Recital 12 b new)</td>
<td>entrepreneurs and female entrepreneurs, as well as specific target groups, such as migrants and entrepreneurs belonging to socially disadvantaged or vulnerable groups such as persons with disabilities. The Programme should also encourage senior citizens to become and remain entrepreneurs and promote second chances for entrepreneurs.</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Amendment 14, Recital 21 a (new) The Programme should aim to facilitate access to technical, scientific, business and support networks, and should provide appropriate guidance on training, support programmes and mentoring schemes to all interested in starting up an SME - especially to young people and women - with the aim of developing entrepreneurship skills, knowledge, spirit and confidence (...) (partly integrated in Recital 21 b new)

**Synthetic assessment: low**

The FEMM Opinion had a very limited impact. Two out of twenty-eight amendments were fully integrated and one partially. Some topics covered by the opinion are not taken into account in the final Committee’s report and in particular the collection of gender disaggregated data, the facilitation to funding to female entrepreneurs, the specific support to women in rural areas and the implementation of gender quotas in the Committee assisting the EC.

The first amendment integrated stresses female entrepreneurship and female SMEs which provide a key source for increasing the degree of female employment and thereby capitalising to a greater extent on women’s level of education, ensuring business dynamism and innovation, with an increase in the number of women entrepreneurs resulting in a positive impact and an immediate contribution to the economy overall; the second one focuses on micro-lending (that is to say loans below EUR 25 000) that are important, but are provided by the 2011 "Programme for Social Change and Innovation" proposed by the Commission, which specifically covers micro-lending; the third one stresses that the Programme on Competitiveness of enterprises and SMEs should aim to facilitate access to technical, scientific, business and support networks, and should provide appropriate guidance to all interested in starting up an SME - especially to young people and women - with the aim of developing entrepreneurship skills, knowledge, spirit and confidence. Other gender aspects not included in the FEMM opinion have been included in the Committee’s final report. In particular, the fact that in the Programme for the Competitiveness of enterprises and SMEs, particular attention should be paid to the characteristics and requirements of young entrepreneurs, new and potential entrepreneurs and female entrepreneurs, as well as specific target groups, such as migrants and entrepreneurs belonging to socially disadvantaged or vulnerable groups such as persons with disabilities (recital 11).
### Gender Mainstreaming in Committees and Delegations of the European Parliament

#### Main issues/topics covered by the opinion (for example: pay gap, discrimination, etc.)

- Integrate the gender dimension in research and innovation;
- Promotion of training courses to facilitate women’s access to highly specialized posts in research and innovation sectors;
- Use the full potential and

#### Gender amendments included in the Committee’s final report

<table>
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<td>Recital 21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amendment 11</td>
<td>Recital 23</td>
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</table>

#### Other gender aspects included in the Committee’s final report

**Article 15, par. 1 b (new)**

In order to promote gender equality, specific measures shall be implemented to assist those who take a career break to return to work.

**Article 15 a new**

Horizon 2020 shall ensure the effective promotion of equal treatment and nondiscrimination and properly consider that aspect in research and innovation content at all stages of the process.
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<tr>
<td>scientific excellence of talented women and men; - Implement awareness raising and information programs, including in schools; - Promote women’s representation in leading positions of research and innovation; - Encourage women’s participation in all EU researches, projects and scientific disciplines; - Implement gender budgeting assessment; - Promotion of a gender balanced composition of the advisory boards, evaluation committees and expert groups; - Consultation with civil society and workers’ representatives with regard to gender; - Reinforce mobility programs addressed to female researchers; - Implement a gender analysis in the needs of new profiles; - Implement gender-sensitive education and training.</td>
<td>The activities developed under Horizon 2020 should aim at promoting equality between men and women in research and innovation, by identifying and remedying the main underlying causes of gender imbalance, by exploiting the full potential of both female and male researchers, in terms of professionalism and skills, and by integrating the gender dimension into the content of projects, implementation and evaluation, the recruitment and composition of research groups and financing in order to improve the quality of research and stimulate innovation and thereby help to make European economies more competitive and dynamic (...) (partly integrated in Recital 23)</td>
<td>Art 26, paragraph 1, point b (iii) The mid-term review shall also take into consideration the scope for further simplification and aspects relating to access to funding opportunities for participants in all regions, for SMEs and for promoting gender balance. (...)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amendment 12, Recital 23 a (new) Horizon 2020 activities should overcome all obstacles deriving from the “glass ceiling” phenomenon, which cause under-representation of female researchers in leading positions in the research and innovation field. (partly integrated in Recital 22 b new)</td>
<td>Annex I, part III, point 1 new (...) The Union needs all its talents to boost its competitive edge in a global economy. To meet the 1 million net additional researchers needed in Europe by 2020 to reach the objective of a R&amp;D intensity of 3% of GDP the Union needs its young people to pursue a career in science and it needs a diverse and gender-balanced workforce. (...) There is also a clear gender imbalance in science. If Europe wants to make sure it funds an effective and efficient research and innovation programme, special attention needs to be paid to the under-representation of women in science and the lack of consideration to gender differences within research and innovation. (...) promote gender equality in both its dimensions by supporting changes in: (i) the organisation of research institutions and (ii) the design of research programmes. This encompasses its various dimensions relating in particular to: ensuring equality in research careers, decision-making and including the gender dimension in the research and innovation content.</td>
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| Amendment 24, Article 12, par.1  
For the implementation of Horizon 2020, account shall be taken of advice and inputs provided by: advisory groups of independent, high level experts from a wide variety of sectors and backgrounds (including civil society representatives), set up by the Commission; dialogue structures created under international science and technology agreements; forward looking activities; targeted public consultations; and transparent and interactive processes that ensure responsible research and innovation is implemented (...)
(partly integrated, but reworded in Article 12, par.1)  
Amendment 26, Article 12, par. 1 b (new)  
Due care shall be taken to guarantee the balanced representation of women and men on the groups of independent experts and high-level advisory groups set up by the Commission.
(partly integrated in Article 15)  
Amendment 29, Article 15, par.1  
Horizon 2020 shall ensure gender equality and the effective promotion of the gender dimension in research and innovation content and in all phases of a project life-time: concept, proposal, evaluation, project management, monitoring, as well as gender balance in all programmes, evaluation committees, expert and advisory groups and decision-making bodies existing or created for its implementation, by facilitating women’s access to scientific education and professions, thereby creating better career prospects for them in all areas of research and innovation (...)
(partly integrated in Article 15)  
Amendment 31, Article 15, par. 1 b (new)  
Where relevant, Horizon 2020 shall ensure that the gender dimension is properly considered in research and innovation projects, especially regarding services and products to end-users, in content at all stages of the process, from priority setting to definition of calls and proposals, evaluation and... |
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<td>monitoring of programs and projects, negotiations and agreements. (fully integrated in Article 15, par. 1 a new)</td>
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<td>Amendment 36, Article 21, par. 1, point c supporting the Union’s external and development policy objectives, complementing external and development programmes, and international commitments such as the achievement of the MDGs and the overarching priority of gender equality. (partly integrated in Article 21, par. 1, point c)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amendment 42, Article 25, par. 1 The Commission shall annually monitor the implementation of Horizon 2020, its specific programme and the activities of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology. This shall include information and indicators on cross-cutting topics such as gender, sustainability and climate change, including information on the amount of climate related expenditure. (fully integrated in Article 25, par. 1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amendment 55, Annex I, section 1, point 1, point 1.1, par. 5 Another major part of the challenge is that in many European countries the public sector still does not offer sufficiently attractive conditions for the best researchers. (...) Particular attention should be paid to women scientists, who represent only 18% of grade A researchers, as compared to 27% in the USA, while 60% of European university graduates are women. Attention should be paid to tackling the gender bias in recruitment for scientific jobs and supporting the career of female researchers. (partly integrated in Annex 1, Part 1, point 1)</td>
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<td>Amendment 64, Annex I, section 1, point 3, point 3.3, point e, par. 1 The goals are to monitor progress, identify gaps in the Marie Curie Actions and to increase their impact. In this context, indicators, broken down by gender, shall be developed and data</td>
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<td>related to researchers’ mobility, skills and careers, as well as gender equality, analysed, seeking synergies and close coordination with the policy support actions on researchers, their employers and funders carried out under the specific objective 'Inclusive, innovative and secure societies'. (...) (partly integrated in Annex 1, Part 1, point 3.3 e)</td>
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<td>Amendment 70, Annex I, section 3, point 1, point 1.3, par.5</td>
<td>Specific activities shall include: understanding the determinants of health (including environmental and climate related factors), improving health promotion and disease prevention; understanding disease and improving diagnosis; developing effective screening programmes and improving the assessment of disease susceptibility; improving surveillance and preparedness; developing better preventive vaccines; using in-silico medicine for improving disease management and prediction; treating disease; transferring knowledge to clinical practice and scalable innovation actions; better use of health data; active ageing, independent and assisted living; individual empowerment for self-management of health; promotion of integrated care; improving scientific tools and methods to support policy making and regulatory needs; and optimising the efficiency and effectiveness of healthcare systems and reducing inequalities by evidence based decision making and dissemination of best practice, and innovative technologies and approaches. A gender dimension should be integrated in the activities described above and should be preceded by a gender analysis. (fully integrated, but reworded in Annex 1, Part III, point I)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amendment 82, Annex I, section 5, point 3, point c, par.1</td>
<td>The EIT shall fully integrate education and training at all stages of careers and develop new and innovative curricula to reflect the need for new profiles engendered by complex societal and economic challenges. A gender dimension shall be integrated in the analysis of needs for new profiles. This is why, more than any other Instrument of Horizon 2020, the EIT will hold a major responsibility in systematically targeting young female talents to</td>
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**Main issues/topics covered by the opinion (for example pay gap, discrimination, etc.)**

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<td>bring the waste of those talents to an end in the European Research Area. In the same way it shall envisage education and training in a gender-sensitive way as the renewal of tomorrow’s scientific and entrepreneurial landscape will start at the education stage and through training. Finally, it shall integrate the gender dimension in new curricula as way to ensure the efficiency and quality of training and education as well as its innovative dimension. To this end, the EIT will play a key role in encouraging recognition of new degrees and diplomas in Member States. (partly integrated in Annex 1, Part V)</td>
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**Synthetic assessment: low**

The FEMM Opinion had a very limited impact. Only three out of eighty-two amendments were fully integrated and eleven partially. Most of the topics covered by the opinion are not taken into account in the final Committee’s report and in particular the promotion of training courses to facilitate women’s access to highly specialized posts in research and innovation sectors; the implement awareness raising and information programs, including in schools; - Promote women’s representation in leading positions of research and innovation; the implementation of gender budgeting assessment and the implementation of gender-sensitive education and training.

The first amendment integrated stresses the balanced external advice in the implementation of Horizon 2020; the second one stresses the identification and remedies to the main underlying causes of gender imbalance, by exploiting the full potential of both female and male researchers, in terms of professionalism and skills, and by integrating the gender dimension into the content of projects, implementation and evaluation; the third one focuses on correcting the imbalances and overcoming obstacles in women’s under-representation in leading position of research and innovation; the fourth encourages women’s participation in all European research, projects and scientific disciplines, not only for advisory groups and among evaluators but also for all structures related to Horizon 2020; the fifth one supports respect fundamental ethical and fundamental human rights, and to take into consideration the opinion of the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (but the European Institute for Gender Equality has not been integrated!); the sixth one underlines to take into account advice and inputs provided by the advisory groups of Independent, high level experts from a wide variety of sectors and backgrounds, including civil society representatives; the seventh one asks to guarantee the balanced representation of women and men on the groups of independent experts and high-level advisory groups set up by the Commission; the eighth promotes the gender dimension in research and innovation content and in all phases of a project life-time: concept, proposal, evaluation, project management, monitoring, as well as gender balance in all programmes, evaluation committees, expert and advisory groups and decision-making bodies, facilitating women’s access to scientific education and professions, thereby creating better career prospects for them in all areas of research and innovation; the ninth one stresses the gender dimension is properly considered in research and innovation projects, especially regarding services and products to end-users, in content at all stages of the process, from priority setting to definition of calls and proposals, evaluation and monitoring of programs and projects, negotiations and agreements; the tenth one promotes the Union’s external and development policy objectives and international commitments such as the achievement of the MDGs and the
The overarching priority of gender equality; the eleventh one focuses on the monitoring of the Commission on Horizon 2020, including information and indicators on cross-cutting topics such as gender, sustainability and climate change; the twelfth one underlines that great attention should be paid to women scientists, considering that 60% of European university graduates are women, and tackling the gender bias in recruitment for scientific jobs and supporting the career of female researchers; the thirteenth one stresses on indicators on gender; the fourteenth stresses the integration of gender dimension in the activities, including on health, preceded by a gender analysis; the fifteenth one stresses the integration of a gender dimension in the analysis of needs for new profiles and the importance of education and training in a gender-sensitive way.

Other gender aspects not included in the FEMM opinion have been not included in the Committee’s final report. In particular, the promotion of specific measures to assist those who take a career break to return to work (art.15); the effective promotion of equal treatment and non-discrimination through Horizon 2020 (art.15); the promotion of gender balance also in the mid-term review (art.26); the attention to be paid to the under-representation of women in science and the lack of consideration to gender differences within research and innovation, promoting gender equality in both its dimensions by supporting changes in the organisation of research institutions and the design of research programmes (annex I).
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**Main issues/topics covered by the opinion (for example pay gap, discrimination, etc.)**

- Fostering women’s representation in the energy sector;
- Sustainable production and consumption of energy and different impacts on women;
- Promotion of women’s responsibility and training and financing of training programmes on energy efficiency;
- Providing specific measures and incentives to vulnerable social

**Gender amendments included in the Committee’s final report**

Amendment 14, Article 6, par.7 a (new)

Member States contribute inter alia through adequate financing of training programmes, to ensuring that information and consultation rights explicitly extend to include energy efficiency.

(partly integrated in Article 6, par.9)

**Other gender aspects included in the Committee’s final report**

None
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<td>groups, such as elderly or disabled women and men, single parents and low income households; - Delivering energy education in families, schools and society; - Women’s integration in the participatory processes to improve energy efficiency.</td>
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**Synthetic assessment: low**

The FEMM Opinion had a very limited impact. Only one out of seventeen amendments was partially integrated. Most of the topics covered by the opinion are not taken into account in the final Committee’s report and in particular women’s representation in the energy sector, the sustainable production and consumption of energy and different impacts on women, the organization of specific measures and incentives to vulnerable social groups, such as elderly or disabled women and men, single parents and low income households, the promotion of energy education, including in families, schools and society and women’s integration in the participatory processes to improve energy efficiency. The only amendment integrated stresses the importance of Member States to contribute through adequate financing to promote energy efficiency. Other gender aspects not included in the FEMM opinion have been not included in the Committee’s final report.
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<tr>
<td>Main issues/topics covered by the opinion relate to women’s empowerment. In particular;</td>
<td>Amendment 1, Recital 2 Consequently, it is necessary to provide a framework for the recruitment of high calibre staff in terms of productivity and integrity, drawn on the widest possible geographical basis from among citizens of the Member States and with due regard to gender balance, and to enable such staff to carry out their duties as effectively and efficiently as possible. (fully integrated in Recital 2) Amendment 6, Art.1, point 1 a new Officials in active employment shall have access to measures of a social nature, including specific measures to reconcile working life with family life, such as child-care facilities, adopted by the institutions and to services provided by the</td>
<td>Article 2, point 11 a new Women whose maternity leave begins before the end of their contract shall be entitled to maternity leave and maternity pay.</td>
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<td>- Recruitment of gender balance staff;</td>
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<td>- Access to teleworking arrangements and family-friendly conditions, particularly in case on single parents (mothers);</td>
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<td>- Implementing specific measures to reconcile work with family life;</td>
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<td>- Provisions of parental (and</td>
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| maternal leave;  
- Provision of child allowances;  
- Provision of special leaves; | social welfare bodies referred to in Article 9 (..)  
(partly integrated in Recital 23) | |

Amendment 8, Art.1, point 13 (Staff Regulations Article 42a)
An official shall be entitled to up to six months of parental leave without basic salary for every child, to be taken during the first twelve years after the birth or adoption of the child. The duration of the leave may be doubled for single parents recognised under general implementing provisions adopted by the appointing authority of each institution and for parents of dependent children with a disability or a severe illness recognised by the medical officer. The minimum leave taken at any one time shall not be less than one month.
During parental leave, the official's membership of the social security scheme shall continue; the acquisition of pension rights, dependent child allowance and education allowance shall be maintained. The official shall retain his post, and continue to be entitled to advancement to a higher step or promotion in grade. The leave may be taken as full-time or half-time leave. Where parental leave is taken in the form of half-time leave, the maximum period provided for in the first paragraph shall be doubled. During parental leave, officials shall be entitled to an allowance of 60% of their basic salary per month, subject to a maximum amount of EUR 2 552,40, or 50% of such sum if on half-time leave but may not engage in any other gainful employment. The full contribution to the social security scheme provided for in Articles 72 and 73 shall be borne by the institution and calculated on the basis of the basic salary of the official. However, in the case of half-time leave this provision shall apply only to the difference between the full basic salary and the proportionally reduced basic salary. For the part of the basic salary actually received, the official's contribution shall be calculated by using the same percentages as if he were in full-time employment.
The allowance calculated as referred to in the second paragraph shall not be less than EUR 1 592,50 per month, or 50% of such sum if the official is on half-time leave, for the single parents and parents of dependent children with a
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<td>disability or a severe illness recognised by the medical officer referred to in the first paragraph and during the first three months of parental leave where such leave is taken by the father during maternity leave or by either parent immediately after maternity leave or during or immediately after adoption leave. The parental leave may be extended for a further six months with an allowance limited to 50% of the amount referred to in the second paragraph. For single parents as referred to in the first paragraph, the parental leave may be extended for a further twelve months with an allowance limited to 50% of the amount referred to in the third paragraph. The amounts mentioned in this Article shall be updated in line with remuneration; (almost fully integrated in Article 42a, except the amount of the allowances)</td>
<td>Amendment 12, Article 1 – point 22 – point -a (new) (Article 55a – paragraph 2 – point b a new) In the first subparagraph of paragraph 2, the following point shall be inserted after point (b): 'to care for a child when the official is a single parent, irrespective of the age of the child'; (fully integrated in Article 55a – paragraph 2 – point b a new)</td>
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<td>Amendment 13, Article 1 – point 22 – point -a a (new) (Staff Regulations, Article 55a– paragraph 2 – point b b new) In the first subparagraph of paragraph 2, the following point shall be inserted: 'to care for a child under 14 years of age if the reduction in working time is no more than 5% of normal working time. In that case, Article 3 of Annex IVa shall not apply,'; (fully integrated in Article 55 a– paragraph 2 – point b b new)</td>
<td>Amendment 14, Article 1 – point 26 a (new) (Staff Regulations, Article 58) Officials shall, in addition to the leave provided for in Article</td>
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<td>57, be entitled on production of a medical certificate to twenty weeks of maternity leave. The maternity leave shall start not earlier than six weeks before the expected date of confinement shown in the certificate and end not earlier than 14 weeks after the date of confinement. In the case of multiple or premature birth or the birth of a child with a disability or serious illness, the duration shall be of 24 weeks. Premature birth for the purposes of this provision is a birth taking place before the end of the 34th week of pregnancy. The total costs of maternity leave payments for all officials and staff members, including assistants of Members of the European Parliament, shall be borne by the institutions’ joint social security scheme from the first day of such leave. Contracts of officials and other staff members, including accredited parliamentary assistants, may not be terminated during pregnancy. Contracts of women on maternity leave, including accredited parliamentary assistants, may not be terminated until the end of the period of maternity leave.</td>
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<td>(fully integrated in Article 58)</td>
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<td>Amendment 15, Article 1 – point 32 a (new) (Staff Regulations, Article 67 – paragraph 3) The dependent child allowance may be doubled by special reasoned decision of the appointing authority based on medical documents establishing that the child concerned has a disability or a long-term illness constituting a heavy burden for the official.</td>
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<td>(fully integrated in Article 67)</td>
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<td>Amendment 16, Article 1 – point 46 a (new) (Staff Regulations, Annex V – Article 6) In addition to annual leave, an official may, on application, be granted special leave. In particular, in the following cases special leave shall be granted as shown: – marriage of the official: four days; – change of residence of the official: up to two days; – serious illness of spouse: up to three days; – death of spouse: four days;</td>
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| – serious illness of a relative in the ascending line: up to two days;  
– death of a relative in the ascending line: two days;  
– marriage of a child: two days;  
– birth of a child: 10 days, to be taken during the fourteen weeks following birth;  
– birth of a disabled or seriously ill child: 20 days, to be taken during the fourteen weeks following the birth;  
– death of the wife during maternity leave: a number of days corresponding to the remaining maternity leave; if the deceased wife is not an official, the remaining maternity leave is determined by applying the provisions of Article 58 of the Staff Regulations, by analogy;  
– serious illness of a child: up to two days;  
– very serious illness of a child, as certified by a doctor, or hospitalisation of a child aged 12 or under: up to five days;  
– death of a child: four days;  
– adoption of a child: 20 weeks, rising to 24 weeks in the case of the adoption of a disabled child: (…)  
(fully integrated in Article 15) | | |

Amendment 18, Article 2 – point 19  
Conditions of Employment of Other Servants  
Article 47  
Apart from cessation on death, the employment of temporary staff shall cease:  
(a) at the end of the month in which the servant reaches the age of 65 years or, where applicable, at the date fixed in accordance with Article 50c(2); or  
(b) where the contract is for a fixed period:  
(i) on the date stated in the contract;  
(ii) at the end of the period of notice specified in the contract giving the servant or the institution the option to terminate earlier. The period of notice shall not be less than one month per year of service, subject to a minimum of one month and a maximum of three months. For temporary staff whose contracts have been renewed the maximum shall be six months. The period of notice shall not, however, commence to
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<td>run during pregnancy duly established by a medical certificate, maternity leave or sick leave, provided such sick leave does not exceed three months. (...); (fully integrated in Article 47) Amendment 19, Article 2 – point 33 a (new) Conditions of Employment of Other Servants Article 139 – paragraph 1 – point d taking into account the fact that trust is the basis of the working relationship between the Member and his accredited parliamentary assistant, at the end of the period of notice specified in the contract, which shall give the accredited parliamentary assistant or the European Parliament, acting at the request of the Member or Members of the European Parliament whom the accredited parliamentary assistant was taken on to assist, the right to terminate the contract before its expiry. The period of notice shall not be less than one month per year of service, subject to a minimum of one month and a maximum of three months. (...) (fully integrated in Article 139)</td>
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**Synthetic assessment: medium**

The FEMM Opinion had a medium/high impact. Only nine out of nineteen amendments were fully integrated and one partially. Some of the topics covered by the opinion are not taken into account in the final Committee’s report and in particular the access to tele-working arrangements and family-friendly conditions, particularly in case on single mothers.

The first amendment integrated stresses the gender balance as regards the framework for the recruitment of high calibre staff in terms of productivity and integrity; the second one stresses on specific measures to reconcile working life with family life, such as child-care facilities, adopted by the institutions and to services provided by the social welfare bodies; the third, the fourth, the fifth, the sixth ones focus on parental leave explanations; the seventh one focus on the dependent child allowance; the eighth one explains the special leave; the eighth focuses on special leave; the ninth and tenth ones focus on the conditions of employment of other servants.

Other gender aspects not included in the FEMM opinion have been included in the Committee’s final report. In particular, women whose maternity leave begins before the end of their contract shall be entitled to maternity leave and maternity pay.
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**Main issues/topics covered by the opinion (for example pay gap, discrimination, etc.)**

- Main issues/topics covered by the opinion relate to children’s rights and protection. In particular:
  - Promote a zero-tolerance approach to combat sexual abuse, exploitation of children and child pornography;
  - Contrast the online solicitation of children for sexual purposes via social networking websites and chat rooms;
  - Promote an early warning system

**Gender amendments included in the Committee’s final report**

- Amendment 5, Recital 6: Serious forms of child sexual abuse and sexual exploitation should be subject to effective, proportionate and dissuasive sanctions. This includes, in particular, various forms of sexual abuse and sexual exploitation facilitated by the use of information and communication technology such as “grooming” (the online solicitation of children for sexual purposes) via social networking websites and chat rooms. The definition of child pornography should also be clarified and brought closer to that contained in international instruments. (fully integrated in Recital 6)

- Amendment 10, Recital 9 a (new): Member States should foster open dialogue and

**Other gender aspects included in the Committee’s final report**

None
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<tr>
<td>through regular reporting to the police; Foster open dialogue and communication with third countries; Promote measures to protect child victims in their best interest; Ensure that criminal records have been checked every time a person applies for a new job; Reinforce cooperation among Member States and law enforcement agencies and judicial authorities; Promote measures to protect the privacy of child victims, their identity and their images; Blocking of access to web-pages.</td>
<td>communication with third countries in order to be able to prosecute, under the relevant national legislation, perpetrators who travel to those countries for the purposes of sex tourism (fully integrated in Recital 9) <strong>Amendment 15, Recital 13</strong> Child pornography constitutes sex abuse images. To combat it, it is necessary to reduce the circulation of child abuse material by making it more difficult for offenders to upload such content onto the publicly accessible Web. Action is therefore necessary to remove the content at source and apprehend those guilty of making distributing or downloading child abuse images. (...) <strong>Mechanisms should be put in place to strengthen international cooperation between states, judicial and police authorities, and reporting points for child pornography in order to ensure the safe and fast removal of websites containing child pornography.</strong> (partly integrated in Recital 13) <strong>Amendment 41, Article 13</strong> Member States shall not prosecute child victims or impose penalties on child victims of the offences referred to in Articles 4 and Article 5(4) to (6) for their involvement in unlawful activities as a direct consequence of being subjected to those offences. (fully integrated in Article 13) <strong>Amendment 52, Article 16, par.3</strong> Deletion of the paragraph (fully integrated) <strong>Amendment 63, Art.20, par.2, subpar.2</strong> Such intervention programmes or measures shall be adapted to meet the specific developmental needs for children who sexually offend against other children, including those who are below the age of criminal responsibility. <strong>Member States shall ensure that such children are offered a suitable response, which includes an assessment of their individual needs and appropriate treatment to address their offending behaviour.</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Main issues/topics covered by the opinion (for example pay gap, discrimination, etc.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender amendments included in the Committee’s final report</th>
<th>Other gender aspects included in the Committee’s final report</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(partly integrated in Article 20, par.2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amendment 65, Article 21, par.2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(…) Where the removal of webpages containing or disseminating child pornography is not possible the <strong>blocking of access shall be obtained subject to adequate safeguards, in particular to ensure that the blocking is limited to what is necessary, that users are informed of the reason for the blocking and that content providers, as far as possible, are informed of the possibility of challenging it.</strong> (partly integrated in Article 21, par.2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amendment 68, Article 21, par. 2 c (new)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The determination of harmful websites under this Directive as well as of the appropriate procedures for deleting or blocking the website must take full account of fundamental rights of internet users and shall be based on <strong>transparent procedures and judicial control and oversight.</strong> (partly integrated in Article 21, par.2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Synthetic assessment: low

The FEMM Opinion had a very limited impact. Only four out of sixty-nine amendments were fully integrated and four partially. Some of the topics covered by the opinion are not taken into account in the final Committee’s report and in particular the promotion of an early warning system through regular reporting to the police; the promotion of measures to protect child victims in their best interest; ensuring that criminal records have been checked every time a person applies for a new job; strengthening of cooperation among Member States and law enforcement agencies and judicial authorities and the promotion of measures to protect the privacy of child victims, their identity and their images.

The first amendment integrated stresses that serious forms of child sexual abuse and sexual exploitation should be subject to effective, proportionate and dissuasive sanctions; the second one stresses that Member States should foster open dialogue and communication with third countries in order to be able to prosecute, under the relevant national legislation, perpetrators who travel to those countries for the purposes of sex tourism; the third one underlines that child pornography constitutes a crime and that mechanisms should be put in place to strengthen international cooperation between states, judicial and police authorities, and reporting points for child pornography in order to ensure the safe and fast removal of websites containing child pornography; the fourth one stresses that Member States shall not prosecute child victims or impose penalties on child victims of the offences; the fifth one concerns a deletion of a paragraph; the sixth one stresses that the measures shall be adapted to meet the specific developmental needs for children and, Member States shall ensure that such children are offered a suitable response, which includes an assessment of their individual needs and appropriate treatment to address their offending behaviour; the seventh and eighth ones stress the deletion or blocking of access to some web pages. Other gender/children aspects not included in the FEMM opinion have been not included in the Committee’s final report.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Procedure reference</th>
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<th>Gender aspects in the Committee final report not deriving from FEMM opinion (No. paragraphs)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2011/0177(APP)</td>
<td>(Non legislative act) Motion for a European Parliament Resolution in the interests of achieving a positive outcome of the Multiannual Financial Framework 2014-2020 approval procedure</td>
<td>Committee on Budgets Co-rapporteurs: Reimer Böge, Ivalo Kalfin Political group: EPP (Christian Democrats), S&amp;D</td>
<td>20.09.2012 Rapporteur: Inês Cristina Zuber Political Group: GUE/NGL</td>
<td>26 out of 26 positives votes</td>
<td>NOT AT ALL None of the two modifications proposed were integrated.</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Main issues/topics covered by the opinion (for example pay gap, discrimination, etc.)</th>
<th>Gender suggestions included in the Committee’s final report</th>
<th>Other gender aspects included in the Committee’s final report</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Main issues/topics covered by the opinion relate to women empowerment. In particular: - inclusion of gender mainstreaming in specific resources allocation; - application of gender-responsive budgeting process, at all its stages, in annual budgetary procedures; - gender analysis of budget priorities; - Need for increasing funding for gender equality actions.</td>
<td>None.</td>
<td>None.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Synthetic assessment: absent.

The FEMM Opinion had no impact. None of the suggestions and amendments have been integrated. All the topics covered by the opinion are not taken into account in the final Committee’s report: the implementation of gender-responsive budgeting process, at all its stages, in annual budgetary procedures, the related gender analysis, the inclusion of a gender mainstreaming perspective in the resources allocation and the need for funding gender equality actions. Other gender aspects not included in the FEMM opinion have not been included in the Committee’s final report.
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<tr>
<td>2012/2016(BUD)</td>
<td>(Non legislative act) Motion for a European Parliament Resolution on the mandate for the trilogue on the 2013 Draft Budget</td>
<td>Committee on Budgets Rapporteur: Giovanni La Via Political group: EPP (Christian Democrats)</td>
<td>30.05.2012 Rapporteur: Mary Honeyball Political Group: S&amp;D</td>
<td>21 out of 24 positives votes; 2 negative vote; 1 abstaining from voting</td>
<td>YES BUT ONLY PARTIALLY One out of 16 suggestions was fully integrated</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Main issues/topics covered by the opinion (for example pay gap, discrimination, etc.)

- Inclusion of a gender budgeting approach;
- Need for increased funding for gender equality actions in general, including actions to combat gender based violence;
- Support to the EC’s initiative to tackle the lack of women in board rooms;
- Importance of social partners, NGOs in the design and implementation of gender equality projects.

Gender suggestions included in the Committee’s final report

Suggestion. 8 Stresses that measures aimed at combating gender violence must be sufficiently funded; emphasises the important role that the programme to prevent and combat all forms of violence (DAPHNE) has played in eliminating violence against women and girls in the European Union, and stresses the importance of increasing the programme’s financing in 2013 (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 56)

Other gender aspects included in the Committee’s final report

None.
### Synthetic assessment: low

The FEMM Opinion had a very limited impact. Only one out of sixteen suggestion was fully integrated. Some topics covered by the opinion are not taken into account in the final Committee’s report and in particular: the inclusion of a gender budgeting approach, the need for increased funding for gender equality actions in general and the importance of social partners, NGOs in the design and implementation of gender equality projects. The only suggestion integrated stresses that measures aimed at combating gender violence must be sufficiently funded (i.e. DAPHNE programme). Other gender aspects not included in the FEMM opinion have not been included in the Committee’s final report.
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<tr>
<td>2011/2264(DEC)</td>
<td>(Non legislative act) Motion for a European Parliament Resolution with observations forming an integral part of its Decision on discharge in respect of the implementation of the budget of the European Institute for Gender Equality for the financial year 2010</td>
<td>Committee on Budgetary Control Rapporteur: Monica Luisa Macovei Political group: EPP</td>
<td>25.01.2012 Rapporteur: Minodora Cliveti Political Group: S&amp;D</td>
<td>23 out of 27 positives votes; 2 negative votes; 2 abstain from voting YES BUT ONLY PARTIALLY</td>
<td>Three out of nine suggestions were fully integrated and two only partially</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Main issues/topics covered by the opinion (for example pay gap, discrimination, etc.)**

Main issues/topics covered by the opinion relate to the crucial role of the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) and the EU support to its activities.

**Gender suggestions included in the Committee’s final report**

Suggestion 1. Welcomes the Court of Auditors’ first report on the annual accounts of the European Institute for Gender Equality for the financial year 2010; (fully integrated in par. no. 1)

Suggestion 4. Notes that EUR 195 000 under Title II - infrastructure and operating expenditure, were frozen as a result of the under consumption in rental costs, as the Lithuanian Government covered the rental costs for the Institute’s premises for its first two years of activity, i.e. until 15 December 2011, as stated in the Institute’s Annual Activity Report; (included only partially in the par. No. 6)

**Other gender aspects included in the Committee’s final report**

None.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Main issues/topics covered by the opinion (for example pay gap, discrimination, etc.)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Suggestion 5. Notes that EUR 220 000 under Title III - operating expenditure, were frozen as a result of the under consumption in operation-related expenditure, which is a consequence of the delayed launch of the Institute’s operational activities due to the difficulties in recruitment of qualified staff as stated in the Institute’s Annual Activity Report; (included only partially in the par. No. 6)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Suggestion 8. Reminds the Court of Auditors that the work of the Institute is of utmost importance for the promotion of gender equality in the European Union; notes, therefore, that future reports shall reveal in detail if the Institute’s activity is hindered by difficulties at any stage of the budgetary procedure; (fully integrated in the par. No. 18)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Suggestion 9. Points out that, at a time of economic crisis and austerity, it is vital that the Institute offers best value for money without compromising the successful fulfilment of its important remit. (fully integrated in the par. No. 19)</td>
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</table>

**Synthetic assessment: medium**

The FEMM Opinion had a medium impact. Three out of nine suggestion were fully integrated and two partially. The first suggestion fully integrated refer to the annual accounts of the EIGE, the second one focuses on the amount under Title II - infrastructure and operating expenditure; the third one focuses on the amount under Title III - operating expenditure; the fourth stresses that the work of EIGE is of extreme importance for the promotion of gender equality in the EU; the fifth underlines that, at a time of economic crisis and austerity, it is vital that EIGE offers best value for money without compromising the successful fulfilment of its work. Other gender aspects not included in the FEMM opinion have not been included in the Committee’s final report.
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<th>Procedure reference</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2012/2206(DEC)</td>
<td>(Non legislative act) Motion for a European Parliament Resolution with observations forming an integral part of its Decision on discharge in respect of the implementation of the budget of the European Institute for Gender Equality for the financial year 2011</td>
<td>Committee on Budgetary Control Rapporteur: Minadora Clivetli Political Group: S&amp;D political group: ALDE</td>
<td>22.01.2013 Rapporteur: Gerben-Jan Gerbrandy</td>
<td>25 out of 26 positives votes; 1 negative vote</td>
<td>YES BUT ONLY PARTIALLY Five out of twelve suggestion were fully integrated and one only partially</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Main issues/topics covered by the opinion (for example pay gap, discrimination, etc.): Main issues/topics covered by the opinion relate to the crucial role of the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) and the EU support to its activities.

Gender suggestions included in the Committee’s final report: Suggestion 3. Welcomes the unique initiative, in coordination with the other Union institutions in Vilnius (the Commission and European Parliament Information Office), to identify and select common premises; notes that the newly established "EU House" proved necessary and will benefit synergies, increase the Union’s visibility, cost saving and sharing; (fully integrated in par. no. 20)

Suggestion 4. Draws attention to the Court of Auditors’ confirmation that the Institute's annual accounts showing a budget of EUR 7 530 000, in all material respects, fairly present its financial position as of 31 December 2011 and that the Institute’s operations and cash flows for the financial year 2011 are in accordance with the provisions of its Financial

Other gender aspects included in the Committee’s final report: None.
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</table>
| Regulation;  
(included only partially in the par. No. 10)  
Suggestion 7. Notes the comment of the Court of Auditors about the need to improve the documentation of physical inventory taking for fixed assets and of the estimation of accrued charges; notes in this regard the Institute’s commitment to assure proper management of assets and to improve the estimation of accrual charges;  
(fully integrated in the par. No. 24)  
Suggestion 8. Welcomes the improvement of the occupancy rate of its establishment plan, which shall contribute to the effective functioning of the Institute;  
(fully integrated in the par. No. 13)  
Suggestion 9. Welcomes the Institute’s establishment of the Resource and Documentation Centre as a unique European source of institutional and methodological gender equality knowledge;  
(fully integrated in the par. No. 16)  
Suggestion 10. Welcomes the Institute’s second ex-ante evaluation report focusing on the Institute’s specific objectives and operations;  
(fully integrated in the par. No. 15) | | |

**Synthetic assessment: medium**
The FEMM Opinion had a medium impact. Five out of twelve suggestion were fully integrated and one partially. The first suggestion fully integrated refer to the initiative to select common premises for all EU institution based in Vilnius; the second one focuses on the Institute’s annual budget; the third and the fourth ones refer to the physical inventory and the establishment plan of EIGE; the fifth refers to the establishment of the EIGE’s Resource and Documentation Centre and the sixth to the evaluation. Other gender aspects not included in the FEMM opinion have not been included in the Committee’s final report.
<table>
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| 2012/2167(DEC)      | (Non legislative act) Motion for a European Parliament Resolution with observations forming an integral part of its Decisions on discharge in respect of the implementation of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2011, Section III – Commission and executive agencies | Committee on Budgetary Control  
Rapporteur: Jens Geier  
Political group: S&D | 22.01.2013  
Rapporteur: Minadora Cliveti  
Political Group: S&D | 26 out of 27 positives votes; 1 negative vote. | YES ALL  
Four out of four suggestions were fully integrated | None |

**Main issues/topics covered by the opinion (for example pay gap, discrimination, etc.)**

- Main issues/topics covered by the opinion relate to women empowerment.
- In particular:
  - Promotion of gender equality as a fundamental principle of the EU;
  - Implementation of gender budgeting.
  - Develop gender specific data.

**Gender suggestions included in the Committee’s final report**

- Suggestion 1. Stresses 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 European Union; therefore reiterates its demand for the implementation of gender budgeting by all stakeholders in the Union budgetary procedure; calls therefore on the Court of Auditors to assess the implementation of the Union budget from the gender perspective, where applicable; (fully integrated in par. no. 224)

- Suggestion 2. Regrets that the annual report contains no observations from the Court of Auditors, or any replies from the Commission regarding spending related to the promotion of equality between women and men;

**Other gender aspects included in the Committee’s final report**

None.
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>(fully integrated in the par. No. 225)</td>
<td>Suggestion 3. Notes the Court of Auditors’ numerous observations as well as the Commission’s replies on the chapter of employment and social affairs, the policy area primarily covering gender equality; asks the Court of Auditors to provide specific details if any of the observations concerning spending related to gender equality; (fully integrated in the par. No. 226)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Suggestion 4. Reiterates its call for further efforts to develop gender-specific data, which allow proper monitoring of how budgetary allocations affect the economic and social opportunities of women and men, that can be included in the reports on the implementation of the budget; underlines that the new multiannual financial framework provides an opportunity to develop and introduce such data, and implement gender budgeting as a tool for good governance. (fully integrated in the par. No. 227)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Synthetic assessment: high**
The FEMM Opinion had a very high impact. Four out of four suggestion were fully integrated.
The first suggestion fully integrated stresses that the promotion of equality between men and women is a fundamental principle of the European Union in all its activities and calls on the Court of Auditors to assess the implementation of the budget from the gender perspective, where applicable; the second one regrets that the annual report contains no observations from the Court of Auditors, nor any replies from the Commission regarding gender-related spending, and therefore reiterates its demand for the implementation of gender budgeting; the third one asks the Court of Auditors to provide specific details if any of the observations concerning spending related to gender equality; the fourth one reiterates the demand for further efforts to develop gender-specific data, and thus implement gender budgeting as a tool for good governance.
Other gender aspects not included in the FEMM opinion have not been included in the Committee’s final report.
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<tr>
<td>2011/2201(DEC)</td>
<td><strong>(Non legislative act)</strong> Motion for a European Parliament Resolution with observations forming an integral part of its Decision on discharge in respect of the implementation of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2010, Section III – Commission and executive agencies</td>
<td>Committee on Budgetary Control Rapporteur: Christofer Fjellner Political Group: EPP (Christian Democrats)</td>
<td>25.01.2012 Rapporteur: Barbara Matera Political Group: EPP</td>
<td>27 out of 30 positives votes; 3 negative votes.</td>
<td><strong>YES ALL</strong> Three out of three suggestions were fully integrated</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Main issues/topics covered by the opinion (for example pay gap, discrimination, etc.):

- Promotion of gender equality as a fundamental principle of the EU;
- Implementation of gender budgeting.

Gender suggestions included in the Committee’s final report:

- **Suggestion 1.** Reminds the Court of Auditors and the Commission that pursuant to 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 European Union in all its activities; therefore, calls on the Court of Auditors to assess the implementation of the budget from the gender perspective, where applicable; (fully integrated in par. no. 248)

- **Suggestion 2.** Regrets that the annual report contains no observations from the Court of Auditors, nor any replies from the Commission regarding gender-related spending; (fully integrated in the par. No. 249)

Other gender aspects included in the Committee’s final report:

None.
Main issues/topics covered by the opinion (for example pay gap, discrimination, etc.) | Gender suggestions included in the Committee’s final report | Other gender aspects included in the Committee’s final report
--- | --- | ---
Suggestion 3. Stresses that an audit of the budget which includes a gender perspective is a prerequisite to the preparation of a budget with a gender dimension, as it can reveal the effects of spending on gender equality, and, in particular, if men and women benefit from the expenditure proportionally and whether the budget has to be adjusted to better meet the different needs of men and women. (fully integrated in the par. No. 250)

**Synthetic assessment: high**

The FEMM Opinion had a very high impact. Three out of three suggestions were fully integrated. The first suggestion fully integrated stresses that the promotion of equality between men and women is a fundamental principle of the European Union in all its activities and calls on the Court of Auditors to assess the implementation of the budget from the gender perspective, where applicable; the second one regrets that the annual report contains no observations from the Court of Auditors, nor any replies from the Commission regarding gender-related spending; the third one stresses that the inclusion of a gender perspective is a prerequisite to the preparation of a budget with a gender dimension, as it can reveal if men and women benefit from the expenditure proportionally and whether the budget has to be adjusted to better meet the different needs of men and women.

Other gender aspects not included in the FEMM opinion have not been included in the Committee’s final report.
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Main issues/topics covered by the opinion (for example pay gap, discrimination, etc.)

