POSITION IN THE FORM OF AMENDMENTS

of the Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality

for the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

on the situation of Fundamental Rights in the European Union – Annual Report for the years 2018-2019
(2019/2199(INI))

On behalf of the Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality: Samira Rafaela (rapporteur)
AMENDMENTS

The Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality presents the following amendments to the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs, as the committee responsible:

Amendment 1
Motion for a resolution
Citation 5 a (new)

Motion for a resolution
Amendment

- having regard to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD),

Amendment 2
Motion for a resolution
Citation 5 b (new)

Motion for a resolution
Amendment

- having regard to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR),

Amendment 3
Motion for a resolution
Citation 5 c (new)

Motion for a resolution
Amendment

- having regard to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR),

Amendment 4
Motion for a resolution
Citation 5 d (new)

Motion for a resolution
Amendment

- having regard to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial
Discrimination (ICERD),

Amendment 5
Motion for a resolution
Citation 5 e (new)

- having regard to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC),

Amendment 6
Motion for a resolution
Citation 6 a (new)

- having regard to the UN’s Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs),

Amendment 7
Motion for a resolution
Citation 6 b (new)

- having regard to the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union,

Amendment 8
Motion for a resolution
Citation 8 a (new)

- having regard to the European Convention on Human Rights,

Amendment 9
Draft opinion
Citation 21 a (new)
Draft opinion

Amendment


Amendment 10
Motion for a resolution
Citation 27 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- having regard to its resolution of 13 February 2019 on experiencing backlash in women’s rights and gender equality in the EU


Amendment 11
Motion for a resolution
Citation 34 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- having regard to Commission Recommendation (EU) 2018/951 on standards for equality bodies,

Amendment 12
Motion for a resolution
Citation 34 b (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- having regard to the 2018 Commission Annual Report on the List of actions to advance LGBTI equality,
Amendment 13
Motion for a resolution
Citation 38 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

- having regard to Issue Paper on Women’s sexual and reproductive health and rights in Europe (2017) by the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights,

Amendment 14

Draft opinion
Recital A a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

Aa. whereas women’s rights are human rights and as such are universal, and must be respected and promoted in all Member States;

Amendment 15

Draft opinion
Recital A b (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

Ab. whereas the backlash against women’s rights and gender equality is often linked to a broader deterioration in the situation of democracy, the rule of law and fundamental rights; whereas women’s rights should therefore be included in the rule of law mechanism in the next multiannual financial framework; whereas men and women should be allies in countering this backlash and supporting progress in gender equality and advancing women’s rights;
Amendment 16
Draft opinion
Recital A c (new)

Ac. whereas not enough progress has been made on fundamental rights, including women’s rights, and in particular in key areas of institutional and policy frameworks for gender equality; whereas there has been an organised and worrying backlash against women’s and LGBTI+ rights in some Member States in recent years, with anti-gender movements trying to limit sexual and reproductive health and rights, including through the denial of access to modern forms of contraception and the introduction of regressive preconditions on abortion, attempts to fully ban abortion, to limit equality for LGBTI+ persons, to ban sex education and gender studies, and to promote campaigns against the Istanbul Convention which deny the existence of gender-based violence;

Amendment 17
Draft opinion
Recital A d (new)

Ad. whereas gender based violence in all its forms (including harassment and violence in the workplace, at home and online) is a violation of fundamental rights which affects all levels of society, regardless of age, education, income, social position and country of origin or residence, and represents a major barrier to equality between women and men;

Amendment 18
Motion for a resolution
Recital A e (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

Ae. whereas women, particularly women with disabilities, migrant and ethnic minority women, women of colour, Roma women, older women, women with lower education levels, women with health problems, as well as LGBTI+ women, are more often subject to multiple and intersectional forms of discrimination;

Amendment 19
Motion for a resolution
Recital A f (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

Af. whereas as many as 11 Member States do not provide data on women victims of intentional homicide by an intimate partner or family member; whereas according to the data from the remaining 17 EU Member States, 788 women were killed by an intimate partner or family member in 2016;

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Amendment 20
Draft opinion
Recital A g (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

