

NEWSLETTER APRIL 2018

NOTE FROM THE CHAIR



Dear Readers,

April has been a hectic month for the FEMM Committee. We held two regular Committee meetings and three joint meetings with the Committee on Development (DEVE) and the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs (LIBE).

Our regular Committee meetings started on 12 April. This meeting was devoted to the adoption of three opinions on early and forced marriages, on the application of the EU Law in 2016 and on the violation of the rights of indigenous peoples in the world.

On 25 April, FEMM held its second regular Committee meeting. The first part of it focused on the EU budget 2019. We counted with the participation of the European Parliament rapporteur for the 2019 EU Budget, Mr Viotti (S&D, Italy). The Committee also discussed and endorsed the proposals of Pilot Projects and Preparatory Actions that are going to be sent to the Commission for its pre-assessment. The second part of the meeting served Members to have an exchange of views on mobbing and sexual harassment in the workplace, in public spaces and political life.

Two of the joint meetings of the month were devoted to the adoption of two draft reports. The first one, jointly with DEVE, endorsed the draft report on the implementation of the Joint Staff Working Document "Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment: Transforming the Lives of Girls and Women through EU External Relations 2016-2020". The second one, jointly with LIBE, adopted the draft report on the implementation of the Directive establishing minimum standards on the rights, support and protection of victims of crime.

Finally, and again along with LIBE, we held a presentation of the Legal Service of the European Parliament regarding its opinion about the Council decisions on the signature of the EU accession to the Istanbul Convention.

Thank you to all who came or followed us via [Webstream](#)!

LAST COMMITTEE MEETINGS

12 APRIL

Towards an EU external strategy against early and forced marriages - next steps - Vote



The right to a 'free and full' consent to a marriage is recognized in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Child marriage violates the rights of the female child to be free from all forms of discrimination, inhumane and degrading treatment and slavery. The aim of the opinion is to examine how child, forced and early marriage (CEFM) violate human rights and how the EU's external action can best contribute to eradicating this practice. The rapporteur, Ms Daniela Aiuto (EFDD, Italy), invites the EEAS to come forward with a specific strategy to fight against CEFM with specific actions, objectives and dedicated funding with the overall goal of eradicating the practice by 2030 in line with the UN SDGs. The opinion was adopted by 19 votes in favour to 1 vote against with 3 abstentions.

[Link to the Procedure](#)

Monitoring the application of EU law 2016 - Vote

The Directive establishing minimum standards on the rights, support and protection of victims of crime ensures that persons who have fallen victim of crime are recognised, treated with respect and receive proper support and access to justice. The Directive takes into account the gender perspective and the specific needs of specific groups of victims. LIBE and FEMM committees are working on a draft report that will assess the implementation of the Directive in order to analyse to which extent it brings real change for victims and to propose recommendations for a more effective support of victims. FEMM co-rapporteur is Ms Angelika Mlinar (ALDE, Austria) and LIBE co-rapporteur is Ms Teresa Jiménez-Becerril (EPP, Spain). 248 amendments have been tabled to the draft report that will be voted on 26 April 2018.



[Link to the Procedure](#)

Violation of the rights of indigenous peoples in the world, including land grabbing - Vote



The rapporteur, Mr Florent Marcellesi (Greens-EFA, Spain), points out in the opinion the special connection between indigenous women and the ancestral territories, especially in relation to traditional practices around sustainable management of natural resources, the model of community support and resilience and expresses its deep concern about the consequences that land grabbing and resource extraction have in indigenous communities. The opinion was adopted by 13 votes in favour to 4 votes against with 6 abstentions.

[Link to the procedure](#)

24 APRIL - JOINTLY WITH DEVE

Transforming the Lives of Girls and Women through EU External Relations 2016-2020 - Vote

The EU's Gender Action Plan 2010-2016 (GAP II) is the Union's framework for promoting gender equality and women and girls' empowerment in external relations in third and partner countries, as well as in international fora and agendas. GAP II constitutes the manifestation of the principles related to gender parity outlined in the new European Consensus on Development. Its goals are also key to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Against this background DEVE and FEMM committees will vote a draft implementation assessment report, whose rapporteurs are Ms Linda McAvan (S&D, UK) and Ms Dubravka Šuica (EPP, Croatia), that seeks to provide an initial evaluation of the strengths and weaknesses of GAP II at its first year of operation. The draft report was adopted by 24 votes in favour to 5 vote against with 13 abstentions.