Main issues/topics covered by the opinion relate to women empowerment in development policies. In particular:
- Promotion of women’s rights and gender equality in any EU cooperation and association agreements;
- Address and fight against violence against women, including considering the growing number of feminicides;
- Women’s access to public healthcare systems;
- Women’s participation in political and civil society bodies, but also in public and economic life;

Gender suggestions included in the Committee’s final report

- Suggestion 1. Reiterates that the situation and the promotion of women’s rights, gender equality and combating violence against women must be systematically taken into account in all human rights dialogues conducted by the EU with third countries with which cooperation or association agreements have been signed; (fully integrated in par. No. 62)
- Suggestion 3. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to address violence against women and the gender-related dimension of human rights violations internationally, in particular in the context of the bilateral association and international trade agreements in force and those under negotiation; (fully integrated in par. No. 73)
- Suggestion 5. Welcomes the nomination of the EU Special Representative on Human Rights, and calls on him to give

Other gender aspects included in the Committee’s final report

Par. 80. Is gravely concerned about developments which restrict the freedom of expression and assembly for reasons based on misconceptions about homosexuality and transgenderism; recalls that laws and proposals to such effect are inconsistent with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which precludes discriminatory laws and practices based on sexual orientation; calls on the VP/HR and the Special Representative for Human Rights to raise these concerns systematically;  
Par. 97. Welcomes the extension in the updated guidelines of the groups requiring special protection to persons facing discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity, as well as the commitment to urge third countries to
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</table>
| - Awareness raising and training on gender issues;  
- Gender expert and greater equality composition in EU election observation missions;  
- Specific support from the European Institute for Gender Equality. | particular attention to, and take specific action to promote, women’s rights and gender equality; (included partially in paragraphs No. 106)  
Suggestion 9. Points out that the full participation of women in politics is not limited to statistical objectives regarding the number of candidates and elected officials, and that ensuring gender equality entails taking the problems of women’s rights into consideration in policymaking and the free and effective participation of women in all aspects of public, political and economic life. (fully integrated in par. No. 53)  
Suggestion 12. Reiterates the fundamental right of all women to access to public healthcare systems, and in particular to primary, gynaecological and obstetric health care as defined by the World Health Organisation; (fully integrated in the par. No. 125; the original wording has minimally changed)  
Suggestion 13. Believes that, in order to ensure the effective participation of women where they are currently under-represented in political or civil society bodies, it is important to provide training and support modules, both for European staff dealing with gender issues and for the women on the ground, so as to enable them to make an effective contribution to the peace and conflict resolution processes; (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 118) | provide domestic procedure for complaints and reports that are gender and child-sensitive; regrets, however, that EU’s coordinated efforts to counter torture do not address its gender dimension in a more comprehensive manner, mainly due to a lack of substantive information on all forms of torture and ill-treatment;  
Par. 104. Insists that the political dialogue on human rights between the EU and third countries must cover a more inclusive and comprehensive definition of non-discrimination, inter alia on the basis of religion or belief, sex, racial or ethnic origin, age, disability, sexual orientation and gender identity;  
Par. 105. Underlines that for the EU’s foreign policy to be credible and coherent in the field of fundamental rights, equality and anti-discrimination, the Council should adopt the directive on equal treatment between persons irrespective of religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation, and enlarge the application of the Framework Decision on Racism and Xenophobia to cover other targeted groups, such as LGBT persons.  
Par. 108. Reasserts that the principle of non-discrimination, including on grounds of sex and sexual orientation, is a fundamental element in the ACP-EU partnership.  
Par. 111. Requests the VP/HR and the Special Representative for Human Rights to give full recognition to caste discrimination as a cross-cutting issue of human rights and poverty with severe implications, in particular for women;  
Par. 117. Appreciates the focused attention given to the challenge of the implementation of women,
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<td>peace and security-related resolutions in the EU policies, as evidenced in the Report on the EU indicators for the Comprehensive Approach to the EU Implementation of the UN Security Council Resolutions 1325 &amp; 1820, adopted by the EU Council on 13 May 2011; welcomes the political action taken by the EU to ensure the prolonging of the mandate of the UN Secretary General’s Special Representative on children and armed conflict at the UN General Assembly; shares the view expressed in the Council conclusions of 1 December 2011 on Common Security and Defence Policy that continued and systematic attention to aspects relating to human rights, gender and children affected by armed conflict should be a key consideration in all phases of the CSDP missions; Par. 119. Recognises that concrete progress in improving the situation of women and children in armed conflict situations is often dependent on achieving clear and unified accountability structures in military and security services under civilian control; urges, therefore, the relevant EU institutions to seek and implement more effective methods to carry out security sector reforms in conflict and post-conflict countries, with strong emphasis on women’s and children’s rights, inclusion and empowerment in that context; calls on the EEAS and the Commission to take this into account in the programming and implementation of external assistance instruments addressing security sector reform, including the importance of women’s empowerment in post-conflict reconstruction. Par. 122. Urges the EU to enhance its action to end the practices of female genital mutilation</td>
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(FGM), early and forced marriages, honour killings, and gender-selective abortion; insists that these policies should be essential elements in EU approach to development cooperation; stresses the importance of adequate access to medical means, and of information and education about sexual and reproductive health and rights, to the wellbeing of women and girls in all countries.

Par. 123. Notes that there continues to be insufficient attention given to sexual and reproductive rights violations that undermine efforts towards fulfilling the Cairo Programme of Action commitments adopted at the 1994 United Nations International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), and to addressing discrimination – including gender discrimination and inequality – in population and development strategies; underlines that progress on reproductive health has been limited in some contexts by violations such as child, early and forced marriage and failure to enforce a legal minimum age of marriage, coercive practices such as forced sterilisation or FGM, as well as denial of autonomy to women and girls to make decisions about their sexual and reproductive health free of discrimination, coercion and violence; Calls for the Cairo Programme of Action to be implemented in its human rights and development policy aspects, to promote gender equality and women’s and children’s rights, including sexual and reproductive health and rights.

Par. 124. Urges the EU and its Member States to ensure that the ICPD+20 operational review process results in a comprehensive review of all
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aspects related to the full enjoyment of sexual and reproductive rights, that it reaffirms a strong and progressive approach to sexual and reproductive rights for all that is consistent with international human rights standards and increases the accountability of governments to achieve the agreed objectives; calls, in particular, on the EU and its Member States to ensure that the review process is conducted in a participatory manner and that it provides opportunity for different stakeholders, including civil society as well as women, adolescents and young people, to participate in a meaningful manner; recalls that the framework for such a review must be based on human rights and have a specific focus on sexual and reproductive rights.

Par. 126. Urges the Commission and the EEAS to give specific attention to female genital mutilation (FGM) as part of an overall strategy for combating violence against women, including the development of an EU plan of actions on FGM pursuant to the due diligence principle; encourages the EEAS and the Member States to continue to address the issue of FGM in their political and policy dialogues with partner countries where the practice is still perpetrated, and to include in these dialogues human rights defenders already working on ending the practice, along with girls and women directly affected by the practice, community leaders, religious leaders, teachers, health workers, and government officials both at local and national level; stresses the need for the EEAS to develop a specific toolkit on FGM as part of its actions to implement the EU strategic framework on human rights and democracy.
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<td>Par. 127. Underlines that progress on reproductive health has been limited in some contexts by violations such as child marriages, early and forced marriage and the failure to enforce a legal minimum age of marriage, coercive practices such as forced sterilisation or FGM.</td>
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<td>Par. 128. Welcomes the commitment of several Member States to combat violence against women, domestic violence and FGM, in particular its cross-border aspects; reiterates the need for coherence on EU internal and external policies on these issues, and urges the Commission to make it a priority to end violence against women and girls, as well as femicide, and, through the allocation of appropriate financial resources, to support targeted and innovative programmes both within the EU and in third countries; encourages the EU and its Member States to sign and ratify the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence.</td>
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<td>Par. 129. Welcomes the adoption of Directive 2011/36/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 April 2011 on preventing and combating trafficking in human beings, and the introduction of a new strategy by the Commission entitled ‘The EU Strategy towards the Eradication of Trafficking in Human Beings 2012-2016’; points out that trafficking in human beings is a complex transnational phenomenon rooted in vulnerability to poverty, lack of democratic cultures, gender inequality and violence against women; emphasises the need to place greater emphasis on the gender dimension in dialogue with third countries on this issue; calls, finally, on</td>
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<td>Member States that have not yet ratified the UN ‘Palermo’ Protocol on Trafficking in Persons and the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings to do so as soon as possible.</td>
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<td>Par. 130. Emphasises the crucial role played by women in the political life of the Southern Neighbourhood; welcomes election results that have resulted in a considerable increase in the number of women in political fora.</td>
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<td>Par. 131. Calls on the Council, the Commission and Member States to promote, in particular, the ratification and implementation by the Member States of the African Union the African Union Protocol on the Rights of Women in Africa.</td>
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<td>Par. 145. Stresses the importance of mainstreaming freedom of religion or belief in EU development, conflict prevention, and counterterrorism policies; welcomes inclusive efforts of intercultural and interfaith dialogue and cooperation at various levels, involving community leaders, women, youth and ethnic minority representatives, in fostering societal cohesion and peaceful societies; welcomes the EU’s commitment to presenting and promoting the right to freedom of religion or belief within international and regional fora including the UN, the OSCE, the Council of Europe and other regional mechanisms, and calls for a constructive dialogue with the Organisation of Islamic Countries (OIC) on moving away from terminology related to combating defamation of religions; encourages the EU to continue tabling its yearly resolution on freedom of religion or belief at the UN General Assembly.</td>
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Synthetic assessment: medium

The FEMM Opinion had a medium impact. Five out of sixteen suggestions were fully integrated and one partially. Some topics covered by the opinion are not taken into account in the final Committee’s report and in particular the presence of gender expert and greater equality between men and women in the composition in EU election observation missions and the specific support from the European Institute for Gender Equality to gender issues.

The first suggestion fully integrated refers to the concept of systematical inclusion of women’s rights, gender equality and fight against violence against women in all human rights dialogues conducted by the EU with third countries; the second one calls on the Commission and the Member States to address violence against women and the gender-related dimension of human rights violations internationally; the third one welcomes the nomination of the EU Special Representative on Human Rights; the fourth one stresses on the full and effective participation of women in politics, in public and economic life; the fifth one reiterates the fundamental right of all women to access to public healthcare systems (gynaecological and obstetric health care); the sixth one focuses on the importance of providing gender training and ensuring effective participation of women in political and civil society bodies, especially where they are under-represented.

Many other gender aspects not included in the FEMM Opinion have been included in the Committee’s final report. In particular, the protection of discriminations based on sex, sexual orientation and gender identity with clear emphasis also on homosexual and transgender persons (par. 80), and underlining and raising awareness on the systematic promotion and respect of the principle of non-discrimination based on sex and sexual orientation, including in any political dialogue between EU and third countries (par. 97, 104, 105, 108); the call, under the EU’s foreign policy, for the adoption of an EU directive on equal treatment between persons irrespective of religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation, and enlarge the application of the Framework Decision on Racism and Xenophobia to cover other targeted groups, such as LGBT persons (par. 105).

Moreover, the recognition to caste discrimination as a cross-cutting issue of human rights and poverty with severe implications, in particular for women (par. 111); the implementation of women, peace and security-related UN resolutions in the EU policies (par. 117); the importance of women and children’s situation in armed conflicts and women’s empowerment in post-conflict reconstruction (par. 119); the importance of enhancing EU actions to end the practices of female genital mutilation (FGM), child, early and forced marriages, honour killings, and gender-selective abortion and other human rights violations, stressing the need of adequate access to medical means, and of information and education about sexual and reproductive health and rights, to the wellbeing of women and girls in all countries (par. 122, 123, 124, 126, 127, 128), including for instance the development of an EU plan of actions on FGM and of a specific toolkit on FGM as part of its actions to implement the EU strategic framework on human rights and democracy (par. 126).

There is a focus also on the prevention and contrast against trafficking in human beings and the need to place greater emphasis on the gender dimension in dialogue with third countries on this issue (par. 129)

Finally, the crucial role played by women in political life of the Southern Neighbourhood (par. 130); the call for the ratification and implementation by the Members States of the African Union the African Union Protocol on the Rights of Women in Africa (par. 131); the involvement of the relevant stakeholder, including women, in the efforts of intercultural and interfaith dialogue and cooperation at various levels, mainstreaming freedom of religion or belief in EU development, conflict prevention, and counterterrorism policies (par. 145).
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<td>2011/2109(INI)</td>
<td>(Non legislative act) Motion for a European Parliament Resolution on EU support for the ICC: facing challenges and overcoming difficulties</td>
<td>Committee on Foreign Affairs Rapporteur: Wolfgang Kreissl-Dörfler Political group: S&amp;D</td>
<td>15.09.2011 Rapporteur: Tadeusz Cymański Political Group: EFD</td>
<td>28 out of 29 positives votes; 1 abstain from voting</td>
<td>YES BUT ONLY PARTIALLY Two out of 11 suggestion were fully integrated and three partially</td>
<td>3 paragraphs</td>
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**Main issues/topics covered by the opinion (for example pay gap, discrimination, etc.)**

- Condemn to recruit children under the age of 18 into armed forces and importance of safeguarding children’s rights;
- Establishment of effective policies and enhancement of mechanisms to ensure that victims’ participation has substantial impact at the International Criminal Court (ICC), underlining the importance of increase awareness on sexual violence and gender-based crimes;
- Prosecution of perpetrators of sex

**Gender suggestions included in the Committee’s final report**

1. Strongly condemns the use of sexual violence against women as a tactic of war, including crimes such as mass rape, sexual slavery, enforced prostitution, forced pregnancy, enforced sterilisation, gender-based forms of persecution including female genital mutilation, trafficking and all other forms of sexual violence of comparable gravity; (partly integrated in par. No. 51)

2. Urges the EU Member States parties to the Rome Statute to support the ICC in its work, and calls for active international support for the ICC so as to end the ongoing de facto impunity of persons responsible for such acts of violence and finally bring them to justice; (partly integrated in paragraphs No. 11 and No. 48)

3. Calls on the Council and the Commission to continue their efforts to broaden the membership of the Rome Statute of the ICC and to promote its universal ratification;

**Other gender aspects included in the Committee’s final report**

Par. 52. In the context of the upcoming election of six new Judges and a new Prosecutor, to take place at the December 2011 session of the Assembly of States Parties, urges EU Member States to elect the most highly qualified candidates through a fair, transparent and merit-based process, ensuring both geographic and gender balance (...)

Par. 54. Welcomes the EU’s and individual Member States’ financial and logistical support for the ICC thus far and recommends that current forms of support, either through the regular budget of the ICC funded by States Parties’ contributions or through EU funding such as the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR), are continued, especially in the following fields: outreach activities aimed at
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| Crimes;  
- Recognition of sex crimes as crimes against humanity and war crimes (in conflict countries and countries affected by famine);  
- Address the issues of violence against women in UN resolutions and actions;  
- Cooperation between EU and UN on violence. | (included partially in paragraphs No. 4 and No. 34)  
Suggestion 6. Is firmly opposed to children under the age of 18 years being conscripted or recruited into the armed forces or used in any way in military action; points out the importance of safeguarding their rights to a peaceful childhood, education, physical integrity, safety and sexual autonomy (fully integrated in the par. No. 17)  
Suggestion 7. Calls for the establishment of effective policies and enhancing mechanisms to ensure that victims’ participation at the ICC has substantive impact, including more accessible psychological, medical and legal counselling and easy access to witness protection programmes; highlights the importance of promoting awareness of sexual violence in conflict zones by means of law programmes, the documentation of gender-based crimes in armed conflicts, and the training of lawyers, judges and activists on the Rome Statute and on international jurisprudence in relation to gender-based crimes against women and children (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 18) | helping victims and affected communities; legal representation; witness relocation; the participation and protection of victims/witnesses, with special consideration for the needs of women and juvenile/child victims (...) |

**Synthetic assessment: medium**

The FEMM Opinion had a medium impact. Two out of eleven suggestions were fully integrated and three partially. Some of the relevant topics covered by the Opinion are taken into account in the final Committee’s report. In particular, the need to address the issues of violence against women in UN resolutions and actions and the cooperation between EU and UN on violence.

The first suggestion integrated refers to the condemn of sexual violence against women as a tactic of war and gender-based forms of persecution, the second one stresses the active international support for the ICC to end the de facto impunity; the third one focuses on enlarging the membership of the Rome Statute of the ICC and its universal ratification; the fourth one stresses the protection of children’s rights and the condemn to recruit children under the age of 18 into armed forces; the fifth one stresses the establishment of effective policies and enhancing mechanisms to ensure that victims’ participation at the ICC has substantive impact (i.e., accessible psychological, medical and legal counselling and easy access to witness protection programmes), highlighting the importance of promoting awareness of sexual violence in conflict zones, and the training of lawyers, judges and activists on the Rome Statute and on international jurisprudence in relation to gender-based crimes against women and children.

Other gender aspects not included in the FEMM Opinion have been included in the Committee’s final report. In particular, the gender balance participation for the judges and prosecutors’ elections at the ICC (par.52) and the regular budget/funding in policy fields such as the participation and protection of victims/witnesses, with special consideration for the needs of women and juvenile/child victims (par.54)
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<td>2011/2185(INI)</td>
<td>(Non legislative act) Motion for a European Parliament Resolution on the Annual Report on Human Rights in the World and the European Union’s policy on the matter, including implications for the EU’s strategic human rights policy</td>
<td>Committee on Foreign Affairs Rapporteur: Richard Howitt Political group: S&amp;D</td>
<td>28.02.2012 Rapporteur: Teresa Jiménez-Becerril Barrio Political Group: EPP</td>
<td>27 out of 30 positives votes; 2 negative votes; 1 abstain from voting</td>
<td>YES BUT ONLY PARTIALLY Four out of 37 suggestions were fully integrated and three partially</td>
<td>13 paragraphs</td>
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<td>Main issues/topics covered by the opinion relate to women empowerment in development policies. In particular:</td>
<td>Suggestion 1. Welcomes the European Commission Women’s Charter, which promotes gender equality at both EU and international level, and the EU Plan of Action on Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment in Development for the period 2010-2015, and calls for efforts to achieve the MDG on gender equality and maternal health to be stepped up; (fully integrated in par. No. 94)</td>
<td>Par. 7. Calls for the EU, the Member States and the Commission immediately to take the measures needed to ensure the rescue at sea of migrants trying to enter the EU and to ensure coordination and cooperation between the Member States and the competent authorities in order to avoid the drowning and death of hundreds of women, children and men at sea;</td>
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<td>- Implement the EC Women’s Charter, the EU Plan of Action on Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment in Development and the MDG;</td>
<td>Suggestion 2. Stresses in particular the need to promote health education and appropriate programmes for sexual and reproductive health, which are a prominent part of the EU’s development and human rights policy towards third countries; (fully integrated in par. No. 93)</td>
<td>Par. 20. Welcomes the comprehensive section on violence against women and on the rights of the child in this year’s Annual Report; draws attention, in this context, to scourges such as forced and sex-selective</td>
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<td>- Call for setting up an EU Observatory on Violence against Women;</td>
<td>Suggestion 3. Calls on the Commission and the Council to ensure that women in conflict situations have fair access to</td>
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<td>- Recognition of mothers’ rights and the fact that failure to register</td>
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<td>children, especially girls, is the first denial of their rights; - Promotion of health education and appropriate programmes for sexual and reproductive health; - Women’s access to public healthcare systems, and enjoyment and control of their sexual and reproductive rights; - Promotion on non-discrimination with reference to sex and sexual orientation; - Contrast of gender-based violence, and especially about the increasing incidence of femicide in Latin American States. - Address the gender related dimension of human rights; - Protection of rights of LGBT; - Elimination of all traditions and practices which harm women and girl children, such as female genital mutilation; - Increased and better financing to ensure access to education for all girls; - Importance of Gender Advisors in EU and Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) missions; - Specific support from the European Institute for Gender Equality.</td>
<td>public healthcare systems and adequate gynaecological and obstetric care as defined by the World Health Organisation; (fully integrated in par. No. 93)</td>
<td>abortion, forced sterilisation and female genital mutilation; recognises the priority given to supporting efforts towards the worldwide abolition of the death penalty and to judicial reform issues; endorses the HR/VP’s practical focus on EU action in international forums;</td>
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<td>Suggestion 8. Reiterates that women’s rights should be an important part of the human rights dialogues conducted by the EU and of the EU’s political dialogue with third countries with which cooperation or association agreements have been signed, in line with the human rights clauses in these agreements, and that women’s participation in peaceful transitions – both at the negotiating table and in active roles – should be expanded; calls on the Commission and the Council to take all appropriate measures in the event of any violation of these provisions; Welcomes the nomination of the EU Special Representative on Human Rights, and calls on him to give particular attention to, and take specific action to promote, women’s rights and gender equality; (fully integrated in paragraphs No. 51)</td>
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<td>Par. 28. Stresses that the mainstreaming of international justice must include systematically taking account of the fight against impunity and the principle of complementarity in the broader context of trade, development and rule-of-law assistance; stresses that rehabilitation and reintegrations of victims in society and affected communities must be the central concern, with a special focus on vulnerable groups, including women, children, young people and people with disabilities; highlights the importance of establishing constitutional structures, including an efficient legal system, the separation of powers and a recognised and independent judiciary in order to strengthen the promotion of human rights in any country; recommends that the Rome Statute of the ICC be added to the package of international treaties on good governance and the rule of law to be ratified by third countries admitted to the System of Generalised Preferences Plus (GSP+); recommends the consistent inclusion of ICC clauses in the human rights and democracy clauses of EU agreements with third countries, taking account of the fact that such clauses are to be considered as essential elements of the agreements, with the focus on strategic partnerships and the countries covered by the European Neighbourhood Policy;</td>
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<td>Suggestion 25. Underlines that working towards increased access to sexual and reproductive rights and health services is an important part of safeguarding women’s human rights; calls on the EU, in this connection, to step up its work on achieving the Millennium Development Goals in terms of improving maternal health, including through access to information, modern contraception and a range of reproductive health services; urges the Commission to pursue this aim in all its international development policy action; (partly integrated in par. No. 101)</td>
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<td>Par. 37. Insists that the goals of development,</td>
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<td>Suggestion 32. Strongly supports the inclusion of Gender Advisors or Gender Focal Points in EU delegations and Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) missions, and calls on the HR/VP to provide them with adequate resources and authority; (partly integrated in par. No. 97)</td>
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<td>selective abortion, the infanticide of girl babies and all other harmful traditions – still pervasive in many societies – which promote the image of daughters as a burden and of sons as financial providers; asks the Commission to use its development and aid budget for this purpose; (partly integrated in the paragraph No. 100)</td>
<td>democracy, human rights, good governance and security are intertwined; reiterates its conviction that all EU external actions must combine a political dimension which supports pluralism, democracy and respect for human rights, fundamental freedoms and the rule of law, and a development dimension which focuses on socio-economic progress, including eradication of poverty, the fight against inequality, and the basic need for food, based on sustainable development; adds in this context that EU development aid programmes should include concrete and substantial reforms to ensure respect for human rights, transparency, gender equality and the fight against corruption in beneficiary countries; notes, furthermore, that stricter conditionality and suspension of aid should be applied in beneficiary countries which manifestly disregard basic human rights and freedoms and which fail to enact legislation that fulfils international obligations; Par. 43. Calls on the Council, the Commission and the EEAS to develop a political strategy in relation to each EU election observation mission, followed up by an assessment of democratic progress two years after the mission, to be submitted during Parliament’s annual human rights debate with the HR/VP; welcomes the commitment of the HR/VP to focus in election observation on the participation of women and national minorities, as well as persons with disabilities, both as candidates and voters; Par. 62. Emphasises the crucial importance of active civil society participation in and contribution to processes of governance and societal transformation, recognising the need to</td>
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<td>Include representatives of women’s and minority groups in such processes; strongly supports greater engagement with civil society in these processes, both in terms of ever-greater outreach and a stronger emphasis on including the views of civil society in policy-making (...);</td>
<td>Par. 81. Underlines the importance of recognising gender-specific forms of torture and degrading forms of treatment (including female genital mutilation (FGM) and rape) and insists that the EU’s coordinated efforts to counter torture adequately address the gender dimension;</td>
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<td>Par. 91. Highlights the distinctive roles, experiences and contributions of women in the context of peace and security; condemns the use of sexual violence in countries such as the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), and calls for zero tolerance for its perpetrators, particularly among military and police forces in EU-mandated missions and operations; and stresses the importance of ensuring victims access to multi-disciplinary holistic rehabilitation services that include any necessary combination of medical and psychological care as well as legal, social, communal, vocational, educational services, and interim economic support;</td>
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<td>Par. 92. Welcomes the fact that the EU is a front-runner in the implementation of UNSCR 1325 and accompanying resolutions; urges the Council, the Commission and the EEAS to step up efforts to bridge the gap between policy and practice, and urges Member States which have not yet adopted National Action Plans to do so as a matter of urgency;</td>
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<td>Par. 95. Is concerned that, in Egypt, the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces (SCAF) has failed to conduct an investigation into reports of sexual assault of female protesters, including the so-called ‘virginity checks’ and death threats against female protesters;</td>
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<td>Par. 96. Welcomes the emphasis put on women’s empowerment by the HR/VP and calls on her to institutionalise the EU Inter-Institutional Informal Task Force on Women, Peace and Security (WPS) by providing it with a full-time chair, who will also act as the gender focal point in the EEAS, as part of allocating adequate human and financial resources to its task;</td>
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<td>Par. 98. Welcomes the adoption of the landmark Convention by the Council of Europe on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence, creating a comprehensive framework to prevent violence, protect victims and end impunity, and calls on all Member States and the EU to quickly sign and ratify this Convention;</td>
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<td>Par. 99. Strongly condemns female genital mutilation (FGM) as an anachronistic practice and a barbarian breach of the physical bodily integrity of women and girls, which must be combated with legislation banning the practice; firmly rejects any reference to cultural, traditional or religious practice as a mitigating factor; urges the Commission to pay specific attention to such traditional harmful practices in its strategy to combat violence against women; and calls on the EEAS to develop a specific toolkit on this issue as part of its implementation strategy of the EU Guidelines on children’s rights and violence</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Synthetic assessment: low

The FEMM Opinion had a limited impact. Four out of thirty-seven suggestions were fully integrated and three partially.

Some topics covered by the opinion are not taken into account in the final Committee’s report and in particular the call for setting up an EU Observatory on Violence against Women, the recognition of mothers’ rights and the fact that failure to register children, especially girls, is the first denial of their rights, the contrast of gender-based violence with specific reference on the increasing incidence of feminicide in Latin American States and the specific support from the European Institute for Gender Equality.

The first suggestion fully integrated refers to the importance of policy documents such as the European Commission Women’s Charter, the EU Plan of Action on Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment in Development for the period 2010-2015 and the MDG on gender equality and maternal health; the second one stresses in particular the need to promote health education and appropriate programmes for sexual and reproductive health; the third one stresses on the fair access to public healthcare systems (gynaecological and obstetric care) for women in conflict situations; the fourth one reiterates that women’s rights should be an important part of the human rights dialogues conducted by the EU and of the EU’s political dialogue with third countries through cooperation or association agreements have been signed.

The fifth suggestion integrates stresses the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals in terms of improving maternal health; the sixth one supports the inclusion of Gender Advisors or Gender Focal Points in EU delegations and Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) missions and the seventh one calls on the Commission to combat gender-selective abortion.

Many other gender aspects not included in the FEMM Opinion have been included in the Committee’s final report. In particular, the measures needed to ensure the rescue at sea of migrants trying to enter the EU and to ensure coordination and cooperation between the Member States and the competent authorities (par.7); the need to work on violence against women and on the rights of the child (par.20); the integration of the fight against impunity and the principle of complementarity in international justice, the rehabilitation and reintegration of victims in society and affected communities, the strengthening of the promotion of human rights in any country (par.28); the interconnection of the goals of development, democracy, human rights, good governance and security, and the inclusion of gender equality in this context in EU development aid programmes (par.37); the development of a political strategy in relation to each EU election observation mission and the commitment of the HR/VP to focus in election observation on the participation of women and national minorities (par. 43); the crucial importance of active civil society participation in and contribution to processes of governance and societal transformation, recognising the need to include representatives of women’s and minority groups (par.62); the importance of recognising gender-specific forms of torture and degrading forms of treatment (par.81); the distinctive roles, experiences and contributions of women in the context of peace and security and the importance of ensuring victims access to multi-disciplinary holistic rehabilitation services that include any necessary combination of medical and psychological care as well as legal, social, communal, vocational, educational services...
(par.91): the implementation of the UNSCR 1325 and accompanying resolutions and the adoption of related National Action Plans (par.92); the failure of the Egyptian Supreme Council of the Armed Forces to conduct an investigation into reports of sexual assault of female protesters (par.95); the institutionalization of the EU Inter-institutional Informal Task Force on Women, Peace and Security (par.96); the adoption of the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (par.98); the condemn of female genital mutilation, including the development of a specific toolkit on this issue (par.99).
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| 2011/2294(INI)      | Motion for a European Parliament Resolution on modernizing Europe’s higher education systems | Committee on Culture and Education

Rapporteur: Laszlo Tokes

Political group: EPP | 27.02.2012

Rapporteur: Andrej Cechová

Political Group: ECR | 29 out of 30 positives votes; 1 negative vote | YES BUT ONLY PARTIALLY

Five out of twenty-eight suggestions were fully integrated | 1 paragraph |

**Main issues/topics covered by the opinion (for example pay gap, discrimination, etc.):**

- Address the low proportion of women in senior positions in universities, on decision-making in research, in STEM subjects and increase the number of women in decision-making boards relating to research;
- Combat gender disparities and stereotypes;
- Sharing of family responsibilities between women and men;

**Gender suggestions included in the Committee’s final report:**

- Suggestion 3. Notes that there are still gender disparities in European education systems even though almost all countries have now implemented policies to combat them, and that such disparities influence both performance at school and study and career choices, and have a negative effect on economic growth and on the welfare state;

  (fully integrated in paragraph no. 31 )

- Suggestion 6. Points out that the sharing of domestic and family responsibilities between women and men is a sine qua non for the advancement and achievement of equality between women and men; calls on universities and higher education institutions to recognise that women learners may have specific additional responsibilities outside of learning, such as caring for young children or elderly relatives; stresses the need for universities to supply parents – especially women – with a sufficient quantity of high-quality, affordable and

**Other gender aspects included in the Committee’s final report:**

- Par.4. Reiterates that higher education has the potential to promote social inclusion, social advancement and upward social mobility; calls, with respect for the principle of subsidiarity, on Member States, regional and local governments and higher education institutions to strengthen – inter alia through the development of adequate financial support schemes – their efforts to widen equitable access to studies for all, from early childhood to higher education, irrespective of sex, ethnicity, language, religion, disability or social background, and to fight all forms of discrimination, recognising multiculturalism and multilingualism, including sign languages, as fundamental values of the EU that need to be fostered;
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<td>- Need to deliver gender training to teachers; - Address the gender pay gap; - Include gender dimension in higher educational curricula.</td>
<td>Accessible childcare, including community centres, so as to facilitate their equal participation in studies and research; also encourages the introduction of a greater variety of study modes, such as part-time and distance learning, and, in this connection, reminds the Member States and the EU institutions to increase the level of financial support for lifelong learning in order to enable women to continue their studies, to re-enter the workforce and to balance their professional and personal responsibilities (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 35)</td>
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<td>Suggestion 11. Recalls that, across the Member States, there are still very few initiatives in place to provide information about gender equality and promote gender equality in education; suggests that teachers should receive specific training on equality between men and women; (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 34)</td>
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<td>Suggestion 14. Highlights the fact that many female students attending vocational or secondary schools still choose careers which reflect traditional gender roles; notes, therefore, that better vocational guidance is needed in order to combat persistent stereotypes; (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 32)</td>
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<td>Suggestion 26. Points out that, because their higher education qualifications are not marketable enough, women are more often overqualified and underpaid for their jobs and often end up unemployed or in casual jobs, a situation which further disadvantages them on the labour market at the start of their careers, fuelling the cycle of pay inequality; (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 33)</td>
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**Synthetic assessment: Low**

The FEMM Opinion had a limited impact. Only five out of twenty-eight suggestions were fully integrated.

Some topics covered by the opinion are not taken into account in the final Committee’s report and in particular the need to increase the number of women in decision-making boards relating to research and the need to address the low proportion of women in senior positions in universities, on decision-making in research and in STEM subjects.

The first suggestion fully integrated stresses on the persistence of gender disparities in European education systems; the second one underlines the importance of the sharing of domestic and family responsibilities between women and men which is a prerequisite for the advancement and achievement of gender equality and, therefore.

Member States and EU have to increase the level of financial support for lifelong learning in order to enable women to continue their studies, to re-enter the workforce and to balance their professional and personal responsibilities; the third one recalls that teachers should receive specific training on equality between men and women; the fourth underlines that many female students attending vocational or secondary schools still choose careers which reflect traditional gender roles, and it is therefore needed to combat persistent stereotypes; the fifth points out that women are more often overqualified and underpaid for their jobs and often end up unemployed or in casual jobs, fuelling the cycle of pay inequality.

Other gender aspects not included in the FEMM opinion have been included in the Committee’s final report. In particular, it is recalled that higher education has the potential to promote social inclusion, social advancement and upward social mobility, and Member States, regional and local governments and higher education institutions have to reinforce their efforts to widen equitable access to studies for all, from early childhood to higher education, irrespective of sex, ethnicity, language, religion, disability or social background, and to fight all forms of discrimination, recognising multiculturalism and multilingualism (par.4).
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<td>2011/2087(INI)</td>
<td>(Non legislative act) Motion for a European Parliament Resolution on the European dimension in sport</td>
<td>Committee on Culture and Education Rapporteur: Santiago Fisas Ayxela Political group: EPP</td>
<td>15.09.2011 Rapporteur: Joanna Senyszyn Political Group: S&amp;D</td>
<td>31 out of 32 positives votes; 1 abstain from voting</td>
<td>YES BUT ONLY PARTIALLY Five out of twenty-seven suggestion were fully integrated and five only partially</td>
<td>4 paragraphs</td>
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**Main issues/topics covered by the opinion (for example pay gap, discrimination, etc.)**

- Equal access to women and men in sport activities, including for women and girls from disadvantaged groups;
- Equality between women and men in decision-making organs;
- Implementation of policies and legislation to respect LGBT persons;
- Integration of gender mainstreaming in all sport related activities;

**Gender suggestions included in the Committee’s final report**

1. Calls on the Commission and Member States, as well as the relevant stakeholders, sports associations and federations, to guarantee women and men equal access to suitable, age-appropriate, and affordable sport activities and to develop sport opportunities and programmes that promote both sports participation and a sustained interest in sporting activity, in particular for girls and women from disadvantaged backgrounds, in order to strengthen social inclusion and to ensure that female athletes receive equal treatment in the provision of equipment and supplies and the scheduling of games, practice times and coaching; (included partially in par. No. 21)

2. Calls on the Commission and the Member States, and also on the relevant interested parties and sporting associations and federations, to ensure parity in...

**Other gender aspects included in the Committee’s final report**

- Par. 15. Recalls that gender discrimination should not occur in sport, and calls for application of the Olympic Charter to be extended to all sporting events, particularly European ones;
- Par. 19. Encourages the Commission and the Member States to acknowledge the importance of sport as a means of promoting peace, economic growth, intercultural dialogue, public health, integration and the emancipation of women;
- Par. 20. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to urge the International Olympic Committee to impose their own rule in the Olympic Charter forbidding all demonstrations or political, religious or racist propaganda at sports.
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<td>- Creation of women’s networks in sport; - Development of gender indicators; - Support of European research to combat gender inequalities in sport; - Freedom to exercise any kind of sports for both women and men; - Support gender budgeting; - Reconciliation between work and family life and creation of crèches at sports centres.</td>
<td>membership of sporting decision-making organs and in access to the positions of trainer and administrator in sporting associations; (included only partially in the par. No. 18)</td>
<td>events and at the same time to ensure that political pressure is not put on women to violate this rule and that it is not evaded by women not being sent by their countries to compete; Par. 22. Calls on the Commission and Member States to support European organisations for the promotion and implementation of the recommendations of the European Charter of Women’s Rights in Sports;</td>
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<td>Suggestion 4. Calls on the Council, the Commission, the Member States and national governing sports bodies to commit to tackling homophobia and transphobia and to implement legislation and anti-discrimination policies especially for lesbian, bi-sexual, gay and transgender athletes properly; (fully integrated in paragraph no. 16)</td>
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<td>Suggestion 5. Calls on the Commission and Member States to include gender mainstreaming in all of its sports-related activities and in particular policy development, planning processes, budget procedures and human resources development, with a deeper understanding of the barriers women and girls may face in accessing, participating in and benefiting from sport, and to take concrete measures to ensure better representation of women and men at appropriate levels in sports decision-making bodies; (included only partially in the par. No. 23)</td>
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<td>Suggestion 7. Encourages the creation of women’s networks in the field of sport to promote exchange of best practices and information; (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 25)</td>
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<td>Suggestion 12. Asks the Commission to support and encourage European research that investigates the persistence of gender inequalities in sports and the reasons why women interrupt their sports careers; underlines that recognition and financial support of sports associations and institutions should depend on compliance with gender equality in all areas and at all levels of sport; (included only partially in the par. No. 24)</td>
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<td>Suggestion 16. Underlines that parents’ prohibiting immigrant girls from taking part in sports and swimming at school cannot be tolerated or excused on cultural or religious grounds; (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 26)</td>
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<td>Suggestion 18. Calls on the Commission and the European External Action Service to promote, despite rules or obligations imposed on women related to cultural, traditional, historical or religious factors in society, the absolute freedom to exercise any kind of sport for both women and men; (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 97)</td>
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<td>Suggestion 20. Calls on the Commission and Member States to develop specific measures and programmes aimed at ensuring that women and men do not have to abandon a career in sport because of the impossibility of reconciling their family and professional sports life, and to provide training and counselling, especially for women athletes, in order to facilitate their return to working life, in particular after maternity or parental leave; (included only partially in the par. No. 21)</td>
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<td>Suggestion 25. Points out that many girls play sports in younger years, many drop out during adolescence, and refers in this context to research showing that girls face overt or subtle pressure from peers and families to ‘feminise’ or take on responsibilities that prohibit continued participation; encourages Member States and national sports governing bodies to develop strategies for programmes and coaches to support, in particular, girls interested in sports in developing their identity as athletes; (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 27)</td>
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Synthetic assessment: medium
The FEMM Opinion had a medium impact. Only five out of twenty-seven suggestion were fully integrated and five partially. Some topics covered by the opinion are not taken into account in the final Committee’s report and in particular: development of gender indicators and support gender budgeting. The first suggestion integrated refer women and men’s equal access to sport activities, in particular for girls and women from disadvantaged backgrounds, in order to strengthen social inclusion; the second one stresses on gender equality in decision-making organs in sporting associations; the third one stresses on the implementation of legislation and anti-discrimination policies especially for lesbian, bi-sexual, gay and transgender athletes; the fourth one calls on the Commission and Member States to include gender mainstreaming in all of its sports-related; the fifth one promotes the creation of women’s networks in the field of sport to promote exchange of best practices and information; the sixth one calls the Commission to support and encourage European research that investigates the persistence of gender inequalities in sports and the reasons why women interrupt their sports careers; the seventh one stresses on contrasting parents’ prohibiting immigrant girls from taking part in sports, based on cultural or religious grounds; the eighth stresses the absolute freedom to exercise any kind of sport for both women and men; the ninth calls on developing specific measures and programmes aimed at ensuring that women and men do not have to abandon a career in sport because of the impossibility of reconciling their family and professional sports life; the tenth stresses on the importance of developing girls’ identity as athletes. Other gender aspects not included in the FEMM opinion have been included in the Committee’s final report. In particular, Par. 15 the call for application of the Olympic Charter to be extended to all sporting events, particularly European ones (par.15); the importance of sport as a means of promoting peace, economic growth, intercultural dialogue, public health, integration and the emancipation of women (par.19); the prohibition of all demonstrations or political, religious or racist propaganda at sports events, and the fact that political pressure is not put on women to violate this rule and that it is not evaded by women not being sent by their countries to compete (par.20); the support of European organisations for the promotion and implementation of the recommendations of the European Charter of Women’s Rights in Sports (par.22).
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**Main issues/topics covered by the opinion (for example pay gap, discrimination, etc.)**

Main issues/topics covered by the opinion relate to women’s empowerment in development policies. In particular:

- Access of women to emergency obstetric care and their need to be informed about their sexual and reproductive rights;
- Need for reliable statistics on maternal deaths;
- Integration of gender equality in the formulation and implementation of climate change policies;
- Importance of including women and civil society organizations;

**Gender suggestions included in the Committee’s final report**

- Suggestion 3. Emphasises the need to maintain reliable statistical data and to record the causes of maternal deaths in accordance with the WHO’s ICD Maternal Mortality coding, which can guide countries and help them to improve the attribution and estimation of the causes of maternal mortality; (fully integrated in paragraph no. 132)
- Suggestion 4. Reaffirms its declaration A(2010)21584 of the ACP-EU Parliamentary Assembly; (fully integrated in paragraph no. 133)
- Suggestion 6. Calls for Policy Coherence for Development to favour a participative approach that promotes the empowerment and self-determination of local people and, above all, of women; (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 134)

**Other gender aspects included in the Committee’s final report**

- Par. 38 Welcomes the fact that the relevance of smallholder farming for combating hunger is recognised by the EU and that adaptation measures are priorities in the food security agenda; underlines that support for women smallholder farmers is especially relevant;
- Par. 71 Repeats its call on the Commission and the Member States to collect country-specific and gender-disaggregated data when planning, implementing and evaluating climate change policies, programmes and projects, in order effectively to assess and address the differing effects of climate change on each gender and to produce a guide on adapting to climate change, outlining policies that can protect women and empower them to cope with the effects of climate change...
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<td>- Integration of gender perspective in every development project; - Collection of gender disaggregated data, including gender specific indicators; - Right of every child to live and the immediate registration of birth; - Right of the girl children to express an opinion and to be heard; - Combat gender based violence; - Deliver gender education of both sexes from an early school stage.</td>
<td>Suggestion 7. Reaffirms the importance of taking account of the situation of women, not simply as a vulnerable section of the population, but also as active facilitators of development policies; notes, in this context, that women are responsible for 80% of farming in Africa, even if it is still rare for them to have the possibility of owning the land they cultivate; calls, therefore, not only for agricultural and fisheries policies to be integrated into PCD because of their impact on development, but also for them to be assessed in terms of their differential impact on women and men respectively; (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 135)</td>
<td>Change; Par. 109 Stresses the need to ensure that the social provisions enshrined in EU trade agreements are implemented and properly monitored; considers it necessary to ensure that mechanisms for revision and enforcement are available; Par. 110 Calls on the Commission to include provisions on social standards and on the objectives of full and productive employment, taking into account gender equality and youth, decent work, respect for workers’ rights, including for migrant workers, and gender equality in all EU trade agreements;</td>
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<td>Suggestion 8. Stresses the importance of taking account of the most disadvantaged and vulnerable social groups, notably women and girls, and paying particular attention to them to avoid any further increase in inequality; experience has shown that ‘neutral’ measures entrench the existing power structure and it is essential to take positive, informed, systematic action in the form of measures that improve the situation of women, so as to ensure that such measures benefit the most disadvantaged; (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 136)</td>
<td>Par. 112 Underlines the necessity to respect the conditions of work contracts, stressing that the work performed by young people and women should not represent any type of exploitation, whether in the form of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery;</td>
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<td>Suggestion 9. Stresses that the policy of promoting equality between men and women should not only be the subject of a specific budget heading in the context of development policies, but should also be regarded as a cross-cutting issue, since every policy that has an impact on society affects women and men differently, given the persistence of gendered roles in society and the fact that PCD offers a practical means of preventing negative externalities from adversely affecting equality between men and women; (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 137)</td>
<td>Par. 115 Urges the Commission and the Member States to pay greater attention to the participation and integration of migrants, particularly women and children, in receiving countries, and on the portability of social rights;</td>
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<td>Suggestion 11. Stresses the need for PCD to incorporate a global approach which extends beyond the family and microsocial level and takes gender relations into account; this cross-cutting approach to gender issues needs to be</td>
<td>Par.129 Asks the Commission to support local civil society groups, particularly women’s groups and those that have an agenda focussed on gender issues, through accessible funding and through capacity-building in order for them to be able to fulfil their role as effective development actors and custodians of peace and good government, especially in fragile and conflict-</td>
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<td>incorporated in every development project and every analysis of a society; the approach must apply not only to all sectors but also in all political, economic, social, environmental, cultural and other fields; such an approach, which systematically takes account of the situation and role of women and gender relations in a society, is more comprehensive, humanistic and democratic than an approach which sets women apart; it avoids marginalising women in ‘women’s projects’ or projects which add to women’s workloads or responsibilities without increasing their power or control over the benefits generated by the projects in question; (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 138)</td>
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<td>situations; Par.130 Welcomes the EU plan of Action on Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment in Development, and encourages the monitoring and implementation of gender mainstreaming in EU funded projects at country level; calls on the EU High Representative to take all measures needed to provide adequate and effective training to EU delegation staff members regarding a gender-sensitive approach to peace keeping, conflict-prevention and peace-building;</td>
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<td>Suggestion 12. Affirms that, while the success of development policies and, consequently, of PCD cannot be measured solely by general indicators which have already demonstrated their limitations, such as trends in GDP per inhabitant, other indicators, such as those relating to equality between men and women, should be able to provide a fuller picture of the overall effect of development policies; data, broken down by gender, must therefore be collected on the spot in order to evaluate and enhance the impact of PCD; (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 139)</td>
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<td>Suggestion 13. Stresses the role of women in leveraging development policies by participating in the formulation and implementation of such policies, thereby ensuring that political and economic negotiations take women’s interests into account and creating a virtuous circle in which women are the driving force behind development policies which, in turn, set up the structures whereby women can be empowered; highlights the importance of supporting civil society organisations and groups which take on the task of promoting gender equality and women’s empowerment; (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 140)</td>
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<td>Suggestion 14. Notes that women play an essential</td>
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<td>part in development, since, in their role as mothers and carers for children and other dependent members of the family, they assume responsibility for the family’s general well-being; for example, women play a crucial role in the field of nutrition and food security, particularly in the context of subsistence farming; (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 141)</td>
<td>Suggestion 15. Stresses that the situation of women is, in many cases, deteriorating more than that of men, both in relative and absolute terms; there has been an increase in poverty over the last twenty years or so, which has primarily affected women; (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 142)</td>
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<td>Suggestion 16. Stresses that, although the important role played by women in development policies and development cooperation is very widely recognised, the statistics and quantitative data which specifically relate to women are still inadequate and fail to meet the objective of reporting the situation of women in developing countries, particularly in fields such as health, education, prevention and meeting basic needs; care must be taken to ensure, therefore, that in all PCD objectives, analyses, documents and assessments the quantitative data is broken down by gender, and gender-specific indicators are included, in order to take account of women’s real living conditions; (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 143)</td>
<td>Suggestion 17. States that every child, regardless of sex, has the right to life, survival and development and reaffirms that girl children as well have equal status under the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC); calls on EU delegations in developing countries to work with the governments of those countries to ensure that girl children enjoy their rights without discrimination, inter alia by requiring the immediate registration of all children after birth, granting girls and boys equal entitlement to education and schooling,</td>
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<td>combating stereotypes and ending the unethical and discriminatory practices of prenatal sex selection, abortion of female foetuses, female infanticide, early forced marriage, female genital mutilation and especially child prostitution and sex tourism; reaffirms its resolution of 5 July 2012 on the forced abortion scandal in China (2012/2712(RSP)); (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 144)</td>
<td>Suggestion 18. Stresses the need for respect of the right of the girl children to express an opinion and to be heard on matters affecting their health and human dignity, emphasising that the best interests of the child must be the first concern; highlights the need of all children, and of girl children in particular, to be brought up in a family environment of peace, dignity, tolerance, freedom, non-discrimination, gender equality and solidarity; calls for the strict implementation of the Geneva Declaration of the Rights of the Child and of the Beijing Declaration on Women; (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 145)</td>
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<td>Suggestion 19. Recalls that the EU and the Member States must take into account the rights and duties of the parents, legal guardians, or other individuals legally responsible for the child when dealing with the rights of the child in the context of development assistance; calls on the competent institutions to pay special attention to the relationships between parents and children, for example through programmes containing concrete measures specifically tailored to national requirements, seeking to provide maximum and optimum assistance for parents or guardians in the fulfilment of their parental duties in order to prevent family breakdown, child mistreatment or placement in social care as a result of serious poverty, or to ensure that such a measure is envisaged only as a very last resort; (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 146)</td>
<td>Suggestion 20. Asserts that, in implementing the specific Cairo International Conference on Population and Development</td>
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<td>(ICPD) prohibition on coercion or compulsion in sexual and reproductive health matters, with regard to the legally binding international human rights instruments, the EU acquis communautaire and the Union policy competencies in this matter, Union assistance should not be provided to any authority, organisation or programme which promotes, supports or participates in the management of any action which involves such human rights abuses as coercive abortion, forced sterilisation of women and men, determining foetal sex resulting in prenatal sex selection or infanticide, especially where such actions set their priorities in response to psychological, social, economic or legal pressure. The Commission should present a report on the implementation of the Union’s external assistance covering this programme; (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 147)</td>
<td>Suggestion 21. Expresses great concern about widespread gender-based violence, especially sexual violence, exploitation and feminicide, in the world and in developing countries in particular; upholding women’s rights, including their sexual and reproductive rights, and safeguarding respect of their human dignity is essential in order to prevent and combat gender-based violence, provide protection and appropriate counselling to victims, and to ensure that perpetrators are punished; calls on the Commission to make the fight against impunity for the perpetrators of such violence one of the priorities for its development assistance policy; (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 148)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Suggestion 22. Points out that women are frequently discriminated against in terms of recognition of their struggles for peace, and that extreme suffering is inflicted on women as such in countries at war; maintains that action of this kind, including the rape of girls by soldiers, forced prostitution, forced impregnation of women, sexual slavery, rape and sexual harassment, and consensual abduction (by means of seduction), are crimes which must not be ignored; asserts that the EU must treat these as fundamental problems to be taken</td>
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<td>into account; (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 149)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Suggestion 23. Points out that particular attention should be paid to gender education of both sexes, starting from an early school stage, so as to gradually change societal attitudes and stereotypes towards parity of men and women; (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 150)</td>
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<td>Suggestion 24. States that the assistance measures must take into account the specific features of crises or emergencies and of countries or situations where there is a serious lack of fundamental freedoms, where human security is most at risk, or where human rights organisations and defenders operate under the most difficult conditions; stresses that particular attention should be paid to situations in which women are being exposed to physical or psychological violence; (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 151)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Suggestion 25. Stresses the importance of promoting women’s human rights and of mainstreaming gender equality in the civil, political, social, economic and cultural spheres, as well as in national legislation; (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 152)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Suggestion 26. Underlines the importance of strengthening women’s role in promoting human rights and democratic reform, in supporting conflict prevention and in consolidating political participation and representation. (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 153)</td>
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**Synthetic assessment: high**

The FEMM Opinion had a high impact. Twenty-two out of twenty-six suggestion were fully integrated. Some topics covered by the opinion are not clearly taken into account in the final Committee’s report and in particular: access of women to emergency obstetric care and their need to be informed about their sexual and reproductive rights and the systematic integration of gender equality in the formulation and implementation of climate change policies, since climate change disproportionately affects women both in health terms and in economic,
social and migratory terms.