Ag. whereas Article 8 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union lays down the principle of gender mainstreaming by stating that in all its activities the Union must aim to eliminate inequalities and to promote equality
between men and women;

Amendment 21
Motion for a resolution
Recital A h (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

Ah. whereas equality between men and women is a fundamental value of the EU; whereas the right to equal treatment and non-discrimination is a fundamental right enshrined in the Treaties which should be applied in legislation, practice, case law and everyday life;

Amendment 22
Motion for a resolution
Recital A i (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

Ai. whereas Article 13 of the Amsterdam Treaty provides the EU with a legal basis to combat discrimination on grounds of racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation;

Amendment 23
Motion for a resolution
Recital A j (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

Aj. whereas the EU has already implemented a general framework for equal treatment in employment and occupation, which gives it a mandate to combat discrimination based on religion or belief, age, disability and sexual orientation on the labour market; whereas similar anti-discriminatory measures should also be urgently implemented outside the labour market;
Amendment 24
Draft opinion
Recital A k (new)

Draft opinion
Amendment

Ak. whereas women continue to be under-represented and discriminated against on the labour market, especially in leadership positions, while they are over-represented in low-paid industries such as social work, care work and education, and devote more time than men to unpaid housework and care, as 80 % of all care provided across the EU is provided by unpaid informal carers and 75 % of these carers are women; whereas in our societies there is still strong occupational segregation between women’s and men’s roles and jobs, which has negative impacts on gender income equality and societal development; whereas special measures are needed to support women, especially women returning to the job market after a long career break in order to increase their potential on the labour market;

Amendment 25
Motion for a resolution
Recital A l (new)

Motion for a resolution
Amendment

Al. whereas, on average, per hour a woman earns 84 cents for every euro a man makes, resulting in a gender pay gap of 16 %; whereas the gender pension gap is 35 %;  

Amendment 26
Motion for a resolution
Recital A m (new)

Motion for a resolution
Am. whereas digitalisation is an example of an area that is better remunerated and has great societal impact; whereas only 17% of ICT specialists are women; whereas women are under-represented at many levels in Europe, such as in start-ups, the innovation sector, and as recipients of venture capital;

Amendment 27
Motion for a resolution
Recital A n (new)

Motion for a resolution
An. whereas, according to the findings of the Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) in its Fundamental Rights Report 2019, its surveys and various national studies, discrimination and inequalities on different grounds remain realities in everyday life throughout the EU; whereas these findings also consistently show that people who experience discrimination seldom report it; whereas national equality bodies have a key role to play in the promotion of equal treatment and the provision of assistance to victims of discrimination;

Amendment 28
Motion for a resolution
Recital C a (new)

Motion for a resolution
Ca. whereas, according to the Gender Equality Index 2019, in the EU political
representation of women at ministerial level is still lagging behind that of men at around one third;

Amendment 29
Motion for a resolution
Recital F a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

Fa. whereas according to the European Border and Coast Guard Agency, in 2018 women accounted for 18 % of all irregular entries across the external EU borders, and nearly one in five migrants were registered as children, with some 3 750 being unaccompanied; whereas these women and children are particularly vulnerable to abuses of their fundamental rights, such as human trafficking;

Amendment 30
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 1 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

1a. Urges the Council to urgently unblock the negotiations on the Women on Boards Directive in order to address the considerable imbalance between women and men in economic decision-making at the highest level, thereby creating the conditions for women to be able to enjoy their full social and economic rights; welcomes the Commission President’s commitment in her Political Guidelines to build a majority to unblock this Directive;

Amendment 31
Draft opinion
Paragraph 2 a (new)
2a. Notes that the Commission’s monitoring of the implementation of Directive 2006/54/EC on the principle of equal opportunities and equal treatment of men and women in matters of employment and occupation on the issue of closing the gender pay gap has not been effective, and calls for the full implementation of the Directive, as well as for its revision, and the inclusion of a compulsory requirement for companies to draw up gender equality plans;

Amendment 32
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 2 b (new)

2b. Stresses that gender-based wage inequality in the Member States has an impact on women’s fundamental rights; reiterates the importance of the ‘equal pay for equal work’ principle for all labour market-related policies enshrined in Article 157 TFEU;

