



2017/2127(INI)

12.9.2017

POSITION IN FORM OF AMENDMENTS

of the Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality

for the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs
on implementation of the European Disability Strategy
(2017/2127(INI))

Rapporteur Rosa Estaràs Ferragut

PA_Legam

AMENDMENTS

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

Amendment 1

Motion for a resolution
Citation 5 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *having regard to the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (European Treaty Series No 5, 1950) and its protocols,*

Amendment 2

Motion for a resolution
Citation 5 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *having regard to the European Social Charter (ETS No 35, 1961, revised 1996; ETS No 163),*

Amendment 3

Motion for a resolution
Citation 5 c (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *having regard to Recommendation Rec(2002)5 of the Committee of Ministers to member states of the Council of Europe on the protection of women against violence, and to Recommendation CM/Rec(2007)17 on gender equality standards and mechanisms,*

Amendment 4

Motion for a resolution
Citation 5 d (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *having regard to the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW, 1979) and its Optional Protocol (1999),*

Amendment 5

Motion for a resolution
Citation 17 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- *having regard to the study of Parliament's Directorate-General for Internal Policies of the Union entitled 'Discrimination Generated by the Intersection of Gender and Disability',*

Amendment 6

Motion for a resolution
Recital A a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

A a. whereas over 80 million persons with disabilities are living in the EU who are in urgent need of an accessible and prejudice-free environment; whereas one in four Europeans has a family member with a disability; whereas there are approximately 46 million women and girls with disabilities in the EU, comprising about 16 % of its total female population;

Amendment 7

Motion for a resolution
Recital C a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

C a. whereas multiple discrimination of different forms and shapes on grounds of gender and disability persists and its effects are social (such as lower self-esteem, economic dependency and social isolation), educational (such as high illiteracy rates and lower educational attainment, especially for women) and labour market exclusion (lower participation in the labour market; tendency to occupy low-paid, temporary or precarious jobs), causing further stress and psychological burden for persons with disabilities and their families and carers;

Amendment 8

Motion for a resolution
Recital C b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

C b. whereas Article 9 CRPD recognises that appropriate measures must be taken to ensure that persons with disabilities, in particular girls and women, can enjoy real access to the physical environment, transport facilities, information and communications, including information and communication technologies, and to other facilities and services that are open to or provided for the public, in both rural and urban areas;

Amendment 9

Motion for a resolution
Recital C c (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

C c. whereas persons with disabilities and in particular women with disabilities have lower incomes and often do not own a vehicle; whereas women live longer than their male counterparts and there is a growing need to promote neighbourhood proximity, pedestrian spaces and adjustments to buildings and housing in order to reduce the factors that contribute to their exclusion from socio-economic life, education and the world of work; whereas a well-designed built environment in all public sphere-related activities and services would enable and encourage women, and especially women with disabilities, to participate in socio-economic life;

Amendment 10

Motion for a resolution
Recital C d (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

C d. whereas female passengers outnumber male passengers in public transport, taking into consideration that women often have more complex transport patterns as many care for dependent family members, and safe accessibility to transport and to services and products related to transport should be made readily available to persons with disabilities in order to ensure that they can enjoy independent mobility;

Amendment 11

Motion for a resolution
Recital C e (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

C e. whereas women and girls with disabilities often suffer from lack of information on and protection of their sexual and reproductive rights and have little or no access to services and products that would enable them to fully enjoy those rights;

Amendment 12

Motion for a resolution
Recital C f (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

C f. whereas support, protection, communication, care and health services, such as those related to primary health, violence against women, childcare, motherhood and female sexual and reproductive rights, should be fully accessible in all languages, forms and formats for all women, and especially for women and girls with disabilities;

Amendment 13

Motion for a resolution
Recital C g (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

C g. whereas health services personnel should be properly trained in terms of disability-sensitive issues with a view to addressing the needs of persons with disabilities; whereas employing persons with disabilities in health service units will allow patients with disabilities to feel more at ease and feel that there is someone who can understand and address their needs; whereas employing persons with disabilities in public services, such as healthcare services, would also be

motivating for those with disabilities;

Amendment 14

Motion for a resolution Recital C h (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

C h. whereas the participation of persons with disabilities, particularly women, in political and public life, where they are often under-represented, needs to be further addressed, in accordance with Article 29 CRPD;

Amendment 15

Motion for a resolution Recital C i (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

C i. whereas, despite the numerous international conventions and provisions of European law, as well as the current European Disability Strategy, persons with disabilities are still not fully enjoying their citizens' and social rights, since, for example, they do not have fair and equal opportunities to participate in political, social and economic life; whereas women and girls with disabilities remain on the margins of decision-making and progress in gender equality;