The first suggestion integrated stresses the importance of having reliable statistical data to record the causes of maternal deaths; the second one reaffirms the declaration A(2010)21584 of the ACP-EU Parliamentary Assembly; the third calls for Policy Coherence for Development to promote a participative approach that promotes the empowerment and self-determination of women; the fourth reaffirms the importance of taking account of the situation of women, not simply as a vulnerable section of the population, but also as active facilitators of development policies, underlining that women are responsible for 80% of farming in Africa, even if it is still rare for them to have the possibility of owning the land they cultivate; the fifth stresses the importance of taking account of the most disadvantaged and vulnerable social groups, notably women and girls; the sixth stresses that the policy of promoting equality between men and women should not only be the subject of a specific budget heading in the context of development policies, but should also be regarded as a cross-cutting issue; the seventh stresses the need for a cross-cutting approach to gender issues needs to be incorporated in every development project and every analysis of a society; the eighth reiterates the importance of gender disaggregated data; the ninth stresses the role of women in leveraging development policies by participating in the formulation and implementation of such policies, and underlines the importance of supporting civil society organisations and groups; the tenth underlines the essential role of women in development, as mothers and carers for children and other dependent members of the family, and for example, women play a crucial role in the field of nutrition and food security, particularly in the context of subsistence farming; the eleventh stresses that poverty over has primarily affected women; the twelfth underlines the importance of gender disaggregated data and gender-specific indicators; the thirteenth stresses the right to life of every child, and the immediate registration of all children after birth, combating stereotypes and ending the unethical and discriminatory practices; the fourteenth stresses the need for respect for the right of the girl children to express an opinion and to be heard on matters affecting their health and human dignity, emphasising that the best interests of the child must be the first concern; the fifteenth one recalls the rights and duties of the parents, legal guardians, or other individuals legally responsible for the child when dealing with the rights of the child in the context of development assistance; the sixteenth one recalls the prohibition on coercion or compulsion in sexual and reproductive health matters, with regard to the legally binding international human rights instruments, the EU acquis communautaire and the Union policy competencies in this matter. The seventeenth suggestion stresses on combating gender-based violence, especially sexual violence, exploitation and feminicides, including providing protection and appropriate counselling to victims, and ensuring that perpetrators are punished; the eighteenth one underlines that women are frequently discriminated against in terms of recognition of their struggles for peace, and that extreme suffering is inflicted on women as such in countries at war; the nineteenth one points out that particular attention should be paid to gender education of both sexes, starting from an early school stage; the twentieth one stresses the assistance measures must take into account the specific features of crises or emergencies and of countries or situations where there is a serious lack of fundamental freedoms, where human security is most at risk, or where human rights organisations and defenders operate under the most difficult conditions; the last two suggestions stress the importance of promoting women’s human rights and of mainstreaming gender equality in the civil, political, social, economic and cultural spheres, as well as in national legislation, in supporting conflict prevention and in consolidating political participation and representation.

Other gender aspects not included in the FEMM opinion have been included in the Committee’s final report. In particular, the relevance of smallholder farming for combating hunger, underlining the importance for support to smallholder farmers is especially relevant (par. 38); the importance of gender disaggregated data in climate change policies (par.71); the need to ensure that the social provisions enshrined in EU trade agreements are implemented and properly monitored (par.109); the inclusion of provisions on social standards and on the objectives of full and productive employment (par. 110); the need to respect the conditions of work contracts, stressing that the work performed by young people and women should not represent any type of exploitation (par.112); attention to the participation and integration of migrants, particularly women and children, in receiving countries, and on the portability of social rights (par.115); the support to local civil society groups, particularly women’s groups and those that have an agenda focussed on gender issues, especially in fragile and conflict situations (par.129); the importance of the EU plan of Action on Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment in Development, the monitoring and implementation of gender mainstreaming in EU funded projects at country level, and the need to provide adequate and effective training to EU delegation staff members regarding a gender-sensitive approach to peace keeping, conflict prevention and peace-building (par.130).
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<td>2012-2222 (INI)</td>
<td>(Non legislative act) Motion for a European Parliament Resolution on the preparation of the multiannual financial framework regarding the financing of EU cooperation for African, Caribbean and Pacific States and Overseas Countries and Territories for the 2014–2020 period (11th European Development Fund)</td>
<td>Committee Development Rapporteur: Patrice Tirollen Political group: S&amp;D</td>
<td>25-01-2013 Rapporteur: Marya Gabriël Political Group: EPP</td>
<td>26 out of 27 positives votes; 1 negative vote</td>
<td>YES BUT ONLY PARTIALLY Two out of twenty suggestion were fully integrated and two only partially</td>
<td>3 paragraphs</td>
</tr>
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</table>

### Main issues/topics covered by the opinion (for example pay gap, discrimination, etc.)

Main issues/topics covered by the opinion relate to women empowerment in development policies.

In particular:

- Attention to women’s health, maternal, sexual and reproductive health and access to services;
- Female education and promotion of mentoring programs (by professional women in Europe in favour of women in developing

### Gender suggestions included in the Committee’s final report

- Suggestion 4. Stresses the importance of the improved maternal health goal with regard to reducing the maternal mortality rate and achieving universal access to reproductive health services (…);
  (included partially in more paragraphs, e.g No. 3)

- Suggestion 15. Highlights the importance of regarding women not just as a vulnerable section of the population but as active facilitators of development policies; stresses, in this respect, that women play a crucial role in nutrition and food security - not least in recognition of the fact that they are responsible for 80% of farming in Africa – even though they are still hardly ever able to own the land they cultivate; stresses, likewise, that women have proven competence in resolving problems

### Other gender aspects included in the Committee’s final report

Par.4. Considers that, in order to meet the above objective, it is essential to include the most vulnerable groups in society, including but not limited to, women, children, and persons with disabilities, in all projects aimed at poverty eradication, both in the programming and implementation and evaluation phases;

Par.2. Considers that, in order to meet that objective, more needs to be done to ensure that the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) on which the least progress is being made are met, in particular those concerning the most vulnerable groups in society and gender issues,
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<tr>
<td>countries) - raising awareness on gender equality - women’s participation in public life, conflict resolution and processes of democratic transition; - fight against gender-based violence, sexual exploitation and creation of support services; - economic emancipation of women as a lever for development - monitoring of equal opportunities and the use of gender indicators</td>
<td>and conflicts, and therefore urges the Commission and the ACP countries to increase the role of women in action groups and working parties; (fully integrated in paragraph no. 44) Suggestion 9. <strong>Calls on the Commission to apply the performance indicators established in the EU plan of action on Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment in Development</strong>: 1) at least 80% of funds are to include gender-sensitive indicators, 2) at least 75% of all projects or programmes are to score gender as a principle objective (G-2) or gender as a significant objective (G-1), and 3) at least 50% of indicative multiannual programmes are to identify gender-equality related actions; (included only partially in the par. No. 45) Suggestion 20. Asks the Commission to provide Parliament with a progress report on the implementation of the EU plan of action on Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment in Development. (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 46)</td>
<td>as stipulated by Articles 22, 25 and 31 of the Cotonou Agreement; reiterates its support for the MDG initiative and contracts, and calls on the Commission and Member States, in agreement with the ACP States, to earmark 20% of the 11th EDF budget for the provision of basic social services, particularly health care and basic education, to ensure that MDGs 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 and other international commitments concerning development are met; calls, therefore, for the performance indicators linked to gender equality proposed in the ‘Programme of Action for the mainstreaming of gender equality in Community Development Co-operation’ to be applied to the 11th EDF and its programming in order to ensure that the specific actions and the measures to promote gender equality in all programmes are implemented in an appropriate and consistent manner; Par.38. Draws attention to the invaluable contribution of civil society organisations (CSOs) and local and regional authorities (LRAs) as regards the provision of basic services, democratic scrutiny, support for marginalised groups and the promotion of human rights and gender equality, (...)</td>
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**Synthetic assessment: low**
The FEMM Opinion had a limited impact. Only two out of twenty suggestion were fully integrated and two partially. Some topics covered by the opinion are not taken into account in the final Committee’s report and in particular: female education, raising awareness on gender equality and the fight against gender-based violence.

The first suggestions integrated refer to women’s health (maternal, sexual and reproductive) and the need of universal access to services that should be guaranteed. The second one stresses the importance of women’s participation in conflict resolution and the need of increase their role. Furthermore, it also recognizes that the women are active facilitators of development policies, mainly for their crucial role in nutrition and food security (they are responsible for 80% of farming in Africa). Two FEMM suggestions integrated in the final report ask the Commission to provide Parliament with a progress report on the implementation of the EU plan of action on Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment in Development and to apply the performance indicators established.
Other gender aspects not included in the FEMM opinion have been included in the Committee’s final report. In particular, it is considered essential to include the most vulnerable groups in society, such as women, in all projects aimed at poverty eradication, both in the programming and implementation and evaluation phases (par. 4). It is reaffirmed that more needs to be done to ensure the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), in particular those concerning the most vulnerable groups in society and gender issues. It is reiterated the support for the MDG initiative and to earmark 20% of the 11th EDF budget for the provision of basic social services. It is requested, therefore, that the performance indicators linked to gender equality proposed in the ‘Programme of Action for the mainstreaming of gender equality in Community Development Co-operation’ are applied to the 11th EDF and that its programming is implemented in an appropriate manner to ensure the promotion of gender equality (par. 2). Finally, attention has been paid to the contribution of civil society organisations (CSOs) and local and regional authorities (LRAs) as regards the promotion of human rights and gender equality, (...
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<th>Gender aspects in the Committee final report not deriving from FEMM opinion (No. paragraphs)</th>
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<td>2012/2150(INI)</td>
<td>(Non legislative act) Motion for a European Parliament Resolution on the European Semester for economic policy coordination: implementation of 2012 priorities</td>
<td>Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs Rapporteur: Jean-Paul Gauzès Political group: EPP</td>
<td>19.09.2012 Rapporteur: Barbara Matera Political Group: EPP</td>
<td>25 out of 28 positives votes; 3 negative votes</td>
<td>YES BUT ONLY PARTIALLY Four out of twelve suggestions were fully integrated</td>
<td>2 paragraphs</td>
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**Main issues/topics covered by the opinion (for example pay gap, discrimination, etc.)**

Main issues/topics covered by the opinion relate to women empowerment in economic policies. In particular:

- Integration of gender equality perspective into the European Semester process, including in the NRPs;
- Specific targets in NRPs in line with women’s employment statistics;
- Implementation of gender budgeting;
- Gender impact assessment, including of NRPs;

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<tr>
<td>Suggestion 1. Reiterates its call on the Member States to integrate a gender equality perspective into the European Semester process, as well as to put more focus on training within labour-market policies by taking into account women’s needs and situation when implementing the policy guidance given in the Annual Growth Survey; commends those Member States that have mainstreamed the gender dimension throughout their National Reform Programmes (NRPs) but regrets that many Member States have omitted any mention of gender; calls on the Commission to propose to the Member States a uniform format and criteria for integrating a gender equality perspective into the NRPs; (fully integrated in paragraph no. 72)</td>
<td>Par. 43 Welcomes the recognition of the importance of access to finance for SMEs, as they are the cornerstone of employment and job creation within the EU and have significant potential for addressing youth unemployment and the gender imbalance; urges the Member States to make access to finance for SMEs an absolute priority in their national growth plans;</td>
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<td>Suggestion 3. Calls on the Member States to set specific quantitative targets in their respective NRPs in line with women’s employment statistics, and to take specific measures</td>
<td>Par. 46 Calls for labour market flexibility to be improved by introducing modern forms of employment contract; recognises that part-time employment is often the choice of the employee, especially among women.</td>
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| - Access of women to higher qualified employment;  
- Address the gender pay gap;  
- Gender fiscal consolidation and combat gender segregation;  
- Diversification of professional choices of women, especially in male–dominated sectors;  
- Continued funding for programmes that promote gender equality | targeting vulnerable groups of women (such as young, migrant, disabled and single mothers);  
(fully integrated in the paragraph No. 73)  
Suggestion 8. Recalls that the gender pay gap is still an issue in the EU and that it also affects the level of pensions that women later receive, which may consequently result in women finding themselves below the poverty line; calls, therefore, on the Member States to set qualitative targets in NRPs related to closing the gender pay gap, thus reducing both the unfair treatment of women pensioners and the poverty vulnerability of elderly women; (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 74)  
Suggestion 9. Stresses that fiscal consolidation without consideration for gender equality risks leading to increased gender segregation in the labour market, increased precarious work among women, a wider gender pay gap, increased feminisation of poverty and more difficulties in combining caring and working; (partly integrated in the paragraph No. 47) | |

**Synthetic assessment: medium**

The FEMM Opinion had a medium impact. Only six out eighteen suggestions were fully integrated. Some topics covered by the opinion are not taken into account in the final Committee’s report and in particular: implementation of gender budgeting; diversification of professional choices of women, especially in male–dominated sectors; continued funding for programmes that promote gender equality.

The first suggestion integrated stresses the inclusion of a gender equality perspective into the European Semester process, as well as to put more focus on training within labour-market policies by taking into account women’s needs, and integrating a gender equality perspective into the NRPs; the second one stresses the specific quantitative targets in their respective NRPs in line with women’s employment statistics, and to take specific measures targeting vulnerable groups of women (such as young, migrant, disabled and single mothers); the third one stresses on the importance to close the gender pay gap, thus reducing both the unfair treatment of women pensioners and the poverty vulnerability of elderly women; the fourth one stresses that the fiscal consolidation without consideration for gender equality risks leading to increased gender segregation in the labour market, and more difficulties in combining caring and working.

Other gender aspects not included in the FEMM opinion have been included in the Committee’s final report. In particular, the recognition of the importance of access to finance for SMEs, as they are the cornerstone of employment and job creation within the EU and have significant potential for addressing youth unemployment and the gender imbalance (par.43); improvement of labour market flexibility by introducing modern forms of employment contract, especially among women (par.46).
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<td>2011/2071(INI)</td>
<td>(Non legislative act) Motion for a European Parliament Resolution on the European dimension in sport</td>
<td>Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs Rapporteur: Pervenche Berès Political group: S&amp;D</td>
<td>13.07.2011 Rapporteur: Marije Cornelissen Political Group: EFA</td>
<td>17 out of 30 positives votes; 4 negative votes; 9 abstain from voting</td>
<td>YES BUT ONLY PARTIALLY Six out of eighteen suggestions were fully integrated</td>
<td>None</td>
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**Main issues/topics covered by the opinion (for example pay gap, discrimination, etc.)**

Main issues/topics covered by the opinion relate to women’s empowerment in economic policies. In particular:

- Involvement of European Institute of Gender Equality in all stages of the European Semester;
- Role of FEMM Committee in discussing the gender aspects of NPRs and in drafting a shadow report;
- Participation of civil society organizations in the various stages of NPRs;
- Set qualitative and quantitative targets in NPRs related to women’s

**Gender suggestions included in the Committee’s final report**

Suggestion 5. Calls on the Council to ensure that the FEMM Committee can discuss the gender aspects of the NRPs and the country-specific policy guidance with the responsible chair-in-office of the EPSCO, after the presentation of the country-specific policy guidance by the Commission; (fully integrated in paragraph no. 107)

Suggestion 6. Invites the Member States to ensure there is efficient participation of civil society organisations, including women’s organisations, in the drafting, implementation, and evaluation of NRPs; (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 108)

Suggestion 9. Calls on the Member States to set qualitative targets in NRPs related to closing the gender pay gap, improving women’s entrepreneurship, and creating childcare and elderly care; (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 109)

**Other gender aspects included in the Committee’s final report**

None
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| employment;  
- Raise awareness in civil society and among social partners;  
- Increase efforts to raise women's labour participation, in particular by investing in measures to reconcile work and care. | Suggestion 10. Calls on the Member States to set specific quantitative targets in their NRPs regarding women's employment in general, together with specific measures targeting groups of women with very low employment rates, such as young women, older women, migrant women, disabled women, single mothers, and Roma women; (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 110) |  |
| | Suggestion 11. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to raise awareness in civil society and among the social partners and the public in general of the 2020 headline targets, and the national targets, including gender-segregated targets for employment; (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 111) |  |
| | Suggestion 12. Calls on the Commission to ask civil society and social partners to contribute an annual shadow report on the progress of the Member States regarding the headline targets and the implementation of measures proposed in the NRPs, comparable with the shadow reports produced on the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW); (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 112) |  |

**Synthetic assessment: medium**

The FEMM Opinion had a medium impact. Only six out eighteen suggestions were fully integrated.

Some topics covered by the opinion are not taken into account in the final Committee’s report and in particular the involvement of European Institute of Gender Equality in all stages of the European Semester and the need to increase efforts to raise women’s labour participation, in particular by investing in measures to reconcile work and care.

The first suggestion integrated stresses that the FEMM Committee can discuss the gender aspects of the NRPs and the country-specific policy guidance; the second one stresses the efficient participation of civil society organisations, including women’s organisations, in the drafting, implementation, and evaluation of NRPs; the third and fourth stress the need to set qualitative and quantitative targets in NRPs related to women’s employment in general; the fifth stress the importance of raising awareness in civil society and among the social partners and the sixth asks civil society and social partners to contribute an annual shadow report on the progress of the Member States regarding the headline targets and the implementation of measures proposed in the NRPs.

Other gender aspects not included in the FEMM opinion have not been included in the Committee’s final report.
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<td>2011/2116(INI)</td>
<td>(Non legislative act) Motion for a European Parliament Resolution on the Statute for a European Cooperative Society with regard to the involvement of employees</td>
<td>Committee on Employment and Social Affairs Rapporteur: Sven Giegold Political group: EFA</td>
<td>22.11.2011 Rapporteur: Edite Estrela Political Group: S&amp;D</td>
<td>22 out of 27 positives votes; 5 abstain from voting</td>
<td>YES BUT ONLY PARTIALLY Three out of nine suggestion were fully integrated; one only partially</td>
<td>None</td>
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</table>

**Main issues/topics covered by the opinion (for example pay gap, discrimination, etc.):**

Main issues/topics covered by the opinion relate to women’s empowerment in employment and social policies. In particular:

- Potential of the European Cooperative Society (SCE) to promote gender equality and respond to women’s needs;
- Promotion of women’s participation in the cooperatives and need to have related gender disaggregated data;
- Transposition of the Directive 2003/72;
- Increase participation of women at senior management level;

**Gender suggestions included in the Committee’s final report:**

Suggestion 1. Highlights the potential of the SCE for promoting gender equality through the implementation of policies and programmes at various levels, paying particular attention to education, vocational training, action to promote entrepreneurship and ongoing training programmes; notes that gender equality in decision-making at various levels is economically beneficial and also creates favourable conditions enabling skilled and talented people to carry out management and supervisory duties; stresses, further, that some aspects of cooperative work provide flexibility that makes it easier to reconcile family and professional life; calls on the Commission to design a mechanism for the exchange of best gender equality practices between the Member States; (fully integrated in paragraph no. 35)

Suggestion 2. Stresses that the SCE can respond to women’s needs, improving their standard of living through access to decent work opportunities, savings and loan institutions,
### Main issues/topics covered by the opinion (for example pay gap, discrimination, etc.)

- Importance of entrepreneurship in social economy

### Gender suggestions included in the Committee’s final report

- Housing and social services, education and training; (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 36)

  Suggestion 7. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to encourage cooperatives to intensify their efforts to **increase the participation of women in the SNB** and to implement diversity policies that will make it possible to guarantee **gender equality in professional and private life**; notes that cooperative resilience can only be reinforced when programmes aimed to ensure equal rights and equal opportunities for women and men to **participate** fully in economic and social development are implemented, particularly **at senior management levels**; (partly integrated in the paragraph No. 14)

- Suggestion 8. Urges the Commission to include SCEs in the possible European regulations in order to guarantee that women are better represented at senior management levels and on the boards of public and listed companies, in the event that companies do not voluntarily achieve the targets of 30% by 2015 and 40% by 2020; (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 15)

### Other gender aspects included in the Committee’s final report


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**Synthetic assessment: medium**

The FEMM Opinion had a medium impact. Three out of nine suggestions were fully integrated and one partially. Some topics covered by the opinion are not taken into account in the final Committee’s report and in particular the promotion of women’s participation in the cooperatives and need to have related gender disaggregated data, the transposition of the Directive 2003/72 and the importance of entrepreneurship in social economy.

The first suggestion integrated

Underlines the potential of the SCE for promoting gender equality through the implementation of policies and programmes at various levels, notes that gender equality in decision-making at various levels is economically beneficial and also creates favourable conditions enabling skilled and talented people to carry out management and supervisory duties, and stresses, further, that some aspects of cooperative work provide flexibility that makes it easier to reconcile family and professional life; the second one stresses that the SCE can respond to women’s needs; the third one stresses cooperatives to intensify their efforts to increase the participation of women at senior management and to implement diversity policies that will make it possible to guarantee gender equality in professional and private life; the fourth encourages EU regulation to guarantee better representation of women at senior management levels and on the boards of public and listed companies.

Other gender aspects not included in the FEMM opinion have not been included in the Committee’s final report.
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<th>No. of FEMM suggestions included in act out of the total no. of FEMM suggestions tabled in the opinion</th>
<th>Gender aspects in the Committee final report not deriving from FEMM opinion (No. paragraphs)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2011/2067(INI)</td>
<td>(Non legislative act) Motion for a European Parliament Resolution on the Agenda for New Skills and Jobs</td>
<td>Committee on Employment and Social Affairs Rapporteur: Regina Bastos Political group: EPP</td>
<td>13.07.2011 Rapporteur: Joanna Katarzyna Skrzydlewska Political Group: EPP</td>
<td>26 out of 30 positives votes; 2 negative votes; 2 abstain from voting</td>
<td>YES BUT ONLY PARTIALLY Six out of fifteen suggestions were fully integrated; two only partially</td>
<td>7 paragraphs</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Main issues/topics covered by the opinion (for example pay gap, discrimination, etc.)</th>
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<th>Other gender aspects included in the Committee’s final report</th>
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<tr>
<td>Main issues/topics covered by the opinion relate to women’s empowerment in employment policies. In particular: - Promotion of recruitment of non-traditional jobs for women; - Need for investments in educational and vocational guidance systems to guide women towards male-dominated subjects; - Training to parents workers on parental leave; - Combat professional segregation of labour market; - Support measures for</td>
<td>Suggestion 1. Highlights the fact that, in order to raise the employment level of women, Member States must pay special attention to efficient implementation of anti-discrimination legislation and family-friendly provisions, promote recruitment to non-traditional jobs through voluntary measures and attainable targets, and provide for accessibility and accountability; emphasises the importance of monitoring the labour market and skills requirements; invites the Member States to offer comprehensive support to national labour and education ministries in order to implement gender mainstreaming programmes; (partly integrated in paragraph no. 82) Suggestion 4. Maintains that, if the qualifications and skills of female workers are to be preserved in a changing economic space and those who so wish are to be helped to return to work, it is essential that workers on parental leave should also</td>
<td>Par. 1. Recalls that, within the Europe 2020 strategy, Member States agreed on an employment target of 75% for men and women in the 20-64 years age group by 2020, a goal closely connected with economic growth and sustainability of social security and public finances in Europe; recalls that the employment rate for women currently stands at 59.2%; underlines that a drastic reduction of youth unemployment, increased women’s participation in the labour market and effective implementation of the inclusion priority of the strategy are among the vital preconditions for reaching the employment target (…); Par. 13. Considers it advisable to promote an environment conducive to teleworking wherever</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Main issues/topics covered by the opinion (for example pay gap, discrimination, etc.)</td>
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| Reconciliation of professional and family life;  
- Promotion of new and flexible forms of working arrangements;  
- Recruitment of women to technical professions through subsidies for young female academics;  
- Potential of “green jobs” as key growth segment for women;  
- Close the gender pay gap. | be included in the training activities organised by their employer;  
(fully integrated in the paragraph No. 84)  
Suggestion 6. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to support measures for reconciliation of professional and family life, and to invest in women’s labour market participation through promotion of diversity management, professional encouragement of women and promotion of the creation of new posts with more flexible forms of working conditions;  
(fully integrated in the paragraph No. 85)  
Suggestion 7. Stresses that new jobs should be accompanied by new forms of working arrangements that will enable workers with dependent children to work alternative hours, reduce their working time or opt for teleworking;  
(partly integrated in the paragraph No. 86)  
Suggestion 10. Highlights the need to arrange the labour market in the interest of reconciling work and family life by setting up structures and institutions for the care of children, older people and other dependants to meet real needs and to ensure high-quality accessible care services for all, so as to enable working mothers to achieve work-life balance in order to improve labour market participation and the economic independence of women;  
(partly integrated in the paragraph No. 12)  
Suggestion 12. Notes that opportunities to raise the rate of women’s employment are offered not only by the ‘white-job’ sector but also by the home defence sector, the logistics sector (including transport), the business services sector – insurance and consulting, for example – and the ecological sector and sustainable jobs;  
(fully integrated in the paragraph No. 87)  
Suggestion 13. Urges the Commission and Member States to | such arrangements can foster an appropriate work-life balance;  
Par. 32. Emphasises the importance of public education systems accessible to all and in line with the promotion of equal opportunities for all;  
Par.49. Draws attention to the fact that small and medium-sized enterprises play their part in the European economic fabric owing both to their number and to their strategic role in combating unemployment; recalls that SMEs provide 85 % of jobs in the EU and are responsible for 58 % of all the added value created in the Union; urges all relevant stakeholders to remove all measures likely to hinder business creation and its free movement; calls on the Member States and the Commission to facilitate the establishment and stimulate the growth of small and medium-sized enterprises, paying special attention to women’s entrepreneurship, to provide them with a favourable regulatory and fiscal environment, to facilitate market access, to list the barriers to recruitment, to reduce the level of bureaucracy to a minimum and to improve their access to finance;  
Par.67 Believes that, under the new momentum of social and economic changes, the four pillars of flexicurity – flexible and reliable contractual arrangements, active labour market policies, lifelong learning, and modern social security systems – and the balance between them should be reviewed and reinforced in order to respond to the needs of workers and companies in modern labour markets, to create decent jobs and to ensure employability of workers, adequate social protection and the respect of the principle of |
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<td>support and develop specific programmes geared to recruiting women to technical professions through subsidies for young female academics, in line with best practice in certain Member States such as the ‘Excellentia’ programme in Austria, which has made it possible to double the number of female S&amp;T university professors and has contributed to the establishment of high-quality research centres led by women; (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 88)</td>
<td>“equal pay for equal work” in conjunction with gender equality (...);</td>
<td>Par.80. Emphasises that better and stronger policies promoting gender equality and the reconciliation of work, family and private life should contribute to increased participation of the active population of women and men in the labour market; stresses the importance of empowering women to enter, re-enter and advance in the labour market, in particular those who face difficulties with returning to work after maternity or parental leave;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Suggestion 15. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to encourage the private and public sector to take all possible and necessary action to eliminate the gender pay gap and the major inequalities in terms of access, pay, career development, participation and governance, with the aim of improving women’s participation in the labour market; stresses, in this connection, the importance of transparency in the form of better statistics, and of a usable definition of ‘work of equal value’; welcomes the Commission’s announcements on reviewing the pension system for those with gaps in pension-saving contributions due to periods of unemployment, sickness or caring duties, which concern mainly women; (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 89)</td>
<td>Par.81. Takes the view that efforts must be made to promote technical and engineering studies such as MINT (mathematics, informatics, natural sciences, technology) among girls and to combat gender stereotypes and professional segregation of women in education and labour market; calls on the Member States to take targeted measures to increase the number of women in senior management and other leading positions.</td>
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**Synthetic assessment: medium**

The FEMM Opinion had a medium impact. Six out of twenty suggestions were fully integrated and two partially. Some topics covered by the opinion are not taken into account in the final Committee’s report and in particular the need for investments in educational and vocational guidance systems to guide women towards male-dominated subjects and the potential of “green jobs” as key growth segment for women; The first suggestion integrated stresses underlines the importance of increasing women’s employment, promoting the recruitment to non-traditional jobs through voluntary measures and the implementation of family-friendly provisions; the second one stresses the need to organise training activities for workers on parental leave by their employer; the third one calls on support measures for reconciliation of professional and family life, with more flexible forms of working conditions; the fourth one stresses that new jobs should be accompanied by new forms of working arrangements that will enable workers with dependent children to work alternative hours, reduce their working time or opt for teleworking; the fifth stresses the need to ensure high-quality accessible care services for all, so as to enable working mothers to achieve work-life balance in order to improve labour market participation and the economic independence of women; the sixth one underlines the possible recruitment of women not only in ‘white-job’ sector but also in the home...
defence sector, the logistics sector, the business services sector – insurance and consulting, for example – and the ecological sector and sustainable jobs; the seventh stresses the support of specific programmes geared to recruiting women to technical professions through subsidies for young female academics; the eighth stresses the closure of gender pay gap, encouraging the cooperation between private and public sectors to take all possible and necessary actions in terms of access, pay, career development, participation and governance.

Other gender aspects not included in the FEMM opinion have been included in the Committee’s final report. In particular, the need to increase women’s employment also according to Europe 2020 (par.1); promotion of teleworking to foster reconciliation (par. 13); access to public education for all (par.32); facilitation of establishment and of small and medium-sized enterprises, paying special attention to women’s entrepreneurship (par.49); creation of decent jobs, ensure adequate social protection and the respect of the principle of "equal pay for equal work" in conjunction with gender equality (par.67); promotion of reconciliation, empowering women, in particular those who face difficulties with returning to work after maternity or parental leave (par.80); promotion of technical and engineering studies (i.e. mathematics, informatics, natural sciences, technology) among girls to combat gender stereotypes and professional segregation of women in education and labour market (par.81).
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<td>2010/2272(INI)</td>
<td>(Non legislative act) Motion for a European Parliament Resolution on mobility and inclusion of people with disabilities and the European Disability Strategy 2010-2020</td>
<td>Committee on Employment and Social Affairs Rapporteur: Adam Kosa Political group: EPP</td>
<td>25.05.2011 Rapporteur: Elisabeth Morin-Chanteri Political Group: EPP</td>
<td>29 out of 29 positives votes</td>
<td>YES BUT ONLY PARTIALLY One out of twenty-eight suggestion was fully integrated; three only partially</td>
<td>4 paragraphs</td>
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**Main issues/topics covered by the opinion (for example pay gap, discrimination, etc.)**

- Combat multiple discriminations affecting disabled women;
  - Collection of gender statistics on disabled persons;
  - Access to health services;
  - Support of parents taking care of disabled children;
  - Attention to social security of women looking after disabled persons;
  - Attention to disabilities women

**Gender suggestions included in the Committee’s final report**

- **Suggestion 4.** Calls on the Commission and the Member States to collect detailed and reliable statistics on the real situation facing people with disabilities that cover the gender, disability and violence dimensions, to draw up annual reports showing their situation in the different Member States and also to collect reliable data on the situation of carers; (partly integrated in paragraph no. 19)

- **Suggestion 11.** Underlines the need to encourage recognition by the Member States, in their social security systems and when people retire, of the involvement and the unpaid work of carers, generally women, of people with disabilities; stresses that particular attention should be paid to these women (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 34)

- **Suggestion 15.** Points out that women with disabilities are

**Other gender aspects included in the Committee’s final report**

- Par. 13. Highlights the fact that, in the light of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, numerous studies have shown that women with disabilities suffer double discrimination on grounds both of their gender and their disability; calls on the Commission, in view of the almost total lack of mechanisms in this regard, to make special provision in the social protection systems for women with disabilities;

- Par. 21. Calls on the Commission to speed up the process of monitoring, cooperation and exchange of good practice between Member States, especially with respect to the gathering of comparable gender-specific data and progress indicators, in order to achieve the aims set at
which are at greater risk of violence;
- Role of the European Institute for Gender Equality to carry out studies on disabled women and girls;
- Representation of disabled women in decision-making process;
- Promotion of communication and awareness raising campaigns on disabled women

often victims of violence and all forms of exploitation; calls on the Member States to introduce support mechanisms and to take vigorous measures to combat all forms of violence against people with disabilities, in particular women, elderly people and children, who are frequently victims of mental, physical and sexual violence; notes that almost 80% of women with disabilities are victims of violence and that the risk of sexual violence is higher for them than for other women; regrets that EU and national legislation to prevent exploitation, violence and abuse often lacks a focus on disability; recommends that the Member States consider developing national strategies relating to access to justice and protection from abuse for women with disabilities; calls on the European Institute for Gender Equality to carry out studies on the situation of girls and women with disabilities in relation to violence;

Suggestion 18. Stresses the need for action at both national and European level to promote the transition from institutional to local community care, making use of the Structural Funds accompanied by measures to heighten public awareness of the situation of people with disabilities resident in institutions;

both national and Community level; stresses that measurements should be based on the needs of people with disabilities and should include not only medical but also social, employment and environmental aspects; at the same time, stresses the importance of coordinating efforts to combat abuse of the system and the feigning of disability;

Par.43. Takes the view that ‘equal opportunities’ cannot be interpreted as meaning the same conditions and circumstances for people with different needs, and therefore believes that people with different disabilities should have access to appropriate means of purchasing goods and services, creating real equal opportunities;

Par.106. Calls on the Commission to pay attention to the inclusion of the interests of people with disabilities, in accordance with the UN’s Millennium Development Goals, when handling assistance for international relations and development.

Synthetic assessment: low

The FEMM Opinion had a very limited impact. Only one out twenty-eight suggestions was fully integrated and three partially.

Some topics covered by the opinion are not taken into account in the final Committee’s report and in particular: combat multiple discriminations affecting disabled women; support of parents taking care of disabled children; role of the European Institute for Gender Equality to carry out studies on disabled women and girls; representation of disabled women in decision-making process; promotion of communication and awareness raising campaigns on disabled women.