Amendment 33
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 2 c (new)

2c. Urges the Commission to present to the Council for approval a European carers’ programme, with a view to identifying and recognising the various types of informal care provision in Europe, and guaranteeing financial support for carers, thus reinforcing women’s rights to employment;
Amendment 34
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 2 d (new)

Motion for a resolution

2d. Calls on the Member States to support the implementation of the Work-life Balance Directive as it reinforces the equality principle in many areas such as employment and work;

Amendment 35
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 4 d (new)

Motion for a resolution

4d. Points out that, according to the Gender Equality Index 2019, gender inequalities are most worrying in the domain of power; notes that, as a general trend, women’s representation has improved in the Member States which have adopted legally prescribed candidate quotas; commits to encouraging women’s participation in the European electoral process by including gender-balanced lists in the next revision of the Act concerning the election of the members of the European Parliament by direct universal suffrage;

Amendment 36
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 4 e (new)

Motion for a resolution

4e. Notes that there are significant differences across the EU in the mandates, competences and resources of the equality bodies established by the Member States in accordance with the directives on equality; calls on the Member States to ensure that they can effectively and independently fulfil the tasks assigned to them in a way that takes due account of the Commission’s
recommendation;

Amendment 37
Draft opinion
Paragraph 4 f (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

4f. Calls on the Council to urgently unblock the proposed Equal Treatment Directive after 10 years of deadlock in order to close the current protection gap in the EU legal framework for non-discrimination on grounds of age, disability, religion or belief, or sexual orientation; calls on the Council to implement, in a gender-sensitive way, the principle of equal treatment between persons in key areas such as social protection, education and access to goods and services, and to ensure that the EU does not implement an artificial hierarchy of grounds;

Amendment 38
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 4 g (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

4g. Stresses that the effects of climate change affect the whole of society, but in particular women and groups in a vulnerable or precarious situation, thereby increasing inequalities and diminishing their ability to exercise their fundamental rights;

Amendment 39
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 4 h (new)
Motion for a resolution

4h. Regrets the continued existence of persistent gender pay and pension gaps which still stand at 16% and 35% according to the most recent available data; stresses that these figures reflect persisting inequality in the domain of work;

Amendment 40
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 4 i (new)

Motion for a resolution

4i. Welcomes the commitment of both the Commission President and the Commissioner for Equality to table measures to introduce binding pay transparency measures in the first 100 days of the Commission’s mandate; considers that the forthcoming directive should include strong enforcement policies and sanctions for those failing to comply, and should apply to both the private and public sectors, as well as to remuneration packages in their entirety; calls on the Commission to introduce concrete measures building on the 2014 recommendation such as (a) clear definition of criteria for assessing the value of work, (b) gender-neutral job evaluation and classification systems, (c) mandatory gender pay audits and reporting to guarantee equal pay (d) workers’ entitlement to request full pay information and the right to redress (e) clear targets for companies’ equality performance;

Amendment 41
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 4 j (new)
Motion for a resolution

4j. Regrets that according to the EIGE progress in gender equality is being made at ‘a snail’s pace’, and that the EU score for gender equality has only risen one point since 2017; takes note that in many areas no improvements are being made, and that women’s fundamental rights continue to be breached;

Amendment 42
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 4 k (new)

Motion for a resolution

4k. Calls on the Member States and all EU bodies to cooperate with the EIGE and the FRA, in keeping with the shared determination to work together to combat violence and gender discrimination; calls for increased cooperation with relevant international entities such as the United Nations, in particular with UN Women; calls on the Commission and the Member States to collect robust, disaggregated and comparable data to inform evidence-based non-discrimination policies, monitor trends, and assess the implementation of EU equality directives and international human rights standards; welcomes, in this regard, the establishment of the EU High Level Group on Non-discrimination, Diversity and Equality (HLG) Subgroup on Equality Data and its guidelines on improving data collection and use;

Amendment 43
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 4 l

Motion for a resolution

4l. Welcomes the commitment of Commissioner Helena Dalli to put forward
by 8 March 2020 a new and ambitious Gender Equality Strategy, containing new legislative proposals as well as incisive policy measures, including, inter alia, measures on gender participation, gender stereotypes, disability, the backlash in women’s rights and combating violence against women;