Amendment 16

Motion for a resolution Recital C j (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

C j. whereas gender equality was not horizontally mainstreamed in the

European Disability Strategy 2010-2020; whereas the TFEU requires the Union to combat discrimination based on disability when defining and implementing its policies and activities (Article 10), and gives it the power to adopt legislation to address such discrimination (Article 19); whereas Articles 21 and 26 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union explicitly prohibit discrimination on the grounds of disability and call for the equal participation of persons with disabilities in society; whereas equal treatment can be ensured by applying positive measures and policies for women with disabilities and mothers of children with disabilities; whereas including a gender dimension in the expected post-2020 European Disability Strategy will contribute to an integrated approach to eliminating discrimination against women and girls with disabilities;

Amendment 17

Motion for a resolution

Recital C k (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

C k. whereas 75 % of people with severe disabilities do not have the opportunity to participate fully in the European labour market; whereas the proportion of employed women in the EU-28 having a longstanding health problem and/or a basic activity difficulty and reporting that they had used some kind of assistance at work is higher than the equivalent proportion for men; whereas women with disabilities are at greater risk of poverty and therefore the barriers to their participation and inclusion in the labour market, education programmes and social life must be lifted as a matter of urgency;

Amendment 18

Motion for a resolution Recital C 1 (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

C 1. whereas 34 % of women with a health problem or a disability have experienced physical or sexual violence by a partner in their lifetime;

Amendment 19

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 9 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

9 a. Highlights the importance of optimising the EU Structural Funds in order to promote accessibility and non-discrimination regarding persons with disabilities, paying particular attention to women, and of action to increase the visibility of funding opportunities;

Amendment 20

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 9 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

9 b. Highlights the fact that women and girls with disabilities suffer from double discrimination due to the intersection of gender and disability and may often even be exposed to multiple discrimination arising from the intersection of gender and disability with sexual orientation, age, religion or ethnicity;

Amendment 21

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 9 c (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

9 c. *Regrets that the European Disability Strategy 2010-2020 currently in force has failed to adopt effective legislative acts, measures and policies to tackle the segregation and rejection of women with disabilities in the labour market, political life, schools and learning environments;*

Amendment 22

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 9 d (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

9 d. *Reiterates that all persons with disabilities should be able to fully enjoy their rights on a basis of inclusion and participation in society;*

Amendment 23

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 9 e (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

9 e. *Stresses with concern that women and girls with disabilities are more likely to become victims of gender-based violence, especially domestic violence and sexual exploitation; points out that this also concerns forced sterilisation and coerced abortion; underlines that all appropriate measures must be taken to avoid all types of abuses and to provide high-quality, accessible and tailor-made support to the victims of violence;*

Amendment 24

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 9 f (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

9 f. Highlights the fact that the inclusion of persons with disabilities is a fundamental human rights issue that has to be properly addressed at European level;

Amendment 25

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 9 g (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

9 g. Reiterates that women with disabilities are often at a greater disadvantage than men with disabilities and are more often at risk of poverty and social exclusion;

Amendment 26

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 9 h (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

9 h. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to introduce policies to enable and encourage the participation of women and girls with disabilities in public, social, economic and political life; underlines that women and girls with disabilities, through their representative organisations, should be closely consulted and actively involved in developing and implementing legislation and policies ensuring non-discrimination and equal opportunities; calls for a genuine

structured dialogue between the EU and organisations representing persons with disabilities for the drafting of the post-2020 European Disability Strategy;

Amendment 27

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 9 i (new)**

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

9 i. *Insists that disability policies should be gender mainstreamed;*

Amendment 28

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 9 j (new)**

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

9 j. *Underlines that the European Disability Strategy 2010-2020 should include an integrated gender perspective or a separate chapter on gender-specific disability policies;*

Amendment 29

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 9 k (new)**

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

9 k. *Underlines the importance of mainstreaming disability in gender policies and programmes;*

Amendment 30

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 9 l (new)**

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

9 l. *Highlights the need for role models for women and girls with disabilities, to include mentoring and support networks;*

Amendment 31

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 9 m (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

9 m. *Underlines that women with disabilities must enjoy the rights to education, healthcare, employment, mobility, family life, sexual relations, marriage and motherhood, as well as the safeguards guaranteeing those rights;*

Amendment 32

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 9 n (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