The first suggestion integrated stresses on the importance of collecting detailed and reliable gender disaggregated statistics on the real situation facing people with disabilities, and also to collect reliable data on the situation of carers; the second one stresses the need to encourage recognition by the Member States, in their social security systems and when people retire, of the involvement and the unpaid work of carers, generally women, of people with disabilities; the third one points out that women with disabilities are often victims of violence and all forms of exploitation, considering that almost 80% of women with disabilities are victims of violence and that the risk of sexual violence is higher for them than for other women, and calls on the European Institute for Gender Equality to carry out studies on the situation of girls and women with disabilities in relation to violence; the fourth emphasizes the use of EU funding, in particular of Structural Funds for people with disabilities.
Other gender aspects not included in the FEMM opinion have been included in the Committee’s final report. In particular, the fact that women with disabilities suffer double discrimination on grounds both of their gender and their disability, and the need to make special provision in the social protection systems for women with disabilities (par. 13); the monitoring, cooperation and exchange of good practice between Member States, especially with respect to the gathering of comparable gender-specific data and progress indicators (par. 21); the fact that people with different disabilities should have access to appropriate means of purchasing goods and services, creating real equal opportunities (par. 43); the inclusion of the interests of people with disabilities, in accordance with the UN’s Millennium Development Goals (including the Goal on Gender Equality) when handling assistance for international relations and development (par. 106).
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<td>2012/2131(INI)</td>
<td>(Non legislative act) Motion for a European Parliament Resolution on the integration of migrants, its effects on the labour market and the external dimension of social security coordination</td>
<td>Committee on Employment and Social Affairs Rapporteur: Nadja Hirsch Political group: ALDE</td>
<td>06.11.2012 Rapporteur: Joanna Senyszyn Political Group: S&amp;D</td>
<td>12 out of 20 positives votes; 8 negative votes</td>
<td>YES BUT ONLY PARTIALLY Ten out of twenty-eight suggestions were fully integrated; one only partially</td>
<td>6 paragraphs</td>
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</table>

Main issues/topics covered by the opinion (for example pay gap, discrimination, etc.): Main issues/topics covered by the opinion relate to women empowerment in development policies. In particular:
- Increase awareness and respect for migrant women’s rights;
- Cooperation with networks and NGOs working on migrant women;
- Integration of migrant women;
- Facilitate access by migrant women to information and rights, including their sexual and reproductive rights;
- Develop education and communication programmes to

Gender suggestions included in the Committee’s final report:

| Suggestion 3. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to collaborate closely with networks and NGOs working on issues relating to migrant women, in order to develop gender sensitive policies and mainstream the concept of gender equality so as to protect the human rights of migrant women; to provide equal opportunities in the field of employment and access to the labour market, while guaranteeing equal rights; and to combat and prevent all types of violence, labour and sexual exploitation, genital mutilation, unfair practices, abduction, slavery, forced marriages and trafficking of women; (fully integrated in paragraph no. 19) |
| Suggestion 9. Calls on the Council, the Commission and the Member States to establish a legal framework guaranteeing immigrant women the right to hold their own passport and residence permit and making it possible to hold a person |

Other gender aspects included in the Committee’s final report: Par. 5 Calls on the Member States to firmly combat discrimination against third-country nationals and other EU citizens, particularly formal and informal discrimination in job-seeking and in the workplace; takes the view that firm action should be taken to counteract discrimination and racism in the wake of the economic and financial crisis and the accompanying rise in unemployment; stresses that employers are required by law to treat all employees equally and to avoid discrimination between them on grounds of religion, sex, ethnicity or nationality, thus promoting fundamental rights, whereas non-discrimination and equal opportunities are a crucial part of the integration process; calls on the Commission and the Member States to ensure that remuneration
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| Inform migrant women and to combat stereotypes; - Exchange of good practices on the most equitable immigration; - Facing multiple discrimination of migrant women | Criminally responsible for taking these documents away; (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 69)  
Suggestion 11. Calls on the Member States to develop education and communication programmes to inform migrant women of their rights and responsibilities, and to set up multilingual counselling services for women; (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 18)  
Suggestion 15. Emphasises that the majority of migrant women’s employment is in domestic services and personal care, regardless of their educational and professional experience; deplors the fact that the vast majority work without contracts on very low wages and with no social rights of any kind; (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 69)  
Suggestion 17. Calls on the Member States to ratify without delay ILO Convention No 189 on domestic workers, which was adopted by the tripartite organisation in 2011 with the aim of securing decent working conditions for domestic workers and the same basic labour rights as those available to other workers; (partly integrated in the paragraph No. 70)  
Suggestion 19. Deplores the fact that many migrant women are misled in their countries of origin with promises of employment contracts in developed countries, and that some are even kidnapped to be sexually exploited by mafia and human trafficking networks; calls on the Member States to step up their efforts to combat this abusive and inhuman practice; (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 67)  
Suggestion 21. Calls on the Member States to conduct campaigns aimed at migrants with a view to combating the entrenched gender stereotypes in these communities, improving the integration and participation of migrant women | Levels and rights under collective agreements are complied with in host countries for migrants too; calls on the Member States to monitor effective compliance in order to prevent wage and social dumping, to adopt common guidelines on tackling work-related discrimination and measures to mitigate the negative impact the legislative system can have on the lives of migrants, and to support activating policies which can lead to faster growth and reduce inequalities and income gaps;  
Par. 9 Recalls that around half of the EU’s migrants are women, and that an independent migration status for women and the right to work for spouses are crucial elements in ensuring effective integration;  
Par. 10. Calls for a holistic gender-mainstreaming-type approach to be adopted at local, national and European level; calls for the principle of ‘integration mainstreaming’ to be introduced, whereby account is taken of integration-related issues in all political, legislative and financial measures (...);  
Par. 16 Calls for language and integration programmes in the host countries to cover - regardless of the cultural background, skills or area of professional expertise of the immigrant - the history, culture, values and principles of European democracy, the rule of law, and European remembrance, highlighting the rights and other principles contained in the Charter of Fundamental Rights while also combating entrenched gender stereotypes;  
Par. 17 Draws attention to the increasingly
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<td>in society, the economy, education and the labour market and combating gender-based violence; (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 59)</td>
<td>important role played in integration by migrant women, who do not just offer great potential for the labour market and often have an important role to play in educating children and conveying standards and values, but also because they are the ones most frequently affected by discrimination and violence; calls on the Commission and the Member States to take action to significantly consolidate the juridical and social position of women, with a view to preventing discrimination over the whole range of policy fields and harnessing women’s potential contribution, to economic and social development in particular;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Suggestion 22. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to organise European and national information campaigns aimed at increasing the participation of migrant women in democratic life, and to organise and support exchange platforms for migrant women; (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 84)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Par. 66 Emphasises that both legal and illegal immigration are current phenomena and that a common legal framework on migration policies is needed in order to protect migrants and potential victims, especially women and children, who are vulnerable to various forms of organised crime in the context of migration and human trafficking; also emphasises that illegal migration can be reduced through a common legal framework;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suggestion 25. Calls on the Commission further to strengthen – through pre-accession assistance and closer monitoring of the progress made – the efforts of the enlargement countries to improve the social and economic inclusion of Roma, paying greater attention to the situation of Romani women and girls; (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 7)</td>
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<td>Suggestion 27. Emphasises the need to identify, share and promote exchanges of best practices in those Member States and non-EU countries with the most gender-equitable immigration policies; (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 55)</td>
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<td>Suggestion 28. Stresses the need to make optimal use of the 2013 European Year of Citizens with a view to focusing on the free mobility and full participation of migrant women in European society. (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 56)</td>
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**Synthetic assessment:** medium

The FEMM Opinion had a medium/high impact. Ten out of twenty-eight suggestions were fully integrated and one partially. Some topics covered by the opinion are not taken into account in the final Committee’s report and in particular delivering information on migrant women’s sexual and reproductive rights and the contrast multiple discrimination of migrant women, ensuring their protection. The first suggestion integrated stresses the importance of the collaboration of Member States and the EC with networks and NGOs working on issues relating to migrant women; the second one stresses the establishment of legal framework guaranteeing immigrant women the right to hold their own
passport and residence permit; the third one emphasizes the importance of developing education and communication programmes to inform migrant women of their rights and responsibilities; the fourth one emphasizes that the majority of migrant women's employment is in domestic services and personal care, regardless and the vast majority work without contracts on very low wages and with no social rights of any kind; the fifth one calls to ratify without delay the ILO Convention No 189 on domestic workers; the sixth one stresses that many migrant women are misled in their countries of origin with promises of employment contracts in developed countries, and that some are even kidnapped to be sexually exploited by mafias and human trafficking networks; the seventh and eighth ones underline the importance of organizing information campaigns aimed at migrants with a view to combating the entrenched gender stereotypes in these communities and aimed at increasing the participation of migrant women in democratic life, and to organize and support exchange platforms for migrant women; the ninth one stresses the social and economic inclusion of Roma, paying greater attention to the situation of Romani women and girls; the tenth one emphasizes the need to identify, share and promote exchanges of best practices on the most gender-equitable immigration policies; the eleventh one stresses the need to make optimal use of the 2013 European Year of Citizens with a view to focusing on the free mobility and full participation of migrant women in European society.

Other gender aspects not included in the FEMM opinion have been included in the Committee's final report. In particular, the contrast of formal and informal discrimination of migrant women in job-seeking and in the workplace (par. 5); the importance of an independent migration status for women and the right to work for spouses (par. 9);

The implementation of a holistic gender-mainstreaming-type approach to be adopted at local, national and European level (par.10); the importance of language and integration programmes in the host countries, highlighting the rights and other principles contained in the Charter of Fundamental Rights while also combating entrenched gender stereotypes (par. 16); the role played in integration by migrant women, who do not just offer great potential for the labour market, but they have an important role to play in educating children and conveying standards and values (par.17); the need for a common legal framework on migration policies in order to protect migrants and potential victims, especially women and children, who are vulnerable to various forms of organised crime in the context of migration and human trafficking (par. 66).
### Gender Mainstreaming in Committees and Delegations of the European Parliament

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<th>Gender aspects in the Committee final report not deriving from FEMM opinion (No. paragraphs)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010/2273(INI)</td>
<td>(Non legislative act) Motion for a European Parliament Resolution on promoting workers’ mobility within the European Union</td>
<td>Committee on Employment and Social Affairs Rapporteur: Traian Ungureanu Political group: EPP</td>
<td>25.05.2011 Rapporteur: Andrea Cešková Political Group: ECR</td>
<td>30 out of 30 positives votes</td>
<td>YES BUT ONLY PARTIALLY Seven out of eighteen suggestion were fully integrated; one only partially</td>
<td>1 paragraph</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Main issues/topics covered by the opinion (for example pay gap, discrimination, etc.)

- Eradicate the gender pay gap;
- Rights and benefits linked to social security and healthcare for women moving abroad;
- Freedom of movement for all EU citizens, regardless their sexual orientation;
- Contrast illegal or black labour market;
- Integration of children of parents workers moving abroad;

### Gender suggestions included in the Committee’s final report

- Suggestion 4. Underlines that women workers moving abroad for jobs involving child or elderly care, such as babysitters, au-pairs, nannies or nurses, are often employed by private entities such as families or family members and thus end up working without a contract or illegally, and consequently have no rights and benefits linked to social security, healthcare etc. available to them; (fully integrated in paragraph no. 14)

- Suggestion 5. Calls on the Commission to ensure that Member States implement Directive 2004/38/EC without any discrimination, including on grounds of sexual orientation; reminds the Commission of previous calls to ensure freedom of movement for all EU citizens and their families, including both registered partnerships and marriages, regardless of their sexual orientation;

### Other gender aspects included in the Committee’s final report

- Par. 82. Takes the view that young workers should not be the only focus and that targeted strategies promoting and facilitating the free movement of different categories of workers, based on their specific characteristics (age, gender, skills, belonging to vulnerable and minority groups) and needs are desired so that mobility can become an option for all categories of workers.
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<tr>
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</table>
| - Participation in social networks for workers and their families living abroad;  
- Integration of women who follow their husband abroad;  
- Rights of mobility;  
- Increasing women’s labour mobility. | (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 34)  
Suggestion 7. Calls on the Commission and Member States to monitor the situation of agencies and organisations offering jobs to workers from other Member States, and to detect potential illegal or black market employment or agencies or organisations providing fictitious jobs; (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 71)  
Suggestion 10. Underlines that the Member States should improve the situation of children left behind by their parents and to help them develop normally and benefit from education and appropriate social life; (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 50)  
Suggestion 12. Calls on the Commission to present proposals to create the conditions for families with children to make use of their right to mobility by setting binding minimum targets for availability of childcare and for care leave, such as paternity leave; calls on Member States to integrate children of workers making use of the right to mobility into their education system; (partly integrated in the paragraph No. 49)  
Suggestion 14. Calls on the Member States to create mechanisms of cooperation aimed at preventing the devastating effects on families, especially on children, caused by the separation from their parents and the distance between them; (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 9)  
Suggestion 16. Calls on the Member States to remove obstacles to workers’ mobility by offering women who follow their husbands or partners to another Member State appropriate services such as courses to facilitate their integration into their new social and cultural environment, for example language courses and vocational courses; (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 7) |  |
### Main issues/topics covered by the opinion (for example pay gap, discrimination, etc.)

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<tr>
<td>Suggestion 17. Welcomes initiatives undertaken by the Commission such as the ‘WO.M.EN Mobility Enhancement Mechanism’ and invites it to extend and improve the scope of projects aiming at increasing women’s labour mobility; (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 3)</td>
</tr>
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</table>

### Other gender aspects included in the Committee’s final report

#### Synthetic assessment: medium

The FEMM Opinion had a medium impact. Seven out of eighteen suggestions were fully integrated and one partially. Some topics covered by the opinion are not taken into account in the final Committee’s report and in particular: the eradication of gender pay gap and the creation and participation in social networks for workers and their families living abroad.

The first suggestion integrated stresses that women workers moving abroad for jobs involving child or elderly care, often employed by private entities such as families or family members and thus end up working without a contract or illegally, and consequently have no rights and benefits linked to social security, healthcare etc. available to them; the second one calls on the implementation of Directive 2004/38/EC without any discrimination, including on grounds of sexual orientation; the third one stresses the importance of monitoring agencies offering jobs to workers from other Member States, and to detect potential illegal or black market employment or agencies; the fourth highlights the support to children’s education and social life when their parents move abroad; the fifth one stresses the rights to mobility establishing minimum targets for availability of childcare and for care leave, such as paternity leave, and for education of children; the sixth one calls on increasing cooperation among Member States preventing the consequences of the distance between the same family’ members; the seventh one underlines the importance of appropriate services to women who follow their husbands or partners to another Member State in order to facilitate their integration; eighth one welcomes the importance of initiatives such as ‘WO.M.EN Mobility Enhancement Mechanism’ aiming at increasing women’s labour mobility.

Other gender aspects not included in the FEMM opinion have been included in the Committee’s final report. In particular, the promotion and facilitation of free movement of all workers based on their specific characteristics (age, gender, skills, belonging to vulnerable and minority groups) and needs so that mobility can become an option for all categories of workers (par.82).
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<tr>
<td>2011/2052(INI)</td>
<td>(Non legislative act) Motion for a European Parliament Resolution on the European Platform against poverty and social exclusion</td>
<td>Committee on Employment and Social Affairs Rapporteur: Frédéric Daerden Political group: S&amp;D</td>
<td>30.08.2011 Rapporteur: Anna Záborská Political Group: EPP</td>
<td>31 out of 32 positives votes; 1 abstain from voting</td>
<td>YES BUT ONLY PARTIALLY Six out of twenty suggestion were fully integrated; one only partially</td>
<td>1 paragraph</td>
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### Main issues/topics covered by the opinion (for example pay gap, discrimination, etc.)

- Importance of gender disaggregated data on poverty and social exclusion;
- Importance of gender specific policies and programmes to prevent feminization of poverty;
- Recognition of women’s work in rural areas;
- Support for single parents;
- Universal access and affordable, high quality support services such as childcare facilities;

### Gender suggestions included in the Committee’s final report

- **Suggestion 1.** Calls on the Commission/Eurostat to carry out a comprehensive analysis of poverty and social exclusion and to compile the statistics through a qualitative and participative approach broken down by gender and age, in order to highlight the problem of poverty among older women; hopes that the Institute for Gender Equality will, as soon as it is fully operational, contribute to resolving the problem of inadequate systematic and comparative data broken down by gender; (fully integrated in paragraph no. 11)

- **Suggestion 4.** Strongly criticises the fact that the gender aspect of poverty and social exclusion is completely ignored in the Commission’s European Platform against Poverty and Social Exclusion; (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 50)

- **Suggestion 5.** Stresses that women in rural areas are often not

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### Other gender aspects included in the Committee’s final report

- Par. 82. Takes the view that young workers should not be the only focus and that targeted strategies promoting and facilitating the free movement of different categories of workers, based on their specific characteristics (age, gender, skills, belonging to vulnerable and minority groups) and needs are desired so that mobility can become an option for all categories of workers.
- Provide social benefits for women and men who take care of others;
- Role of voluntary work in combating poverty, social exclusion and gender inequality;
- Integration of gender mainstreaming to contrast multiple discrimination;

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<td>seen as part of the workforce although their contribution to daily agricultural work is as important as the contribution made by men, with the result that they are excluded socially from their rights as employees and are vulnerable to poverty; (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 51)</td>
<td>Suggestion 10. Calls on the Member States to ensure adequate support for single parents, as they are at much greater risk of being exposed to poverty than families where both parents are receiving income; In this context, also calls on the Member States to ensure support for single parents by establishing enough childcare institutions and facilitating single-parent families’ access to them; (partly integrated in the paragraph No. 85)</td>
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<td>Suggestion 13. Calls on the Commission to envisage a set of framework guidelines and principles with a view to ensuring adequate and sustainable pension arrangements, so as to combat effectively the risk of poverty faced by women as a result of precarious and sporadic employment and low remuneration; notes that it is necessary to ensure that welfare provisions can be brought more closely into line with individual and family circumstances while enhancing the value attached to maternity and the provision of care; (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 105)</td>
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<td>Suggestion 15. Invites the Commission and the Member States to take the gender-specific perspective as a key component in all common policies and national programmes in order to eradicate poverty and combat social exclusion; takes the view, furthermore, that Member States should take the gender dimension into account in their plans for recovery from the recession; (fully integrated in the paragraph No. 52)</td>
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<td>Suggestion 19. Suggests that the actions proposed in the Platform should acknowledge the consequences of multiple discrimination and introduce policy-oriented measures as</td>
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</table>
Synthetic assessment: medium

The FEMM Opinion had a medium impact. Six out of twenty suggestions were fully integrated and one partially. Some topics covered by the opinion are not taken into account in the final Committee’s report and in particular the role of voluntary work in combating poverty, social exclusion and gender inequality and the concept of universal access and affordable, high quality support services such as childcare facilities.

The first suggestion integrated stresses the importance of collecting systematic and comparative gender disaggregated data to contrast poverty and social exclusion; the second one criticises the fact that the gender aspect of poverty and social exclusion is completely ignored in the Commission’s European Platform against Poverty and Social Exclusion; the third one stresses the need to recognize the daily agricultural work of women in rural areas and are excluded socially from their rights as employees and are vulnerable to poverty; the fourth one stresses the importance to guarantee adequate support for single parents, and to ensure support and access to childcare services; the fifth one stresses the need to ensure adequate and sustainable welfare provisions and pension arrangements, so as to combat effectively the risk of poverty faced by women as a result of precarious and sporadic employment and low remuneration; the sixth one underlines the necessity to take the gender-specific perspective as a key component in all common policies and national programmes to eradicate poverty; the seventh highlights the integration of gender mainstreaming to respond to multiple discrimination.

Other gender aspects not included in the FEMM opinion have been included in the Committee’s final report. In particular, the promotion and facilitation of free movement of all workers based on their specific characteristics (age, gender, skills, belonging to vulnerable and minority groups) and needs so that mobility can become an option for all categories of workers (par.82).
**Gender Mainstreaming in Committees and Delegations of the European Parliament**

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<td>2011/2107(INI)</td>
<td>(Non legislative act) Motion for a European Parliament Resolution on the Green Paper: From challenges to opportunities: towards a common strategic framework for EU research and innovation funding</td>
<td>Committee on Industry, Research and Energy Rapporteur: Marisa Matias Political group: GUE-NGL</td>
<td>13.07.2011 Rapporteur: Britta Thomsen Political Group: S&amp;D</td>
<td>30 out of 31 positives votes; 1 abstain from voting</td>
<td>YES BUT ONLY PARTIALLY One out of twenty suggestions was fully integrated and one partly integrated</td>
<td>2 paragraphs</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**Main issues/topics covered by the opinion (for example pay gap, discrimination, etc.)**

- Implementing equality strategies on universities and research institutions;
- Setting criteria for promoting women to senior positions;
- Increase the number of female entrepreneurs;
- Improve mobility of women researchers, helping with reconciliation;
- Improve childcare facilities, social security provisions and maternity

**Gender suggestions included in the Committee’s final report**

- **Suggestion 13**
  - Stresses that mobility of women researchers is an important precondition for their professional advancement and recommends that the next framework programme consist of appropriate measures to enable female scientists to move across the EU while reconciling family and work life;
  - (partly integrated in par. 38)

- **Suggestion 15**
  - In line with gender mainstreaming, stresses the need for researchers at all levels to be given the opportunity to postpone the start of a grant or to suspend work on it, for reasons of maternity leave, paternity leave or parental leave, in respect of projects where this is possible, and to have the option of extending the validity of a grant agreement, for the same reasons, in respect of projects where time is not of the essence; calls on the Member States to grant researchers these options;

**Other gender aspects included in the Committee’s final report**

- Par. 37
  - Recalls that the European Research Council (ERC) has proved to be successful in promoting scientific excellence and a strengthening element of the ERA; calls for further improvements to the ERA’s structures and mechanisms and a boost to its instruments; stresses the need to substantially increase the proportion of the budget dedicated to grants both to young and female researchers, and to researchers from innovative SMEs (both research groups and individuals), as well to strengthen Marie Curie actions and initiatives, thus reinforcing mobility (by introducing a “fifth freedom” of knowledge), career progression and collaboration between academia, public research institutes and industry, as well as access to major research infrastructures (...)

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### Main issues/topics covered by the opinion (for example pay gap, discrimination, etc.)
- Postponing the start of a grant for reasons of maternity or paternity leave;
- Promoting non-gender segregated research areas, also promoting researchers as role model.

### Gender suggestions included in the Committee’s final report
(fully integrated in par.41)

### Other gender aspects included in the Committee’s final report

Par. 40
Welcomes the steady progress towards a balanced participation of men and women in the Framework Programme; agrees that measures to boost female participation should be reinforced throughout project lifecycles and that the Commission should reinvigorate its approach to promoting female scientists and should aim to galvanise Member States into addressing gender gaps, with particular attention to overcoming gender-specific obstacles; underlines that the 40% target for female participation in the Programme and Advisory Committees should be implemented; calls on the Commission to establish, together with the European Institute for Gender Equality, a Gender Action Plan with gender indicators and targets and to monitor its implementation.

### Synthetic assessment: low

The FEMM Opinion had a very limited impact. Only one out of twenty suggestions was fully integrated and one partially.
Most of the topics covered by the opinion are not taken into account in the final Committee’s report and in particular the implementation of equality strategies on universities and research institutions; the setting up of criteria for promoting women to senior positions; the increase the number of female entrepreneurs; the improvement of childcare facilities, social security provisions and maternity leave and the promotion of non-gender segregated research areas, also promoting researchers as role model and by conducting information campaigns.
The first suggestion integrated stresses that mobility of women researchers is an important precondition for their professional advancement and recommends that the appropriate measures to enable female scientists to move across the EU while reconciling family and work life; the second one stresses the need for researchers at all levels to be given the opportunity to postpone the start of a grant or to suspend work on it, for reasons of maternity leave, paternity leave or parental leave.
Other gender aspects not included in the FEMM opinion have been not included in the Committee’s final report. In particular, the need to substantially increase the proportion of the budget dedicated to grants both to young and female researchers, and to researchers from innovative SMEs, career progression and collaboration between academia, public research institutes and industry (par.37) and the importance of measures to boost female participation throughout project lifecycles and that the Commission should reinvigorate its approach to promoting female scientists and should aim to galvanise Member States into addressing gender gaps, with particular attention to overcoming gender-specific obstacles, and calls on the Commission to establish, together with the European Institute for Gender Equality, a Gender Action Plan with gender indicators and targets and to monitor its implementation (par.40).
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<tr>
<td>2010/2309(INI)</td>
<td>(Non legislative act) Motion for a European Parliament Resolution on organised crime in the European Union</td>
<td>Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs  Rapporteur: Silvia Costa  Rapporteur: Sonia Alfano  Political group: S&amp;D</td>
<td>25.05.2011  Rapporteur: Silvia Costa  Rapporteur: Sonia Alfano  Political group: S&amp;D</td>
<td>29 out of 31 positives votes; 2 abstain from voting</td>
<td>YES BUT ONLY PARTIALLY  One out of fifteen suggestions is fully integrated and one partly integrated</td>
<td>None</td>
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**Main issues/topics covered by the opinion (for example pay gap, discrimination, etc.)**

- Prevention and repression of organized crime through gender sensitive measures;
- Promotion of the role of women in fighting organized crime;
- Promotion of associations of victims’ families;
- Organise awareness raising campaigns in cooperation with civil society and women’s organizations;
- Gather statistics on organized crime.

**Gender suggestions included in the Committee’s final report**

- **Suggestion 2** Welcomes the objectives of the new Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council of 6 April 2011 on preventing and combating trafficking in human beings, and protecting victims, and calls on the newly appointed Anti-Trafficking Coordinator to ensure a consistent approach at EU level, taking account of the gender perspective;  (party integrated in par.38)

- **Suggestion 12** Calls on the Commission and Member States to promote the role of associations of victims’ families, dialogue between such associations and the institutions and the establishment of an EU forum of associations of victims’ families;  (fully integrated in par. 14)

**Other gender aspects included in the Committee’s final report**

- Par. 13 Stresses the importance of providing appropriate protection for primary and secondary victims of organised crime, court witnesses, informers, whistleblowers and their families; in this regard welcomes the Commission’s proposal for a directive establishing minimum standards for the rights, support and protection of victims of crime but calls for EU legislation covering also court witnesses, informers, whistleblowers and their families; calls for all types of victim to be treated equally (in particular the victims of organised crime and of terrorism and those injured in the course of their duties) and for the protection of court witnesses, informers, whistleblowers and their families to be extended over and beyond.
Main issues/topics covered by the opinion (for example pay gap, discrimination, etc.) | Gender suggestions included in the Committee’s final report | Other gender aspects included in the Committee’s final report
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Crime according to a gender perspective. |  | the duration of the court proceedings; stresses that minors need special attention, treatment, protection, assistance and guidance when they are victims of organised crime (...)

**Synthetic assessment: low**

The FEMM Opinion had a very limited impact. Only one out of fifteen suggestions was fully integrated and one partially.

Some of the topics covered by the opinion are not taken into account in the final Committee’s report and in particular the organization of awareness raising campaigns in cooperation with civil society and women’s organizations and the gathering of gender-oriented statistics on organized crime.

The first suggestion integrated stresses the objectives of the new Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council of 6 April 2011 on preventing and combating trafficking in human beings, and protecting victims, and calls on the newly appointed Anti-Trafficking Coordinator to ensure a consistent approach at EU level, taking account of the gender perspective; the second one calls on the Commission and Member States to promote the role of associations of victims’ families, dialogue between such associations and the institutions and the establishment of an EU forum of associations of victims’ families;

Other gender aspects not included in the FEMM opinion have been included in the Committee’s final report. In particular, the importance of providing appropriate protection for primary and secondary victims of organised crime; calls for all types of victim to be treated equally, and the fact that minors need special attention, treatment, protection, assistance and guidance when they are victims of organised crime.
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**Main issues/topics covered by the opinion (for example pay gap, discrimination, etc.)**

Main issues/topics covered by the opinion relate to women's empowerment and rights.

- Regular monitoring thoroughly the implementation of EU legislation relating to gender equality;
- Contrast gender-based violence and launching an EU comprehensive policy /strategy;
- Inclusion and promotion of transgender people’s rights, including legislation;
- Continuous dialogue with relevant stakeholders.

**Gender suggestions included in the Committee’s final report**

- **Suggestion 7** Takes note of the Commission’s victims package; regrets that violence against women is not taken adequately into account; calls on the Commission to launch a comprehensive policy approach against gender-based violence and a directive on combating and eliminating all forms of discrimination and violence against women and girls in all EU Member States; (partly integrated in par.78)

- **Suggestion 10** Notes that transgender people face discrimination and stigma and do not fully enjoy their right to dignity and integrity, given the abusive sterilisation and/or divorce requirements in 21 Member States; calls on the Commission to include gender

**Other gender aspects included in the Committee’s final report**

- Par. 48. Calls on the Commission to propose a review of the Framework Decision on combating certain forms and expressions of racism and xenophobia by means of criminal law to include other forms of bias-motivated crime, including on grounds of sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression;

- Par.52. Calls on Member States to establish complaints procedures that ensure that a victim of multiple discrimination, taking into account that women are specially targeted by these, can lodge a single complaint addressing more than one ground of discrimination; considers appropriate to support the activities of human rights NGOs.
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<td>NGOs, particularly women’s organizations; - Promote women’s sexual and reproductive right and health; - Combat children’s sexual offences; - Importance of gender data disaggregated data.</td>
<td>Identity fully in the issue of discrimination based on sex, including in legislative proposals and reviews; calls on Member States to abolish sterilisation and other compulsory medical treatments, as well as divorce requirements that contradict transgender people’s right to dignity and integrity; (partly integrated in par. 94)</td>
<td>rights defenders and the development of collective actions by marginalised people and communities; Par. 75. Regrets the limited impact of EU and national initiatives in the area of inequality between men and women, particularly in the context of employment; calls on the Member States to set specific employment targets and strategies in the framework of their National Reform Programmes and Action Plans for gender equality, to ensure equal access of women and men to enter and stay in the labour market; considers that, with a view to closing the entrenched gender pay and pension gaps, these targets must address the persistent concentration of women in part-time, low-pay and precarious jobs; calls on Member States to adopt measures for better reconciliation of family and working life for all generations of women, including the provision of quality care facilities for children and other dependents; Par. 76. Considers that women’s underrepresentation in political decision-making is a deficit for fundamental rights and democracy; welcomes the positive measures introduced in France, Spain, Belgium, Slovenia, Portugal and Poland, such as legislated parity systems and gender quotas, as essential good practices, and calls on Member States with particularly low representation of women in political life to consider introducing binding legislative measures; Par. 77. Points to the fact that women continue to suffer discrimination in various areas of everyday life, in spite of the legislation in force</td>
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<td>on combating discrimination, and is deeply disappointed to note that, after almost 40 years of legislation, the gender pay gap has hardly closed at all;</td>
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<td>Par. 79. Reiterates its position on sexual and reproductive health rights, as stated in its resolutions of 10 February 2010, 8 March 2011 and 13 March 2012 on equality between women and men in the European Union – 2009, 2010 and 2011; expresses concern, in this connection, about recent restrictions on access to sexual and reproductive health services in some Member States, in particular safe and legal abortion, sexuality education and funding cuts to family planning;</td>
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<td>Par. 80. Calls on the EU institutions to explore the implementation of the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) in the EU legal framework;</td>
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<td>Par. 81. Calls on the EU to put an end to policies establishing dependency between family members in the framework of family reunion, and calls on the EU and its Member States to grant migrant women an autonomous residence status, especially in cases of domestic violence;</td>
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<td>Par. 82. Urges the EU and the Member States to step up efforts to achieve the objectives of the European Pact for Equality between women and men 2011-2020 and to take measures to tackle the gender pay gap, occupational segregation and all forms of violence against women;</td>
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<td>Par. 83. Calls on the Member States to take effective measures to protect pregnant workers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Main issues/topics covered by the opinion (for example pay gap, discrimination, etc.)</td>
<td>Gender suggestions included in the Committee’s final report</td>
<td>Other gender aspects included in the Committee’s final report</td>
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| and women on maternal leave;  
Par. 84. Urges Member States to address the issue of violence against women, domestic violence and sexual exploitation in all its forms and to combat trafficking in human beings;  
Par. 85. Calls on the Member States to ensure that national action plans address multiple discrimination and protect women belonging to ethnic minorities and immigrant women;  
Par. 86. Calls on the Commission to propose a recast of the Council Framework Decision on combating certain forms and expressions of racism and xenophobia by means of criminal law including other forms of bias crime, including on grounds of sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression;  
Par. 87. Calls on Member States to adopt the national legislative framework to address discriminations experienced by LGBT people and same-sex couples on grounds of their sexual orientation or gender identity, and urges them to guarantee effective implementation of the existing EU legal framework and CJEU case-law;  
Par. 88. Calls on Member States to register and investigate hate crimes against gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people (LGBT) and adopt criminal legislation prohibiting incitement to hatred on grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity;  
Par. 90. Calls on Member States which have adopted legislation on same-sex partnerships to recognise provisions with similar effects adopted |
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Main issues/topics covered by the opinion (for example pay gap, discrimination, etc.)</th>
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<td>by other Member States; recalls the Member States’ obligation to fully implement Directive 2004/38/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the right of citizens of the Union and their family members to move and reside freely within the territory of the Member States, including for same-sex couples and their children; welcomes the fact that more and more Member States have introduced and/or adapted their laws on cohabitation, civil partnership and marriage to overcome the discriminations based on sexual orientation lived by same-sex couples and their children and calls on other Member States to introduce similar laws;</td>
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<td>Par. 91. Calls on the Commission to bring forward a proposal for the full mutual recognition of the effects of all civil status documents across the EU, including legal gender recognition, marriages and registered partnerships, in order to reduce discriminatory legal and administrative barriers for citizens who exercise their right to free movement;</td>
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<td>Par. 92. Calls on the Commission and the Council to intervene more forcefully against homophobia, violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation, including by calling on Member States’ mayors and the police to protect freedom of expression and demonstration on the occasion of LGBT pride marches; calls on the Commission to use the results of the ongoing FRA survey in order to finally follow up the repeated calls by Parliament and NGOs and issue, as a matter of urgency, the EU Roadmap for equality on grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity, with a view to its adoption by 2014;</td>
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<td>Main issues/topics covered by the opinion (for example pay gap, discrimination, etc.)</td>
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<td>Par. 93. Calls on Member States to ensure the effective protection of participants in LGBT public events, including pride marches, and to ensure that these events can take place lawfully;</td>
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<td>Par. 95. Welcomes the new set of asylum rules introduced in the Qualification Directive, which includes gender identity as a ground of persecution; maintains that the asylum package must remain coherent and include sexual orientation and gender identity in the Asylum Procedure Directive;</td>
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<td>Par. 96. Calls on Member States to ensure access to employment and goods and services without discrimination on grounds of gender identity, in line with EU law;</td>
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<td>Par. 97. Welcomes the launch of an FRA survey that will gather comparable data on the experience of LGBT people in the European Union and Croatia;</td>
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<td>Par. 98. Calls on Member States to fully transpose Council Directive 2003/86/EC on the right to family reunification, without any discrimination on the grounds of sex or sexual orientation; recalls that, according to the case-law of the European Court of Human Rights, same-sex couples fall under the scope of family life;</td>
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<td>Par. 99. Considers that LGBT people’s fundamental rights are more likely to be safeguarded if they have access to legal institutions such as cohabitation, registered partnership or marriage; welcomes the fact that 16 Member States currently offer these options, and calls on other Member States to consider</td>
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<td>doing so;</td>
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<td>Par. 108. Calls on the European Institute for Gender Equality, in coordination with the Fundamental Rights Agency, to conduct research and provide guidance at European and national level as regards the specific situation of women and girls with disabilities; stresses that particular attention should be paid to practices of forced sterilisation and coerced abortion, which may amount to torture or inhuman or degrading treatment and which should, therefore, be prosecuted and punished;</td>
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<td>Par. 131. Notes that there is a huge disparity in recognition of gender-based persecution in asylum procedures in the EU; calls on Member States to adopt and implement gender guidelines for initial decision-makers and judges, based on UNHCR gender-relevant guidelines, and on the European Asylum Support Office to develop tools to ensure a gender equality perspective in the Common European Asylum System;</td>
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<td>Par. 135. Welcomes the EU Strategy towards the Eradication of Trafficking in Human Beings 2012–2016 and the work of the EU Anti-Trafficking Coordinator; recalls that Council Directive 2004/81/EC of 29 April 2004 on the residence permit issued to third-country nationals who are victims of mass rapes, human trafficking and other forms of sexual abuse of women and children or who have been the subject of an action to facilitate illegal immigration, who cooperate with the competent authorities, and Directive 2009/52/EC of the European Parliament and the Council of 18 June 2009 providing for minimum standards on sanctions and measures</td>
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<td>against employers of illegally staying third-country nationals are useful tools for the protection of victims of trafficking and should be fully implemented;</td>
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<td>Par. 157. Calls on all EU institutions to effectively address challenges such as the removal of children from the custody of one or both parents, missing children, sexual exploitation of children and child pornography, protection of unaccompanied migrant children and the situation of institutionalised children with disabilities, as well as the protection of children who have suffered domestic abuse and workplace exploitation;</td>
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<td>Par. 159. Calls on the EU institutions and on all Member States to elaborate child-friendly policies in areas such as employment, the environment, security and migration, as well as in relation to judicial matters, education and data protection; stresses the importance of investing in child-oriented actions by re-orienting existing budgetary lines and through new investments; calls on all Member States to prohibit the employment of children under the minimum school-leaving age; stresses that young people at work must be protected against economic exploitation, anything that may harm their safety, health or physical, mental, moral and social development and working conditions that may interfere with their education;</td>
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<td>Par. 167. Calls on other stakeholders, including EU agencies such as EUROPOL and Member States, while making human rights a paramount issue, to secure EU-level cooperation in a holistic, coordinated and integrated approach; calls on</td>
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- Member States to adopt appropriate legal frameworks and an appropriate and uniform definition of trafficking in human beings and to ensure national coordination among state actors responsible for the protection and promotion of the human rights of victims of trafficking; calls on Member States to encourage research in the field of trafficking in human beings in order to adjust government policies properly in areas such as migration, the labour market and the economy;

Par. 179. Calls on Member States to deal with gender-specific crimes and to propose effective means for tackling domestic violence, if necessary by adopting legislation on protection measures.

**Synthetic assessment: low**

The FEMM Opinion had a very limited impact. Only one out of fifteen suggestions was fully integrated and one partially. Some of the topics covered by the opinion are not taken into account in the final Committee’s report and in particular the continuous dialogue with relevant NGOs, particularly women’s organizations; the contrast to children’s sexual offences; the importance of gender data disaggregated data. The first suggestion integrated stresses the need for a comprehensive policy/strategy approach against gender-based violence; the second one calls for the deletion and revision of legislation to protect and respect transgender people’s right to dignity and integrity.

Many other gender aspects not included in the FEMM opinion have been included in the Committee’s final report. In particular, the need to to propose a review of the Framework Decision on combating certain forms and expressions of racism and xenophobia by means of criminal law to include other forms of bias-motivated crime, including on grounds of sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression (par.48); the establishment of national complaints procedures that ensure that a victim of multiple discrimination, taking into account that women are specially targeted by these (par.52); the need to set specific employment targets and strategies in the framework of their National Reform Programmes and Action Plans for gender equality, and the adoption of measures for better reconciliation of family and working life for all generations of women, including the provision of quality care facilities for children and other dependents (par. 75); the importance of women’s representation in political decision-making (par.76); the fact that women continue to suffer discrimination in various areas of everyday life (par.77); the promotion of sexual and reproductive health rights, considering the recent restrictions on access to sexual and reproductive health services in some Member States, in particular safe and legal abortion, sexuality education and funding cuts to family planning (par.79); the implementation of the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) in the EU legal framework (par.80); the importance of EU family reunion policies (par. 81); the importance of the European Pact for Equality between women and men 2011-2020 (par. 82); the implementation of measures to protect pregnant workers and women on maternal leave (par. 93); the contrast of violence against women, domestic violence and sexual exploitation in all its forms and to combat trafficking in human beings (par.84); the
need to address multiple discrimination and protect women belonging to ethnic minorities and immigrant women (par. 85); the proposal to recast of the Council Framework Decision on combating certain forms and expressions of racism and xenophobia by means of criminal law (par. 86); the adoption of national legislation to address discriminations experienced by LGBT people and same-sex couples on grounds of their sexual orientation or gender identity (par. 87); the need to investigate hate crimes against LGBT people (par. 88).

Moreover, the adoption of national legislation on same-sex partnerships (par. 90); the mutual recognition of the effects of all civil status documents across the EU, including legal gender recognition, marriages and registered partnerships (par. 91); the need to intervene more forcefully against homophobia, violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation (par. 92); the effective protection of participants in LGBT public events, including pride marches (par. 93); the inclusion of gender identity as a ground of persecution in the Asylum Procedure Directive (par. 95); the access to employment and goods and services without discrimination on grounds of gender identity, in line with EU law (par. 96); the importance of comparable data on the experience of LGBT people in the European Union and Croatia (par. 97); the transposition of the Council Directive 2003/86/EC on the right to family reunification, without any discrimination on the grounds of sex or sexual orientation (par. 98); the protection of LGBT people’s fundamental rights (par. 99); the guidance provided by the European Institute for Gender Equality, in coordination with the Fundamental Rights Agency (par. 108); the adoption of gender guidelines in asylum procedures and the development of tools to ensure a gender equality perspective in the Common European Asylum System (par. 131); the importance of the EU Strategy towards the Eradication of Trafficking in Human Beings 2012–2016 and the work of the EU Anti-Trafficking Coordinator (par. 135); the need to address challenges such as the sexual exploitation of children and child pornography, as well as the protection of children who have suffered domestic abuse and workplace exploitation (par. 157); the need to elaborate child-friendly policies (par. 159); the importance of adopting appropriate legal frameworks in trafficking in human beings, including EU agencies such as EUROPOL and Member States (par. 167); tackling domestic violence (par. 179).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Procedure reference</th>
<th>Type (legislative/non legislative) and Name of the act</th>
<th>Name of the Committee responsible for the act and name and political group of the Committee’s rapporteur</th>
<th>Opinion adoption date by FEMM and Name and political group of the Committee’s rapporteur</th>
<th>FEMM Vote results</th>
<th>No. of FEMM suggestions included in act out of the total no. of FEMM suggestions tabled in the opinion</th>
<th>Gender aspects in the Committee final report not deriving from FEMM opinion (No. paragraphs)</th>
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<tr>
<td>2011/2292(INI)</td>
<td>(Non legislative act) Motion for a European Parliament Resolution on small-scale coastal fishing, artisanal fishing and the reform of the common fisheries policy</td>
<td>Committee on Fisheries Rapporteur: João Ferreira Political group: GUE/NGL</td>
<td>24.04.2012 Rapporteur: Barbara Matera Political Group: EPP</td>
<td>24 out of 25 positives votes; 1 negative vote</td>
<td>YES BUT ONLY PARTIALLY One out of seventeen suggestions are fully integrated and three partly integrated</td>
<td>2 paragraphs</td>
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Main issues/topics covered by the opinion (for example pay gap, discrimination, etc.):

- Recognition of women’s work in the fisheries sector, at legal and social level, including their social benefits;
- Importance of the cultural role of women in fisheries;
- Creating women friendly fisheries policies;
- Importance of gender data disaggregated data;
- Training to women working in fisheries sector;

Gender suggestions included in the Committee’s final report:

Suggestion 2 Calls on the Commission and the Member States to take steps to promote and achieve greater recognition, both legal and social, for the work of women in the fisheries sector, and to ensure that women who work full- or part-time for family undertakings or assist their spouses, thereby contributing to their own economic sustainability and that of their families, are given legal recognition or social benefits equivalent to those enjoyed by people with self-employed status, in particular by applying Directive 2010/41/EU, and that their social and economic rights are guaranteed, including equal wages, unemployment benefits if they lose their jobs (temporarily or permanently), the right to a pension, work-life balance, access to maternity leave, access to social security and free health care, and work-place health and safety, and other social and economic rights including insurance covering risks at sea; (fully integrated in par. 42)

Other gender aspects included in the Committee’s final report:

Par. 31, 12th bullet point support for associations of women such as net-makers, port workers and packers;

Par. 31, 14th bullet point enhancing women’s role in fishing, in particular by granting support for activities carried out on land, for related professionals and for activities associated with fishing, both upstream and downstream.
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| - Women’s participation in research projects on fisheries; - Quotas for women in fishing industry. | Suggestion 5  
Calls on the Member States to take into account the importance of the economic, social and cultural roles of women in the fishing industry so that they can have access to social benefits, and as a means to ensure a balanced gender representation in fisheries-related occupations;  
(partly integrated in par. 30) | |
| | Suggestion 8  
Stresses the need to allocate European Maritime and Fisheries Fund financing in such a way as to make the fisheries sector more women-friendly by redesigning the sector and providing proper facilities (such as changing rooms on boats or in ports);  
(partly integrated in par. 31, 11th bullet point) | |
| | Suggestion 13  
Calls on the Commission and the Member States to support, through the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and the Structural Funds, the provision of more occupational training and education to women working in the fisheries sector, in order to give them greater access to technical and managerial jobs (…)  
(partly integrated in par.31, 13th bullet point) | |
Synthetic assessment: low

The FEMM Opinion had a very limited impact. Only one out of seventeen suggestions was fully integrated and three partially. Some of the topics covered by the opinion are not taken into account in the final Committee’s report and in particular the importance of gender data disaggregated data, women’s participation in research projects on fisheries and the quotas for women in fishing industry.
The first suggestion integrated stresses the recognition, both legal and social, for the work of women in the fisheries sector, and to ensure that women who work full- or part-time for family undertakings or assist their spouses, and their rights for social benefits; the second one stresses the importance of the economic, social and cultural roles of women in the fishing industry so that they can have access to social benefits; the third one the need to make the fisheries sector more women-friendly by redesigning the sector and providing proper and the fourth one focuses on training and education to women working in the fisheries sector, in order to give them greater access to technical and managerial jobs.
Some other gender aspects not included in the FEMM opinion have been included in the Committee’s final report. In particular, the support for associations of women such as net-makers, port workers and packers and the enhancement of women’s role in fishing, in particular by granting support for activities carried out on land, for related professionals and for activities associated with fishing, both upstream and downstream (par. 31).
### Reports of the AFET Committee

