

NOTES FROM THE CHAIR



We are looking forward to the upcoming committee meetings on 27 and 28 February. Among the votes we have two own-initiative reports: *Women and climate change* and the annual report on *Equality between women and men in the EU*. The committee is also organising a public hearing on *The role of women in the green economy*, which is linked to an initiative report on the same topic. It will be an excellent occasion to exchange views with experts, Shadow Rapporteurs, NGOs and interested citizens on how gender equality can be a focal point when discussing future perspectives of sustainable societies. At the time of writing the relevant services of the Parliament are finalising the last details around the organisation of the meeting with the participation of national parliaments on the occasion of the 101st International Women's Day which will take place on 8 March 2012. On behalf of my colleagues I would like to extend a warm welcome to all those interested in attending this interparliamentary meeting entitled "Equal pay for work of equal value". The gender pay gap is also on this month's committee agenda, where we will discuss the draft report on the *Application of the principle of equal pay for male and female workers for equal work or work of equal value*.

Mikael Gustafsson

27 - 28 FEBRUARY – MEETING AGENDA IN BRIEF

- ⌚ The role of women in the green economy - public hearing
- ⌚ Application of the principle of equal pay for male and female workers for equal work or work of equal value - consideration of draft report
- ⌚ A 2020 perspective for women in Turkey - consideration of amendments
- ⌚ Decisions in matters of matrimonial property regimes - consideration of draft opinion
- ⌚ Abused domestic workers in Europe: the case of au-pairs - presentation of study

THE COMMITTEE WILL VOTE ON

- ⌚ Women and climate change - adoption of draft report
- ⌚ Equality between women and men in the European Union - 2011 - adoption of draft report
- ⌚ Modernising Europe's higher education systems - adoption of draft opinion

- ⌚ Annual Report on Human Rights in the World and the European Union's policy on the matter including implications for the EU's strategic human rights policy - adoption of draft opinion
- ⌚ A strategy for strengthening the rights of vulnerable consumers - adoption of amendments

Date: Monday, 27 February, 15.00 - 17.30

Tuesday, 28 February 9.00 - 12.00

Venue: Paul-Henri Spaak 4B001, Brussels

Live web streaming of the meeting [here](#).

THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN THE GREEN ECONOMY - Public hearing

A green, resource-efficient and more competitive economy has been established as an aim within the Sustainable Growth priority of the Europe 2020 strategy. The public hearing will examine green economy from a gender perspective and will serve as an input to the prospective report on the same subject, which aims to formulate some recommendations to address the gender equality issues which will have been identified.

Please click for the [draft programme](#) and [registration](#).
Rapporteur: **Mikael Gustafsson** (GUE/NGL)

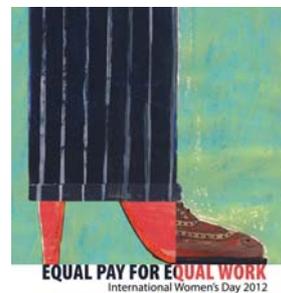


APPLICATION OF THE PRINCIPLE OF EQUAL PAY FOR MALE AND FEMALE WORKERS FOR EQUAL WORK OR WORK OF EQUAL VALUE

Consideration of draft report

The principle that men and women should receive equal pay for equal work has been enshrined in the Treaties of the European Communities since 1957. This report will reiterate the recommendations adopted by the European Parliament in 2008, taking into account the statistical data and research information on the gender pay gap released since the [original resolution](#).

The subject of this report will also be the focus of this year's [interparliamentary committee meeting](#) on the occasion of the International Women's Day on 8 March.
Rapporteur: **Edit Bauer** (EPP)



Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality is responsible for:

- Definition, promotion and protection of women's rights in the Union and related Community measures;
- The promotion of women's rights in third countries;
- Equal opportunities policy, including equality between men and women with regard to labour market opportunities and treatment at work;
- The removal of all forms of discrimination based on sex;
- The implementation and further development of gender mainstreaming in all policy sectors;
- The follow-up and implementation of international agreements and conventions involving the rights of women;
- Information policy on women.

A 2020 PERSPECTIVE FOR WOMEN IN TURKEY

Consideration of amendments

The committee held a public [hearing](#) on 20 April 2011 on this issue, and the Rapporteur presented her [draft report](#) in October 2011. The text examines the main problem areas related to the situation of women in Turkey, explores the possible measures to encourage more women to be agents of progress and provides recommendations on what needs to be done to improve the situation by year 2020. The committee will now discuss the [129 amendments](#) tabled and the 3 compromise amendments proposed by the Rapporteur.

