



Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality

2017/2069(INI)

26.9.2017

POSITION IN THE FORM OF AMENDMENTS

of the Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality

for the Committee on Petitions

on the EU Citizenship Report 2017: Strengthening Citizens' Rights in a Union
of Democratic Change
(2017/2069(INI))

Rapporteur: Ángela Vallina

PA_Legam

AMENDMENTS

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

Amendment 1

Motion for a resolution

Citation 6 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- having regard to the Proposal for a Council Regulation on jurisdiction, the recognition and enforcement of decisions in matrimonial matters and the matters of parental responsibility, and on international child abduction (recast) (COM(2016)0411),

Amendment 2

Motion for a resolution

Recital A a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

A a. whereas strengthening citizens' rights and democratic institutions includes combating discrimination and gender inequality in line with the Sustainable Development Goals;

Amendment 3

Motion for a resolution

Recital H a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

H a. whereas women's underrepresentation in decision-making positions, especially in the political sphere and at business board level, hinders

capability development and weakens women's participation in the democratic life of the EU;

Amendment 4

Motion for a resolution
Recital H b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

H b. whereas women's participation and leadership in political decision-making is still affected by various obstacles, such as the persistence of gender-based stereotypes and the consequences of the recent economic crisis together with its negative repercussions on gender equality issues;

Amendment 5

Motion for a resolution
Recital H d (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

H d. whereas significant gaps remain in protecting victims of gender-based violence and domestic violence across the EU in cases of cross-border family disputes;

Amendment 6

Motion for a resolution
Recital J a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

J a. whereas discrimination faced by women across the EU is an obstacle to equality; whereas women remain

underrepresented as voters as well as in leading positions, whether in elected offices, the civil service, academia, the media or the private sector; whereas the widespread multiple discrimination faced by women and the disproportionate number of women facing poverty and social exclusion are obstacles to the full exercise of their citizenship rights;

Amendment 7

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 1

Motion for a resolution

1. Takes note of the Commission's 2017 EU Citizenship Report, which contains an enumeration of priorities by field of activity; expresses its doubt as to whether these priorities will effectively answer citizens' concerns; regrets the lack of well-defined, concrete commitments for the next three years;

Amendment

1. Takes note of the Commission's 2017 EU Citizenship Report, which contains an enumeration of priorities by field of activity; expresses its doubt as to whether these priorities will effectively answer citizens' concerns; regrets the lack of well-defined, concrete commitments for the next three years; *considers that due attention has not been paid to the inclusion of gender equality as a priority, since it only appears as a secondary item within the final theme 'Strengthening security and promoting equality';*

Amendment 8

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 4

Motion for a resolution

4. Expresses regret that for almost a decade now little progress has been made in the adoption of the EU-wide Anti-Discrimination Directive; calls upon all EU

Amendment

4. Expresses regret that for almost a decade now little progress has been made in the adoption of the EU-wide Anti-Discrimination Directive; calls upon all EU

institutions to conclude the relevant negotiations as soon as possible;

institutions to conclude the relevant negotiations as soon as possible, ***paying due attention to the inclusion of the gender dimension;***

Amendment 9

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 6 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

6 b. Welcomes the Commission's proposal to sign and conclude the EU's accession to the Istanbul Convention and reaffirms its support for EU accession to the Istanbul Convention on a broad basis and without reservations; calls for improvement in the collection of disaggregated data on all forms of violence covered by the Convention, in cooperation with the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE), in order to devise a common methodology to compare databases and analysis; calls on all Member States which have not yet done so to swiftly ratify the Istanbul Convention; calls on the Commission to propose a directive on violence against women;

Amendment 10

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 6 c (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

6 c. Calls on the Council to step up its efforts to unblock the Directive on Women on Boards;

Amendment 11

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 6 d (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

6 d. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to take specific measures to address the needs of vulnerable citizens facing intersectional multiple discrimination that prevents them from exercising their rights or participating fully in society, such as women with disabilities, ethnic minorities, immigrant and refugee women, or those facing poverty and social exclusion;

Amendment 12

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 6 e (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

6 e. Reiterates that ensuring the ability of those facing intersectional multiple discrimination, such as women and girls with disabilities, to exercise their citizenship rights requires a holistic approach involving targeted policies, from intersectional data collection to educational programmes and social inclusion measures; invites the Commission and the Member States to formulate and publish strategies for tackling intersectional discrimination;

Amendment 13

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 6 f (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

6 f. Emphasises the need to tackle gender-based violence faced by women and girls and LGBTI people in politics and in the wider public sphere, including online harassment and intimidation;

Amendment 14

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 6 g (new)**

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

6 g. Reaffirms its call for the Commission to adopt its Strategic engagement for gender equality 2016-2019 as a communication; recalls that the EU is based on the principle of equality between women and men, and that such a principle can only be achieved through strategic mainstreaming in all EU policies;