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Procedure reference</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Rapporteur</th>
<th>Political group</th>
<th>Brief description/Comments</th>
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<tr>
<td>2010/0125(NLE)</td>
<td>Recommendation on the Proposal for decision on the conclusion of a Protocol to the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an association between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Kingdom of Morocco, of the other part, on a framework agreement between the European Union and the Kingdom of Morocco on the general principles for the participation of Kingdom of Morocco in Union programmes</td>
<td>NL</td>
<td>Annemie Neyts-Uyttebroek</td>
<td>Group of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe</td>
<td>The Protocol to the Euro-Mediterranean Association Agreement between the EU and Morocco, covering the general principles for the Kingdom of Morocco's participation in Union programmes, marks a decisive stage in bilateral relations. It gives Morocco the right to take part in those current and future Community programmes open to it. This new prospect is consistent with the objectives of the EU's new neighbourhood policy. Through the Protocol, the EU is supporting and strongly encouraging Morocco in its efforts to intensify its reforms and to initiate future ones, while guaranteeing that its citizens will play a real role therein.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010/0310(NLE)</td>
<td>Recommendation on the draft Council decision on the conclusion of a Partnership and Cooperation Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Iraq, of the other part</td>
<td>NL</td>
<td>Mario Mauro</td>
<td>Group of the European People's Party (Christian Democrats) - Member of the Bureau</td>
<td>The European Parliament consents to conclusion of the “EU-Iraq Partnership and Cooperation Agreement”. This Agreement marks the first ever contractual relation between the EU and Iraq. Concluded for a period of 10 years (renewable), its aim is to build a solid basis for strengthening ties between Iraq and the EU.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011/0303(NLE)</td>
<td>Recommendation on the draft Council decision on the conclusion of an Agreement establishing an Association between the European Union and its Member States, on the one hand, and Central America, on the other</td>
<td>NL</td>
<td>José Ignacio Salafranca Sánchez-Neyra</td>
<td>Group of the European People's Party (Christian Democrats)</td>
<td>In this act the European Parliament consents to conclusion of the &quot;EU-Central America Association Agreement&quot;.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011/0303(NLE)</td>
<td>Interim Report on the draft Council decision on the conclusion of the Agreement establishing an</td>
<td>NL</td>
<td>José Ignacio Salafranca Sánchez-Neyra</td>
<td>Group of the European People's Party (Christian Democrats)</td>
<td>The European Parliament requests the Council and the Commission to take into account the specific recommendations, including to facilitate the</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012/0028(NLE)</td>
<td>Recommendation on the draft Council decision on the accession of the European Union to the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia</td>
<td>NL legislative</td>
<td>Elmar Brok</td>
<td>Group of the European People’s Party (Christian Democrats)</td>
<td>In view of the non-controversial nature of this accession, which will enhance the EU’s presence and visibility in the region, the Committee on Foreign Affairs invites the European Parliament to consent to the decision authorising the Union to join the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC). It aims to promote peace, stability and co-operation in Southeast Asia.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011/2008(INI)</td>
<td>Report on the state of implementation of the EU Strategy for Central Asia</td>
<td>NL legislative</td>
<td>Nicole KilNielsen</td>
<td>Group of the Greens/European Free Alliance</td>
<td>The EU Parliament instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council and the Commission and the other relevant actors. This act recognizes the Central Asia’s strategic importance to Europe; it stresses that the EU strategy vis-à-vis the region in 2007 marked a new awareness and the desire for a comprehensive, structured approach. In the four years of implementing this strategy, much has been achieved in terms of good governance, the rule of law, human rights and democratisation; education and training; economic development, trade, and investment etc., but the EU must carry out a thorough reassessment of its strategy and take steps to strengthen its engagement, concentrating on measures regarding human rights, the rule of law; water and energy; regional security. The cornerstones of the EU’s new approach to the region must be human security and genuine regional...</td>
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<td>2011/2050(INI)</td>
<td>Report containing the European Parliament’s recommendations to the Council, the Commission and the European External Action Service on the negotiations of the new EU-Russia Agreement</td>
<td>NL</td>
<td>Hannes Swoboda</td>
<td>Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament</td>
<td>This act addresses, in the context of the ongoing negotiations for the new EU-Russia agreement, the significant recommendations to the Council, the Commission and the European External Action Service. Recommendations cover the conduct of negotiations, political dialogue and cooperation (particularly attention is paid to respect of principles of democracy, Human rights, individual and fundamental freedoms, including in relation to sexual orientation and gender identity) and economic cooperation.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011/2079(INI)</td>
<td>Report containing the European Parliament’s recommendations to the Council, the Commission and the EEAS on the negotiations between the EU and the Republic of Moldova on the Association Agreement</td>
<td>NL</td>
<td>Graham Watson</td>
<td>Group of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe</td>
<td>This act addresses, in the context of the ongoing negotiations for the new EU-Moldova agreement, the significant recommendations to the Council, the Commission and the European External Action Service. In particular it is highlighted that the EU perspective, is a valuable lever in the implementation of reforms and necessary catalyst for public support for these reforms in many fields (judicial system; governance; labour, public media, energy etc.). Recommendations call on to include standard conditionality clauses on protection and promotion of human rights reflecting the highest international and European standards and encourage the Moldovan authorities to adopt comprehensive and effective anti-discrimination legislation.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011/2111(INI)</td>
<td>Report on the EU foreign policy towards the BRICS and other emerging powers: objectives and strategies</td>
<td>NL</td>
<td>Jacek Saryusz-Wolski</td>
<td>Group of the European People’s Party (Christian Democrats)</td>
<td>This act stresses that the BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) and other emerging economies could gather strong relevance in foreign policy terms on the global scene, provided their economic growth further consolidates. As the current economic crisis demonstrates, there is a strong degree of interdependence between emerged powers and emerging powers and the consolidation of the economic leadership of the latter is clearly conditional on the economic welfare and growth of the former. This provides the potential to go beyond comités and cooperation in economic terms, and strive rather for the creation of a common</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011/2132(INI)</td>
<td>Report containing the European Parliament's recommendations to the Council, the Commission and the EEAS on the negotiations of the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement</td>
<td>NL</td>
<td>Ryszard Antoni Legutko</td>
<td>European Conservatives and Reformists Group</td>
<td>This act addresses, in the context of the ongoing negotiations on the EU-Ukraine Association agreement, the significant recommendations to the Council, the Commission and the European External Action Service. Recommendations cover institutional aspects / political dialogue, economic and sectoral cooperation; trade issues; Justice, freedom and security. An European perspective is offered to Ukraine provided that all criteria, including respect for the principles of democracy, human rights, fundamental freedoms and the rule of law, are met;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011/2133(INI)</td>
<td>Report containing the European Parliament's recommendations to the Council, the Commission and the EEAS on the negotiations of the EU-Georgia Association Agreement</td>
<td>NL</td>
<td>Krzysztof Lisewski</td>
<td>Group of the European People's Party (Christian Democrats)</td>
<td>This act addresses, in the context of the ongoing negotiations on the EU-Georgia Association agreement, the significant recommendations to the Council, the Commission and the European External Action Service. Recommendations cover institutional aspects / political dialogue, Justice, freedom and security, the economy and sectoral cooperation and their issues. It is highlighted that the EU perspective is a valuable lever in the implementation of reforms and necessary catalyst for public support for these reforms which could further strengthen Georgia's commitment to shared values and the principles of democracy, the rule of law, human rights and good governance;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011/2157(INI)</td>
<td>Report on the review of the European Neighbourhood Policy</td>
<td>NL</td>
<td>Marek Siwič</td>
<td>Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament</td>
<td>The Parliament believes that the review of the European Neighbourhood Policy creates an opportunity for the EU to effectively meet its objectives and respect its values. Although the EU</td>
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<td>L=legislative</td>
<td>Márcio David</td>
<td>European Parliament</td>
<td>does not seek to impose a model or a ready-made recipe for political reforms, underlines that the ENP is based on shared values, joint ownership, mutual accountability and respect and the commitment to democracy, human rights, the rule of law, the fight against corruption, the market economy and good governance. The review of the European Neighbourhood Policy covers different areas: deep democracy and partnership with societies; sustainable economic and social development; Association Agreements; Sectoral cooperation; mobility; regional dimension; the EU and conflict resolution; Parliamentary dimension, funding;</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011/2177(INI)</td>
<td>Report on the impact of the financial crisis on the defence sector in the EU Member States</td>
<td>NL</td>
<td>Krzysztof Lisak</td>
<td>Group of the European People’s Party (Christian Democrats)</td>
<td>This report notes with concern the culmination of a trend in recent years of cuts in the defence budgets of the majority of EU Member States in the wake of the financial, economic and debt crisis, and the potential negative impact of these measures on their military capabilities and, therefore, on the ability of the EU to effectively take over its responsibilities in peace keeping, conflict prevention and the strengthening of international security. Defence constitutes a public good that affects the security of all European citizens and that all Member States need to contribute in a spirit of cooperation, burden sharing and cost-effectiveness. The report calls for a better coordination of defence planning; pooling and sharing of capabilities; supporting defence research and technological development; building a European defence technological and industrial base; establishing a European defence equipment market; finding new forms of EU-level funding;</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011/2187(INI)</td>
<td>Report with a proposal for a European Parliament recommendation to the Council on a consistent policy towards regimes against which the EU applies restrictive measures, when their leaders exercise their personal and commercial interests within EU borders</td>
<td>NL</td>
<td>Graham Watson</td>
<td>Group of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe</td>
<td>In this act the EU Parliament addresses the recommendations to the Council on a consistent policy towards regimes against which the EU applies restrictive measures, when their leaders exercise their personal and commercial interests within EU borders. Recommendations cover the development of clearer definitions; build an efficient sanctions policy; Commit to a coherent policy within EU borders;</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011/2191(INI)</td>
<td>Report on the application of Croatia to become a member of the European Union</td>
<td>NL legislative</td>
<td>Hannes Swoboda</td>
<td>Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament</td>
<td>Welcomes the conclusion of the accession negotiations with Croatia, bringing to an end almost six years of negotiation and several years of preparation that have significantly altered the country's socio-political, economic and cultural landscape; stresses the need to keep up the reform momentum and considers that this process is not complete, but should continue with the same vigour and hard work after the conclusion of the negotiations and beyond accession. Strongly believes that the conclusion of the accession negotiations is proof of the credibility of the EU's enlargement process; emphasises that the progress achieved on the road to membership reflects the fact that accession prospects continue to promote political and economic reforms and that European integration serves as a means of reconciling countries even beyond EU borders;</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011/2245(INI)</td>
<td>Report with a proposal for a European Parliament recommendation to the Council on the modalities for the possible establishment of a European Endowment for Democracy (EED)</td>
<td>NL legislative</td>
<td>Alexander Graf Lambsdorff</td>
<td>Group of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe</td>
<td>The idea of a European Endowment for Democracy has been introduced into the more general EU debate on the review of the EU’s policies and actions promoting democracy, following the events in the southern Mediterranean. The intention is to set up a semi-autonomous entity which could support democracy activists and democratic developments around the world in an un-bureaucratic way and which would not be directly associated with EU diplomacy or the European Commission. The Polish Council Presidency has made the EED one of its presidency priorities and has worked with all stakeholders to advance the idea. It is now up to the Parliament to give its constructive contribution to the debates which has advanced rapidly in the last weeks and make sure that the Parliament will be involved in the setting-up, the governance structure and the scrutiny of this possible European Fund.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011/2315(INI)</td>
<td>Report containing the European Parliament's recommendations to the Council, the Commission and the</td>
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<td>Tomasz Piotr Poręba</td>
<td>European Conservatives and Reformists Group</td>
<td>This act addresses, in the context of the ongoing negotiations on the EU - Armenia Association Agreement, the significant recommendations to the</td>
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<td>2011/2316(INI)</td>
<td>Report containing the European Parliament’s recommendations to the</td>
<td>NL</td>
<td>Anneli Järretténmäki</td>
<td>Group of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe</td>
<td>This act addresses, in the context of the ongoing negotiations on the EU - Azerbaijan Association Agreement, the significant recommendations to the Council, the Commission and the European External Action Service. It is highlighted that the Association Agreement is a comprehensive and forward-looking framework for the future development of relations with Azerbaijan, one which enhances political association, economic convergence and legal approximation and reflects the relationship that both the European Union and Azerbaijan have decided to develop; The accession perspective provides strong encouragement for political and economic reform in the area of rule of law, including judicial reform, and the fight against corruption and organised crime, respect of human rights and fundamental freedom.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012/2025(INI)</td>
<td>Report on Enlargement: policies, criteria and the EU’s strategic</td>
<td>NL</td>
<td>Maria Eleni Koppa</td>
<td>Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament</td>
<td>The report establishes policies, criteria and the EU’s strategic interests on the enlargement. In this act the EU Parliament strongly promotes and supports the enlargement process. It believes that enlargement needs to remain a credible policy, supported by the public both in the EU and in the candidate countries; It underlines, therefore, the importance for the EU and the candidate and potential candidate countries</td>
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### Gender Mainstreaming in Committees and Delegations of the European Parliament

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<th>Procedure reference</th>
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<tr>
<td>2012/2026(INI)</td>
<td>Report on EU Strategy for the Horn of Africa</td>
<td>NL</td>
<td>Charles Tannock</td>
<td>European Conservatives and Reformists Group</td>
<td>The European Parliament Welcomes the EU strategy for the Horn of Africa, and in particular its comprehensive approach based on strengthening of the security and stability and the enforcing the rule of law; It urges the full implementation of the EU Strategic Framework for the Horn of Africa and supports its five prongs. The report deals several issues: security policy framework; reinforcing the comprehensive approach; the situations of Sudan and South Sudan, Somalia, Ethiopia and Eritrea;</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012/2036(INI)</td>
<td>Report with a proposal for a European Parliament recommendation to the Council on the 67th session of the United Nations General Assembly</td>
<td>NL</td>
<td>Alexander Graf Lambsdorff</td>
<td>Group of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe</td>
<td>This report contains a proposal for a European Parliament recommendation to the Council on the 67th session of the United Nations General Assembly. Recommendations covers: the EU at the UN; the EU and global governance; Peace and security (Responsibility to Protect (R2P), mediation; International justice); Human rights; Democracy support; Development (climate change, global environmental protection and sustainability); Miscellaneous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012/2050(INI)</td>
<td>Report on the Annual Report from the Council to the European Parliament on the Common Foreign and Security Policy</td>
<td>NL</td>
<td>Elmar Brok</td>
<td>Group of the European People's Party (Christian Democrats)</td>
<td>The EU Parliament stresses that this annual report marks a new departure for Annual Report on CFSP intended as contribution to framing a new strategic and forward looking approach to the European Union’s Foreign Policy. The Union’s competence in matters of CFSP shall cover all areas of foreign policy and all questions relating to the Union’s security, including the progressive framing of a common defence policy. This report should be a contribution to framing EU foreign policy and to setting benchmarks for monitoring and evaluating progress made over the</td>
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<td>2012/2062(INI)</td>
<td>Report on the review of the EU’s human rights strategy</td>
<td>NL</td>
<td>Rui Tavares</td>
<td>Group of the Greens/European Free Alliance</td>
<td>This report on the review of the EU’s human rights strategy defines EU Strategic Framework on Human Rights and Democracy. It highlights the need for coherence and cooperation in policy areas and between the EU and its Member States as an essential condition for an effective and credible human rights strategy. It acknowledges the review’s goal of placing human rights at the centre of the EU’s relations with all third countries and considers that the EU adopt an effective approach to its partners by advancing selected key priorities relating to human rights, democracy and the rule of law. It is also considered very important carry out human rights impact assessments, define EU Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy, establish Joint Interinstitutional responsibilities.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012/2088(INI)</td>
<td>Recommendation to the Council on the EU Special Representative for Human Rights</td>
<td>NL</td>
<td>José Ignacio Salafranca Sánchez-Neyra</td>
<td>Group of the People’s Party (Christian Democrats)</td>
<td>This document drafted by AFET Committee contains the Parliament recommendations to Council on the establishment of Special Representative for Human Rights (EUSR). The document foreseen specific characteristics, tasks as well as fields of action of EUSR.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012/2094(INI)</td>
<td>Report on a Digital Freedom Strategy in EU Foreign Policy</td>
<td>NL</td>
<td>Marietje Schaake</td>
<td>Group of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe</td>
<td>The report on a Digital Freedom Strategy in EU Foreign Policy recognises that uncensored access to the open Internet, mobile phones and ICTs have impacted on human rights and fundamental freedoms, exerting an enabling effect, by expanding the scope of freedom of expression, access to information, the right to privacy and freedom of assembly across the world. It stresses that Internet and new technologies play an exponentially important role in the lives of Europeans and citizens everywhere. Globally technologies are changing societies, the functioning of our democracies, economies, businesses, media, development strategies, security and defence concerns and human rights issues. Information and power monopolies that</td>
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<td>2012/2095(INI)</td>
<td>Report on the role of the Common Security and Defence Policy in case of climate-driven crises and natural disasters</td>
<td>NL</td>
<td>Indrek Tarand</td>
<td>Group of the Greens/European Free Alliance</td>
<td>This report notes the impact of climate change on global security, peace and stability. Regrets that, in the last four years, the issue of climate change as the biggest threat to global security has become overshadowed in the public debate by the economic and financial crisis. Points out that in its external action strategies, policies and instruments the EU should take into consideration the effects of natural disasters and climate change on international security and vulnerable populations and emphasises the need to further develop and strengthen existing instruments;</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012/2096(INI)</td>
<td>Report on Cyber Security and Defence</td>
<td>NL</td>
<td>Tunne Kelam</td>
<td>Group of the European People’s Party (Christian Democrats)</td>
<td>This report deals with the Cyber Security and Defence issues. It Notes that cyber threats and attacks against government, administrative, military and international bodies are a rapidly growing menace and occurrence in both the EU and globally. Underlines, therefore, the need for a global and coordinated approach to these challenges at the EU level through the development of a comprehensive EU cyber security strategy which should provide a common definition of cyber security and defence and of what constitutes a defence-related cyber attack.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012/2137(INI)</td>
<td>Report on EU-China relations</td>
<td>NL</td>
<td>Bastiaan Belder</td>
<td>Europe of freedom and democracy Group</td>
<td>This report deals with the EU-China relations with reference to: EU-China Strategic Partnership and cooperation; its International situation; human rights and democracy issues; the Cross-Strait relations; the external situation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012/2138(INI)</td>
<td>Report on the implementation of the Common Security and Defence Policy (based on the Annual Report from the Council to the European Parliament on the Common Foreign and Security Policy)</td>
<td>NL</td>
<td>Arnaud Danjean</td>
<td>Group of the European People’s Party (Christian Democrats)</td>
<td>This report on the implementation of the Common Security and Defence Policy defines a new strategic framework for CSDP and outlines the CSDP at the heart of a comprehensive approach. Regarding the civilian and military operations, it emphasises that so far the CSDP has contributed to crisis management, peacekeeping and the strengthening of international security but the CSDP now needs to be able to intervene in all types of crisis, including in the context of high-intensity conflicts. The report also addresses the specific situations in some countries as</td>
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<td>2012/2142(INI)</td>
<td>Report with a proposal for a European Parliament recommendation to the Council on establishing common visa restrictions for Russian officials involved in the Sergei Magnitsky case</td>
<td>Kristina Ojuland</td>
<td>Group of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe</td>
<td>Western Balkans, Horn of Africa; Sahel, Libya, South Sudan, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Iraq etc... The report also deals the issue of capabilities and structures for conducting operations (Civilian and military personnel), the issue of space policy to underpin the CSDP, the partnership UE/ NATO, EU/AU, EU/UN, EU/OSCE, EU / third countries.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012/2153(INI)</td>
<td>Report containing the European Parliament’s recommendations to the Council, the Commission and the European External Action Service on the negotiations for an EU-Kazakhstan enhanced partnership and cooperation agreement</td>
<td>Liisa Jaakonsaari</td>
<td>Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament</td>
<td>This act addresses, in the context of the ongoing negotiations for an EU-Kazakhstan enhanced partnership and cooperation agreement, the significant recommendations to the Council, the Commission and the European External Action Service. Recommendations cover the conduct of the negotiations; political dialogue and cooperation, human rights and fundamental freedom, economic cooperation, other provisions.</td>
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<td>2012/2223(INI)</td>
<td>Report on the EU’s mutual defence and solidarity clauses: political and operational dimensions</td>
<td>Ioan Mircea Pașcu</td>
<td>Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament</td>
<td>This report &quot;on the on the EU's mutual defence and solidarity clauses: political and operational dimensions&quot; stresses that the security of EU Member States is indivisible and all European citizens should have the same security guarantees and an equal level of protection against both traditional and non-conventional threats. The defence of peace, security, democracy, human rights, the rule of law and freedom in Europe, which are indispensable for the wellbeing of our peoples, must remain a core goal and responsibility of European countries and of the Union.</td>
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Assessment of gender mainstreaming in the work of AFET Committee

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<tr>
<th>Procedure reference</th>
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<th>Type of act (Legislative/non legislative) and of procedure</th>
<th>Name and political group of the Committee's rapporteur</th>
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<tr>
<td>2010/0310(NLE)</td>
<td>Recommendation on the draft Council decision on the conclusion of a Partnership and Cooperation Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Iraq, of the other part</td>
<td>Non legislative act Consent procedure</td>
<td>Rapporteur: Mario Mauro Political Group: Group of the European People’s Party (Christian Democrats) - Member of the Bureau Committee on Foreign Affair</td>
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Gender issues in the Committee’s final Report

In the explanatory statement it is recommended that the bilateral discussions with Iraqi authorities highlight the particular importance the EU attaches to the observance of human rights and individual fundamental freedoms, including those of religious and ethnic minorities and vulnerable parts of Iraqi society, such as women, refugees and displaced persons.

In synthesis:
The European Parliament consents to conclusion of the agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Iraq, of the other part.

In general the document drafted by AFET Committee shows particular attention to women’s rights.

In the explanatory statement AFET Committee highlights that the agreement features a very importantly specific clause on cooperation in the promotion and effective protection of human rights in Iraq with the important caveat that failure by Iraq to protect and respect human rights will negatively affect cooperation and economic development programmes. It is recommended that the bilateral discussions with Iraqi authorities highlight the particular importance the EU attaches to the observance of human rights and individual fundamental freedoms, including those of vulnerable parts of Iraqi society, such as women.

This act aims to combat poverty and respond to basic needs of health, education and employment of Iraq. In this regard, these aspects are particularly gender sensitive and could be integrated from perspective of gender, highlighting the importance of the women participation across all sectors of public and economic life e in the processes of negotiation for conflict resolution and peace-building.

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120 Legislative/non legislative act that concluded their procedural iter and/or were not available on the EP website in the period between June 2011 - February 2013.
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<td>Political Group: Group of the Greens/European Free Alliance</td>
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<td>Committee on Foreign Affairs</td>
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**Gender issues in the Committee’s final Report**

Par. 28. Underlines the fact that education is the foundation for the democratic development of society; calls therefore for a continuation of efforts to modernise the public education sector, including business education, and to make it free and accessible, and for an intensification of the Education Initiative, particularly international academic exchanges of students and teachers, within the wider context of supporting the build-up of a civil society based on stable human and labour rights in all countries in the region; stresses that it is also essential to promote processes to ensure participation by women and their access to the job market.

Par. 32 (...) calls on the EU to foster the creation of a climate of economic stability through a secure and stable legal framework, and by combating corruption and nepotism, which is crucial to attracting foreign investments, fostering innovation and stimulating true private entrepreneurship, including microcredit for projects set up by independent women, in compliance with international social, labour and environmental standards;

**In synthesis:**

This report drafted by AFET Committee acknowledges the women’s role as lever of economic development. In particular, the par. 28 focused on education (also business education) free and accessible as fundamental element for democratic development of society and to ensure female participation to the job market. Likewise, the par. 32 stresses the need to attract foreign investments, fostering innovation and stimulating true private entrepreneurship, including microcredit for projects set up by independent women.

This act focusses on agricultural and environmental issues. The agriculture sector is of the utmost importance with regard to achieving food security and the access to water is fundamental for women’s life conditions.

The report underlines the strong political and economic interest of the EU in strengthening its bi- and multilateral relations with Central Asian countries with regard to human rights and the rule of law, also including the human trafficking.
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</table>
| 2011/2133(INI)      | Report containing the European Parliament’s recommendations to the Council, the Commission and the EEAS on the negotiations of the EU-Georgia Association Agreement | Non legislative act                                      | Rapporteur: Krzysztof Lisiecki  
Political Group: Group of the European People’s Party (Christian Democrats)  
Committee on Foreign Affairs |

**Gender issues in the Committee’s final Report**

Recital E. (…) whereas further improvement is needed regarding reforms in the justice system, and labour rights, women’s rights and integration of minorities;

(x) stress the importance of achieving full gender equality with regard, in particular, to the huge gender pay gap;

**In synthesis:**

The European Parliament’s recommendations highlight that further improvement is needed regarding women’s rights. The recommendation pays specific relevance to achieving full gender equality with regard, in particular, to the huge gender pay gap. The principle of Equal Opportunities is considered according to broad approach not limited to gender issues. The recommendation encourages the Georgian authorities to adopt and implement comprehensive and effective anti-discrimination legislation, including provisions against discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity. Several paragraphs also refer to issues that could be easily considered from perspective of gender. In particular, it is very relevant for women’s participation in the labour market that the recommendation calls on the Georgian authorities to give a firmer commitment to employment policies and social cohesion. Furthermore, it encourage the Georgia to pursue reforms that improve the business climate, while promoting corporate social responsibility and sustainable development and to invest in its infrastructure, especially with regard to public services, to fight existing inequalities, particularly in rural areas. In this regard, it would have been important to highlight the connection between rural development and female labour and the importance of the active role of women in the sustainable economic growth.
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</table>
Political Group: Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament  
Rapporteur Mário David  
Political Group: Group of the European People’s Party (Christian Democrats) |

**Gender issues in the Committee’s final Report**

Recital A. whereas respect for and promotion of democracy and human rights – particularly **women’s, children’s and minority rights** – justice and the rule of law, fundamental freedoms – including freedom of speech, conscience, religion or belief, **sexual orientation** (...)

Recital I. whereas the effects of the economic and financial crisis have come on top of the existing political and social challenges in the partner countries, particularly in relation to the problem of unemployment; whereas it is in the common interest of these countries and the EU to bring down unemployment rates in the region and to offer its people, particularly **women**, young people and the rural population, hope for the future;

Par. 8. (...) stresses that the partnership between the EU and the ENP countries and their respective civil societies should be strengthened in order to help build functioning democracies, foster reforms and sustainable economical growth; emphasises that these partnerships with civil society must be inclusive, including in particular representatives of **women’s organisations** and minority groups; (...)

Par. 13. Considers that human rights situations should be continuously monitored – with particular regard to the rights of children, **women** and minorities – and human rights dialogues conducted with all partner countries and that an annual assessment of the situation as well as the outcomes of the dialogues should be included in the annex to the annual progress report of each partner country with a clear mechanism to reconsider and progressively limit bilateral cooperation if human rights violations are confirmed; underlines that the approach towards various partner countries regarding the human rights situation has to be credible;

Par. 14. Calls on the EU and the Member States to focus their cooperation within the ENP on twinning EU democratic actors such as trade unions, NGOs, relevant employers’ organisations, farmers, **women**, participants in religious dialogue, consumers, youth, journalists, teachers, local government bodies, universities, students, climate change actors and their emerging counterparts in ENP countries;

Par. 17. Underlines that in the ongoing processes of democratic transitions in the Arab Spring countries, the participation of **women**, young people and civil society and the functioning of free and independent media will be crucial and urges the EU to increase support to train and organise those actors, including by inviting them to observe elections and the functioning of democratic institutions within the EU;

Par. 21. Underlines the importance of **women being well-represented** in parliament, ministries, top government posts, in decision-making positions in the public and local administration and in the management of public companies; encourages the ENP partner countries to adopt and mainstream **gender equality policies** and to adopt **action plans for gender equality**;

Par. 68. Calls on the EU to enhance the accessibility and channelling of EU funds into projects aimed at informing migrants of their rights and responsibilities and at protecting their rights, with particular reference to the rights of unaccompanied minors, **women** and other vulnerable groups; asks the Commission therefore to provide Parliament with a detailed report on the use of EU funds earmarked for neighbouring countries, including under the Commission’s thematic programme for cooperation with third countries in the areas of migration and asylum;
In synthesis:

The paragraphs contained in the final report drafted by AFET Committee highlighted the importance of respecting and promoting democracy, human rights and fundamental freedoms, with specific attention both to women’s rights and sexual orientation. The report pays particular attention to women’s representation topic and female interests. In this regard, the report stresses that the partnership between the EU and the ENP countries and their respective civil societies should be strengthened, also involving women’s organizations, and that the cooperation between countries have to focus on twinning EU between democratic actors, also including the women. The participation of women in the ongoing processes of democratic transitions in the Arab Spring is considered crucial, as well as their participation in all sectors of economic and public life and in particular in parliament, ministries, top government posts, in decision-making positions in the public and local administration and in the management of public companies. To achieve these objectives the European Parliament encourages to adopt action plans for gender equality.

The attention to gender issues also concerns the respect of human rights that should be continuously monitored with also regard to the rights of women. In particular, violations confirmed should entail progressively a limitation of bilateral cooperation. Related to human rights is also the mobility and migration topic. In this regard, the EU is called to enhance the accessibility and channelling of EU funds into projects aimed at informing migrants of their rights and responsibilities, with particular reference to the rights of women within vulnerable groups.

Several paragraphs also consider issues that could be considered from a gender perspective. In particular, the report stresses that sustainable democracy, functioning and de-bureaucratised institutions, quality education not only promote political stability, social welfare and cohesion but also stimulate economic growth, allowing new SMEs to emerge and fostering trade, the green economy and tourism, also creating new jobs and new opportunities. In this case, it could be highlighted the connection between female labour and economic growth, especially with reference the jobs in new sectors. Finally, the report stresses the importance of combating illegal immigration and bringing organisations guilty of people-trafficking to justice. It is clear that this aspect can affect trafficked women phenomenon.
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<tr>
<td>2011/2191(INI)</td>
<td>Report on the application of Croatia to become a member of the European Union</td>
<td>Non legislative act</td>
<td>Rapporteur: Hannes Swoboda Political Group: Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament Conference of Presidents</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Gender issues in the Committee’s final Report

13. Welcomes the progress made in the area of women’s rights and gender equality; is concerned, however, that women continue to be severely under-represented in economic and political decision-making bodies; calls on the Croatian authorities swiftly to finalise implementation of the Gender Equality Act, to promote the participation of women in politics more actively, to strengthen the position of women on the labour market and to introduce the principle of equal pay;

In synthesis:

This report drafted by AFET Committee notes the progress made in the area of women’s rights and gender equality and highlights that women are under-represented in economic and political decision-making bodies. In order to promote the female participation in all sector of economic and public life and to overcome the pay gap, the act requires to implement gender equality actions. Furthermore, it shows to consider the principle of equal opportunities according to a broad approach not limited to gender issues. In particular, concerned by the violence against participants in the LGBT pride (11 June 2011), it calls on Croatian authorities to combat all kinds of discrimination and to quickly implement an action plan against homophobia.
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Political Group: Group of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe  
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Recital B. whereas Article 8 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union lays down the principle of gender mainstreaming, stating that the Union shall in all its activities aim to eliminate inequalities and to promote equality between men and women;

Recital G. whereas women play a key role in the processes of democratisation and the success of social movements;

Recital I. whereas the recent events in North Africa and the Middle East have demonstrated that women are determinant actors for democratic change and that women’s rights are often violated, with women being put at greater risk of poverty and marginalised in their country’s political, social, and economic life;

Par. (o) ensure that the EED pays special attention to the participation of women in the democratic reform process, by supporting women’s organisations and projects in gender-sensitive areas such as combating violence, generating employment, and political participation, extending equal access to justice and education for women and girls, and preventing or ending existing violations of women’s rights;

**In synthesis:**

The final report drafted by AFET Committee proposes the modalities for a possible establishment of a European Endowment for Democracy (EED). It is clear that the report for its subject matter, is also potentially relevant in a gender perspective. Women can play a key role in the processes of democratisation and all sectors of political, social and economic life, as lever of change. Therefore, the reform processes cannot disregard by the affirmation of women’s rights.
Recital A. whereas, in accordance with Article 49 TEU, any European state which respects and remains committed to the promotion of the values of human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and respect for human rights, including the rights of persons belonging to minorities, may apply to become a member of the Union; whereas these values are the foundation of the European Union itself and guide its action on the international scene, and must be respected and upheld by all Member States;

Par. 7 Reminds that the acquis in the social field includes minimum standards in areas such as labour law, equal treatment of women and men, health and safety at work and anti-discrimination, and that the EU Treaties confirm commitment to the European Social Charter of 1961 and the Community Charter of the Fundamental Social Rights of Workers of 1989, while the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights also contains a number of fundamental social rights;

Par. 24. Is of the opinion that gender equality and anti-discrimination should be given further priority within enlargement policy; stresses that equality between men and women is a fundamental right, a core value of the EU, and a key principle of its external action, as well as holding great potential for the achievement of the Europe 2020 objectives by contributing to growth and full employment; encourages, therefore, women’s participation in the accession process, and underlines the importance of mainstreaming gender equality policies; stresses that discrimination on all and any grounds is prohibited and that the EU assessments should include the rights of the LGBT community and the integration of minorities in political, social and economic life;

In synthesis:

The final report drafted by AFET Committee highlights that enlargement has been a successful process for the EU and Europe as a whole, because has contributed to peace, stability and prosperity, enhancing conflict prevention, stimulating reforms and consolidating freedom, democracy, respect for human rights, as well as the development of market economies and socially and ecologically sustainable development. Moreover, each request to Member States to comply with the EU’s common basic social standards as well as to pay more attention to protection of workers, health and safety standards, to combating exploitation (especially of undeclared workers) contributes to reduce the discriminations and indirectly to improve women’s working conditions.

Moving from the fact that the equality principle is included between the values on which is based the European Union membership by countries, two paragraphs of the report have significant gender-related specifications.
Recital Ah), whereas any significant improvement in the humanitarian situation in the Horn of Africa will be interconnected with all other aims pursued by the Union in the region, any sustainable resolution of the different conflicts plaguing the region has to take account of the needs of internally displaced persons and the ongoing refugee crisis and its causes, including structural food insecurity, conflict and climate effects, also paying specific attention to the most vulnerable population groups such as women and children;

Par. 40 (...) Stresses that human rights, especially the rights of women, children, and religious minorities, have long been neglected in the region and calls on the governments in the region to strengthen human rights for these groups; (…)

Par 52. Calls on the HR/VP and the EUSR for the Horn of Africa to critically review the Djibouti Peace Process and to consider deploying a team of mediators whose members are trusted by a large spectrum of Somali actors, including women’s associations and have the capacity to bring a wide range of Somali actors to the negotiation table;

Par. 50 (...) notes the fact that the 30% quota for female members of parliament has almost been met, recalling that the meaningful participation of women across all sectors of public life is important for successful efforts of conflict resolution and peace-building;

Par 14. Considers it desirable: (...) (i) work on promoting respect for constitutional norms, the rule of law, human rights, and gender equality through cooperation and dialogue with the Horn partners; (…)

Par. 53 (...) welcomes the recent endorsement of an ambitious constitution which promises equal rights for ‘all citizens, regardless of sex, religion, social or economic status, political opinion, clan, disability, occupation, birth or dialect’, outlaws female genital mutilation, and establishes a Truth and Reconciliation Commission;

Par. 162 (...) urges the HR/VP to make sure that EU action in Somalia fosters a free and open society that respects and upholds human rights, especially the rights of women and minorities, enables the empowering of women and ensures gender balance in all sectors of society;

Par 54 (...) commends the valuable contribution that EUTM Somalia is making to the country’s security forces; trusts in Member States’ ongoing support for the work of the CSDP mission, which is striving to instil awareness of respect for human rights, gender dynamics and the rule of law in the Somali military; (…)

In synthesis:

The attention to gender issues mainly concerned the respect of human rights, with particular attention to women’s rights and gender dynamics. The fight against gender-based violence is specified in relation to female genital mutilation. The participation of women across all sectors of public life in the processes of negotiation is acknowledged as important for conflict resolution and peace-building.

The connection between rural development and female labour and the importance of the active role of women in the sustainable economic growth, reduction of poverty and food security could be also considered from a gender perspective.
Gender issues in the Committee’s final Report

(p) to ensure the participation of women at all stages of peace processes and systematically to engage them in preventive diplomacy, early warning and security monitoring; to focus, in line with UNSC Resolution 1325/2000 on Women, Peace and Security, on the need to mainstream gender perspectives in conflict prevention, peacekeeping operations, humanitarian assistance, post-conflict reconstruction and DDR initiatives; to work actively to ensure the implementation of UNSC Resolution 1325 by all UN member states;

(ad) actively to support the African-led initiative and the recommendation of the Commission on the Status of Women by working towards the adoption of a UNGA resolution in 2012 with a view to banning female genital mutilation (FGM) worldwide; to call on the HR/VP and the Commission to give the utmost priority to ensuring the success of this process;

(ak) to focus on social and economic inclusion, democratic transition and political/electoral processes, capacity-building, the strengthening of civil society, the participation of young people in parliamentary democracy, the protection of freedom of expression, freedom of conscience and freedom of religion and the protection of women’s rights, including in terms of their participation in public and political life, at the level both of social practices and of legislation;

In synthesis:

The attention to gender issues refers to the protection of women’s rights, with particular attention to female participation in public and political life, at the level both of social practices and of legislation. The participation of women across all sectors of public life in the processes of negotiation is acknowledged as an important tool for supporting democracy and peace-building.

About human rights, it is reaffirmed the fact that these rights are inextricably linked to the UN’s other goals on peace and security, and development and that timely and adequate international action to prevent and halt genocide, ethnic cleansing, war crimes and crimes against humanity have to be implemented (also strengthening the international criminal justice system). They are crimes that affect strongly the women, civilian victims of conflicts. However, the fight against gender-based violence is only specified in relation to female genital mutilation. Regarding this topic, the document requires to support the African-led initiative and the recommendation of the Commission on the Status of Women by working towards the adoption of a UNGA resolution in 2012 with a view to banning female genital mutilation (FGM).

Regarding the development processes, the act stresses the importance of considering as priorities the food security, productive capacity in agriculture, infrastructure, capacity-building, inclusive economic growth, new businesses, access to technologies, and human and social development. These issues and, in particular, the connection between rural development and female labour and the importance of the active role of women in the sustainable economic growth in order to reduce poverty and increase food security could be considered from a gender perspective.

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121 Disarmament, demobilisation, reinsertion and reintegration.
Gender Mainstreaming in Committees and Delegations of the European Parliament

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Political Group: Group of the European People’s Party (Christian Democrats)  
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Recital A. whereas the EU should develop its foreign policy objectives further and advance its values and interests worldwide with the overall aim of contributing to peace, human security, solidarity, conflict prevention, the rule of law and the promotion of democracy, the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, gender equality (…);

Par. 10 Recognises the essential role of the EEAS (Including its Delegations and EU Special Representatives) in assisting the VP/HR in pursuing a more strategic, coherent and consistent political approach to the Union’s external action; affirms its intention to continue monitoring the geographic and gender balance of staff in the EEAS, including in senior positions, and to assess whether the appointment of Member State diplomats as Heads of Delegation and other key positions is in the interests of the Union, not solely of their Member States (…);

Par. 37 Welcomes the Commission’s positive agenda for EU-Turkey relations; is concerned about the situation in a number of areas, notably as regards freedom of expression, the rule of law, women’s rights in Turkey, the slow progress towards a new civilian constitution and, in addition, the polarisation of Turkish society;

Par. 39 Recalls that the Southern Neighbourhood is of vital importance to the European Union, stresses the need to strengthen the partnership between the EU and the countries and societies of the Neighbourhood in assisting the transition to consolidated democracies, and urges that a better balance be struck between pursuing, on the one hand, market-oriented and, on the other, human and social approaches in the EU’s response to the Arab Spring; calls, therefore, for a greater focus on human rights, the rule of law, employment (especially youth unemployment), education, training and regional development, in order to help alleviate the current social and economic crisis in these countries, and to provide the assistance needed to support the strengthening of good governance and democratic political reforms as well as social and economic development; underlines, in addition, the importance of supporting institutional capacity-building and effective public administration, including for the parliaments of these countries, an independent judicial system, the strengthening of civil-society organisations and independent media, and the formation of pluralist political parties within as secular a system as possible in which women’s rights are fully respected, and where there are marked improvements in the respect of key fundamental rights, such as the right to freedom of religion, in its individual, collective, public, private and institutional aspects;

Par. 68. Takes note, with great concern for the affected population, that the military intervention in Afghanistan has not resulted in the building of a viable state with democratic structures, an improvement in living conditions for the majority – in particular for women and girls – or the substitution of narcotics production by other forms of agriculture, but has instead embroiled the country in an unprecedented level of corruption; calls on the EU and the Member States, in view of the accelerated withdrawal of European troops, to prepare, as a priority, a safety plan for those Afghans who have closely supported EU state building efforts, and whose existence could be threatened by the departure of European forces, notably women’s activists; calls on the EEAS to make an honest evaluation of the EU’s and the Member States’ policy in Afghanistan since 2001 and to present, by the end of the year, a realistic plan of future EU activities in the region;
Par. 101. Recalls that the comprehensive approach to the EU implementation of the United Nations Security Council Resolutions 1325 and 1820 on women, peace and security, adopted by the Council of the European Union of 1 December 2008, recognises the close links between the issues of peace, security, development and gender equality, and should be a cornerstone of the CFSP; stresses that the EU has consistently called for the full implementation of the women, peace and security agenda set in UN Security Council resolutions 1325 (2000) and 1820 (2008), and subsequently reinforced by the adoption of UN Security Council resolutions 1888 and 1889 (2009) and 1960 (2010), particularly the need to combat violence against women in conflict situations and the promotion of women’s participation in peace building; calls on those Member States which have not yet done so to adopt national action plans regarding women, peace and security, and underlines that they should be based on uniform, minimum European standards as regards objectives, implementation and monitoring across the EU.

Par. 102. Underlines the need to develop more effective mediation guidelines and capacities through collaboration between the EU and the UN on mediation capacities, in order to provide adequate resources for mediation in a timely and coordinated manner, including through ensuring women’s participation in these processes; considers it essential for the implementation of the EU’s human rights policy to develop the UN Human Rights Council’s capacity to address serious and urgent human rights situations, to reinforce the follow-up process on the implementation of recommendations of the Special Procedures and to strengthen the process of the Universal Periodic Review; stresses the need to continue the EU’s support of the International Criminal Court with the aim of contributing to the effective protection of human rights and the fight against impunity.

Par. 108. Expects the EU to develop a real strategic partnership with the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), including an open, regular and constructive dialogue, and a structured cooperation, on human rights and democracy as well as on the transition process and crisis management in the Southern Neighbourhood; reiterates, in support of this objective, that the EEAS should devote more human resources to the region and open delegations in the main GCC countries; stresses that human rights, women’s rights, the rule of law and the democratic aspirations of the people in GCC countries, from Bahrain to Saudi Arabia, cannot continue to be overlooked in EU’s policies towards the region.

Par. 114. Calls for the VP/HR to put forward proposals for boosting the EEAS’ capacities with regard to conflict prevention and peace-building, with particular reference to the Gothenburg Programme, and to further expand the EU’s capacity to prevent conflict and provide mediation capacities alongside its better-resourced crisis management capacities; calls, as a matter of priority, for stock to be taken of EU policies in the area of conflict prevention and peace-building, with a view to the VP/HR reporting back to Parliament on proposals for strengthening the Union’s external capacity and responsiveness in this area; welcomes the proposal by the Commission and the EEAS to introduce a budget line amounting to EUR 500 000 for Conflict Prevention and Mediation Support Services in the EEAS budget for 2013, following the successful completion at the end of this year of a preparatory action proposed by Parliament; calls on the VP/HR to enhance the participation of women in conflict prevention, mediation and peace-building mechanisms.

In synthesis:

The final report on the Annual Report from the Council to the European Parliament on the Common Foreign and Security Policy drafted by AFET Committee covers several issues from a gender perspective. In particular, as regard to the foreign policy architecture, by recognising the essential role of the EEAS in the Union’s external action, the Parliament affirms its intention to continue monitoring the geographic and gender balance of staff in the EEAS.

With regard to Strategic priorities on peace, security and socio-economic development issues, the Parliament is concerned about the situation in Turkey in a number of areas, including women’s rights. Moreover, it recalls that the Southern Neighbourhood is of vital importance to the European Union and stresses the need to strengthen the partnership with these countries to encourage their transition to consolidated democracies, and the need to focus on human rights, employment, education, social and economic development to alleviate the current social and economic crisis. These aspects can be considered crucial when linked to the improvement of women’s conditions and female empowerment. In this respect, the report underlines the importance of supporting the strengthening the formation of pluralist political parties in which women’s rights are fully respected. The Parliament is also concerned for the military intervention in Afghanistan who has not resulted in the building of democratic structures and improving in living conditions for
the majority, in particular for women and girls. In particular, it calls on the EU and the Member States, in view of the accelerated withdrawal of European troops, to prepare a safety plan for those Afghans who have supported EU state building efforts, and whose existence could be threatened by the departure of European forces, notably women’s activists. Particular attention is then paid to women’s human rights and to need to combat violence against women in conflict situations. It also specified that human rights and women’s rights, in GCC countries (Gulf Cooperation Countries), from Bahrain to Saudi Arabia, cannot continue to be overlooked in EU’s policies towards the region.