Rapporteur: **Emine Bozkurt** (S&D)

DECISIONS IN MATTERS OF MATRIMONIAL PROPERTY REGIMES

Consideration of draft opinion



The [Commission's proposal](#) takes into account the situation of a large number of transnational couples within the Union and the practical and legal difficulties such couples face, both in the daily management of

their property and in its division if the couple separate or one of its members dies. The aim of the proposal is to establish a comprehensive set of rules of international private law applicable to matrimonial property regimes. The main objective of the FEMM [draft opinion](#) is to raise awareness for women, if they are faced with the legal consequences of a matrimonial property regime, they should be in the position to make an informed and even handed decision, in what is inevitably a difficult time.

Draftsperson: **Marina Yannakoudakis** (ECR)

EQUALITY BETWEEN WOMEN AND MEN IN THE EUROPEAN UNION - 2011

Adoption of draft report

At its previous meeting the FEMM committee discussed the [236 amendments](#) tabled to the [draft report](#). Following this discussion, and in order to ensure a broad support of the text, the Rapporteur proposed further 19 compromise amendments. The committee will now vote on the draft report and the amendments.

Rapporteur: **Sophia in 't Veld** (ALDE)

WOMEN AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Adoption of draft report

Following the discussion of the [52 amendments](#) tabled to the [draft report](#), the Rapporteur proposed 12 compromise amendments, which integrate different ideas with a broad support from political groups. At the current meeting, FEMM will vote on the text, the

amendments and the text of the [ENVI](#) committee's opinion.

Rapporteur: **Nicole Kiil-Nielsen** (Greens/EFA)

MODERNISING EUROPE'S HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEMS

Adoption of draft opinion

The committee discussed the [draft opinion](#) at its previous meeting and Members tabled [49 amendments](#) to the text until the deadline. The draftsman proposes compromise amendments with the aim to bring different views closer. Following the adoption of the opinion, the text will be sent to the [CULT](#) committee.

Draftsperson: **Andrea Češková** (ECR)

ANNUAL REPORT ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE WORLD AND THE EUROPEAN UNION'S POLICY ON THE MATTER INCLUDING IMPLICATIONS FOR THE EU'S STRATEGIC HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY

Adoption of draft opinion

Members tabled [43 amendments](#) to the original text of the [draft opinion](#), since the exchange of views took place at the previous committee meeting. As in the case of previous files, the draftsman proposed compromise amendments. The final opinion will be sent to the [AFET](#) committee.

Draftsperson: **Teresa Jiménez-Becerril Barrio** (EPP)

A STRATEGY FOR STRENGTHENING THE RIGHTS OF VULNERABLE CONSUMERS

Adoption of amendments

The FEMM committee will adopt amendments to be tabled directly to the [initiative report](#) of the [IMCO](#) committee, which aims to provide the contribution from the European Parliament to the prevention of consumer vulnerability and the protection of vulnerable consumers. FEMM amendments will focus on the gender perspective of the issue.

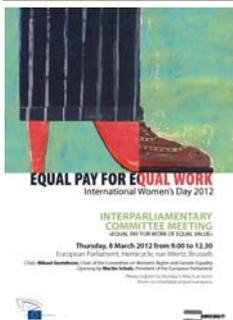
ABUSED DOMESTIC WORKERS IN EUROPE: THE CASE OF AU-PAIRS

Presentation of a study

Representatives of the Roskilde University will present the [study](#), which was earlier requested by the committee in order to analyse the situation of au pairs in the European Union.

Details of the next meeting

Tuesday, 27 March, 9.00 - 12.30 and 15.00 - 18.30



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY - Programmes on 7-8 March 2012

EQUAL PAY FOR WORK OF EQUAL VALUE - Interparliamentary Committee Meeting

Every year the European Parliament celebrates International Women's Day with an event that brings together European and national MPs from parliamentary committees for equal opportunities. In 2012 the event will focus on the theme "Equal pay for work of equal value". President Martin Schulz will open the debate.

Please click for the [programme](#) and [registration info](#).

MADE IN DAGENHAM - movie screening in English original with French subtitles

On the eve of the interparliamentary meeting, on 7 March the screening of Made in Dagenham will take place, which will be followed by a debate.

The screening is open to the public, [click to register](#).

For more information, please contact

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FEMM website: <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/activities/committees/homeCom.do?language=EN&body=FEMM>

Link to committee meeting documents: http://www.europarl.europa.eu/meetdocs/2009_2014/organes/femm/femm_7leg_meetinglist.htm