Amendment 44
Draft opinion
Paragraph 5 a (new)

Draft opinion

Amendment

5a. Condemns the backlash in women’s rights and gender equality in several Member States; expresses concern over restrictions of sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) and calls on Member States to refrain from adopting any measures that undermine human rights, gender equality and SRHR; reiterates that SRHR are fundamental rights of all women and girls, and must be respected, including the right to bodily and sexual autonomy and to be free from coercion, discrimination and violence; strongly believes that access to SRHR and in particular the choice of contraception and family planning and primary, gynaecological and obstetric healthcare, including safe and legal abortion, should be guaranteed to every woman in the EU; calls on all Member States to decriminalise abortion and abortion-related care; calls on the Commission to include the promotion and improvement of SRHR in the next Health Strategy;

Amendment 45
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 6 a (new)
Motion for a resolution

Amendment

6a. Stresses that gender-based violence is both the consequence and one of the causes of persisting gender inequalities;

Amendment 46

Draft opinion

Paragraph 6 b (new)

Draft opinion

6b. Strongly reaffirms the value of the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Istanbul Convention) as the first holistic international instrument to combat gender-based violence; welcomes the commitment by the Commission President in her Agenda for Europe to unblock the EU’s accession to the Istanbul Convention; stresses the need to urgently conclude EU accession on the basis of a broad accession without limitations, to advocate its ratification by all the Member States and to ensure proper implementation of the Convention; reminds Member States that proposed EU accession does not exonerate them from ratifying the Convention at national level; welcomes the recent opinion of the Council of Europe’s Venice Commission on Armenia as an excellent tool for clarifying and combating all the misconceptions about the Istanbul Convention;

Amendment 47

Draft opinion

Paragraph 6 c (new)
6c. Welcomes the commitments to equality by the Commission President in her Political Guidelines for the next European Commission (2019-2024), the measures announced in the Commission Work Programme 2020, and in particular proposals on minimum standards on the definition of certain types of violence and strengthening the Victims’ Rights Directive, as well as to table a proposal to add violence against women to the list of EU-recognised crimes defined in the Treaty; considers that the best way forward is to regulate the prevention and elimination of all forms and dimensions of gender-based violence in a single legislative act by adopting a directive on combating violence against women and girls and other forms of gender-based violence;

Amendment 48
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 6 d (new)

Motion for a resolution

6d. Expresses its deep concern about the alarming number of femicides in Europe, which is the most extreme form of violence against women; regrets the lack of available data in some Member States, which reflects the fact that this problem is not acknowledged;

Amendment 49
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 6 e (new)

Motion for a resolution

6e. Recalls that gender-based and domestic violence is widespread across the
EU, and that victims often have limited access to justice and proper protection; urges the Commission and the Member States to respond to this widespread fundamental rights and security challenge appropriately by making it a priority and working with law enforcement authorities to promote better access to justice;

Amendment 50
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 6 f (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

6f. Calls on the Commission and on the Council to activate the ‘passerelle clause’ enshrined in Article 83(1) of the TFEU as soon as possible in order to include violence against women and girls and other forms of gender-based violence in the catalogue of EU-recognised crimes, and to allow the Commission to put forward a proposal for a directive using Article 83 of the TFEU as legal basis;

Amendment 51
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 6 g (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

6g. Regrets the tendency in recent years to cut EU funds for combating all forms of violence against women and girls; reaffirms its request to earmark and increase resources for the Daphne strand in the Rights and Values Programme, as well as for its specific objective relating to the promotion and safeguarding of gender equality and gender mainstreaming;

Amendment 52
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 6 h (new)
Motion for a resolution

6h. Points out that too many women continue to be subjected to sexual harassment in public spaces and in the workplace; calls upon the Member States and the EU institutions, bodies and agencies to step up their response to this phenomenon; calls upon the Commission and the Member States to counter online harassment which targets girls and women disproportionately, particularly those in public and political life; welcomes the recently adopted ILO Convention on Violence and Harassment in the World of Work (C190), and calls on all Member States to ratify it without delay; calls on the Member States to implement awareness-raising campaigns in this regard, targeting both the public and private sectors;