As regarding conflict prevention and peace-building, the report also recognises the close links between the issues of peace, security, development and gender equality and the importance to consider women as significant actors in peace building and mediation processes. Finally, it is highlighted the importance of a sub-regional, Central Asian approach to tackling cross-border trafficking in people. This is an aspect that is of crucial concern for the female population particularly affected by this kind of violence.
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<tr>
<td>2012/2062(INI)</td>
<td>Report on the review of the EU’s human rights strategy</td>
<td>Non legislative act</td>
<td>Rapporteur: Rui Tavares Political Group: Group of the Greens/European Free Alliance Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs (LIBE)</td>
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Par. 2 Reaffirms that the universal human rights and freedoms stipulated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights apply to every human being, regardless of all circumstances or situations and of religion or belief, sex, racial or ethnic origin, age, disability, sexual orientation or gender identity;

Par. 5. Welcomes the fact that the Vice-President / High Representative has proposed to promote women’s rights, children’s rights and justice (focusing on the right to a fair trial) as the three cross-cutting campaign themes, and is confident that the new EU Special Representative for Human Rights will have a positive role in the implementation of the Action Plan in that respect;

Par. 18. Invites the Commission and the EEAS, in the context of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and the need to ensure the fullest possible protection of the rights established by that convention and prevent their erosion, to provide particular support for prioritising the needs of children of both sexes for special safeguards and care, on the basis of that convention and of the Declaration of the Rights of the Child;

Par. 19. Strongly condemns female genital mutilation as a breach of the bodily integrity of women and girls, and urges the Commission and the EEAS to pay specific attention to such harmful traditional practices in their strategy for fighting violence against women;

Par. 28. Calls on its relevant committees, such as the Subcommittee on Human Rights, the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs and the Committee on Women’s Rights and Gender Equality, to intensify their cooperation with the relevant Council of Europe bodies and instruments and to establish structured dialogues so as to develop an effective and pragmatic synergy between the two institutions and make full use of existing expertise in this field;

Par. 30. Suggests that the EU and its Member States should adopt as key priorities human rights, the fight against the death penalty and efforts to combat discrimination against women, areas in which the EU has achieved admirable results and in which its experience is relevant enough to share and to generate practical outcomes;

Par. 31. Recalls that development, democracy and the rule of law are prerequisites for, but not identical to, the realisation of human rights and that they interact with and support one another; calls on the EU to support the establishment of democratic and human-rights-based ideals throughout society, especially with a view to promoting gender equality and children’s rights;

Par. 39. Urges the EU institutions and the Member States further to encourage third countries to make express provision for women’s rights in their legislation and to guarantee respect for those rights;

Par. 70. Emphasises that the situation of women in the Arab Spring countries is often critical in order to assess progress with regard to democracy and human rights, and that securing women’s rights should be an essential part of the EU’s action in relation to these countries; also recalls that democracy entails the full participation of women in public life, as stated in international and regional instruments such as the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa;

Par. 73. Believes that countries clearly assessed as not making progress on deep democracy and deeply embedded institutional and social change, including the rule of law, should see the Union’s support reduced, without prejudice to support for civil society in those countries, in line with the aims of this policy, particularly where they infringe certain core principles, including freedom of expression, freedom of religion or belief, gender equality, freedom of conscience, freedom of assembly and freedom of association.
In synthesis:

The strategic review initiative strives to respond to the main challenges identified by Parliament and welcomes the inclusive approach adopted by the Council in this regard and, in particular, the Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy as a concrete expression of the EU’s commitment and accountability, along with the appointment of an EU Special Representative for Human Rights.

With regard to EU Strategic Framework on Human Rights and Democracy, it is reaffirmed that the universal human rights and freedoms stipulated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights apply to every human being, regardless of all situations, including sex and sexual orientation or gender identity. The Parliament (through the AFET Committee) welcomes the fact that the Vice-President / High Representative has proposed to promote women’s rights along with children’s rights and justice as the three cross-cutting campaign themes.

As regard to coherence and cooperation in policy areas and between the EU and its Member States, the document calls for more effective coordination between the EU and its Member States with a view to making policies and programs on human rights, security and development more consistent and complementary. In particular, the Commission and the EEAS are invited to provide particular support for prioritising the needs of children of both sexes for special safeguards and care, on the basis of Convention and of the Declaration of the Rights of the Child. They are also invited to pay specific attention to harmful traditional practices in their strategy for fighting violence against women. Female genital mutilation are strongly condemned as a breach of the bodily integrity of women and girls. Moreover, the Parliament calls on its relevant committees, including the Committee on Women’s Rights and Gender Equality, to intensify their cooperation with the relevant Council of Europe bodies and to establish structured dialogues so as to develop an effective and pragmatic synergy between the two institutions and make full use of existing expertise in human rights’ field;

With reference to towards an inclusive and effective approach, the Parliament reaffirms that EU and its Member States have adopted as key priorities human rights, besides the fight against the death penalty, efforts to combat discrimination against women. However, it calls on the EU to support the establishment of democratic and human rights based on ideals throughout society, especially with a view to promoting gender equality along with children’s rights and urges the EU institutions and the Member States to encourage third countries to make express provision for women’s rights in their legislation.

As regard to the renewed European Neighbourhood Policy, it is highlighted that women’s rights should be an essential part of the EU’s action in relation to countries involved by Arab Springs and that democracy entails the full participation of women in public life. Moreover it is stressed that countries assessed as not making progress on democracy and the rule of law, should have the Union’s support reduced, without prejudice to support for civil society in those countries, particularly where they infringe certain core principles, including gender equality.
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<td>2012/2088(INI)</td>
<td>Recommendation to the Council on the EU Special Representative for Human Rights</td>
<td>Non legislative act</td>
<td>Rapporteur: José Ignacio Salafranca Sánchez-Neyra Political Group: Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament</td>
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e) (...) the mandate should include, *inter alia*, abolition of the death penalty, human rights defenders, the fight against impunity, the fight against torture, freedom of expression (including on the internet), of association, of assembly, of religion and of belief, minority rights, child protection, women’s rights, peace and security, gender issues, and the fight against discrimination in all its forms, whether based on disability, racial or ethnic origin, gender, sexual orientation or gender identity;

f) the mandate should be based on the principles guiding the EU’s HR policy and, in particular, on (...) violence against women and girls and combating all forms of discrimination against them (2008); the LGBT toolkit (2010)

**In synthesis:**

This document drafted by AFET Committee contains the Parliament recommendations to Council on the establishment of Special Representative for Human Rights (EUSR). The document foreseen specific characteristics, tasks as well as fields of action of EUSR, which also cover women’s rights and gender issues. This attention to women is confirmed by par. f) where is specified that the EUSR’s mandate should be fully in line with the principles of universality and indivisibility of human rights and fundamental freedoms, and it should be based on the principles guiding the EU’s HR policy, including documents as “violence against women and girls and combating all forms of discrimination against them (2008)” that provides guidelines for protecting the women. Moreover, the recommendation doesn’t limit to deal with gender issues but considers the non-discrimination principle according a broad meaning that includes all kinds of discriminations, also based on disability, racial or ethnic origin, sexual orientation or gender identity.
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Par. 8. (...) that, in connection with both natural and other disasters, it is important to devote special attention to women and children, who are particularly vulnerable in crises;

**In synthesis:**

The document points out that in its external action strategies, policies and instruments, the EU should take into consideration the effects of natural disasters and climate change on international security. In particular, the populations with deteriorating access to freshwater and foodstuffs caused by natural catastrophes exacerbated by climate change are forced to migrate, thus overstretching the economic, social and administrative capabilities of already fragile regions, thereby creating conflict and having a negative impact on overall security. For this reason, in the report is highlighted that, in connection with both natural and other disasters, it is important to devote special attention to women and children, who are particularly vulnerable in crises.
**Gender issues in the Committee’s final Report**

Par. 16 Emphasises that, although forced abortions are strictly illegal in China, family-planning officials repeatedly coerce women into inhumane practices such as forced abortions or sterilisation; condemns the so-called ‘social maintenance fee’, an often-exorbitant fine that parents have to pay in the event of extra births, as was the case in the tragedy of Feng Jianmei; points out that official statistics show that in 2011 there were 8400 complaints from victims about misconduct by family-planning authorities; wholeheartedly supports Chinese voices calling for an end to the one-child policy, with its many loopholes, particularly in the light of demographic trends in China, while stressing its severe negative social and psychological consequences such as social disparities, a worsening gender equality situation, widespread negative feeling about the birth of a female child and the still-growing imbalance between baby boys and girls, which is creating ‘little emperors’, disrupting the traditional family structure and, moreover, reducing the intake of young people in the labour market; calls on the Chinese leadership to consider it a top priority to find a solution to this problem.

**In synthesis:**

The paragraphs contained in the final report drafted by AFET Committee tackle the EU-China relations matter. One paragraphs (No. 16) specifically regards the gender-based violence theme and the fight against gender stereotypes. This situation is considered a top priority to be resolved.

In addition, many paragraphs could also be considered from a gender perspective. In particular, the report points out that worker’s rights must be respected and are needed decent pay and working conditions. Moreover, it stress that the inequalities between urban and rural populations in terms of income and access to employment, social welfare, healthcare and education are a significant cohesion policy challenge for China. All these aspects are important from a gender perspective.
### Reports of the AGRI Committee

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<td>2010/0256(COD)</td>
<td>Report Proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down specific measures for agriculture in the outermost regions of the Union</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>Gabriel Mato Adrover</td>
<td>Group of the European People’s Party (Christian Democrats)</td>
<td>The EU Parliament amends the Commission proposal. This proposal seeks to recast Regulation (EC) No 247/2006 laying down support measures for the outermost regions. It also seeks to bring the regulation into line with the new provisions on delegated acts and implementing acts introduced under the Lisbon Treaty. The proposal also seeks to simplify and clarify the regulation, which covers all specific agricultural measures in support of the nine outermost regions referred to above. The Commission is taking advantage of this simplification to make changes to a few provisions, in order to address a number of implementation problems that have been identified over recent years.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2008/0183(COD)</td>
<td>Recommendation for Second Reading on the Council position at first reading with a view to the adoption of a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Council Regulations (EC) No 1290/2005 and (EC) No 1234/2007 as regards distribution of food products to the most deprived persons in the Union</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Czesław Adam Siekierski</td>
<td>Group of the European People’s Party (Christian Democrats)</td>
<td>In this recommendation the rapporteur suggests that the Parliament should accept without amendments the Council position at first reading adopted on 23 January 2012. Given the urgent situation created by the blocking of the proposal at the Council for two years, the rapporteur considers that any delay linked to the tabling of amendments and, as a consequence, a possible lengthy second reading procedure would only cause longer suffering to the most deprived EU citizens who could benefit from the food distribution programme. Moreover, it has to be taken into account that the amended Commission proposal of 3 October 2011 and the Council position under consideration have taken over all substantial EP amendments at first reading.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010/0353(COD)</td>
<td>Report on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on agricultural product quality schemes</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>Iratxe García-Pérez</td>
<td>Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats In the European Parliament</td>
<td>The EU Parliament emends the Commission proposal that aims at improving agricultural product quality schemes. The current quality schemes are: Protected designation of origin (PDO), Protected Geographical Indication (PGI), Traditional Specialty Guaranteed (TSG), Organic Farming and Outermost Regions, all with their respective logos. The rapporteur believes as a general remark that among our priorities should be the simplification and development of the current schemes, as well as the addition of new quality terms, that are likely to create value for the best European products. Whereas the Commission proposal constitutes a good and laudable departure point, the rapporteur believes greater clarity and a more comprehensive European quality system may be achieved.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010/0354(COD)</td>
<td>Report on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Council Regulation (EC) No 1234/2007 as regards marketing standards</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>Iratxe García-Pérez</td>
<td>Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats In the European Parliament</td>
<td>Parliament's Committee of agriculture and rural development currently works on a new legislative proposal of the European Commission on marketing standards. The Commission proposal constitutes a good departure point, however the AGRI rapporteur believes greater clarity and a more comprehensive European system for marketing standards may be achieved. Marketing standards lay down product definitions and categories, minimum required characteristics and certain labelling requirements, such as place of farming for specific products and sectors. They ensure that products sold in the single market are of a given quality, in line with consumer expectations, and prices of products of equivalent quality can be easily compared.</td>
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<td>Procedure reference</td>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Type: L=legislative NL=non legislative</td>
<td>Rapporteur</td>
<td>Political group</td>
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<td>2010/0370(COD)</td>
<td>Report on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down specific measures for agriculture in favour of the smaller Aegean islands</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>Georgios Papastamkos</td>
<td>Group of the European People’s Party (Christian Democrats)</td>
<td>The European Parliament amends and adopts at first reading a Commission proposal for regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down specific measures for agriculture in favour of the smaller Aegean islands. The Commission proposal is one of the measures being introduced with a view to updating EC/EU legislation following the changes introduced by the Lisbon Treaty. Specifically, a number of provisions of Council Regulation (EC) No 1495/2006 are brought into line with the provisions of the new Articles 290 (delegated acts) and 291 (implementing acts) of the TFEU. The proposed rewording clarifies the objectives of the regulation and seeks to restructure the text of the legislation for implementation purposes.</td>
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<td>(EC) No 1698/2005 as regards certain provisions relating to financial management for certain Member States experiencing or threatened with serious difficulties with respect to their financial stability</td>
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<td>European Parliament</td>
<td>certain provisions relating to financial management for certain Member States experiencing or threatened with serious difficulties with respect to their financial stability. These member States are at the risk of losing the Community support through EAFRD. Against this background, the Commission proposes to temporarily increase the maximum Union’s co-financing rate for programmes running in Member States that are subject to support of the EFSM (Council Regulation (EU) No 407/2010, currently Greece, Ireland and Portugal). This temporary increase in community co-financing, provided on application of the Member State concerned, would reduce the amount of matching national funds needed in Budget years 2011 and 2012. It would thus help to make programmed funds available for the rural economy and contribute to an overall economic recovery in these Member States.</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>2011/0416(COD)</td>
<td>Report on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Council Regulation (EC) No 1217/2009 setting up a network for the collection of accountancy data on the incomes and business operation of agricultural holdings in the European Community</td>
<td>L=legislative NL=non legislative</td>
<td>Giancarlo Scottà</td>
<td>Europe of freedom and democracy Group</td>
<td>The EU Parliament adopts its position at first reading amending the Commission proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Council Regulation (EC) No 1217/2009 setting up a network for the collection of accountancy data on the incomes and business operation of agricultural holdings in the European Community. This proposal concerns the Farm Accountancy Data Network (FADN), the only harmonised database of microeconomic data, as a similar approach is taken in all Member States. It is an important tool for framing and assessing agricultural policies, as each year it collects data on the income, inputs and outputs of a sample of agricultural holdings that are representative of the EU. The proposal under consideration, to amend Regulation (EU) No 1217/2009, does not substantively affect the FADN. Its main aim is to align the Commission’s implementing powers to Articles 290 and 291 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU), in particular with regard to delegated acts. The only amendment that the rapporteur proposes to the Commission proposal merely seeks to underline that a dedicated website, containing FADN data and reports, should continue to exist. This site should be designed to be as attractive and user friendly as possible and should be of great use to both policy makers and researchers.</td>
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<tr>
<td>(2011/2108(INI)</td>
<td>Report on honeybee health and the challenges of the beekeeping sector</td>
<td>NL</td>
<td>Csaba Sándor Tabajdi</td>
<td>Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament</td>
<td>This report aims to support and promote the beekeeping sector as an integral part of European agriculture. The market of such products is relatively small compared to the other livestock sectors, and the return on investments is low. Under the new Common Agricultural Policy from 2013, the EU should give targeted support for young beekeepers in order to counterbalance the unfavourable age structure of the beekeeping sector. The report identifies problems upstream of farm production, focusing on rising costs.</td>
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<tr>
<td>(2011/2114(INI)</td>
<td>Report on the farm input supply chain: structure and</td>
<td>NL</td>
<td>Jose Bové</td>
<td>Group of the Greens/European Free Alliance</td>
<td>This new initiative report identifies problems upstream of farm production, focusing on rising costs. The report highlights the need for a comprehensive approach to farm input supply chains, which are critical for the sustainability and efficiency of agriculture.</td>
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<td>Approval and control of the production. Council Decision 2003/17/EC1 provides the list of countries to be recognised for the application of the equivalence principle for importation of seed, from third countries. It also sets out detailed requirements to be fulfilled, in particular to limit the period for which equivalence is recognised to five years. That period will expire on 31 December 2012. In order to ensure the necessary supply of seed to the EU market, the Commission considers that these rules must be prolonged by amending the deadline until 31 December 2022, even if the temporary extension is currently foreseen for 5 years only. The rapporteur proposes that the Commission proposal be accepted by Parliament in its substance as it stands, given its urgency and importance for the continuation of the seed importation regime.</td>
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<td>Implications</td>
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<td>of purchased farm inputs over the past decade in the fields of energy, machinery, compound feed, fertilisers, pesticides, seeds, and water. It points at the impact on several production sectors, highlights the growing dependence of farmers on an increasingly concentrated input industry, and suggests measures to be taken within the upcoming CAP reform.</td>
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<tr>
<td>(2011/2175(INI)</td>
<td>Report on how to avoid food wastage: strategies for a more efficient food chain in the EU</td>
<td>NL</td>
<td>Salvatore Caronna</td>
<td>Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats In the European Parliament</td>
<td>The report deals with food waste issue. It has assumed such proportions that it can be regarded as a global problem that is reflected right along the food supply chain, from the field to the fork. The issue of food waste conflicts with the fundamental problem of food supply, which is seriously compromised by a number of factors, including limited natural resources as compared with the growth in the world population and the meagre access of the poorest population groups to food. For this reason, the report highlights that the bulk of food produced nowadays could in fact be reused for food purposes rather than being disposed of like any other refuse, with a major impact in environmental and economic terms as well as ethical implications. Combating food waste must become a priority on Europe’s policy agenda; the Commission, Council and Member States must draw up practical strategies and measures to halve food waste along the entire supply chain by 2025, to improve the efficiency of the industry and to raise the public’s awareness of an issue that is unknown in many respects.</td>
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<tr>
<td>(2012/2031(INI)</td>
<td>Report on the protection of animals during transport</td>
<td>NL</td>
<td>Janusz Wojciechowski</td>
<td>European Conservatives and Reformists Group</td>
<td>This report deals with the issue of animal welfare during transport. UE rules on this theme aim to eliminate technical barriers to trade whilst simultaneously providing a high level of animal welfare. The rapporteur believes that the transport of meat and other animal products is a technically easier and economically more reasonable solution when compared to the transport of live animals. Resources should therefore be made available to support local sales and shorten the food delivery chain. EU policy in this regard should be reviewed</td>
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<td>(2012/2043(INI))</td>
<td>Report on the European Union Strategy for the Protection and Welfare of Animals 2012–2015</td>
<td>NL</td>
<td>Marit Paulsen</td>
<td>Group of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe</td>
<td>The report highlights that a high level of animal welfare is a part of sustainable development and important to protect animal health, public health and the productivity and competitiveness of the livestock sector in Europe. However, the complex European and national rules on animal welfare, together with the lack of information regarding these, create legal uncertainty while the lack of compliance distorts competition. Therefore, there is a need for a new approach to animal welfare, one which must be based on the science and proven experience which has been acquired over the last years, and where the legislation is easy to understand and easy to control. In addition, there are uncountable and diverging national legal requirements in use at the present time and there are no shared definitions. As a consequence, the animal welfare conditions, in the EU today, vary greatly between countries and between animal species.</td>
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<tr>
<td>(2012/2077(INI))</td>
<td>Report on promotion measures and information provision for agricultural products: what strategy for promoting the tastes of Europe</td>
<td>NL</td>
<td>Jose Bove</td>
<td>Group of the Greens/European Free Alliance</td>
<td>The report welcomes the Commission &quot;Communication on promotion measures and information provision for agricultural products: a reinforced value-added European strategy for promoting the tastes of Europe&quot;, which must constitute a first step towards enhancing the value of European production among both Europeans and others and increasing its profitability. In particular</td>
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<td>the report supports the creating of higher European added value in the food sector, a more appealing policy strategy, a simpler management and greater synergy between different promotion instruments. The report stresses also that support for agriculture through UE promotional strategies guarantees food security, the sustainable use of natural resources and the dynamism of rural areas by increasing growth and job creation.</td>
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# Reports of the BUDG Committee

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<th>Procedure reference</th>
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<tr>
<td>2011/0301(COD)</td>
<td>Report on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Decision No 1639/2006/EC establishing a Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (2007-2013) and Regulation (EC) No 680/2007 laying down general rules for the granting of Community financial aid in the field of the trans-European transport and energy networks</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>Göran Färm</td>
<td>Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament</td>
<td>The report regards the &quot;projects bond&quot; to be financed within the European Programme a &quot;Connecting Europe Facility&quot; (CEF) aimed at accelerating infrastructure development in the fields of transport, energy and ICT networks. Project bonds are a debt instrument issued by private project companies, with the backing of an EU/EIB contribution which will make the bonds safer and more attractive to capital market investors otherwise not normally investing in infrastructure, such as pension funds. By reducing the risk taken by investors, it should stimulate the flow of private funds towards priority infrastructure investments, for which uncertain risk perceptions block the flow of finance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011/0333(CNS)</td>
<td>Report on the proposal for a Council regulation on the methods and procedure for making available the own resource based on the value added tax</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>Jean-Luc Dehaene</td>
<td>Group of the European People’s Party (Christian Democrats)</td>
<td>The report introduces amendments to the proposal of the EC for the abolition of the existing VAT own resource and its replacement by a new EU VAT resource that is depicted in detail in the proposal for a Council Regulation on the methods and procedures for making available the own resource based on the VAT.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012/2001(BUD)</td>
<td>Report on the guidelines for the 2013 budget procedure, Section I – European Parliament, Section II – Council, Section IV – Court of Justice, Section V – Court of Auditors, Section VI – European Economic and Social Committee, Section VII – Committee of the Regions, Section VIII – European Ombudsman, Section IX –</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Derek Vaughan</td>
<td>Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament</td>
<td>The report refers to the guidelines for the 2013 budget procedure, Section I – European Parliament, Section II – Council, Section IV – Court of Justice, Section V – Court of Auditors, Section VI – European Economic and Social Committee, Section VII – Committee of the Regions, Section VIII – European Ombudsman, Section IX – European Data Protection Supervisor, Section X – European External Action Service and emphasises the efforts of such institutions to reduce their costs.</td>
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<td>Procedure reference</td>
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<td>Rapporteur</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012/2011(BUD)</td>
<td>Report on the Council position on Draft amending budget No 1/2012 of the European Union for the financial year 2012, Section III – Commission</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Francesca Balzani</td>
<td>Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament</td>
<td>The motion for a resolution refers to the draft amending budget No 1/2012, which follows the agreement reached between the three institutions on the financing of EUR 1 300 million (in commitment appropriations) additional cost of the ITER project in 2012-2013.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012/2023(BUD)</td>
<td>Report on the proposal for a decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on mobilisation of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund, X in accordance with point 28 of the InterInstitutional Agreement of 17 May 2006 between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline and sound financial management (application EGF/2011/006 ES/Comunidad Valenciana Construction of buildings from Spain).</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Barbara Matera</td>
<td>Group of the European People’s Party (Christian Democrats)</td>
<td>The motion for a resolution refers to the mobilisation of the EGF in favour of Spain in order to support the reintegration in the labour market of workers made redundant due to the global financial and economic crisis. The Spanish authorities underline that the EGF is aimed at re-integrating the workers into the labour market through: guidance, job-search support, promotion of entrepreneurship, training, retraining and vocational training; and training for trainers, monitor on equal opportunities, participation incentive, contribution to commuting expenses and entrepreneurship incentive. The Parliament welcomes the decision to introduce a monitor on equal opportunities and calls on the other states to do the same.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012/2051(BUD)</td>
<td>Report on the proposal for a decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on the mobilisation of the</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>José Manuel Fernandes</td>
<td>Group of the European People’s Party (Christian Democrats)</td>
<td>The report refers to the mobilisation of the European Solidarity Fund in relation to flooding in Liguria and Tuscany in October 2011. Italy applied for assistance of Fund following the flooding that affected the regions of Liguria and</td>
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<tr>
<th>Procedure reference</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Type: L=legislative NL=non-legislative B=budgetary</th>
<th>Rapporteur</th>
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<tr>
<td>2012/2057(BUD)</td>
<td>Report on the Council position on Draft amending budget No 2/2012 of the European Union for the financial year 2012, Section III - European Commission</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Francesca Balzani</td>
<td>Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament</td>
<td>Tuscany in October 2011. 18 061 682 Euro were mobilised in favour of Italy through the European Solidarity Fund.</td>
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<td>2012/2089(BUD)</td>
<td>Report on the proposal for a decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on the mobilisation of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund, in accordance with point 28 of the Interinstitutional Agreement of 17 May 2006 between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline and sound financial management (application EGF/2011/030 ES/Comunidad Valenciana footwear from Spain)</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Salvador Garriga Polledo</td>
<td>Group of the European People's Party  (Christian Democrats)</td>
<td>The report refers to the approval of the Commission request regarding the mobilisation of the EGF in favour of Spain in order to support the reintegration in the labour market of workers made redundant due to the global financial and economic crisis. The Spanish authorities underline that the EGF is aimed at re-integrating the workers into the labour market through training measures and active employment measures.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012/2092(BUD)</td>
<td>Report on the Council position on the draft general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2013 - all sections</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Giovanni La Via</td>
<td>Group of the European People's Party  (Christian Democrats)</td>
<td>The report regards the European Parliament the motion of the European Parliament on the European Council position on the EU budget. Even though some of the amendments proposed by other Committees included references to gender equality issues (either in connection with EU programmes touching on such issues - i.e. Daphne - or with active measures to increase women's participation on the labour market) no direct reference is made in the text of the motion. In its final resolution, the European Parliament regrets and in some cases rejects the Council position of introducing cuts to a series of EU programmes that should contribute to the achievement of the EU 2020 objectives.</td>
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<td>2012/2121(BUD)</td>
<td>Report on the proposal for a decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on the mobilisation of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund, in accordance with point 28 of the InterInstitutional Agreement of 17 May 2006 between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline and sound financial management (application EGF/2011/008 DK/Odense Steel Shipyard from Denmark)</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Juan Andrés Naranjo Escobar</td>
<td>Group of the European People’s Party (Christian Democrats)</td>
<td>The report refers to the approval of the Commission request regarding the mobilisation of the EGF in favour of Spain in order to support the reintegration in the labour market of workers made redundant due to the global financial and economic crisis. The Spanish authorities underline that the EGF is aimed at re-integrating the workers into the labour market through training measures and active employment measures.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012/2127(BUD)</td>
<td>Report on the Council position on Draft amending budget No 4/2012 of the European Union for the financial year 2012, Section III - Commission</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Francesca Balzani</td>
<td>Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament</td>
<td>The report refers to the Commission proposal Draft amending budget No 4/2012 to the general budget 2011, which is threefold, namely the creation of four budget lines in order to reallocate financial appropriations from up to 10 % of the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and Cohesion Fund 2007-2013 allocation to risk-sharing instruments, a revision and budgeting of the forecast of the own resources, resulting in a change in the distribution between Member States of their own resources contributions to the EU budget, and the replacement of the “dash” presented in payment appropriations for a budget line 16 03 05 01 – Preparatory action – EuroGlobe by a token entry (p.m.) to make a transfer possible.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012/2154(BUD)</td>
<td>Report on the proposal for a decision of the European</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Frédéric Daerden</td>
<td>Group of the Progressive</td>
<td>The report refers to the mobilisation of the EGF in favour of Netherlands in order to support the reintegration in the</td>
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<td>2012/2157(BUD)</td>
<td>Report on the proposal for a decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on the mobilisation of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund, in accordance with point 28 of</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Frédéric Daerden</td>
<td>Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament</td>
<td>The report refers to the mobilisation of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund (EGF) for the case Talk Talk from Ireland in order to support the reintegration in the labour market of workers made redundant due to the global financial and economic crisis.</td>
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<td>2012/2242(BUD)</td>
<td>Report on the Council position on Draft amending budget No 5/2012 of the European Union for the financial year 2012, Section III – Commission</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Francesca Bolzani</td>
<td>Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament</td>
<td>The report refers to the Commission proposal Draft amending budget No 5/2012 and considers of great importance the quick release of financial assistance through the EU Solidarity Fund (EUSF) for those affected by natural catastrophes, and therefore warmly welcomes the prompt submission by Italian authorities of their application for financial assistance from the EUSF, as well as the prompt presentation by the Commission of its proposal for mobilisation of the EUSF.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012/2265(BUD)</td>
<td>Report on the proposal for a decision of the European Parliament to mobilise the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund (EGF) for the case</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Frédéric Daerden</td>
<td>Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament</td>
<td>The report refers to the mobilisation of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund (EGF) for the case</td>
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<td>2012/2276(BUD)</td>
<td>Report on the proposal for a decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on mobilisation of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund, in accordance with point 28 of the Interinstitutional Agreement of 17 May 2006 between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline and sound financial management (application EGF/2011/026 IT/Emilia-Romagna Motorcycles from Italy)</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Alda Sousa</td>
<td>Confederation of the European Left - Nordic Green Left</td>
<td>The European Globalisation Adjustment Fund has been created in order to provide additional assistance to workers suffering from the consequences of major structural changes in world trade patterns. On 19 October 2012, the Commission adopted a new proposal for a decision on the mobilisation of the EGF in favour of Finland in order to support the reintegration in the labour market of workers made redundant due to major structural changes in world economic conditions.</td>
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<td>Agreement of 17 May 2006 between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on budgetary discipline and sound financial management (application EGF/2012/006 FI/Nokia Salo from Finland)</td>
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<td>trade patterns due to globalisation. To date, the mobile phone sector has been the subject of several EGF applications, all of which based on trade related globalisation.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012/2280(BUD)</td>
<td>Report on the Council position on Draft amending budget No 6/2012 of the European Union for the financial year 2012, Section III -</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Francesca Balzani</td>
<td>Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats</td>
<td>The report refers to the Commission proposal regarding the draft amending budget No 6/2012 to the general budget 2012 which covers, inter alia, an update in the forecast of revenue after the latest revision of the forecasts of own resources and other revenue and an increase of payment.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012/2307(BUD)</td>
<td>Report on the Council position on the new draft general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2013 - all sections</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Giovanni La Via</td>
<td>Group of the European People’s Party (Christian Democrats)</td>
<td>The report refers to the position of the Council on the new draft general budget of the European Union for the financial year 2013. The &quot;draft package&quot; agreed, after difficult negotiations, by Parliament and Council during the Trilogue of 29 November 2012 consists of three elements: the Amending Budget No 6/2012 for EUR 6 billion, partially covering the shortage of payments up to 31st October 2012, the Union Budget for the year 2013 set to a level of EUR 150 898 391 million and EUR 132 836 958 million, respectively in commitment and payment appropriations and three joint statements ensuring that the actual payment needs in 2012 and 2013 will be duly covered. The report approves the position of the Council, even though the EP underlines its concerns with regards to the impact of the 5 billion cut off payments on the implementation of the &quot;growth and jobs&quot; compact agreed by the European Council in June 2012.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013/2003(BUD)</td>
<td>Report on the guidelines for the 2014 budget procedure, Section I – European Parliament, Section II – Council, Section IV – Court of Justice, Section V – Court of Auditors, Section VI – European Economic and Social Committee, Section VII – Committee of the Regions, Section VIII – European Ombudsman, Section IX – European Data Protection Supervisor, Section X – European External Action Service</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Monika Hohlmeier</td>
<td>Group of the European People’s Party (Christian Democrats)</td>
<td>The report refers to the EP motion of resolution on the guidelines for the 2014 budget procedure, Section I – European Parliament, Section II – Council, Section IV – Court of Justice, Section V – Court of Auditors, Section VI – European Economic and Social Committee, Section VII – Committee of the Regions, Section VIII – European Ombudsman, Section IX – European Data Protection Supervisor, Section X – European External Action Service and in particular to the measures undertaken by these institutions to save resources.</td>
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NL=non legislative  
B=budgetary | Rapporteur | Political group | Brief description |
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<td>2013/2010(BUD)</td>
<td>Report on the general guidelines for the preparation of the 2014 budget, Section III - Commission</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Anne E. Jensen</td>
<td>Group of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe</td>
<td>The report refers to an EP motion for resolution on the guidelines for the drafting of the 2014 budget. According to the report, the priority of the European budget in 2014 should be to sustain economic growth and competitiveness, boost employment and fight against youth unemployment; believes that any decrease in the EU budget would inevitably increase imbalances and hamper the growth and competitive strength of the entire Union economy, as well as its cohesiveness, and would undermine the principle of solidarity as a core EU value. Moreover, it emphasises the need to enhance financial support and activities as regards the introduction of quality education systems that combine practical training with vocational education; asks for stronger support for cooperation between Member States in the field of vocational education in order to combat youth unemployment effectively. Furthermore, it sustains that the EU 2020 strategy should be at the heart of the next MFF (2014 – 2020) and urges the Commission to place emphasis on investments in the fields of the knowledge triangle (education, research innovation), infrastructures, SMEs, renewable energy, sustainable development, entrepreneurship, employment – in particular youth employment – and skills, as well as the strengthening of economic, social and territorial cohesion;</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012/2027(INI)</td>
<td>Report on innovative financial instruments in the context of the next Multiannual Financial Framework</td>
<td>NL</td>
<td>Eldier Gardiazabal Rubial</td>
<td>Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament</td>
<td>The report regards the creation of new and review of existing Innovative Financial Instruments (IFIs) based on arrangements combining grants from the Union budget with public and/or private funding in order to boost the volume of investment available to achieve the Union’s strategic objectives.</td>
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### Reports of the ENVI Committee

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<tr>
<td>2008/0241(COD)</td>
<td>Recommendation for Second Reading on the Council position at first reading with a view to the adoption of a directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) (Recast)</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>Karl-Heinz Florenz</td>
<td>Group of the European People’s Party (Christian Democrats)</td>
<td>Policy field: Environmental policy and environmental protection measures. The report regards the second reading on the Council position at first reading with regards to the directive on waste and electrical equipment. The directive is aimed to contribute to sustainable production and consumption by, as a first priority, the prevention of WEEE and, in addition, by the re-use, recycling and other forms of recovery of such wastes, so as to reduce the disposal of waste and to contribute to the efficient use of resources and the retrieval of critical raw materials. It also seeks to improve the environmental performance of all operators involved in the life cycle of EEE, e.g. producers, distributors and consumers and, in particular, those operators directly involved in the collection and treatment of WEEE.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2009/0076(COD)</td>
<td>Recommendation for Second Reading on the Council position at first reading with a view to the adoption of a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning the making available on the market and use of biocidal products</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>Christa Klaß</td>
<td>Group of the European People’s Party (Christian Democrats)</td>
<td>The report regards a recommendation for the second reading on the Council position at first reading with a view to the adoption of a regulation concerning the making available and use of biocidal products. The rapporteur welcomes the fact that, in its common position on the proposal for a regulation concerning the making available on the market and use of biocidal products, the Council has incorporated just under half of Parliament’s amendments. She nonetheless considers the proposal to be in considerable need of improvement in order to achieve the stated purposes, such as eliminating the shortcomings in the existing authorisation directive, 98/8/EC, improving the authorisation procedure and streamlining decision-making while further developing the high level of protection.</td>
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| 2011/0002(COD)      | Report on the proposal for a directive of the European Parliament and of the | L | Salvatore Tarella | Group of the European People's Party (Christian | Commission decided in 2008 to launch a wider review of the Seveso Directive. On the basis of this review the Commission concluded that overall the existing provisions are fit for purpose and that no major changes regarding the basic structure and the main provisions are required. For his amendments to the Commission proposal the rapporteur used the following guiding principles:  
- The current Directive seems to function well; the Rapporteur does not see the need for major changes regarding the basic structure and the main provisions.  
- The revision is necessary because of the required alignment to the CLP Regulation.  
- Since no one-to-one translation is possible, the used alignment method should at least maintain the same level of protection as the current Directive.  
- Correction mechanisms are necessary in order to handle unintended changes in the scope.  
- Certain obligations arising from the registration and classification of substances have already been agreed under the REACH and CLP Regulations; thus the revision should not be used to reopen discussions on such obligations (e.g. performing laboratory tests).  
- Changes to the current Directive should improve implementation and enforceability and thereby increase the level playing field and where possible reduce the administrative burden for industry.  
- Access to information, public participation in decision making and access to justice is essential for ensuring a high level of protection;  
- To prevent possible domino effects, a smooth cooperation and exchange of information should be ensured between competent authorities, establishments and neighbouring sites. |
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The rapporteur welcomes the Commission’s proposal to...
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<tr>
<td>2011/0105(COD)</td>
<td>Report on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning the export and import of dangerous chemicals (recast)</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>Dan Jørgensen</td>
<td>Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament</td>
<td>postpone by three years the date of the introduction of Stage IIIIB and Stage IV for tractors in categories T2, T4.1, C2. Moreover, it is important to note that the studies which preceded the drawing up of this proposal do not indicate with the requisite certainty that narrow-track tractors are capable of fulfilling, in due course, the requirements specified for Stage IV. That being so, the rapporteur considers that it is necessary for sufficient time to be allowed to conduct a more thorough assessment of the feasibility of Stage IV after the technology has made sufficient progress in that area and, where appropriate, to propose further changes to the requirements or timetable laid down for Stage IV. Given that Stage IIIIB becomes effective on 1 January 2012, the rapporteur considers that there is a very urgent need to adopt the proposal to ensure it can be transposed and implemented by the Member States as soon as possible.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011/0156(COD)</td>
<td>Report on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on food intended for infants and young children and on food for special medical purposes</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>Frédérique Ries</td>
<td>Group of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe</td>
<td>Policy field: Food safety  The first piece of European legislation dealing with dietetic foods was a directive adopted back in 1977. That directive was subsequently amended several times and then consolidated in a framework directive based on the concept of ‘foodstuffs intended for particular nutritional uses’, which was adopted in 2009. Following the consultations with Member States begun in 2007, the Commission submitted this proposal for a</td>
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The main purpose of the proposal is to implement the upper limits agreed in the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) in 2008 on the sulphur content of marine fuels. |
Under Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000 establishing a system for the identification and registration of bovine animals and regarding the labelling of beef and beef products and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 820/97, and in accordance with Directive 64/432/EEC, Member States have set up 'computerised databases' containing information on bovine animals on their territory. As yet these databases do not take into account the emergence of technology for the electronic identification (EID) of bovine animals. Since the review of Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000 currently under way favours the gradual and harmonised development of this |
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<tr>
<td>2011/0229(COD)</td>
<td>Report on the amended proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000 as regards electronic identification of bovine animals and deleting the provisions on voluntary beef labelling</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>Sophie Auconie</td>
<td>Group of the European People's Party (Christian Democrats)</td>
<td>new technology, the principles governing the collection of such data should also be adapted to make them compatible with both methods for the identification of bovine animals. It is therefore necessary to amend Directive 64/432/EEC. Policy field: Food safety This proposal for a regulation seeks to meet three new major challenges: 1. to make Regulation (EC) No 1760/2000 take account of the emerging technology of the electronic identification (EID) of bovine animals; 2. to simplify the rules governing the labelling of beef; 3. to update the rules governing the powers conferred on the Commission, so as to take into account the entry into force of the Treaty of Lisbon and the new provisions on delegated and implementing acts. Ultimately the aim is to ensure that legislation on the identification and traceability of bovine animals is clear and enforceable and thus to optimise food safety.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011/0231(COD)</td>
<td>Report on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the definition, description, presentation, labelling and the protection of geographical indications of aromatised wine products</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>Paolo Bartolozzi</td>
<td>Group of the European People's Party (Christian Democrats)</td>
<td>Policy field: Food safety Aromatised wine products play an important role for consumers, producers and the wider agricultural sector in the European Union. They represent a significant proportion of the EU's wine sector, forming an extremely important market in terms of both quality and size, both domestically and internationally. The proposal for a regulation fits into a European legislative framework of which a key aspect cannot be overlooked: the reform of wine sector policy. The Commission's proposal for a regulation is intended to update Regulation (EC) 1601/91 laying down general rules on the definition, description and presentation of aromatised wines, aromatised wine-based drinks and aromatised wine-product cocktails.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011/0304(NLE)</td>
<td>Recommendation on the draft Council decision on the accession of the European Union to the Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea</td>
<td>NL</td>
<td>Anna Rosbach</td>
<td>European Conservatives and Reformists Group</td>
<td>Policy field: Environmental policy and environmental protection measures In October 2011 the Commission published a proposal for a Council Decision to approve the accession of the European Union to the Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against pollution resulting from</td>
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<td>2011/0339(COD)</td>
<td>Report on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a Health for Growth Programme, the third multi-annual programme of EU action in the field of health for the period 2014-2020</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>François Grossetête</td>
<td>Group of the European People's Party (Christian Democrats)</td>
<td>Exploration and exploitation of the continental shelf and the seabed and its subsoil (the &quot;Offshore Protocol&quot;). The Protocol entered into force on 24 March 2011, following its ratification by six contracting parties (Albania, Tunisia, Morocco, Libya, Cyrus and Syria), and so far has neither been signed nor ratified by the Union. Following a series of considerations, the Rapporteur recommended that Parliament consents to the accession of the EU to the Offshore Protocol.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011/0372(COD)</td>
<td>Report on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on a mechanism for monitoring and reporting greenhouse gas emissions and for reporting other information at national and Union level relevant to climate change</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>Bas Eickhout</td>
<td>Group of the Greens/European Free Alliance</td>
<td>Policy field: Environmental policy and environmental protection measures. The document refers to a draft regulation for monitoring and reporting greenhouse gas emissions. The draft regulation on MMR replaces the monitoring mechanism established under Decision No. 280/2004/EC. Together with the view of the Rapporteur, the document details the opinion expressed by the Committee on development and that of the Committee on Industry, research and energy. At first reading, significant amendments were proposed. Among them, how to gather better data sourced from maritime transport operators. No direct or indirect impact on gender was identified reviewing the document.</td>
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<td>2011/0409(COD)</td>
<td>Report on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the sound level of motor vehicles</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>Miroslav Ouzky</td>
<td>European Conservatives and Reformists Group</td>
<td>Policy field: Environmental policy and environmental protection measures. The Commission introduced a proposal for a Regulation on the sound level of motor vehicles. The proposal would introduce a new testing method for measuring the sound levels and new noise limit values for different categories of light, medium-sized and heavy vehicles. The rapporteur proposed a number of additions and technical adjustments, none of which appear to have an impact on gender related issues. (The word equal is used in the document in a gender neutral way, that is, equal or above a certain mathematical value.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011/0421(COD)</td>
<td>Report on the proposal for a decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on serious cross-border threats to health</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>Gilles Pargneaux</td>
<td>Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament</td>
<td>Policy field: Public health. This document deals with the Commission’s proposal aimed at reinforcing the European Union’s response capacity to prevent serious cross-border threats to health. On the back of the experience of recent crises such as the H1N1 ‘pandemic’ in 2009, the volcanic ash cloud in 2010 and the E. colli bacteria in 2011, the rapporteur proposed to amend the draft decision in the following areas: scope of the decision; Communication strategy; Independence of experts; Protection of personal data; Mandate of the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control; Cooperation with the WHO and third countries; Procedures for common purchases of medical countermeasures; Regular dialogue with the European Parliament. Although the document touches upon some relevant issues, such as access to pandemic vaccines, evidence suggests these are treated in a gender natural way.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011/0428(COD)</td>
<td>Report on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the establishment of a Programme for the Environment and Climate Action (LIFE)</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>Jutta Haug</td>
<td>Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament</td>
<td>Policy field: Environmental policy and environmental protection measures. This document contains the amendments proposed by the EP for the new programming round of the LIFE programme. The rapporteur supports an increase in budget for the LIFE programme in the current negotiations on the next Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF). Moreover, the experience of previous LIFE programming periods has revealed disparities among Member States in the uptake of available LIFE funds.</td>
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<td>2011/0461(COD)</td>
<td>Report on the proposal for a decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on a Union Civil Protection Mechanism</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>Elisabetta Gardini</td>
<td>Group of the European People’s Party (Christian Democrats)</td>
<td>Measures are therefore proposed for Member States and regions with a low selection rate of projects to obtain supported in aiming to achieve higher project quality. In addition, it is proposed that less developed regions will be offered a 75% match-funding. Other measures are proposed to even out disparities in the treatment of the beneficiaries, including a different system to handle VAT charges. All instances in which the word equal/equality is used proved to be related to the uneven treatment of member states.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012/0007(COD)</td>
<td>Report on the proposal for a directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on the classification, packaging and labelling of dangerous preparations (recast)</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>Eija-Riitta Korhola</td>
<td>Group of the European People’s Party (Christian Democrats)</td>
<td>Policy field: Environmental policy and environmental protection measures This document deals with civil protection i.e. &quot;preventing and protecting against natural and man-made disasters&quot;. Civil protection in the Union is currently governed by two legal instruments: one on the Community Civil Protection Mechanism, and one on the related Financial Instrument covering the period 2013 – 2020. Although the notion of civil protection is interpreted differently in various Member States, this remains primarily the responsibility of the Member States and the purpose of European legislation cannot be more than supporting and complementing Member States’ actions, and promoting cooperation and consistency. Several amendments to the EC proposal are put forward by the rapporteur. For example, the document refers to the disproportionate impact on developing countries but Evidence from the review suggests that none have a gender dimension.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012/0023(COD)</td>
<td>Report on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EC) No 726/2004 as regards pharmacovigilance</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>Linda McAvan</td>
<td>Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament</td>
<td>Policy field: Public health The safety of medicines at EU level is controlled through Directive 2010/84/EU and Regulation 1235/2010 with new legislation due in July 2012. However, the emergence of a major medicine safety enquiry in France, the &quot;Mediator&quot; case in 2011, prompted calls for an urgent review of pharmacovigilance systems in the EU. The Commission is therefore proposing some further changes to Directive 2010/84/EU and Regulation 1235/2010 to address these concerns. By and large the improvements suggested revolve around a new trigger for the urgent procedure, the clarification of transparency obligations on companies, and a longer list of medicines subject to additional monitoring.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012/0035(COD)</td>
<td>Report on the proposal for a directive of the European Parliament and of the Council relating to the transparency of measures regulating the prices of medicinal products for human use and their inclusion in the scope of public health insurance systems</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>Antonyla Parvanova</td>
<td>Group of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe</td>
<td>Policy field: Public health This report addresses the potentially sensitive issue of the prices and reimbursement of medicinal products. While respecting the exclusive competence of Member States, the Commission proposal (COM(2012)0084) to the Parliament and the Council put forward procedural requirements to ensure legal certainty and transparency for national competent authorities, to promote the production of medicinal products and the entry on the market of generic medicinal products. No gender impact identified.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012/0039(COD)</td>
<td>Report on the proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the non-commercial movement of pet animals</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>Horst Schnellhardt</td>
<td>Group of the European People’s Party (Christian Democrats)</td>
<td>Policy field: Food safety The movement of pet animals has been regulated since 2003 by Regulation No. 998/2003 and its subsequent 17 modifications. However, rabies, or the absence of it, was the main but not the only reason to maintain a special transitional regime for the movement of animals into the territory of some Member States (Articles 6, 8 and 16 of Reg. No. 998/2003). Once with the expiry of another</td>
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The rapporteur can identify three categories of proposed amendments which are mainly of a technical nature. Firstly, the references to the regulation to be repealed (Regulation (EC) No 998/2003) will be replaced by references to the new regulation, which is being worked on alongside this proposal. Secondly, and in contrast to the present text, Article 10 includes a proposal to refer to Regulation (EC) No 1/2005 on the protection of animals during transport and related operations and to amend Directives 64/432/EEC and 93/119/EEC and Regulation (EC) No 1255/97, which also cover dogs, cats and ferrets. The third and, in terms of content, only relevant proposed amendment concerns the period within which, before they are moved, animals must undergo a clinical examination, to be conducted by one of the veterinary surgeons authorised by the competent authority in order to confirm that the animals are fit to undertake the planned journey. |
This document discusses how land use, land-use change and forestry (LULUCF) activities could be mainstreamed in the EU’s climate policy. More specifically, the document deals with the procedures needed to measure the emissions and removals in greenhouse gasses generated by LULUCF that are currently not accounted |