[Link to the procedure](#)

25 APRIL

The EU accession to the Istanbul Convention - Legal Service Presentation - Jointly with LIBE



FEMM hosted an exchange of views with Commissioner Jourová. The event brought FEMM MEPs the opportunity to discuss with the Commissioner on Justice, Consumers and Gender Equality about the main topics related to women's rights under the Commissioner's portfolio.

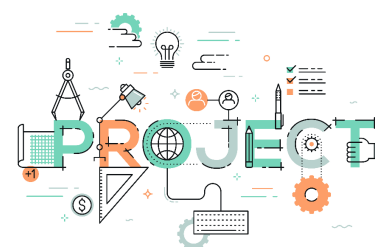
The New Action Plan on Tackling the Gender Pay Gap was one of the main subjects of the exchange of views as well as the situation of the Work-Life Balance Package. Both topics, along with the elimination of violence against women (especially the state of play of the EU accession to the Istanbul Convention) and the promotion of women in decision-making roles, are the

cornerstones of a comprehensive women's empowerment agenda.

[Link to the procedure](#)

EU Budget 2019 - Pilot Projects and Preparatory Actions (PPPAs) - Presentation and Vote

A pilot project is an initiative of an experimental nature designed to test the feasibility of an action and its usefulness. A preparatory action is normally the successor of a successful pilot project on the same matter – designed to prepare proposals with a view to the adoption of actions like EU policies, legislation, programmes etc. FEMM committee can table proposals of PPPAs to be included in the 2019 EU Budget. After the vote the endorsed proposals were tabled on behalf of the FEMM Committee to the BUDG Committee in order to be pre-assessed by the Commission. 16 proposals have been endorsed by FEMM Committee. The Commission will send its assessment by the end of June.



[Link to Procedure](#)

STEM and ICT sectors.

Mobbing and sexual harassment at workplace, in public spaces, and political life - Exchange of views

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Members had the opportunity to exchange views and discuss the study commissioned by the Policy Department for Citizens' Rights and Constitutional Affairs for the FEMM Committee whose authors are Helge HOEL, Professor in Organisational Behaviour, University of Manchester, United Kingdom and Maarit VARTIA, Senior researcher, Work and Organisational Psychology, Helsinki, Finland. The exchange of views will bring valuable input for the report on "Measures to prevent and combat mobbing and sexual harassment at workplace, in public spaces, and political life in the EU" (Rapporteur: Ms Pina Picierno, S&D, Italy) that FEMM will draft.

26 APRIL - JOINTLY WITH LIBE

Victims' Rights Directive Implementation Report - Vote



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[Link to Victims' procedure](#)

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Our next regular Committee meeting will take place on 15 May. We will also celebrate an extraordinary meeting on 28 May devoted to the vote of the legislative opinion on the Directive on Work-life balance for parents and carers.

In the regular Committee meeting, we will discuss, among others, the following topics:

- Proposal for an amending on the current regulation of several EU funds - Consideration of the draft opinion;
- 2019 budget - Trilogue mandate - Consideration of draft opinion;
- The situation in Hungary (pursuant to the European Parliament resolution of 17 May 2017) - Adoption of draft opinion;
- Work-life balance for parents and carers - Consideration of amendments;
- The situation of migrant women workers in rural areas and farms in the EU - Hearing.

BULLETIN

EIGE



Get started on gender mainstreaming with EIGE's methods and tools

You can use EIGE's methods and tools for gender mainstreaming in any policy field, such as the environment, education and the digital agenda. Our practical advice will help you to integrate the gender dimension in your work, regardless of the field. There are 15 different methods and tools that you can use from start to finish in the gender mainstreaming cycle. They range from gender budgeting and procurement to gender monitoring and evaluation. Explore them on EIGE's Gender Mainstreaming Platform.

[Link to the EIGE's Gender Mainstreaming Platform](#)



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