Amendment 53
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 6 i (new)

Motion for a resolution

6i.Calls on the Commission and the Member States to improve the availability and comparability of quality disaggregated data on gender-based violence through cooperation with Eurostat, the EIGE and the FRA in line with the Istanbul Convention’s obligations on data collection and research; once again calls on the Commission to establish a European observatory on gender-based violence with a view to gathering accurate and comparable data along the lines of the EIGE’s State Observatory on Violence against Women;

Amendment 54
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 6 j (new)
6j. Stresses that initiatives mitigating gender inequality in the EU have a central role in promoting and protecting women’s fundamental rights; calls in this regard for a robust and evidence-based approach that will allow the drafting of adequate and useful impact assessments on gender equality;

Amendment 55
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 6 k (new)

6k. Recalls that gender mainstreaming is an indispensable tool for eliminating inequalities, promoting gender equality and combating discrimination; reiterates its call to the Commission to introduce gender mainstreaming in all Union internal and external policies and activities; welcomes the commitment of the new Commissioner for Equality to create a Task Force on Equality with the aim of building an intersectional approach to gender mainstreaming in all EU policies; believes that stronger interinstitutional relations in the field of gender mainstreaming can help develop gender-sensitive EU policies; calls, therefore, for structured cooperation on gender mainstreaming between all institutional partners, such as the Commission, the Council and the EIGE;

Amendment 56
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 7 a (new)

7a. Calls for the new Roma health strategy and the Roma 2020 strategy to address discrimination against Roma
women, including the serious reproductive and maternal health rights violations they experience in healthcare facilities;

Amendment 57
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 7 b (new)

7b. Notes that in relation to SDG 5, the FRA published in 2014 the first – and to date only – EU-wide survey on violence against women, and that the full data set for the next survey will be collected between 2020 and 2022; encourages the agency to publish the survey more frequently and regularly, and to conduct other surveys concerning gender discrimination;

Amendment 58
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 8 a (new)

8a. Calls on the Commission to foreground the gender mainstreaming perspective in the European Semester by introducing a gender dimension into the annual growth survey and into the formulation process of the Country Specific-Recommendations (CSRs);

Amendment 59
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 8 b (new)

8b. Stresses the need to address gendered barriers to obtaining access justice in the Member States, whether in socio-economic, legal or procedural terms, and
urges the Commission and the Member States to take steps to remove them; calls on the Member States to fully implement the Victims’ Rights Directive to ensure rights awareness, and that access to appropriate support services and effective remedies is available to all victims of crime; underlines that access to justice is a key issue for women victims of gender-based violence and that, among victims, undocumented migrant women are in a doubly vulnerable position as they may be reluctant to report violations to the police;

Amendment 60
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 8 c (new)

Motion for a resolution

8c. Notes that gender budgeting is one of the key dimensions of a gender mainstreaming strategy; stresses that gender budgeting must become an integral part of the budgetary procedure, including in the next MFF; stresses its call to add a gender budgeting clause in the regulation on the next MFF, and a provision to ensure a gender-responsive mid-term review;

Amendment 61
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 8 d (new)

Motion for a resolution

8d. Calls on the Member States to fully comply with their obligations under the ICESCR, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women and the ICERD;
Amendment 62
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 8 e (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

8e. Calls on the Commission and the Council to provide a realistic budget that would allow discrimination and inequalities on different grounds to be effectively combated, promote equal treatment, as well support victims of discrimination; reiterates that sufficient budget funding should be allocated to future FRA activities;

Amendment 63
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 8 f (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

8f. Calls on the EU and the Member States to fully implement the UN CRPD and its Optional Protocol; recalls that women and girls with disabilities are particularly exposed to multiple forms of discrimination and are thus prevented from enjoying their fundamental rights on an equal basis in full;

Amendment 64
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 8 g (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

8g. Calls on the Member States to ensure that women’s and LGBTI+ rights are protected and recognised as equality principles intrinsic to democracy and the rule of law;

Amendment 65
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 8 h (new)
Motion for a resolution