9 n. *Emphasises that more must be done to overcome stereotypes and prejudice about disability, and that women and girls with disabilities need to have greater visibility in the media in order to change prevalent exclusionary social norms; calls on the Commission and Member States to invest in public awareness initiatives to this effect;*

Amendment 33

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 9 o (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

9 o. *Highlights that more recognition and support must be given to those with hidden or invisible disabilities, particularly women and girls, who may face specific challenges and barriers;*

Amendment 34

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 9 p (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

9 p. *Reiterates the fact of the disproportionate impact of economic austerity policies and public sector budget cuts on persons with disabilities, especially women and girls, often putting their wellbeing, health and even lives at risk;*

Amendment 35

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 9 q (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

9 q. *Calls for specific policy measures to address violence and abuse affecting persons with disabilities and learning difficulties, particularly women and girls, including online intimidation, bullying and harassment, as well as violence in situations of formal and informal care;*

Amendment 36

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 9 r (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

9 r. *Emphasises the role of trade unions, employers' associations and training and lifelong learning organisations in addressing the multiple discrimination faced by women and girls with disabilities and the barriers to their inclusion;*

Amendment 37

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 9 s (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

9 s. *Asks the Commission and the Member States to implement gender mainstreaming in all relevant areas of disability policy;*

Amendment 38

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 9 t (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

9 t. *Emphasises that women and girls with disabilities must be informed of their rights and of the citizens' services available to them (education, health, justice, transport, dealings with the authorities, etc); underlines that this information must be provided in a simple and secure way, taking into account the different communication methods, media and formats chosen by them and, where applicable, the extent of their mental disability, so that they can make decisions for themselves;*

Amendment 39

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 9 u (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

9 u. *Considers that the European Institute for Gender Equality should provide guidance at European and Member State level as regards the specific situation of women and girls with disabilities, and should play an active role in advocacy work to secure equal rights and combat discrimination;*

Amendment 40

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 9 v (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

9 v. *Stresses that it is necessary to ensure that women and girls with disabilities are able to live independently and participate fully in all areas of life on an equal basis with others, and especially on an equal basis with their reference populations; therefore, appropriate measures must be taken to ensure that girls and women with disabilities enjoy real access to the physical environment, to transport, to information and communications, including information and communications technologies and systems, and to other facilities and services open to or provided for the public, both in urban and in rural areas; underlines that in order to properly mainstream gender in disability measures, planning, projects, programmes and reporting, safeguards must be in place to ensure that women with disabilities can participate in such processes in the relevant bodies or authorities, preferably as consultants, advisors or experts, in order to make sure that when designing*

environments, goods and services the specific needs and demands of the female population with disabilities are taken into consideration;

Amendment 41

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 9 w (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

9 w. *Reiterates its call on the Commission to submit a comprehensive European strategy to fight violence against women which contains a legislative instrument for preventing and combating gender-based violence, paying particular attention to women and girls with disabilities;*

Amendment 42

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 9 x (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

9 x. *Encourages the Member States to adopt measures to ensure that girls and women with disabilities can enjoy their sexual and reproductive health rights, including sexual education adapted where necessary to the intellectual ability of the disabled woman or girl concerned, based on the free and informed consent of the individuals concerned and paying due regard to their physical integrity, freedom of choice and self-determination;*

Amendment 43

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 9 y (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

9 y. *Recalls that combating poverty and social exclusion among persons with disabilities is closely linked to the issue of better conditions for family members who often act as unpaid carers and are not considered employed persons; encourages the Member States, therefore, to present national support strategies for informal carers, who are mostly female relatives of persons with disabilities;*

Amendment 44

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 9 z (new)**

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

9 z. *Highlights the value of micro financial instruments for job creation and growth; calls on the Member States to make such instruments more easily available to women with disabilities;*

Amendment 45

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 9 aa (new)**

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

9 aa. *Highlights the importance of independent living for persons with disabilities; calls on the Commission to present a comprehensive European strategy for deinstitutionalisation, also taking into account specific issues of women with disabilities;*

Amendment 46

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 9 ab (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

9 ab. *Underlines that in order to ensure independent living for persons with disabilities, it is necessary to support research and innovation with regard to developing products to help persons with disabilities in their everyday activities;*

Amendment 47

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 9 ac (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

9 ac. *Underlines that the number of elderly people is increasing and that according to the WHO disability prevalence is higher among women, who are particularly affected by this phenomenon owing to their longer life expectancy; stresses that, therefore, there will be a proportionate increase in the numbers of women with disabilities;*

Amendment 48

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 9 ad (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