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<tr>
<td>2012/0074(NLE)</td>
<td>Report on the proposal for a Council directive laying down requirements for the protection of the health of the general public with regard to radioactive substances in water intended for human consumption</td>
<td>NL</td>
<td>Michele Rivasi</td>
<td>Group of the Greens/European Free Alliance</td>
<td>Policy field: Environmental policy and environmental protection measures. The quality of drinking water is currently regulated by the Council Directive 98/83/EC. This includes the regulation of contaminants. However, the implementation of the requirements for monitoring tritium and the total indicative dose is still missing, even though the directive had to be complied with by Member States by the end of 2003. With the present proposal, the Commission aimed to incorporate the respective requirements rather than into the directive referred to above, into a new specific legislation on the basis of the Euratom treaty. The rapporteur proposed to change the Commission’s proposal with regard to one aspect which has an indirect gender dimension. While in the original EC proposal the reference dose to the radiological impact of normal levels of human activity was universal, the rapporteur suggested the radioactivity thresholds should be amended to take into account the different exposure groups, in particular considering age.</td>
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| 2012/0120(NLE)      | Recommendation on the draft Council decision on the conclusion on behalf of the European Union of the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety | NL    | Matthias Groote | Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament | Policy field: Environmental policy and environmental protection measures. The Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity is an international treaty governing the movements of living modified organisms (LMOs) resulting from modern biotechnology from one country to another. Liability and redress in the context of the Cartagena Protocol concerns the question of what would happen if the transboundary movement of LMOs has caused damage. The liability provisions of the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol are covered by the Directive 2004/35/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 April 2004, on environmental liability with regard to the prevention and remedying of environmental damage, which establishes a framework based on the “polluter pays” principle, according to which the polluter pays when environmental damage occurs. The Rapporteur endorsed the Council
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The rapporteur proposed the adoption of short as well as long-term measures to address the serious imbalances currently faced by the European Union Emissions Trading System (EU ETS). Key problem being that the economic crisis led to a significant surplus of allowances. |
In this document the rapporteur asks for more efficiency in all stages of the European disaster management cycle, including prevention, preparedness, response and recovery, while optimising economic resources during times of austerity. This INI led to (COM(2011)0934 – C7-0519/2011 – 2011/0461) (also reviewed) as part of this exercise. Evidence from the review suggests that none of the issues dealt with in the document has a gender dimension. The word 'equal' at p. 7 is not used with a gender connotation. |
| 2011/2068 (INI)     | Report on a resource-efficient Europe                                 | NL                                     | Gerben-Jan Gerbrandy  | Group of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe                       | Policy field: Environmental policy and environmental protection measures  
In this document it is advocated that Europe needs is a new agenda for future growth. The work of the EC in relation to The Roadmap for a Resource Efficient Europe gives the analysis and sets the first steps towards this new agenda. Yet according to the rapporteur, it does not reflect the necessary sense of urgency. This document aims to push the Commission, Member States and industry towards a more ambitious agenda. In this context, it is suggested that the EU should seriously rethink existing subsidies. Many proposals are put forward from the rapporteur, but also from the various committees. Among them the committee on International trade; the committee on industry, research and energy; the committee on regional development; and the committee on fisheries. No policy impact on gender was |
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<tr>
<td>2011/2095(INI)</td>
<td>Report on a Roadmap for moving to a competitive low carbon economy in 2050</td>
<td>NL</td>
<td>Chris Davies</td>
<td>Group of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe</td>
<td>Policy field: Environmental policy and environmental protection measures. This document focuses on the European Commission’s Roadmap for moving to a competitive low carbon economy in 2050. It is argued that to ensure that the Emissions Trading System (ETS) provides the signals to investors originally intended. The ETS pricing mechanism was expected to give industry the stimulus needed to promote investments that can secure a reduction in CO2 emissions at least possible cost. But a surplus of allowances now exists that has reduced their price to the extent that it does little or nothing to shape investment. Unless action is taken to correct the mechanism there is no likelihood of prices recovering to the levels envisaged when the legislation was approved. As such the document does not display gender issues.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011/2193(INI)</td>
<td>Report on voluntary and unpaid donation of tissues and cells</td>
<td>NL</td>
<td>Marina Yannakoudakis</td>
<td>European Conservatives and Reformists Group</td>
<td>Policy field: Public health. This report deals with the voluntary donation of tissues and cells. It should be noted that healthcare is largely a Member State competency, the recommendations set forth are geared to complement existing practices in Member States and build on areas such as cross-border donation. This report works towards increasing tissue and cell supply by exchanging best practice in relation to common operations, ethical standards and raising awareness of donation. In particular, the rapporteur calls for greater collaboration between Member States with the existing Europet project.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011/2194(INI)</td>
<td>Report on the review of the 6th Environment Action Programme and the setting of priorities for the 7th Environment Action Programme – A better environment for a better life</td>
<td>NL</td>
<td>Jo Leinen</td>
<td>Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament</td>
<td>Policy field: Environmental policy and environmental protection measures. Environment Action Programmes have guided the development of EU environment policy since the early seventies. The current 6th Environment Action Programme (6EAP) will expire in July 2012. Its final assessment (August, 2011) concluded that the 6th EAP has provided an effective overarching framework for environment policy. According to rapporteur, it is therefore essential to adopt as soon as possible a 7th EAP and the Commission is therefore called upon to</td>
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<td>2011/2297(INI)</td>
<td>Report on the review of the 6th Environment Action Programme and the setting of priorities for the 7th Environment Action Programme – A better environment for a better life</td>
<td>NL</td>
<td>Jo Leinen</td>
<td>Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament</td>
<td>present as soon as possible its proposal for a 7th EAP, and to take into account the recommendations of the EP contained in this document. No reference is made to gender issues.</td>
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<td>2011/2307(INI)</td>
<td>Report on our life insurance, our natural capital: an EU biodiversity strategy to 2020</td>
<td>NL</td>
<td>Gerben-Jan Gerbrandy</td>
<td>Group of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe</td>
<td>Policy field: Environmental policy and environmental protection measures The Water Framework Directive (WFD) adopted in 2000 proved ground breaking with regard to in EU water policy. Nonetheless, evidence suggests that the implementation of the directive has been slow. In this context, the Commission has launched several assessments of the water situation in the EU: the process will result in a ‘Blueprint to safeguard Europe’s water resources’ to be published in November 2012. This report identifies what the rapporteur refers to as important policy gaps that will need to be bridged by new legislation. The Rapporteur calls on the Commission to incorporate the policy recommendations contained in this report into the formulation of the ‘Blueprint to safeguard Europe’s water resources’ as an important contribution towards a more effective and better integrated water policy and a level playing field for its implementation.</td>
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Policy field: Environmental policy and environmental protection measures

Although biodiversity is much talked about in policy circles, outcomes are poor. The EU indeed failed to achieve its 2010 biodiversity targets. The EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020 offers the opportunity to take the necessary policy measures to secure nature and ecosystem services for the next generations. The main challenge is to integrate biodiversity in all other policy fields. The timing is right. All major European policies are currently being reviewed: The Common Agricultural Policy, Cohesion policy, Common Fisheries Policy, and the European Roadmaps on energy, transport, resource efficiency are going to be translated into legislation. The rapporteur stresses that the new strategy must not fail as well. He calls on the Commission to provide Parliament with two-yearly progress reports in which the Council and Commission elaborate on the state of play.
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<tr>
<td>2011/2308(INI)</td>
<td>Report on the environmental impacts of shale gas and shale oil extraction activities</td>
<td>NL</td>
<td>Bogusław Sonik</td>
<td>Group of the European People’s Party (Christian Democrats)</td>
<td>Policy field: Environmental policy and environmental protection measures. This report deals with the environmental impacts of shale gas and shale oil extraction activities. It is a fairly technical and complex report. In recent years the extraction of ‘unconventional’ hydrocarbons, notably shale gas but also shale oil, has led to unprecedented and radical changes in global energy markets. In particular, shale gas has risen from 1.4 % of the US gas market in 2000 to some 17 % in 2011. Global gas prices and trade patterns are being re-shaped, with evident consequences for the EU. This amounts to what was defined as a ‘shale gas revolution’. Although the document notes that no official or other reputable sources have demonstrated any systematic connexion between shale gas and shale oil extraction and human or animal health, hydraulic fracturing remains a very contentious issue which however has no clear gender dimension.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012/2041(INI)</td>
<td>Report on the Microbial Challenge – Rising threats from Antimicrobial Resistance</td>
<td>NL</td>
<td>Anna Rosbach</td>
<td>European Conservatives and Reformists Group</td>
<td>Policy field: Public health. This initiative deals with the growing threat of antimicrobial resistance (AMR). AMR is the ability of a microbial organism to flourish and survive in the presence of an antimicrobial at a usually sufficient dosage to inhibit or kill microorganisms of the same species. As a result, antimicrobial organisms may develop a profound resistance to certain antimicrobial agents to which they are ordinarily sensitive. The EP put forward a multifaceted approach fore and foremost focused on the prudent use of antimicrobials in human and veterinary medicine.</td>
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<td>2012/2066(INI)</td>
<td>Report on the protection of public health from endocrine disrupters</td>
<td>NL</td>
<td>Åsa Westlund</td>
<td>Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament</td>
<td>Policy field: Public Health. The resolution assumes the gender perspective in urging the Commission to revise the current legislation on endocrine disruptors, considered to be one of the most relevant factors for endocrine diseases. The report pays particular attention to women as they are one of the categories mostly affected by endocrine diseases. In fact, chemical substances acting as endocrine disruptors can have oestrogenic or anti-oestrogenic effects which...</td>
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| 2012/2104(INI)       | Report on Improving the delivery of benefits from EU environment measures: building confidence through better knowledge and responsiveness | DL    | Oreste Rossi | Europe of freedom and democracy Group                | Policy field: Environmental policy and environmental protection measures  
This document put forward a motion for a European parliament resolution. It relates to the Commission Communication entitled ‘Improving the delivery of benefits from EU environment measures: building confidence through better knowledge and responsiveness’ (COM(2012)0095).                                                                                                                                                                    |
This Own Initiative Report aims at supporting the EC with its Strategic Implementation Plan on the European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing. The initiative is considered to be necessary due to the demographic changes in the European population characterised by a continuous demographic decline and population ageing. In this context, the report considers that one has to question to what extent the EU, the Member States, the regions, cities, and municipalities are adapted to the needs and (remaining) capacities of their ageing populations. A relevant issues consists in whether the conditions in these places can indeed guarantee that people are enabled to mature and grow old in an active and healthy way. Moreover, as stated by the report the issue of active and healthy ageing does not interest only old people, but most of all young people as it is necessary to create the conditions that allow them to age well (active and healthy). The Committee report pays particular attention to gender issues. However, the Committee’s proposals related to gender issues are not reflected equally  |
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In all the strands of the programme. For instance, gender issues are mostly considered with regards the active ageing and independent living and the horizontal pillar. Indeed, gender equality is recalled as a mainstream element in the points regarding employment and pensions and horizontal issues to all the three pillars. However, gender issues in the healthcare sector are not directly considered, even though the Committee’s proposals could have an indirect impact from a gender perspective.
### Assessment of gender mainstreaming in the work of ENVI activities

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#### Gender issues in the Committee’s final Report

In the context of the 2020 Strategy and new financial perspectives for the 2014-2020 period, the Commission has launched Health for Growth as a means of promoting innovation in healthcare, achieving more sustainable healthcare systems, improving the health of EU citizens and protecting them from cross-border health threats. The programme aims to foster innovation in healthcare, ensure more viable healthcare systems and improve the well-being of EU citizens. The main objectives of the programme are: to complement, support and add value to the policies of the Member States in order to improve physical and mental health and access to healthcare for all EU citizens and reduce health inequalities by addressing the health-related social and economic challenges posed by an ageing population and the increasing number of chronic illnesses; promote health and the principle of prevention; encourage innovation in healthcare; increase the sustainability and the comparability of health systems; operate within a gender-sensitive framework and protecting EU citizens from serious cross-border health threats.

Gender, socioeconomic status and age are important health considerations within the programme. The programme emphasizes the need to gather gender sensitive data and pay particular attention to women’s illnesses.

The main references to gender-related issues in the proposal and amendments (in **bold**) are listed below.

- **P 13 (10a)** In addition to differences relating to reproductive functions, biological differences between women and men also include, for example, the better infant survival rates of females, sex-specific diseases, distinctions in symptoms of diseases, or women’s longer life expectancy, which in combination with existing social factors embodied by gender inequalities such as lesser access to resources, heavier workload, gender-based violence against women and gender-based discrimination, significantly affect the health status of women and therefore call for gender to be adequately integrated into public health policies as a determinant of health.

- **P 15 (10d)** Major gaps still exist in expertise and general knowledge about the differences between disease processes in women and men, and further gender-sensitive studies, analyses, investigations and sex-disaggregated data would contribute to identifying, disseminating and promoting validated best practices for cost-effective prevention measures addressing gender-specific health conditions and diseases.

- **P 19 (16b)** The Programme should also contribute to creating synergies with the European research field by introducing and applying innovative breakthroughs in the health sector and making sure that limited national European resources are used efficiently. In order to translate research into actual innovation within health systems, particular attention should be given to actors with specific vulnerabilities, such as women and children, who make, nevertheless, a crucial contribution to social and economic growth and welfare.

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123 Legislative/non legislative act that concluded their procedural iter and/or were not available on the EP website in the period between June 2011 - February 2013.
P 22 (28b) Article 8 TFEU, which states that "in all its activities, the Union shall aim to eliminate inequalities, and to promote equality, between men and women", makes the promotion of equality an objective of the Union. The reduction of inequalities, and in particular health inequalities and the promotion of social cohesion are objectives of the Union, and the Health for Growth programme helps to meet these aims. Reducing health inequalities will be key to achieving 'Europe 2020: A European Strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth' 8 objectives of lifting 20 million people out of poverty. Thus the Programme can complement the integrated guideline 10 on promoting social inclusion and combating poverty, the Strategy for Equality between Women and Men (2010-2015), the Youth Pact, the Disability Strategy, and the European Pact for Mental Health and Wellbeing. The Programme should help to identify the causes of health inequalities and encourage, among other things, the exchange of best practices to tackle them.

P 23 (28d) The Programme should address gender-related and ageing-related health issues.

P 26 (3) To identify, disseminate and promote the up-take of validated best practices for cost-effective prevention measures by addressing the key risk factors, namely smoking, harmful use of alcohol, an unhealthy diet, a sedentary lifestyle and obesity, drug use and environmental factors, as well as communicable diseases, with a focus on the cross border dimension, and operating in a gender-sensitive framework, in order to prevent diseases and promote good health, and to empower EU citizens and patients by enhancing health literacy to achieve better and safer health outcomes.

P 38 (1.3.) Health workforce: develop effective health workforce forecasting and planning in terms of numbers, gender equality, scope of practice and the extent to which training matches the requisite skills, including the ability to make use of new information systems and other advanced technologies, monitor mobility (within the Union) and migration of health professionals, establish efficient recruitment and retention strategies and capacity development, taking due account of issues of dependency and population aging and conducting periodic assessments of these new requirements.

P 47 (3.1.) Cost-effective promotion and prevention measures of communicable and non-communicable diseases: this will include actions towards the setting up of pan-European networks and partnerships engaging a wide range of actors in communication, education and awareness raising actions on key health issues such as the elimination of environmental health risks, mental health, smoking prevention, alcohol and drug abuse, unhealthy eating and a sedentary lifestyle within the context of tackling diet-related obesity, and health promotion programmes aimed at the general public, internal and external air pollution with a focus on the cross-border dimension and on Member States with no or little action on these issues, and operating in a gender-sensitive framework.

P 49(3.2.) Chronic diseases: support European cooperation and networking on preventing and improving the response to chronic diseases including cancer and neurodegenerative diseases, operating within a gender-sensitive framework and taking into account the differences between disease processes in women and men, by sharing knowledge, good practice, promoting education, developing guidelines regarding the underlying environmental factors of chronic diseases and developing joint activities on prevention, including with regard to environmental risk factors: follow-up work already undertaken;

In synthesis:
It is well acknowledge that gender plays a specific role both in the incidence and prevalence of specific pathologies and also in their treatment, mainly due to the interrelations between sex related biological differences and socioeconomic and cultural factors which affect the behaviour of women and men and their access to services. Moreover women face different risks from men’s. They are also more susceptible to sex-specific diseases related to their reproductive health. As numerous reports of the Commission show, gender within health policies is still not a predominant element. The ENVI report calls for a higher attention to gender aspects within healthcare policies. It urges that the gender perspective should be fully considered in the healthcare policies programming and design phases. Many of the amendments proposed for the Health Programme emphasises the need to gather gender-sensitive data and use the analyses to design better targeted policies. The report underlines also the need to consider differences in the women’s and men’s diseases.
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Gender issues in the Committee’s final Report

The proposal focuses on the need to develop specific measures to introduce tests for endocrine disruptors which are one of the factors most relevant for the increase in the endocrine diseases. The report underlines, in fact, that in the last twenty years evidence has been mounting that hormone-related disorders in humans are on the rise. A wide range of studies show that exposure to chemicals is a contributory factor for endocrine diseases.

The proposal is originated in the fact that currently, EU legislation contains legal provisions concerning endocrine disruptors, but lacks criteria for determining whether a substance should be regarded as having endocrine-disrupting properties, which undermines proper application of the legal provisions.

Therefore, the report calls on the need to restrict the use of endocrine disruptors in products aimed at specific target groups, such as skin care products, textiles and toys with specific areas of application, and to adopt more stringent safety requirements when building and furnishing pre-schools and schools and other premises where children stay for prolonged periods.

Moreover, the report underlines it is crucial that appropriate tests for identifying endocrine disruptors should be implemented in existing EU legislation, particularly in the Classification, Labelling and Packaging (CLP) Regulation, Reach, the Plant Protection Products Regulations (PPPR), the Biocide Directive and the Cosmetics Directive and calls on the Commission to revise the existing legislation and to adopt appropriate measures.

Within the proposal presented, gender issues are dully considered. The report emphasises that women are one of the categories most exposed to the risk of endocrine diseases.

The main references to gender-related issues in the proposal and amendments (in bold) are listed below.

(P 7 ) Considers that **protecting women from potential risks of endocrine disruptors for their reproductive health is of utmost importance**; calls, therefore, on the Commission to prioritise research funding to study the effects of hormone disrupters on women’s health, and to support **long-term studies monitoring women’s health over large spans of their lives**, thus allowing an evidence-based assessment of the long-term and multi-generational effects of exposure to endocrine disruptors

(P 10) Calls on the Commission, as part of its current review of the 1999 Community strategy on endocrine disruptors, to carry out a systematic examination of all relevant current legislation and, where necessary no later than 1st of June 2015, to amend existing legislation or to come forward with new legislative proposals, including hazard and risk assessments, so as to **reduce the exposure of humans – in particular vulnerable groups such as pregnant women, babies, children and teenagers – to hormone disrupters as appropriate**;

In synthesis:

The resolution assumes the gender perspective in urging the Commission to revise the current legislation on endocrine disruptors, considered to be one of the most relevant factors for endocrine diseases. The report pays particular attention to women as they are one of the categories mostly affected by endocrine diseases. In fact, chemical substances acting as endocrine disruptors can have oestrogenic or anti-oestrogenic effects which interfere with the function of the female reproductive system, altering hormone concentrations and menstrual cycles of women, as well as their fertility, favouring the development of uterine diseases, such as fibroids and endometriosis, and affecting breast growth and lactation.

The report underlines the need to protect women from endocrine disruptors, and in particular pregnant women.
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| 2012/2258(INI)        | Report on the European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing | Non legislative | Rapporteur: Kartika Tamara Liokard  
Political Group: Confederal Group of the European United Left - Nordic Green Left  
Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety |

## Gender issues in the Committee’s final Report

This Own Initiative Report aims at supporting the EC with its Strategic Implementation Plan on the European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing. The initiative is considered to be necessary due to the demographic changes in the European population characterised by a continuous demographic decline and population ageing. In this context, the report considers that one has to question to what extent the EU, the Member States, the regions, cities, and municipalities are adapted to the needs and (remaining) capacities of their ageing populations. A relevant issues consists in whether the conditions in these places can indeed guarantee that people are enabled to mature and grow old in an active and healthy way. Moreover, as stated by the report the issue of active and healthy ageing does not interest only old people, but most of all young people as it is necessary to create the conditions that allow them to age well (active and healthy). The Committee’s proposals refer to all strands of the EC Strategic Implementation Plan on the European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing:

- Pillar 1 Prevention, screening and early diagnosis;
- Pillar 2 Care and cure;
- Pillar 3: Active ageing and independent living
- Horizontal issues.

Below the direct references to gender issues.

Invites the Commission to formally include a gender dimension as well as an age dimension, and, therefore, to incorporate the work-life balance issue in its strategy for active and healthy ageing:

- Emphasises that active and healthy ageing encompasses the entire lifespan and that the particularities of the EU context should be part of the definition, including, more specifically, the EU priorities regarding healthy and ecologically sustainable environmental conditions, health awareness, health prevention and early screening followed by appropriate diagnosis and effective treatment, health literacy, eHealth, physical exercise, food safety and adequate nutrition, gender equality, social security systems (including healthcare and health insurance), and social protection schemes; notes that old age is not linked to disease and illness by default, and is therefore not to be associated or equated with dependence and handicap;

- Encourages the Commission and the Member States to consider health as a horizontal issue, by incorporating health issues into all relevant EU policies, including social security and social protection, employment and economic policy, gender equality, and anti-discrimination/non-discrimination policies;

- Maintains that further reforms of pension systems are necessary in order to keep them adequate, sustainable and secure, with special attention to reducing the gender pay gap in work and consequently in pensions, and that pension levels must also remain predictable for future generations;

- Invites the Commission to draw up a strategy aimed at achieving equal opportunities for all European citizens in the field of healthcare, in order to create a system of cooperation between European countries which are losing large numbers of healthcare workers and those benefitting from their services;

- Maintains that policies to balance family and working life enable women to cope better with ageing, taking into account the fact that work improves quality of life; believes that such policies also enable women to avoid the pay gap and, accordingly, the risk of poverty in later life in cases where, in order to balance family and working life, women have to choose part-time, occasional or atypical work, given that this has repercussions for the amounts
paid in pension contributions;
Considers it necessary to reinforce the adequacy of pensions by combating gender discrimination on the labour market, especially by reducing the career and pay gaps;
Is convinced that comprehensive reforms are necessary in order to prevent and avoid serious shortcomings in access to labour markets which would result in a further economic slowdown and a threat to the level of prosperity in Europe; stresses, in this regard, the need to develop a broad perspective that takes account of issues such as economic policy, employment, social security, social protection, gender equality and discrimination;
Stresses that participation on equal terms is also a fundamental right of older members of society;

**In synthesis:**
The Committee report pays particular attention to gender issues. However, the Committee’s proposals related to gender issues are not reflected equally in all the strands of the programme. For instance, gender issues are mostly considered with regards the active ageing and independent living and the horizontal pillar. Indeed, gender quality is recalled as a mainstream element in the points regarding employment and pensions and horizontal issues to all the three pillars (see rows below for the precise references to gender issues within the text). In the healthcare area, some of the Committee’s proposals can also be considered from a gender perspective:
- awarding of funding to social enterprises in the healthcare and care sector;
- developing a Generation Pact including a clear and unambiguous strategy to safeguard social cohesion, improve overall health outcomes and tackle health inequalities so as to prevent that cuts and savings implemented after the economic crisis create health inequalities;
- health promotion through integrated programmes; stresses, however, that these programmes should be evidence-based (reflecting the actual and future needs of the ageing population); furthermore, emphasises that they should incorporate an appropriate approach in regard to issues that are not (entirely or directly) linked to individual behaviour, such as environmental conditions (air quality, water quality, noise reduction, waste management), health and safety at work (age management) and consumer protection (marketing and advertising standards, food safety, consumer rights);
- paying special attention to the inclusion of ageing people living in remote areas or with multiple disadvantages;
- combating discrimination against older people in access to the labour market, in the workplace and in the performance of work, with a view to achieving a consistently generation-friendly world of work.
### Reports of the LIBE Committee

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<tr>
<th>Procedure reference</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<th>Rapporteur</th>
<th>Political group</th>
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<tr>
<td>2010/0215(COD)</td>
<td>Report on the proposal for a directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on the right to Information in criminal proceedings</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>Birgit Sippel</td>
<td>Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament</td>
<td>Ensuring that common minimum standards in criminal proceedings are in place would both better grant EU citizens’ fundamental rights and help overcoming the difficulties encountered in the implementation of the principle of mutual recognition in criminal matters because of a lack of trust between judicial authorities. The proposal for a Directive on the right to Information in criminal matters presented by the European Commission in July 2010 is the second step of the list of measures contained in the Roadmap on Procedural Rights. It aims at setting common minimum standards as regards the right to information in criminal proceedings throughout the European Union. The first step, on the right to interpretation and translation, is a Directive adopted on 8 October 2010. Together with a general right to be informed about procedural rights, the proposal aims to further define two specific rights: the right to information about the charge and the right to access to the case file. Further provisions concern training and the non-regression clause. The LIBE report amends the Commission proposal in order to ensure that the Directive covers all cases of limitation of personal freedom, irrespective of how Member States qualify the proceedings according to which the suspect has been deprived of his /her liberty. No gender issues are considered in the amendments but it is evident that the provisions are relevant also in a gender perspective.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010/0312(COD)</td>
<td>Report on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the establishment of an evaluation mechanism to</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>Carlos Coelho</td>
<td>Group of the European People’s Party (Christian Democrats)</td>
<td>The security of the Schengen area depends on the rigour and effectiveness with which a MS carries out controls at its external borders. Under the Hague Programme, the Commission was invited to submit a proposal to supplement and remedy the weaknesses identified in the existing</td>
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<td>verify application of the Schengen acquis</td>
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<td>2012/0033A(NLE)</td>
<td>Report on the draft Council regulation on migration from the Schengen Information System (SIS I+) to the second generation Schengen Information System (SIS II) (recast)</td>
<td>L=legislative NL=non legislative</td>
<td>Carlos Coelho</td>
<td>Group of the European People's Party (Christian Democrats)</td>
<td>The proposal regards the migration from SIS 1 (Schengen Information System) to SIS II (the second generation SIS), that should start once the tests have all been successfully concluded, probably in January 2013. The SIS is by far the most important instrument for the security of the Schengen Area, which is rightly considered the backbone of a Europe without borders and the area of freedom, security and justice. The Commission presented a proposal to recast the two legal acts governing the migration from SIS I to SIS II in one COM(2012)81). While proposing amendments to the text of the proposal, the conclusion of the LIBE Rapporteur is that the SIS II is an essential instrument with which to increase the security of the Schengen Area, end intergovernmental management of the system and considerably improve data protection and the fundamental rights of individuals. The SIS II should, therefore, enter into force at the earliest possible date.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012/0033B(NLE)</td>
<td>Report on the draft Council regulation on migration from the Schengen Information System (SIS I+) to the second generation Schengen Information System (SIS II) (recast)</td>
<td>L=legislative NL=non legislative</td>
<td>Carlos Coelho</td>
<td>Group of the European People's Party (Christian Democrats)</td>
<td>The proposal regards the migration from SIS 1 (Schengen Information System) to SIS II (the second generation SIS), that should start once the tests have all been successfully concluded, probably in January 2013. The SIS is by far the most important instrument for the security of the Schengen Area, which is rightly considered the backbone of a Europe without borders and the area of freedom, security and justice. The Commission presented a proposal to recast the two legal acts governing the migration from SIS I to SIS II in one COM(2012)81). While proposing amendments to the text of the proposal, the conclusion of the LIBE Rapporteur is that the</td>
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<td>2009/0189(NLE)</td>
<td>Recommendation on the draft Council decision on the conclusion of the Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Ireland and the Kingdom of Norway on the application of certain provisions of the Convention of 29 May 2000 on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters between the Member States of the European Union and the 2001 Protocol thereto</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>Claude Moraes</td>
<td>Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament</td>
<td>The recommendation consents to the conclusion of the Agreement between the EU and the Republic of Iceland, and the Kingdom of Norway, on the application of certain provisions of the Convention of 29 May 2000 on mutual assistance in criminal matters, aiming at improving judicial cooperation. This includes inter alia provisions on hearing of witnesses, experts and accused persons by telephone or video conference, controlled deliveries, covert investigations and joint investigation teams, requests for information on banking transactions, etc. The Rapporteur notes that the Agreement will help combat trans-border crime and welcomes the possibility to involve Euro just in any instances where a request is refused by a MS or there are problems encountered in the execution of a request.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011/0432(CNS)</td>
<td>Report on the proposal for a Council directive on consular protection for citizens of the Union abroad</td>
<td>NL</td>
<td>Edit Bauer</td>
<td>Group of the European People’s Party (Christian Democrats)</td>
<td>The Report deals with the proposal for a Council Directive on consular protection for citizens of the Union abroad. The text of the Directive states that (Recital 27) “In accordance with the prohibition of discrimination contained in the Charter (...) the EEAS shall always implement this Directive without discrimination between the beneficiaries of this Directive on any ground such as sex, race, colour, ethnic or social origin, genetic features, language, religion or beliefs, political or any other opinion, membership of a national minority, property, birth, disability, age or sexual orientation”.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010/0246(COD)</td>
<td>Report on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the marketing and use of explosives precursors</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>Jan Mulder</td>
<td>Group of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe</td>
<td>The proposal seeks to reduce the frequency and impact of terrorist attacks by limiting access by general public to, and reporting suspicious transactions of, widely and legitimately used substances which in high concentrations can also be used to manufacture explosives. The proposal is directed at wholesalers, retailers and MS. The rapporteur support the proposal and agrees with the list of eight substances listed, on the sharing of administrative burdens between manufacturers and retailers, and proposes a number of amendments in order to apply the common understanding between the three</td>
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<tr>
<td>2009/0164(COD)</td>
<td>Report on the proposal for a directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on minimum standards for the qualification and status of third country nationals or stateless persons as beneficiaries of international protection and the content of the protection granted (recast)</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>Jean Lambert</td>
<td>Group of the Greens/European Free Alliance</td>
<td>The proposal from the Commission for the recast of the original Directive 2004/83/EC forms part of the move towards a Common European Asylum Policy by 2012. An important change proposed by the LIBE Committee is to approximate the two categories of protection (refugee status or subsidiary protection) more closely and thus to generally refer to beneficiaries of international protection. Progress has also been made on issues relating to gender and gender identity. These are now explicitly mentioned in the Articles in relation to social groups at risk of persecution. A reference has also been added in the Recitals to &quot;customs and legal traditions&quot; which could result in damaging outcomes, such as genital mutilation. The LIBE Report added several amendments focusing and reinforcing the protection of women requesting international protection. As above mentioned, amendments raised the attention on issues relating to gender and gender identity, sexual violence, genital mutilation, forced sterilisation, forced abortion. It allowed for the setting out of gender-oriented minimum standards for the qualification and status of beneficiaries of international protection.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011/0199(COD)</td>
<td>Report on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EC) No 1931/2006 as regards the inclusion of the Kaliningrad area and certain Polish administrative districts in the eligible border area</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>Kyriacos Triantaphyllides</td>
<td>Confederal Group of the European United Left - Nordic Green Left</td>
<td>The Report deals with the Commission proposal for a regulation establishing the Asylum and Migration Fund (COM(2011)0751). The goal is to complete the establishment of a Common European Asylum System (CEAS), setting up a common asylum procedure and uniform status for people who have been granted international protection. The LIBE Rapporteur believes that establishing a solidarity framework will not absolve Member States from complying with their international as well as their EU obligations in terms of asylum. In other words, a comprehensive solidarity framework wherein Member States would be assisted to improve the quality of their asylum systems in order to ensure the full respect of asylum seekers’ rights would ensure by the same token the proper implementation of the asylum acquis and therefore the very functioning of the CEAS. The LIBE Report moreover provides for several gender-related recommendations, such as: adding the protection of women from violence among the rights to be considered as...</td>
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<td>2011/0223(COD)</td>
<td>Report on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EC) No 810/2009 of 13 July 2009 establishing a Community Code on Visas (Visa Code)</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>Louis Michel</td>
<td>Group of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe</td>
<td>The aim of the proposal is to amend Regulation (EC) No 810/2009 establishing a Community Code on Visas (Visa Code) with a view to clarifying the rules governing transit through the International zone of airports and so guaranteeing legal certainty and transparency. During the process of preparing the Handbook, it was noted that the wording of Article 3(5)(b) and (c), concerning exemption from the airport transit visa (ATV) requirement, was unclear. The proposal consists only of technical amendments making the Regulation clearer. No gender issues are mentioned in the proposal nor in the Report of LIBE Committee.</td>
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| 2008/0242(COD)      | Report on the amended proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the establishment of 'EURODAC' for the comparison of fingerprints for the effective application of Regulation (EU) No [.../...] (establishing the criteria and mechanisms for determining the Member State responsible for examining an application for international protection lodged in one of the Member States by a third-country) | L     | Monica Luisa Macovei | Group of the European People's Party (Christian Democrats) | EURODAC was established by Regulation (EC) No 2725/2000 concerning the establishment of "Eurodac" for the comparison of fingerprints for the effective application of the Dublin Convention. The current proposal withdraws the 2010 proposal and replaces it with a new one in order first to better take into account the resolution of the European Parliament and the results of negotiations in the Council; second to introduce the possibility for Member States' law enforcement authorities and Europol to access the EURODAC central database for the purposes of prevention, detection and investigation of terrorist offences and other serious criminal offences. Including law enforcement access for EURODAC was needed as part of a balanced deal on the negotiations of the Common European Asylum System package with a view to completing the package by the end of 2012. The rapporteur supports the Commission's proposal. She has put forward a
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<td>2012/0252(COD)</td>
<td>Report on the proposal for a decision of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Decision No 573/2007/EC, Decision No 575/2007/EC and Council Decision 2007/435/EC with a view to increasing the co-financing rate of the European Refugee Fund, the European Return Fund and the European Fund for the Integration of third-country nationals as regards certain provisions relating to financial management for certain Member States experiencing or threatened with serious difficulties with respect to their financial stability</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>Nils Torvalds</td>
<td>Group of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe</td>
<td>The Commission has proposed a possibility to increase the co-financing rates for Member States benefiting from a financial support mechanism. The proposal aims to enable increasing the Union co-financing rate by twenty percentage points and thereby decrease the co-financing needs for the part of the Member States in question. This would bring the co-financing rate to 70%. For projects addressing specific priorities and for Member States covered by the Cohesion Fund the increased rate would be 95% at its most. The LIBE rapporteur generally supports the proposals to enable an increased co-financing rate for Member States subject to financial support. The underlying rationale for the Funds in question is to create a mechanism for solidarity among Member States when it comes to the management of migration flows.</td>
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<td>2012/0253(COD)</td>
<td>Report on the proposal for a decision of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Decision No 574/2007/EC with a view to</td>
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<td>Group of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011/0242(COD)</td>
<td>Increasing the co-financing rate of the External Borders Fund for certain Member States experiencing or threatened with serious difficulties with respect to their financial stability</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>Renate Weber</td>
<td>Group of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe</td>
<td>Member States in question. This would bring the co-financing rate to 70%. For projects addressing specific priorities and for Member States covered by the Cohesion Fund the increased rate would be 95% at its most. The LIBE rapporteur generally supports the proposals to enable an increased co-financing rate for Member States subject to financial support. The underlying rationale for the Funds in question is to create a mechanism for solidarity among Member States when it comes to the management of migration flows.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009/0127(COD)</td>
<td>Recommendation for Second Reading on the Council position at first reading with a view to the adoption of a decision of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Decision No 573/2007/EC establishing the European Refugee Fund for the period 2008 to 2013 as part of the General programme “Solidarity and Management of Migration Flows”</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>Rui Tavares</td>
<td>Group of the Greens/European Free Alliance</td>
<td>The proposal aims at amending the Decision establishing the European Refugee Fund in the light of the establishment of a joint EU Resettlement Programme. (...) The idea is to increase the impact of the EU resettlement efforts in providing protection to refugees and through a better targeting to those persons who are in greatest need of resettlement, and to formulate common priorities of resettlement at EU level on a regular basis.</td>
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<td>2009/0192(NLE)</td>
<td>Recommendation on the draft Council decision on the conclusion of the Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Iceland and the Kingdom of Norway on the surrender procedure between the Member States of the European Union and Iceland and Norway</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>Rui Tavares</td>
<td>Group of the Greens/European Free Alliance</td>
<td>This agreement is aimed at improving the surrender procedure between the MS and Norway and Iceland for the purpose of the prosecution or execution of sentence. In accordance with the provisions of the Agreement, the contracting parties will ensure that the extradition system will be based on a mechanism of surrender pursuant to an arrest warrant. The agreement merely extends to Norway and Iceland on request of these two countries provisions that are already in place among EU MSs. However, the Rapporteur is of the opinion that the European Arrest Warrant must be the object of an evaluation in order to respond to public concerns on possible abuses or defects of this instrument; that the agreeing parties should exercise restraint on the possibility of arrest and surrender on practices that do not constitute a crime in both concerned countries (double-criminality verification); to go further in the area of procedural rights, in order to provide citizens with a robust array of rights to go together with the use of the European Arrest Warrant.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010/0039(COD)</td>
<td>Report on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Council Regulation (EC) No 2007/2004 establishing a European Agency for the Management of Operational Cooperation at the External Borders of the Member States of the European Union (FRONTEX)</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>Simon Busuttil</td>
<td></td>
<td>One of the attributes of a common EU area of freedom, security and justice is that of the removal of internal borders, especially within the Schengen area. In turn, this has rendered the external borders of EU Member States a matter of common concern and has made the need for an integrated management of external borders ever more compelling. FRONTEX Agency was set up in 2004 and became operational in 2005. As requested by the Hague programme, the Commission presented a Communication on the evaluation and future development of the FRONTEX Agency adopted on 13 February 2008. The situation of the Frontex agency was addressed in European Parliament resolutions concerning immigration, the Pact on Immigration and Asylum and in the Stockholm Programme. The general message in each of these documents was that a number of aspects of the Agency needed to be improved. The rapporteur believes that we have to clearly determine what we want from Frontex and what shape we want it to take in the coming years.</td>
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<td>2011/0126(NLE)</td>
<td>Recommendation on the draft Council decision on the</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>Sophia in 't Veld</td>
<td>Group of the Alliance of</td>
<td>The European Union is negotiating three international agreements, with Australia, Canada and the US, on the</td>
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<td>conclusion of the Agreement between the European Union and Australia on the processing and transfer of Passenger Name Record (PNR) data by air carriers to the Australian Customs and Border Protection Service</td>
<td></td>
<td>L</td>
<td></td>
<td>Liberals and Democrats for Europe</td>
<td>processing and transfer of Passenger Name Record (PNR) data. The Commission entered into negotiations with Australia in order to establish the conditions that would allow access to the PNR data. The EP set out its criteria for giving its consent to agreements with third countries on the transfer of PNR data; most of these criteria have been included in the negotiating mandate adopted by the Council in 2011. However, the LIBE Committee claims that not all the criteria have been met in full and expresses some concerns (in particular, around the necessity and proportionality of mass collection and storage of data). Moreover the EP asked the Commission to submit proposals for suspension or termination of the EU-Australia PNR Agreement, upon a request by the EP. The Commission gave this assurance in a public statement and the LIBE Committee asks the Commission to confirm it by an exchange of letters between the Presidents of the two institutions. A Minority Report was issued, claiming that the Agreement does not meet the guarantees requested by the EP and raises serious concerns regarding compatibility of the agreement with the Charter of Fundamental Rights. The AFET Committee calls on the LIBE Committee to propose that Parliament give its consent to the Agreement.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011/0382(NLE)</td>
<td>Recommendation on the draft Council decision on the conclusion of the Agreement between the United States of America and the European Union on the use and transfer of Passenger Name Records to the United States Department of Homeland Security</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>Sophia in 't Veld</td>
<td>Group of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe</td>
<td>The Recommendation concerns the draft Council decision on the conclusion of the Agreement between the USA and the EU on the use and transfer of Passenger Name Records to the US Department of Homeland Security. A Minority Report was issued, claiming that the blanket retention and processing of passenger name record data of all passengers is incompatible with the European vision of an open society and blaming the Commission for not having presented factual evidence supporting the claim that storage and processing of PNR for law enforcement purposes is necessary and proportionate, nor has it seriously explored less intrusive alternatives. However, the AFET Committee opinion sustains that, while a number of shortcomings are recognized in the new draft agreement as regards particularly the broad purpose of using PNR data (et alia), the EU and the US shall be united in rolling back the threat from terrorism and that the new draft agreement is an essential and necessary element of close transatlantic cooperation. The LIBE Committee gives its consent to the conclusion of the Agreement.</td>
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<td>2011/0431(APP)</td>
<td>Recommendation on the draft Council decision establishing a Multiannual Framework for 2013-2017 for the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>Tatjana Ždanoka</td>
<td>Group of the Greens/European Free Alliance</td>
<td>The Committee’s final report agreed on the inclusion of sex among the grounds of discrimination, and added “multiple discrimination” as a specific issue to be considered. The Recommendation deals with the establishing of the Multiannual Framework for 2013-17 for the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights. The consultation of stakeholder during the preparation of the new Multiannual Framework signalled discrimination as a main thematic area. During consultations, the European Group of National Human Rights Institutions blamed that “sex” was removed from the list of grounds of discrimination covered in the draft multiannual framework and the Council included sex among the grounds of discrimination (together with race, colour, ethnic or social origin, genetic features, language, religion or belief, political or any other opinion, membership of a national minority, property, birth, disability, age or sexual orientation). The Parliament Rapporteur welcomes the inclusion of sex into the proposal of the Council and considers that the concept of multiple discrimination should also be explicitly mentioned and included.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011/0129(COD)</td>
<td>Report on the proposal for a directive of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing minimum standards on the rights, support and protection of victims of crime</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>Teresa Jiménez-Beccari</td>
<td>Group of the European People’s Party (Christian Democrats)</td>
<td>The joint Committees’ final report (LIBE and FEM) has a relevant impact on gender-related issues regarding the minimum standards on the rights, support and protection of victims of crime. A broad non-discrimination principle is found all around the document. Gender-related specifications regards the definition of the victim, that includes family members such as the spouse; the recognition of victims’ needs through specific needs’ individual assessments; the standards for the protection of the victims’ needs during criminal proceedings, such as interviews and medical examinations; member states actions aiming at reducing the risk of victimization, through information and awareness raising campaigns, research and education programmes. Moreover, attention is paid to terminology; as a main instance, “vulnerable victims” is substituted by “victims with specific needs”, as a victim of gender-based violence can have specific needs without being seen as vulnerable.</td>
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<td>2009/0168(NLE)</td>
<td>Recommendation on the draft Council decision on the conclusion, on behalf of the</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>Timothy Kirkhope</td>
<td>European Conservatives and Reformists</td>
<td>The Recommendation approves the Arrangement stating the participation of Republic of Iceland, Principality of Liechtenstein, the Kingdom of Norway and the Swiss</td>
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<td>Union, of the Arrangement between the European Union and the Republic of Iceland, the Principality of Liechtenstein, the Kingdom of Norway and the Swiss Confederation on the participation by those States in the work of the committees which assist the European Commission in the exercise of its executive powers as regards the implementation, application and development of the Schengen acquis</td>
<td></td>
<td>Group</td>
<td></td>
<td>Confederation in the work of the committees which assisted the EC in the exercise of its executive powers as regards the implementation application and development of the Schengen acquis.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011/0146(COD)</td>
<td>Report on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on European statistics on safety from crime</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>Timothy Kirkhope</td>
<td>European Conservatives and Reformists Group</td>
<td>Common EU-wide statistics are an important basis for developing EU policies. This applies even more so in the sphere of criminal law as a mixed competence (Article 4 TFEU) where the EU is bound by the subsidiarity principle (Article 5 TEU) and whereby criminal law touches on the understanding of essential fundamental rights in a free society. The proposal raises questions on the methodology used, particularly as regards the types of questions asked, as some of them are sensitive and it is difficult to imagine the added value or truthfulness of answers.</td>
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<td>Procedure reference</td>
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<td>Political group</td>
<td>Brief description</td>
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<td>(2012/2032(INI)</td>
<td>Report on enhanced intra-EU solidarity in the field of asylum</td>
<td>L=legislative, NL=non legislative</td>
<td>Kyriacos Triantaphyllides</td>
<td>Confederal Group of the European United Left - Nordic Green Left</td>
<td>In 2006 the EP and Council adopted the Regulation (EC) 1931/2006 laying down rules on local border traffic at the external land borders of the MS, which enables MS to derogate from the general roles on border checks laid down in the Schengen Borders Code for persons living in a border area. The objective of this Regulation is to prevent the creation of barriers to trade, social and cultural interchange or regional cooperation with neighbours. In implementing the local border traffic regime, the MS may conclude bilateral agreements with neighbouring countries aimed at addressing specific needs in relation to their respective neighbours. This is the case for the Kalingrad region.</td>
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<td>(2010/2310(INI)</td>
<td>Report on an EU approach on criminal law</td>
<td>L=legislative, NL=non legislative</td>
<td>Cornells de Jong</td>
<td>Confederal Group of the European United Left - Nordic Green Left</td>
<td>With the entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty, the pillar structure was abandoned and the basis was created for the development of criminal law as a part of EU Community law. The Treaty foresees an emergency brake procedure, if a MS believes that the proposed legislation affects fundamental aspects of its criminal justice system. Moreover, the EU did not develop a separate space for criminal law provisions that can be found in instruments relating to various policy areas of the Union (such as justice, market etc.). The question arises of how to ensure coherence and high quality in an area of law that seems to pop up in different policy areas. The Commission created an inter-service coordination group on criminal law but its mandate is not clear yet. In the Parliament, the LIBE Committee has not a coordinating mandate and does not have competence for all legislative proposals dealing with criminal law provisions. The Parliament Legal Service could offer legal advice on the proposal but currently it cannot undertake such a work on a structural basis. For the future there should be an agreement between the three institutions on the relevant principles and working methods in order to guarantee a high quality and coherent EU approach on criminal law. The Rapporteur takes the view that all too easily law provisions are proposed for their supposed symbolic and dissuasive effects, but law enforcements is more important; moreover that the respect of EU Charter of Fundamental Rights must be always considered and a human rights check is always called for when drawing up new</td>
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<tr>
<td>Procedure reference</td>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Type: L=legislative NL=non legislative</td>
<td>Rapporteur</td>
<td>Political group</td>
<td>Brief description</td>
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<tr>
<td>(2012/2033(INI))</td>
<td>Report on alleged transportation and illegal detention of prisoners in European countries by the CIA: follow-up of the European Parliament TDIP Committee report</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>Hélène Fautre</td>
<td>Group of the Greens/European Free Alliance</td>
<td>Associated committee: AFET. The Report on alleged transportation and illegal detention of prisoners in European countries by the CIA: follow-up of the European Parliament TDIP Committee report contains a vast number of statements, concerns and recommendations regarding the accountability process in the Member States about independent and effective inquiries and investigations on human rights violations; moreover it calls on the EU institutions to reaffirm principles and put in place measures related to human rights protection in the context of the counter-terrorist fight.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010/2308 (INI)</td>
<td>Report on the European Union’s Internal Security Strategy</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>Rita Borsellino</td>
<td>Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament</td>
<td>The report begins by welcoming the work undertaken to set up an Internal Security Strategy (ISS). At its heart, the ISS should have “freedom, security and justice” as its objectives that must be pursued in parallel, and pursued in accordance with the principles of the Treaties. It aims to target security threats emanating from terrorism, organised crime, cybercrime, corruption and challenges to border management. The report notes that it is essential to provide appropriate financial resources in the 2014-2020 multiannual framework for the implementation of such a strategy; that terrorism and organised crime are priorities for targeting by the ISS, as well as fight against corruption, combating of environmental, economic and corporate crime. While the report concedes boarder management and security are big issues for the ISS, it is also mentioned that mobility in the EU is fundamental and should be respected. Human rights and supporting social, democratic and economic issues of third countries should always be considered.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2010/2311(INI))</td>
<td>Report on the EU Counter-Terrorism Policy: main achievements and future challenges</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>Sophia in 't Veld</td>
<td>Group of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe</td>
<td>While welcoming the Commission Communication on the EU Counter-Terrorism Policy, the LIBE Report and the AFET Opinion issue a number of general considerations and warnings on it; moreover they call for a more in depth evaluation of ten years of counter-terrorism policies.</td>
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Assessment of gender mainstreaming in the work of LIBE activities\textsuperscript{124}