Amendment

8h. Notes that in May 2019, the Agency re-launched, after seven years, the second EU-wide LGBTI survey, which aims to compile the experiences of discrimination and hate crime of lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and intersex people across the EU, North Macedonia and Serbia, as well as their views and the challenges they face; urges the FRA to publish the results of the survey in 2020 and to ensure that in the future the survey is conducted more frequently and regularly;

Amendment 66
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 8i (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

8i. Highlights the need for targeted policies with an intersectional approach to guarantee the fundamental rights of vulnerable women who experience multiple discrimination, such as women refugees, asylum seekers and migrants, women from religious and ethnic minorities, LGBTI+ women, elderly women and women with disabilities;

Amendment 67
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 8j (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

8j. Is deeply concerned that in recent years, anti-gender equality and anti-LGBTI+ movements have gained ground in a number of Member States; stresses that these movements seek to challenge established fundamental rights pertaining to gender equality, and aim to block and roll back laws and policies protecting women’s rights and defending LGBTI+ people against hate
crimes and discrimination;

Amendment 68
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 8 k (new)

Motion for a resolution
Amendment

8k. Reiterates its call on the Commission to adopt an EU LGBTI+ strategy that takes into account Parliament’s previous demands, and ensures continuity and a robust follow-up to the previous Commission’s list of actions to promote LGBTI+ equality;

Amendment 69
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 8 l (new)

Motion for a resolution
Amendment

8l. Notes that the most vulnerable women belong to minority groups, including gender and sexual, ethnic and religious minorities; urges the Commission and the Member States to take effective action to tackle hate speech against such vulnerable groups;

Amendment 70
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 8 m (new)

Motion for a resolution
Amendment

8m. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to communicate and reaffirm the importance and benefits of safeguarding women’s rights and gender equality and eliminating gender stereotypes for society, and to further support the development and dissemination of evidence-based research and information on women’s rights;
Amendment 71
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 8 n (new)

Motion for a resolution

8n. Commits to proposing measures to achieve gender balance in the EU institutions in the framework of the upcoming Conference on the Future of Europe;

Amendment 72
Draft opinion
Paragraph 11 a (new)

Draft opinion

11a. Notes with concern the increasingly shrinking space for independent civil society in some Member States, in particular women’s rights organisations and human rights defenders; calls on the Commission to strengthen support and protection of civil society organisations and women human rights defenders active at national and local level, who are working to promote gender equality and sexual and reproductive health and rights in particular, including through the Rights and Values programme; emphasises the importance of participation by civil society organisations in the Conference on the Future of Europe;

Amendment 73
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 12 a (new)

Motion for a resolution

12a. Calls on Member States to comply with their human rights obligations and to fully implement the judgments of the European Court of Human Rights;
Amendment 74

Draft opinion
Paragraph 13 a (new)

13a. Stresses that undocumented migrant women and children should be able to fully enjoy their basic fundamental rights, regardless of their legal or administrative status; expresses its serious concern at the situation of migrants and asylum seekers who are smuggled into the EU; calls for the opening of legal and safe migration and asylum routes in order to avoid sexual and gender-based violence; further stresses in this regard that all legal and administrative procedures should be conducted expeditiously; recalls that women and children may be compelled to exchange sex for protection or basic support to survive; underlines in this regard that improving assistance and registration systems are matters of the utmost importance, together with the need to address family separation and the lack of safe and legal means of entry into the EU; stresses the need for family reunification procedures to ensure the respect of individual rights for women and girls joining their families in the EU, so that they are not obliged to depend on a family member for access to health, education or work;

Amendment 75

Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 13 b (new)

13b. Urges the EU to mobilise the necessary means to fight trafficking and sexual exploitation; calls on the Commission
and the Member States to adopt measures to prevent and address the use of new technologies as a tool for recruiting women and girls for human trafficking, especially for sexual and labour exploitation;

Amendment 76
Motion for a resolution
Paragraph 4 m (new)

Motion for a resolution

Amendment

4m. Calls, therefore, for special attention to be paid to the digital gender gap, which has a substantial impact on access to jobs and services, and thus women’s right to employment;