9 ad. *Reiterates the urgent need to address the issue of violence against women and girls with disabilities in public, private and institutional environments; welcomes the decision of the Council for the EU to become a party of the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (the Istanbul Convention), as an important step in combating violence against women*

and girls with disabilities; regrets that the Council has limited the EU accession to two areas, namely cooperation in judicial matters and matters concerning refugees and asylum-seekers and non-refoulement;

Amendment 49

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 9 ae (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

9 ae. Emphasises that women and girls with disabilities, including those belonging to marginalised and vulnerable groups, such as women refugees, migrants and asylum seekers or Roma, as well as LBTI people, are facing multiple discrimination, and must therefore be enabled and empowered so that they can participate in political life and decision-making processes in order to ensure that their interests are expressed and their rights are supported and protected, thus creating a genuine grassroots gender perspective; calls on the Member States to provide suitably adapted services and facilities that would ensure empowerment with a view to active involvement and participation, and to invest in assistive and adaptive technologies and e-inclusion;

Amendment 50

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 9 af (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

9 af. Underlines that in order to achieve autonomous and independent living for persons with disabilities, especially women, individually and personally provided assistance is a suitable means of

*supporting them and their families,
enabling them to access the workplace
and educational and training institutions,
as well as offering support in the event of
pregnancy and motherhood;*

Amendment 51

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 10 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

**10 a. Calls on the Commission to
address disability in its Strategic
Engagement for Gender Equality 2016-
2019;**

Amendment 52

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 11 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

**11 a. Denounces the fact that the
Council has still not adopted the 2008
proposal for a directive on implementing
the principle of equal treatment between
persons irrespective of religion or belief,
disability, age or sexual orientation;
reiterates its call on the Council to do so
as soon as possible;**

Amendment 53

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 12 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

**12 a. Insists that gender-disaggregated
data must be collected in order to identify
the forms of intersectional multiple
discrimination that are faced by women**

and girls with disabilities, in all areas covered by the Istanbul Convention and wherever relevant;

Amendment 54

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 18 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

18 a. Stresses the importance of integrating women with disabilities into standard educational and professional systems;

Amendment 55

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 26 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

26 a. Considers that women and girls with disabilities must have full access to medical care that meets their particular needs, including gynaecological consultation, medical examinations, family planning, and adapted support during pregnancy; urges the Member States to ensure that their national public healthcare provision includes proper access to these services;

Amendment 56

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 26 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

26 b. Draws attention to the shortcomings (e.g. inaccessible cancer screening facilities for women in a wheelchair, lack of information material

adapted to persons with disabilities) that persist in the provision of healthcare for persons with disabilities; encourages the Member states to provide appropriate education and training for health personnel regarding the specific needs of patients with disabilities;

Amendment 57

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 26 c (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

26 c. Highlights the need to ensure, in all Member States, accessible health and care services, as well as the support which people with disabilities need, so as to facilitate their social inclusion; also highlights that equal opportunities can only be achieved if the right to inclusion and participation is granted at all levels and types of life;

Amendment 58

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 34 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

34 a. Reiterates that women with disabilities often face even bigger challenges and dangers in countries involved in conflict and in conflict zones; highlights, therefore, the need to protect women with disabilities, in the EU's external policies;

Amendment 59

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 35 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

35 a. *Urges the EU institutions to ensure that their internet-based content and applications, as well as essential documents and audiovisual content, are accessible, while also ensuring the physical accessibility of their buildings;*

Amendment 60

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 35 b (new)**

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

35 b. *Underlines the need to facilitate the effective participation and freedom of expression of persons with disabilities in the context of public events or meetings hosted by the EU institutions or held on their premises, by providing captioning and sign-language interpretation, and documents in Braille and in easy-to-read formats;*

Amendment 61

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 44 a (new)**

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

44 a. *Calls on the Commission to present a proposal for the European Disability Strategy 2020-2030 that fully integrates the CRPD provisions in future EU legislation and policies and is consistent with the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Strategic Engagement for Gender Equality 2016-2019, so as to ensure that women and girls with disabilities can fully enjoy their rights like any other person;*

Amendment 62

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 44 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

44 b. Urges the Commission to come forward with a consolidated proposal within the post-2020 European Disability Strategy, and to adopt effective measures to prevent violence against women and children with disabilities which target families, communities, professionals and institutions; highlights the important role that educational institutions such as schools play in promoting social inclusion, and points to the need for a gender-mainstreamed educational policy to be adopted across the Member States;

INFORMATION ON ADOPTION IN COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

Date adopted	4.9.2017
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