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| 2009/0164(COD)      | Report on the proposal for a directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on minimum standards for the qualification and status of third country nationals or stateless persons as beneficiaries of international protection and the content of the protection granted (recast) | Ordinary legislative procedure (first reading)        | Rapporteur: Jean Lambert  
Political group: Group of the Greens/European Free Alliance  
Committee on Employment and Social Affairs (Member, EMPL), Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs (Substitute, LIBE) |

Gender issues in the Committee’s final Report

The proposal from the Commission for the recast of the original Directive 2004/83/EC forms part of the move towards a Common European Asylum Policy by 2012. For the original Directive, the European Parliament was only consulted: now, following the entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty, the Parliament is in a position of co-decision. The existing Directive has two key elements: the grounds on which someone qualifies for refugee status or subsidiary protection and the content of that protection in terms of residence, employment and social rights within the Member State responsible for protection. The Commission brought forward the recast proposal (Directive COM (2009) 551 final 2) as a result of the required review of the earlier Directive and developing jurisprudence.

An important proposal proposed by the LIBE Committee is to approximate the two categories of protection (refugee status or subsidiary protection) more closely and thus to generally refer to beneficiaries of international protection. Progress has also been made on issues relating to gender and gender identity. These are now explicitly mentioned in the Articles in relation to social groups at risk of persecution. A reference has also been added in the Recitals to "customs and legal traditions" which could result in damaging outcomes, such as genital mutilation.

The EP views on the extension of the definition of family proved unacceptable to Council, although there is some small progress concerning the addition of either parent or another relative in connection to the beneficiary when already present. It remains to be seen if the non-inclusion of married minors leaves a protection gap - hence the inclusion of Article 2 in the review clause. Despite the very explicit wording of this Article and its relation to protection needs, some Member States wish to keep a very narrow definition of family, fearing future claims for family reunification - although that Directive clearly states the rules relating to refugees. Married minors are now mentioned in recital 36a in relation to benefits.

The main references to gender-related issues in the proposal and amendments (in bold) are listed below.

(p.10) (29) It is equally necessary to introduce a common concept of the persecution ground "membership of a particular social group". For the purposes of defining a particular social group, issues arising from an applicant’s gender, including gender identity and sexual orientation, which may be related to certain legal traditions and customs, resulting in for example genital mutilation, forced sterilisation, forced abortion, should be given due consideration insofar as they are related to the applicant’s well-founded fear of persecution.

(p. 11) (43) Especially to avoid social hardship, it is appropriate, for beneficiaries of international protection, to provide without discrimination in the

\textsuperscript{124} Legislative/non legislative act that concluded their procedural iter and/or were not available on the EP website in the period between June 2011 - February 2013.
With regard to social assistance, the modalities and detail of the provision of core benefits to beneficiaries of subsidiary protection status should be determined by national law. The possibility of limiting the benefits for beneficiaries of subsidiary protection status to core benefits is to be understood in the sense that this notion covers at least minimum income support, assistance in case of illness, pregnancy and parental assistance, insofar as they are granted to nationals according to the legislation of the Member State concerned.

The assessment of an application for international protection is to be carried out on an individual basis and includes taking into account: (c) the individual position and personal circumstances of the applicant, including factors such as background, gender and age, so as to assess whether, on the basis of the applicant’s personal circumstances, the acts to which the applicant has been or could be exposed would amount to persecution or serious harm.

Acts of persecution as qualified in paragraph 1, can inter alia take the form of: (a) acts of physical or mental violence, including acts of sexual violence; (f) acts of a gender-specific or child-specific nature.

Depending on the circumstances in the country of origin, a particular social group might include a group based on a common characteristic of sexual orientation. Sexual orientation cannot be understood to include acts considered to be criminal in accordance with national law of the Member States. Gender related aspects, including gender identity, shall be given due consideration for the purposes of determining membership of a particular social group or identifying a characteristic of such a group.

In synthesis:

The LIBE Report added several amendments focusing and reinforcing the protection of women requesting international protection. As above mentioned, amendments raised the attention on issues relating to gender and gender identity, sexual violence, genital mutilation, forced sterilisation, forced abortion. It allowed for the setting out of gender-oriented minimum standards for the qualification and status of beneficiaries of international protection.
Gender issues in the Committee’s final Report

In its Resolution of 10 June 2011 on a Roadmap for strengthening the rights and protection of victims, in particular in criminal proceedings, the Council stated that action should be taken at Union level in order to strengthen the rights, support and protection of victims of crime. The Directive aims to take significant steps forward in the level of protection of victims throughout the Union, in particular within the framework of criminal proceedings.

The purpose of the Directive is to ensure that the victims of crime receive appropriate support and protection and are able to participate in criminal proceedings.

The Committee amended the text of the Directive by adding several gender-related specifications. Specific provisions are set for child victims.

(p.7) Parliament’s Committee adds reference to the The Resolution of the European Parliament of 5 April 2011 on priorities and outline of a new EU policy framework to fight violence against women

(p.27) The rights provided for in this Directive shall apply to victims in a non-discriminatory manner, including with respect to their residence status.

(p.28) Victims are those who suffered harms, but also ‘family members’ i.e. the spouse, the person who is living with the victim in a committed intimate relationship on a stable and continuous basis having a joint household, the relatives in direct line, the siblings and the dependants of the victim.

(p.36) Unless otherwise provided by other public or private services, specialist support services referred to in Article 7(3), shall as a minimum develop and provide: (...) b) targeted and integrated support for victims with specific needs, such as victims of sexual violence, victims of gender-based violence and victims of violence in close relationships, including trauma support and counselling.

(p. 43) Individual assessment of victims to identify specific protection needs. Victims of terrorism, organised crime, human trafficking, gender-based violence, violence in close-relationship, sexual violence or exploitation, hate crime and victims with disabilities shall be duly considered.

(p.44) Right to protection of victims with specific protection needs during criminal proceedings. All interviews with victims of sexual violence, gender-based violence or violence in close relationships, unless conducted by a public prosecutor or a judge, are conducted by a person of the same sex, if the victim wishes so, and if the course of proceedings will not be prejudiced.

(p. 45) Member States shall take appropriate action, including through the internet, aimed at raising awareness about the rights set out in this Directive, reducing the risk of victimisation, and minimising the negative impact of crime and the risks of secondary and repeat victimisation, in particular by targeting groups at risk such as children, victims of gender-based violence and violence in close relationships. Such action may include information and awareness raising campaigns, research and education programmes, where appropriate in cooperation with relevant civil society organisations and other stakeholders.

(p. 52) The Rapporteurs share the Commission’s proposal to make a reference to vulnerable victims, but prefer the wording of ‘victims with specific
needs'. The terminology used in the Commission's proposal, defining this category of victims as "vulnerable victims" could be seen as an unintended discriminatory naming. Many victims, including victims of gender-based violence do not like to be associated with vulnerability. However, a victim of gender-based violence can have specific needs without being seen as vulnerable.

Moreover,

(p. 53) In order to further assess circumstances and victims' characteristics, the Rapporteurs also introduce additional definitions, namely "gender-based violence" and "violence in close relationship". Gender-based violence refers to violence that is directed against a person because of his or her gender. Violence in close relationship includes violence perpetrated by intimate partners or ex partners or other family members and leads to discrimination and violations of the fundamental freedoms of the victims.

A specific insight regards "Understanding the gender dynamics of victims' rights". The Rapporteurs set a clear obligation that support for victims with specific needs recognises gender dynamics and operates within a gender equality and human rights framework. The Rapporteurs trust that such an approach is also vital for avoiding secondary victimisation of victims of gender-based violence.

In synthesis:

The Committee's final report considered the minimum standards on the rights, support and protection of victims of crime. A broad non-discrimination principle is stated all around the document. Gender-related specifications regards the definition of the victim, that includes family members such as the spouse; the recognition of victims' needs through specific needs’ individual assessments; the standards for the protection of the victims’ needs during criminal proceedings, such as interviews and medical examinations; member states actions aiming at reducing the risk of victimization, through information and awareness raising campaigns, research and education programmes. Moreover, attention is paid to terminology: as a main instance, "vulnerable victims" is substituted by "victims with specific needs", as a victim of gender-based violence can have specific needs without being seen as vulnerable.
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**Gender issues in the Committee’s final Report**

The overall purpose of the proposed European Year is to enhance awareness of the rights attached to Union citizenship, in order to help citizens make full use of their right to move and reside freely within the territory of the Member States. The proposal provides for a new momentum to the debate on Union citizenship and puts the informed and effective exercise of this right at the centre of the political agenda.

LIBE Committee makes several amendments to the Commission proposal; in particular it adds references to non-discrimination and equality between men and women. Some of aforementioned amendments are listed below.

Whereas:

(p. 7) art. (1) The Union is founded on the indivisible, universal values of human dignity, freedom, equality and solidarity and based on the principles of democracy and the rule of law. Those principles are fundamental to the Member States in societies in which pluralism, non-discrimination, tolerance, justice, solidarity and equality between women and men prevail.

(p. 16) art. (10c) Raising awareness about Union citizens’ rights, gender equality, the participation of women and men in the democratic life of the Union including their electoral rights, as voters and as candidates, in their Member State of residence and about the scope of the European Parliament’s powers in the legislative process, is also important in view of the European Parliament elections in 2014.

(p. 20) The information, education and awareness-raising campaigns organised within the framework of the European Year of Citizens should also take into consideration the needs of more specific audiences and vulnerable groups.

(p. 30) The specific objectives of the European Year shall be: (a) to raise Union citizens’ awareness of their right to move and reside freely within the European Union and in this context of all other rights guaranteed to Union citizens, without discrimination (...)

(c) to stimulate debate about the impact and potential of the right of freedom of movement and residence, as an inalienable aspect of Union citizenship, with a view to stimulating and strengthening active civic and democratic participation of Union citizens, in particular in civic fora on Union policies and European Parliament elections, thereby reinforcing societal cohesion, cultural diversity, solidarity, equality between women and men, mutual respect and a sense of a common European identity among Union citizens.

**In synthesis:**

The Committee’s final report adds several references to equality between men and women, equal access to civil life and non-discrimination throughout the Decision.
### Gender issues in the Committee’s final Report

The Recommendation deals with establishing the Multiannual Framework for 2013-2017 for the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights. The Committee’s final report agreed on the inclusion of sex among the grounds of discrimination, and added “multiple discrimination” as a specific issue to be considered.

Gender-related issues of the Recommendation are listed below.

(p.8) Finally, the Council has proposed the following thematic areas:

(a) access to justice;
(b) victims of crime, including compensation to victims of crime;
(c) information society and, in particular, respect for private life and protection of personal data;
(d) Roma integration;
(e) judicial cooperation, except in criminal matters;
(f) rights of the child;
(g) **discrimination based on sex**, race, colour, ethnic or social origin, genetic features, language, religion or belief, political or any other opinion, membership of a national minority, property, birth, disability, age or sexual orientation;
(h) immigration and integration of migrants, visa and border control and asylum;
(i) racism, xenophobia and related intolerance.

(p. 8-9) The Rapporteur welcomes the inclusion of discrimination based on sex into the proposal of the Council – all areas mentioned in Article 21 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights are to be covered by the Agency’s work. The concept of multiple discrimination should also be explicitly mentioned and included.

**In synthesis:**

The consultation of stakeholder during the preparation of the new Multiannual Framework stressed “discrimination” among the main thematic areas to be considered by the Framework. However, during the consultations, the European Group of National Human Rights Institutions blamed that “sex” was removed from the list of grounds of discrimination covered in the draft multiannual framework. Finally the Council included sex among the grounds of discrimination (together with race, colour, ethincic or social origin, genetic features, language, religion or belief, political or any other opinion, membership of a national minority, property, birth, disability, age or sexual orientation).

The Parliamentary Report of LIBE Committee welcomed the inclusion of sex into the proposal of the Council and moreover considered that the concept of multiple discrimination should also be explicitly mentioned and included.
Gender Mainstreaming in Committees and Delegations of the European Parliament

Gender issues in the Committee’s final Report

The Report deals with the Commission proposal for a regulation establishing the Asylum and Migration Fund (COM(2011)0751). The goal is to complete the establishment of a Common European Asylum System (CEAS), setting up a common asylum procedure and uniform status for people who have been granted international protection. The LIBE Rapporteur believes that establishing a solidarity framework will not absolve Member States from complying with their international as well as their EU obligations in terms of asylum. In other words, a comprehensive solidarity framework wherein Member States would be assisted to improve the quality of their asylum systems in order to ensure the full respect of asylum seekers’ rights would ensure by the same token the proper implementation of the asylum acquis and therefore the very functioning of the CEAS.

The LIBE Report moreover provides for several gender-related recommendations, listed below:

(p. 5) 3. Recalls that the right to international protection is a fundamental right enshrined in international and Union law which is complemented by a series of additional rights and principles, such as the principle of non-refoulement, the right to dignity, the prohibition of torture, inhuman or degrading treatment, the protection of women from violence and all forms of discrimination, the right to an effective remedy and the right to private and family life;

(p.6) 11. Underlines the importance of collecting, analysing and putting in perspective reliable, accurate, comprehensive, comparable and up-to-date quantitative and qualitative data, in order to monitor and evaluate measures and acquire a sound understanding of asylum-related issues; encourages Member States, therefore, to provide EASO and the Commission with relevant data on asylum issues, in addition to the data provided under the Migration Statistics Regulation and the EASO Regulation; all statistical data where possible should be broken down by gender;

(p.7) 15. Calls on EASO, taking into account its duties as well as its limited budget, resources and experience, to optimise its available resources by engaging in close dialogue and cooperation with international organisations and civil society with a view to exchanging information and pooling knowledge in the field of asylum, collecting data, exchanging best practice, developing comprehensive guidelines on gender-related asylum issues, developing training, and creating pools of experts, case workers and interpreters who could be mobilised at short notice to provide assistance; further recommends that EASO ensure a broad representation of organisations participating in the consultative forum;

(p.10) 32. Welcomes the Commission’s commitment to performing a comprehensive evaluation of the Dublin system in 2014, reviewing its legal, economic, social and human rights effects, including the effect on the situation of women asylum seekers;

(p.10) 33. Considers that the Dublin Regulation, which governs the allocation of responsibility for asylum applications, places a disproportionate burden on Member States constituting entry points into the EU, and does not foresee for a fair distribution of asylum responsibility among Member States; notes that the Dublin system as it has been applied so far, in a context characterised by very different asylum systems and insufficient levels of asylum acquis implementation, has led to the unequal treatment of asylum seekers while also having an adverse impact on family reunification and integration;

In synthesis:
The LIBE Recommendation adds several gender-related suggestions, such as: adding the protection of women from violence among the rights to be considered as complementary to the right to international protection; using statistical data broken down by gender; developing comprehensive EASO guidelines on gender-related asylum issues; developing a Commission’s evaluation of the Dublin system in 2014, including the effect on the situation of women asylum seekers.
### ANNEX II: INTERVIEWS AND QUESTIONNAIRES

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INTERVIEWS MAIN ISSUES

1. The legislative process of the European Parliament is rather complex, following specific procedures (going from the identification of the Committee in charge of the proposal, the identification of the rapporteur and of the Committees which provide opinions, etc.). In your opinion which phase in this process is more relevant for success in GM? Could you please provide some examples in relation to a legislative proposal occurring in the last two years?

2. Considering the different actors involved in the above mentioned process, which ones are the key actors in favouring GM? Could you please provide some examples in relation to a legislative proposal occurring in the last two years?

3. Do you think that political group coordinators could have a positive role in supporting GM in legislative proposals? Could you please provide some examples in relation to a legislative proposal occurring in the last two years?

4. What is the role of rapporteurs in supporting GM in legislative proposals? Could you please provide some examples in relation to a legislative proposal occurring in the last two years?

5. What do you think are the main skills a rapporteur on a FEMM opinion should have to support GM in legislative proposals? Could you please provide some examples in relation to a legislative proposal occurring in the last two years?

6. To what extent and how the High Level Group on Gender Equality could support GM in legislative proposals? Could you please provide some examples of success/insuccess in the role of the High Level Group occurring in the last two years?

7. What other factors are crucial to favour or hinder GM in legislative proposals? Could you please present some positive and/or negative examples in relation to legislative proposals occurring in the last two years?
QUESTIONNAIRE FOR FEMM MEMBERS

Background information:

IRS (Istituto per la Ricerca Sociale) has been appointed by the Committee on Women’s Rights and Gender Equality to carry out a study on “Gender Mainstreaming in Committees and Delegations of the European Parliament”.

The aim of the study is to carry out a systematic and comprehensive analysis of the work of the FEMM Committee in supporting gender mainstreaming into the work of European Parliament’s committees and delegations between 2011 and 2013. Based on these findings, IRS is also requested to derive suggestions on how the activities in the European Parliament (EP) in line with Plenary resolution P5_TA(2003)0098 on Gender Mainstreaming in the EP could be enhanced.

************************************************************************

Have you heard about the Gender Mainstreaming Network of Members?

Please indicate if you are a Member of the Network and for which committee you are the GM representative:

Please answer to the following questions referring to the period from June 2011 to January 2013.

SECTION 1) ATTENTION AND KNOWLEDGE ON GENDER MAINSTREAMING APPROACH AND GENDER ISSUES IN THE WORK OF EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

1. How would you rate the degree of attention to gender issues in European Parliament work?

   NON EXISTENT □ 0 □ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4 □ 5 VERY HIGH

2. Do you think the attention of the EP to the different effects a piece of legislation or a policy might have on men and women is particularly present in specific policy issues?

   □ yes
   □ No

   If yes, could you please specify the policy issues

   ---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------
   ----

3. Do you think the attention of the EP to the different effects a piece of legislation or a policy might have on men and women is particularly lacking in specific policy issues?

   □ yes
   □ No
If yes, could you please specify the policy issues

----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

4. Do you think the attention of FEMM to the different effects a piece of legislation or a policy might have on men and women is particularly present in specific policy issues?

☐ yes
☐ No

If yes, please specify the policy issues

----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

5. Not considering FEMM and GM Network members, how would you rate the knowledge of Gender Mainstreaming approach and gender equality issues within the EP?

NON EXISTENT □ 0 □ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4 □ 5 VERY HIGH

6. To what extent do you think that successful gender mainstreaming activities are reflected in the media activities of the EP and political groups?

EP media activities: NON EXISTENT □ 0 □ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4 □ 5 VERY HIGH

Political Groups media activities: NON EXISTENT □ 0 □ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4 □ 5 VERY HIGH

Can you please provide some positive examples?

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SECTION 2) IMPLEMENTING GENDER MAINSTREAMING

7. The legislative process of the European Parliament is rather complex, following specific phases. In your opinion which phase(s) in this process is (are) more relevant for success in GM?

Please express at maximum two choices.

☐ phase in which the specific Committee in charge of drafting a proposal/act is identified;

☐ phase in which the rapporteur who will draft a proposal/act is identified;

☐ phase in which a Committee which can provide opinions is identified;

☐ phase in which a rapporteur who will an draft opinion is identified;

☐ phase in which opinions are accepted or not by the Committee drafting a proposal/act;
Would you please provide some positive examples of the importance of the chosen phase(s) for gender mainstreaming in the reference period?

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8. How would you rate the role of the FEMM committee in supporting Gender Mainstreaming within the work of the EP?

NOT IMPORTANT □ 0 □ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4 □ 5 VERY IMPORTANT

9. How you would rate the role of GM network in supporting Gender Mainstreaming within the work of the EP?

NOT IMPORTANT □ 0 □ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4 □ 5 VERY IMPORTANT

If any, could you please provide some positive examples?

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10. How you would rate the role of the High Level Group on Gender Equality in supporting Gender Mainstreaming within the work of the EP?

NOT IMPORTANT □ 0 □ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4 □ 5 VERY IMPORTANT

If any, could you please provide some positive examples?

---

11. Do you think there are any other actors who have a specific importance in supporting Gender Mainstreaming within the work of the EP?

□ yes
□ No

If yes, could you please specify

---

12. How would you rate the increased use of the following tools to better promote the implementation of gender mainstreaming within the European Parliament?

Training on gender issues

□ 0 □ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4 □ 5

Availability of gender statistics

□ 0 □ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4 □ 5
Use of Gender Impact Assessment (ex-ante evaluation of the effects of a certain legislation or policy on men and women)

☐ 0 ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5

13. Which other factors do you think may be crucial to support Gender Mainstreaming within the work of the EP?

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14. On the contrary, which other factors do you think may hinder Gender Mainstreaming within the work of the EP?

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QUESTIONNAIRE FOR GM NETWORK MEMBERS WHO ARE ALSO FEMM MEMBERS

Background information:

IRS (Istituto per la Ricerca Sociale) has been appointed by the Committee on Women’s Rights and Gender Equality to carry out a study on “Gender Mainstreaming in Committees and Delegations of the European Parliament”.

The aim of the study is to carry out a systematic and comprehensive analysis of the work of the FEMM Committee in supporting gender mainstreaming into the work of European Parliament’s committees and delegations between 2011 and 2013. Based on these findings, IRS is also requested to derive suggestions on how the activities in the European Parliament (EP) in line with Plenary resolution P5_TA(2003)0098 on Gender Mainstreaming in the EP could be enhanced.

**************************************************************************

* Please indicate if you are also a member of the FEMM committee □

Please answer to the following questions referring to the period from June 2011 to January 2013.

SECTION 1) ATTENTION AND KNOWLEDGE ON GENDER MAINSTREAMING APPROACH AND GENDER ISSUES IN THE WORK OF EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

1. How would you rate the degree of attention to gender issues in European Parliament work?

NON EXISTENT □ 0 □ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4 □ 5 VERY HIGH

2. Do you think the attention of the EP to the different effects a piece of legislation or a policy might have on men and women is particularly present in specific policy issues?

□ yes
□ No

If yes, could you please specify the policy issues

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3. Do you think the attention of the EP to the different effects a piece of legislation or a policy might have on men and women is particularly lacking in specific policy issues?

□ yes
□ No
4. Do you think the attention of FEMM to the different effects a piece of legislation or a policy might have on men and women is particularly present in specific policy issues?

☐ yes
☐ No

If yes, please specify the policy issues

5. Do you think the attention of your committee to the different effects a piece of legislation or a policy might have on men and women is particularly present in specific policy issues?

☐ yes
☐ No

If yes, please specify the policy issues

6. Not considering FEMM and GM Network members, how would you rate the knowledge of Gender Mainstreaming approach and gender equality issues within European Parliament?

NON EXISTENT ☐ 0 ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5 VERY HIGH

7. Not considering FEMM and GM Network Members, how would you rate the knowledge of Gender Mainstreaming approach and gender equality issues within your Committee?

NON EXISTENT ☐ 0 ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5 VERY HIGH

8. To what extent do you think that successful gender mainstreaming activities are reflected in the media activities of the EP and political groups?

EP media activities: NON EXISTENT ☐ 0 ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5 VERY HIGH

Political Groups media activities: NON EXISTENT ☐ 0 ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5 VERY HIGH

Can you please provide some positive examples?
SECTION 2) IMPLEMENTING GENDER MAINSTREAMING

9. The legislative process of the European Parliament is rather complex, following specific phases. In your opinion which phase(s) in this process is (are) more relevant for success in GM?

Please express at maximum two choices.

□ phase in which the specific Committee in charge of drafting a proposal/act is identified;

□ phase in which the rapporteur who will draft a proposal/act is identified;

□ phase in which a Committee which can provide opinions is identified;

□ phase in which a rapporteur who will draft opinion is identified;

□ phase in which opinions are accepted or not by the Committee drafting a proposal/act;

□ phase in which proposal/act are presented in Plenary;

□ any other phase, please specify………………………………………………………………………………………....

10. Could you please provide some positive examples of the importance of the chosen phase(s) for gender mainstreaming in the reference period?


11. How would you rate the role of the FEMM committee in supporting Gender Mainstreaming within the work of the EP?

NOT IMPORTANT □ 0 □ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4 □ 5 VERY IMPORTANT

12. How would you rate the extent to which the opinions expressed by FEMM, if any, have been effective in supporting GM in the work of your Committee?

NOT IMPORTANT □ 0 □ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4 □ 5 VERY IMPORTANT

13. In case your Committee received opinions expressed by FEMM, could you please provide us with some instances in which they were particularly effective?


14. Apart from amendments expressed by FEMM opinions, did your Committee explicitly drafted and tabled amendments on gender equality issues in the reference period?

□ yes

□ No
15. In case your Committee drafted and tabled its own amendments on gender equality issues, could you please provide us with some positive examples in the reference period?

16. Apart from you in your Committee are there any other MEPs active in gender mainstreaming in your Committee?

□ yes
□ No

17. Did your Committee discuss and/or adopt a strategy concerning gender equality?

□ We have neither discussed nor adopted a strategy on gender equality
□ We have discussed a strategy on gender equality
□ We have adopted a strategy on gender equality

18. If a strategy was adopted, to what extent the desired results were achieved?

VERY LOW □ 0 □ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4 □ 5 VERY HIGH

19. If a strategy was adopted, is it possible to identify one or more specific factors/tools that supported the achievement of the desired results?

If any, which were the main obstacles to the achievement of the desired goals?

20. How would you rate the role of the GM network in supporting Gender Mainstreaming within the work of the EP?

NOT IMPORTANT □ 0 □ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4 □ 5 VERY IMPORTANT

If any, could you please provide some positive examples?

21. How would you rate the role of the High Level Group on Gender Equality in supporting Gender Mainstreaming within the work of the EP?

NOT IMPORTANT □ 0 □ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4 □ 5 VERY IMPORTANT

If any, could you please provide some positive examples?
22. Do you think there are any other actors who have a specific importance in supporting Gender Mainstreaming within the work of the EP?

☐ yes

☐ No

If yes, could you please specify

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How would you rate the increased use of the following tools to better promote the implementation of gender mainstreaming within the European Parliament?

Training on gender issues

☐ 0 ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5

Availability of gender statistics

☐ 0 ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5

Use of Gender Impact Assessment (GIA)

☐ 0 ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5

23. Which other factors do you think may be crucial to support Gender Mainstreaming within the work of the EP?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

24. On the contrary, which other factors do you think may hinder Gender Mainstreaming within the work of the EP?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
QUESTIONNAIRE FOR GM NETWORK MEMBERS

Background information:

IRS (Istituto per la Ricerca Sociale) has been appointed by the Committee on Women’s Rights and Gender Equality to carry out a study on “Gender Mainstreaming in Committees and Delegations of the European Parliament”.

The aim of the study is to carry out a systematic and comprehensive analysis of the work of the FEMM Committee in supporting gender mainstreaming into the work of European Parliament’s committees and delegations between 2011 and 2013. Based on these findings, IRS is also requested to derive suggestions on how the activities in the European Parliament (EP) in line with Plenary resolution P5_TA(2003)0098 on Gender Mainstreaming in the EP could be enhanced.

Please indicate if you are also a member of the FEMM committee □

Please answer to the following questions referring to the period from June 2011 to January 2013.

SECTION 1) ATTENTION AND KNOWLEDGE ON GENDER MAINSTREAMING APPROACH AND GENDER ISSUES IN THE WORK OF EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

1. How would you rate the degree of attention to gender issues in European Parliament work?

NON EXISTENT □ 0 □ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4 □ 5 VERY HIGH

2. Do you think the attention of the EP to the different effects a piece of legislation or a policy might have on men and women is particularly present in specific policy issues?

□ yes

□ No

If yes, could you please specify the policy issues

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3. Do you think the attention of the EP to the different effects a piece of legislation or a policy might have on men and women is particularly lacking in specific policy issues?

□ yes

□ No
If yes, could you please specify the policy issues

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4. Do you think the attention of your committee to the different effects a piece of legislation or a policy might have on men and women is particularly present in specific policy issues?

□ yes

□ No

If yes, please specify the policy issues

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5. Not considering FEMM and GM Network members, how would you rate the knowledge of Gender Mainstreaming approach and gender equality issues within European Parliament?

NON EXISTENT □ 0 □ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4 □ 5 VERY HIGH

6. Not considering FEMM and GM Network Members, how would you rate the knowledge of Gender Mainstreaming approach and gender equality issues within your Committee?

NON EXISTENT □ 0 □ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4 □ 5 VERY HIGH

7. To what extent do you think that successful gender mainstreaming activities are reflected in the media activities of the EP and political groups?

EP media activities: NON EXISTENT □ 0 □ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4 □ 5 VERY HIGH

Political Groups media activities: NON EXISTENT □ 0 □ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4 □ 5 VERY HIGH

Can you please provide some positive examples?

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SECTION 2) IMPLEMENTING GENDER MAINSTREAMING

8. The legislative process of the European Parliament is rather complex, following specific phases. In your opinion which phase(s) in this process is (are) more relevant for success in GM?

Please express at maximum two choices.

□ phase in which the specific Committee in charge of drafting a proposal/act is identified;

□ phase in which the rapporteur who will draft a proposal/act is identified;
Gender Mainstreaming in Committees and Delegations of the European Parliament

- phase in which a Committee which can provide opinions is identified;
- phase in which a rapporteur who will draft opinion is identified;
- phase in which opinions are accepted or not by the Committee drafting a proposal/act;
- phase in which proposal/act are presented in Plenary;
- any other phase, please specify………………………………………………………………………………………..

9. Could you please provide some positive examples of the importance of the chosen phase(s) for gender mainstreaming in the reference period?

10. How would you rate the role of the FEMM committee in supporting Gender Mainstreaming within the work of the EP?

NOT IMPORTANT □ 0 □ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4 □ 5 VERY IMPORTANT

11. How would you rate the extent to which the opinions expressed by FEMM, if any, have been effective in supporting GM in the work of your Committee?

NOT IMPORTANT □ 0 □ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4 □ 5 VERY IMPORTANT

12. In case your Committee received opinions expressed by FEMM, could you please provide us with some instances in which they were particularly effective?

13. Apart from amendments expressed by FEMM opinions, did your Committee explicitly drafted and tabled amendments on gender equality issues in the reference period?

- yes
- No

14. In case your Committee drafted and tabled its own amendments on gender equality issues, could you please provide us with some positive examples in the reference period?

15. Apart from you in your Committee are there any other MEPs active in gender mainstreaming

- yes
- No
16. Did your Committee discuss and/or adopt a strategy concerning gender equality?

□ We have neither discussed nor adopted a strategy on gender equality
□ We have discussed a strategy on gender equality
□ We have adopted a strategy on gender equality

17. If a strategy was adopted, to what extent the desired results were achieved?

VERY LOW □ 0 □ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4 □ 5 VERY HIGH

18. If a strategy was adopted, is it possible to identify one or more specific factors/tools that supported the achievement of the desired results?

________________________________________________________________________________________

19. If any, which were the main obstacles to the achievement of the desired goals?

________________________________________________________________________________________

20. How would you rate the role of the GM network in supporting Gender Mainstreaming within the work of the EP?

NOT IMPORTANT □ 0 □ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4 □ 5 VERY IMPORTANT

21. If any, could you please provide some positive examples?

________________________________________________________________________________________

22. How would you rate the role of the High Level Group on Gender Equality in supporting Gender Mainstreaming within the work of the EP?

NOT IMPORTANT □ 0 □ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4 □ 5 VERY IMPORTANT

23. If any, could you please provide some positive examples?

________________________________________________________________________________________

24. Do you think there are any other actors who have a specific importance in supporting Gender Mainstreaming within the work of the EP?

□ yes
□ No

If yes, could you please specify

________________________________________________________________________________________
25. How would you rate the increased use of the following tools to better promote the implementation of gender mainstreaming within the European Parliament?

Training on gender issues
☐ 0 ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5

Availability of gender statistics
☐ 0 ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5

Use of Gender Impact Assessment (GIA)
☐ 0 ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5

26. Which other factors do you think may be crucial to support Gender Mainstreaming within the work of the EP?

27. On the contrary, which other factors do you think may hinder Gender Mainstreaming within the work of the EP?
QUESTIONNAIRE FOR CHAIR/VICE-CHAIRS NETWORK + EP POLITICAL GROUP COORDINATORS

Background information:

IRS (Istituto per la Ricerca Sociale) has been appointed by the Committee on Women’s Rights and Gender Equality to carry out a study on "Gender Mainstreaming in Committees and Delegations of the European Parliament".

The aim of the study is to carry out a systematic and comprehensive analysis of the work of the FEMM Committee in supporting gender mainstreaming into the work of European Parliament’s committees and delegations between 2011 and 2013. Based on these findings, IRS is also requested to derive suggestions on how the activities in the European Parliament (EP) in line with Plenary resolution P5_TA (2003)0098 on Gender Mainstreaming in the EP could be enhanced.

Chair/vice Chair □ of the Committee

EP Political Group Coordinator □

Please answer to the following questions referring to the period from June 2011 to January 2013.

1. How would you rate the degree of attention to gender issues in the work of the EP?

NON EXISTENT □ 0 □ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4 □ 5 VERY HIGH

2. How would you rate the degree of attention to gender issues in your Committee work?

NON EXISTENT □ 0 □ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4 □ 5 VERY HIGH

3. Do you think the attention to the different effects a piece of legislation or a policy might have on men and women is particularly present in specific policy issues?

□ yes

□ No

If yes, could you please specify the policy area

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4. Do you think the attention to the different effects a piece of legislation or a policy might have on men and women is particularly lacking in specific policy issues?

□ yes
□ No

If yes, could you please specify the policy area

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5. How would you rate the role of the FEMM committee in supporting Gender Mainstreaming within the work of the EP in the reference period?

NOT IMPORTANT □ 0 □ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4 □ 5 VERY IMPORTANT

6. How would you rate the extent to which the opinions expressed by FEMM, if any, have been effective in supporting GM in the work of your Committee?

NOT IMPORTANT □ 0 □ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4 □ 5 VERY IMPORTANT

7. In case your Committee received opinions expressed by FEMM, could you please mention some instances in which they were particularly effective?

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8. In case your Committee received opinions expressed by FEMM, could you please mention some instances in which they were not internalised?

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9. How you would rate the role of the GM network in supporting Gender Mainstreaming within the work of the EP?

NOT IMPORTANT □ 0 □ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4 □ 5 VERY IMPORTANT

10. How you would rate the role of the responsible for Gender Mainstreaming in the work of your Committee?

NOT IMPORTANT □ 0 □ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4 □ 5 VERY IMPORTANT

11. How would you rate the increased use of the following tools in the reference period to better promote the implementation of gender mainstreaming within the European Parliament?

Training on gender issues

□ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4 □ 5
Availability of gender statistics

☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5

Use of Gender Impact Assessment (GIA)

☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5

12. What other concrete initiatives/factors would you suggest to better promote gender mainstreaming?

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**QUESTIONNAIRE ON MEDIA ACTIVITIES**

**Background information:**

IRS (Istituto per la Ricerca Sociale) has been appointed by the Committee on Women’s Rights and Gender Equality to carry out a study on “Gender Mainstreaming in Committees and Delegations of the European Parliament”.

The aim of the study is to carry out a systematic and comprehensive analysis of the work of the FEMM Committee in supporting gender mainstreaming into the work of European Parliament’s committees and delegations between 2011 and 2013. Based on these findings, IRS is also requested to derive suggestions on how the activities in the European Parliament (EP) in line with Plenary resolution P5_TA(2003)0098 on Gender Mainstreaming in the EP could be enhanced.

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Please answer to the following questions referring to the period from June 2011 to January 2013.

1. How would you rate the degree of attention paid to gender issues in European Parliament’s media activities?

   NON EXISTENT □ 0 □ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4 □ 5 VERY HIGH

2. How would you rate the extent to which the European Parliament’s messages in relation to gender equality are diffused at the national level?

   NON EXISTENT □ 0 □ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4 □ 5 VERY HIGH

   If any, could you please provide some positive examples (including events and/or initiatives on gender equality and gender mainstreaming implemented by your office in the reference period)?

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   3. How would you rate the extent to which the FEMM Committee’s activities are diffused at national level?

   NON EXISTENT □ 0 □ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4 □ 5 VERY HIGH

   If any, could you please provide some positive examples, including events and/or initiatives on gender equality and gender mainstreaming implemented by your office in the reference period?

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4. How would you rate the importance of using EP communication tools to spread an effective gender message on the European Parliament's work on gender equality and gender mainstreaming?

NON IMPORTANT □ 0 □ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4 □ 5 VERY IMPORTANT

Please specify which communication tools you consider more effective in this regard with positive examples:

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5. How would you rate the efforts of national level media to avoid gender stereotypes in their activities?

NON EXISTENT □ 0 □ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4 □ 5 VERY HIGH

6. How would you rate the attention paid by national level media to the use of a gendered language in their media activities?

NON EXISTENT □ 0 □ 1 □ 2 □ 3 □ 4 □ 5 VERY HIGH
Policy Department C
Citizens’ Rights and Constitutional Affairs

Role
Policy departments are research units that provide specialised advice to committees, inter-parliamentary delegations and other parliamentary bodies.

Policy Areas
- Constitutional Affairs
- Justice, Freedom and Security
- Gender Equality
- Legal and Parliamentary Affairs
- Petitions

Documents

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