



2016/2301(INI)

31.5.2017

POSITION IN THE FORM OF AMENDMENTS

of the Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality

for the Committee on International trade

on impact of international trade and the EU's trade policies on global value
chains
(2016/2301(INI))

Rapporteur: Malin Björk

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AMENDMENTS

The Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality calls on the Committee on International trade, as the committee responsible, to take into account the following amendments:

Amendment 1

Draft report

Recital B

Draft report

B. whereas global value chains (GVCs) have become a key feature of today's global economy; whereas, on the one hand, GVCs offer new prospects for growth, development and jobs, but on the other hand, their complex nature, lack of transparency and dilution of liabilities has led to a higher risk of human rights violations;

Amendment

B. whereas global value chains (GVCs) have become a key feature of today's global economy; whereas, on the one hand, GVCs offer new prospects for growth, development and jobs, but on the other hand, their complex nature, lack of transparency and dilution of liabilities has led to a higher risk of human rights violations; ***whereas the fragmentation of production structured around GVCs can enhance the role of women in the economy because of the wide range of opportunities that it creates;***

Amendment 2

Draft report

Recital I

Draft report

I. whereas gender equality in all EU policies is firmly established in Article 8 of the TFEU; whereas trade and investment agreements affect women and men differently owing to structural gender inequalities;

Amendment

I. whereas gender equality in all EU policies is firmly established in Article 8 of the TFEU; whereas trade and investment agreements affect women and men differently owing to structural gender inequalities; ***whereas the gender equality perspective is often overlooked in the analysis of GVCs; whereas according to the ILO 20.9 million people globally (55 % of whom are women and girls) were victims of forced labour in 2012 and 90 % of them were exploited in the private economy, by individuals or enterprises;***

Amendment 3
Recital I a (new)

Draft report

Amendment

Ia. whereas women comprise the majority of workers in certain segments of the garment, horticulture, mobile phone and tourism GVCs but they tend to be more concentrated in low-wage or low-status forms of employment than men, leading to gender segregation in types of occupations and activities, gender gaps in wages and working conditions, and gender-specific constraints in access to productive resources, infrastructure and services;

Amendment 4

Draft report
Recital L

Draft report

Amendment

L. whereas making customs data on imports entering the EU publicly available would increase GVC transparency and accountability;

L. whereas making customs data on imports entering the EU publicly available would increase GVC transparency and accountability; ***whereas due to the complex nature of GVCs there is a lack of statistics to allow for a clear picture of the role played by women to be drawn; whereas transparency is a key factor in reducing discrimination, exploitation and abuses;***

Amendment 5

Draft report
Paragraph 14 a (new)

Draft report

Amendment

14a. Calls for a comprehensive analysis of the differences and inequalities in the framework of GVCs: (i) gender

differences in time usage, mainly resulting from the fundamental role women play in reproductive matters; (ii) gender differences in access to productive inputs and resources, particularly land, credit, training, and networks; and (iii) gender differences stemming from market and institutional failures and discrimination;

Amendment 6

Draft report Paragraph 14 b (new)

Draft report

Amendment

14b. Understands that EU trade policy should be a tool for addressing gender challenges and promoting gender equality; notes that the EU and Member States should integrate a gender perspective into international trade as well as the EU's trade policies on GVCs in order to better understand and tackle the gender implications of trade;

Amendment 7

Draft report Paragraph 14 c (new)

Draft report

Amendment

14c. Calls on the EU and Member States to elaborate and include a gender impact assessment and a gender risk evaluation in any EU trade agreement or in any analysis of global value chains; points out that these assessments will evaluate potential positive and negative effects on gender equality that will be considered with a view introducing preventive measures; stresses that EU trade authorities should consult with gender equality experts when producing

these analyses;

Amendment 8

Draft report
Paragraph 14 d (new)

Draft report

Amendment

14d. Calls for the binding and enforceable application of the International Labour Organization's (ILO) core labour standards and of its Decent Work Agenda, given that ILO standards are particularly relevant to improving gender equality because of their principles of non-discrimination on the grounds of sex and equal pay for men and women, as well as international environmental protection commitments in EU preferential trade agreements;

Amendment 9

Draft report
Paragraph 14 e (new)

Draft report

Amendment

14e. Calls for a broad-based effective and transparent participation of women and women's rights organisations and trade unions in the policy framework of the GVCs;

Amendment 10

Draft report
Paragraph 14 f (new)

Draft report

Amendment

14f. Stresses that the EU and Member States, when negotiating trade agreements, should be concerned with not only improving global social and

environmental standards and a fairer and equitable global model of trade, but also with promoting gender equality within the GVCs by ensuring adequate work conditions and rights for women throughout their supply chains, and to avoid sourcing material from conflict areas where there is widespread gender-based violence;

Amendment 11

Draft report
Paragraph 14 g (new)

Draft report

Amendment

14g. Supports the introduction of gender budgeting in international EU trade policy to be aligned with the key principles the EU's trade policy of effectiveness, transparency and values; stresses gender budgeting is an important strategy to address and advance gender equality; notes gender budgeting requires increased gender expertise;

Amendment 12

Draft report
Paragraph 14 h (new)

Draft report

Amendment

14h. Warns against the negative impacts of trade expansion and liberalisation on the quality of employment, as well as the risk of increasing labour trafficking of persons; stresses that women tend to be the ones to suffer most and that very often in the case of women, labour trafficking of persons runs in parallel with sexual trafficking and femicide;

Amendment 13

Draft report

Paragraph 14 i (new)

Draft report

Amendment

14i. Proposes that international trade and the EU's trade policies on GVCs should include and develop a specific strategy to formally protect individuals who denounce the practices of femicide, labour trafficking in persons and sexual trafficking and to defend the victims of the latter; stresses these denouncers should be given similar recognition and protection as requested in the case of 'whistle-blowers', in the field of international and EU trade;

INFORMATION ON ADOPTION IN COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

Date adopted	30.5.2017
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