

Action Plan on Gender Mainstreaming of the Committee on Culture and Education

Introduction

Gender equality forms an integral part of the EU's founding values (Art.2-3 TEU). Promotion of gender equality is also listed as a horizontal principle that the EU must take into account in all its activities (Art.8 TFEU).

Gender mainstreaming refers to "the integration of a gender perspective into every aspect of EU policy-preparation, design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies, legal measures and spending programmes- with a view to achieving equality between women and men"¹

Since 2003, the European Parliament has adopted several resolutions on gender mainstreaming in the work of the European Parliament. In those resolutions, the European Parliament has committed itself to incorporate a gender perspective in all policies and activities, at all levels and all stages.

The importance of gender mainstreaming is generally taken into consideration in the work of the CULT Committee through policy work and good cooperation with the Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality. The purpose of this action plan is to codify the good practices and implement recommendations issued by the Gender Mainstreaming Network, as well as to ensure that coherent and continuous attention is being paid to the issue of gender mainstreaming in the committee's work. The following commitments are based on the Gender Mainstreaming Network recommendations on the work of the committees and delegations.

The Committee on Culture and Education draws up the following actions to be implemented in its work.

Policy work:

- The Committee on Culture and Education appoints one of its Members as responsible for gender mainstreaming. The Member actively participates in the Gender Mainstreaming Network.
- Whenever relevant, a gender perspective is integrated into draft reports and opinions. Due attention is given to Gender mainstreaming amendments tabled by the Committee of Women's Rights and Gender Equality.

¹ SWD(2015)0278

- In preparing reports and opinions, due attention is given to studies and analyses on gender equality and women's rights carried out by the European Parliament and other relevant documents available.
- Whenever relevant, the committee shall ask for gender-sensitive quantitative and qualitative indicators and gender disaggregated data in the monitoring and evaluation of policies, programs and projects.

Practices of the work of Members and staff:

- The Committee shall seek to use Gender-neutral language (EP Guidelines "Gender neutral language in the European Parliament) in all documents related to the work of the committee; Particular attention will be paid specially to the committee's reports and opinions as well as studies commissioned by the committee;
- The Committee shall seek to ensure, where possible, a gender balance amongst paid experts and invited speakers when organising hearings and workshops and if possible, when sending a delegation visit to Member States;
- The information/written material on gender aspects of policy related issues and best practices in gender mainstreaming are circulated in the committee by the Gender Mainstreaming Network Member and by the Secretariat.
- When using statistics and tables, gender disaggregated data is included whenever available;

Monitoring and evaluation of the gender action plan in CULT committee

- Implementation of this action plan is followed regularly by the Member responsible for gender mainstreaming assisted by the Secretariat.