Amendment 15

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 6 h (new)**

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

6 h. Welcomes the submission by the Commission of the work-life balance package and calls on all institutions to deliver on these measures as soon as possible;

Amendment 16

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 6 j (new)**

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

6 j. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to promote further cooperation in situations where workers receive benefits and pay contributions in different EU Member States, by reinforcing the cross-border exchange of information between the different social security authorities, so that all of the contributions can be duly taken into account in calculating pension rights; draws attention to the persistent gender pay and pension gaps in the EU, which, combined with austerity measures and public sector cuts, undermine the possibility of genuine economic autonomy for millions of women;

Amendment 17

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 6 k (new)**

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

6 k. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to actively make use of EU funds as tools for enhancing gender equality; calls, in particular, for the application of gender mainstreaming within the CAP and rural cohesion policies;

Amendment 18

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 6 l (new)**

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

6 l. Urges the Commission to continue mainstreaming gender in all EU policies by paying particular attention to impact

assessments and ex-post assessments of legislation and policies;

Amendment 19

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 9 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

9 a. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to constantly promote women's representation in leadership positions, particularly in political decision-making and at business board level, and to facilitate women's entry into leadership by eliminating gender stereotypes and encouraging women's participation in on-the-job training, together with other policy tools such as work-life balance, to enable them to fully exercise their rights of EU citizenship;

Amendment 20

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 9 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

9 b. Emphasises that quality citizenship education for all ages, be it formal, informal or non-formal, is crucial for the confident exercise of democratic citizens' rights and the functioning of a democratic society, and in order to overcome discrimination and prejudice, as well as gender inequality; reiterates the need for investment in citizenship and civic education and education for gender equality across Europe;

Amendment 21

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 9 c (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

9 c. Highlights the importance of the political participation of children and young people, particularly of women and girls; calls for more action on the part of the Commission and the Member States in guaranteeing children's rights and stimulating their participation;

Amendment 22

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 10 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

10 a. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to promote further measures to ensure women's fair and equal access to all political, cultural and social spheres as a necessary condition for the effective exercise of citizenship rights in the EU;

Amendment 23

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 11

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

11. Believes that the reform of the Electoral Act on the basis of Parliament's legislative initiative is an unmissable opportunity for the Union to become more democratic; highlights the fact that thousands of Europeans share this view, as evidenced by the 'Let me Vote' European

11. Believes that the reform of the Electoral Act on the basis of Parliament's legislative initiative is an unmissable opportunity for the Union to become more democratic; highlights the fact that thousands of Europeans share this view, as evidenced by the 'Let me Vote' European

Citizens' Initiative, which aims to allow citizens to vote in their place of residence; commends the Commission for exploring the possibilities for non-national EU citizens who have exercised their right to free movement to vote in national elections in the country in which they reside; urges the Commission to devise a concrete action plan for the introduction of electronic voting with a view to the 2019 European Parliament elections;

Citizens' Initiative, which aims to allow citizens to vote in their place of residence; commends the Commission for exploring the possibilities for non-national EU citizens who have exercised their right to free movement to vote in national elections in the country in which they reside; ***calls on the Council to include gender-balanced lists that alternate female and male candidates in the next revision of the European Electoral Law;*** urges the Commission to devise a concrete action plan for the introduction of electronic voting with a view to the 2019 European Parliament elections;

Amendment 24

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 12

Motion for a resolution

12. Expresses its conviction that free media and access to a plurality of voices in society and in the media are an indispensable part of a healthy democracy; underlines the need for a defined EU policy to tackle anti-European propaganda and false information; proposes that EU institutions proceed with the creation of a European television channel broadcasting in all Member States;

Amendment

12. Expresses its conviction that free media and access to a plurality of voices in society and in the media are an indispensable part of a healthy democracy ***and that media literacy is crucial and should be developed at an early age;*** underlines the need for a defined EU policy to tackle anti-European propaganda and false information; proposes that EU institutions proceed with the creation of a European television channel broadcasting in all Member States;

Amendment 25

Motion for a resolution Paragraph 12 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

12 a. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to promote measures to

combat discriminatory statements against women as well as gender stereotypes;

Amendment 26

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 15 a (new)**

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

15 a. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to develop proper gender mainstreaming tools, to closely cooperate with local authorities and communities to prevent and investigate violations and to provide the necessary care and assistance to women who have been sexually exploited, discriminated against and marginalised in the labour market;

Amendment 27

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 15 b (new)**

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

15 b. Calls for reinforced cooperation between the Member States in order to ensure the protection of victims of gender-based violence and that the best interests of the child are taken into account in cases of cross-border family disputes;

Amendment 28

**Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 15 c (new)**

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

15 c. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to adopt effective measures to increase the opportunities for women and girls to participate in EU programmes involving cross-border mobility as students, teachers and researchers;

INFORMATION ON ADOPTION IN COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

Date adopted	25.9.2017
--------------	-----------