

# EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2004



2009

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*Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality*

**2008/2063(INI)**

24.4.2008

## **DRAFT OPINION**

of the Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality

for the Committee on Constitutional Affairs

on Parliament's new role and new responsibilities under the Treaty of Lisbon  
(2008/2063(INI))

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(\*): Associated committee - Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure

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## SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality calls on the Committee on Constitutional Affairs, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions in its motion for a resolution:

1. Notes with satisfaction that equality between women and men has been included among the Union's values (Article 2 of the TEU) and aims (Article 3(3), second subparagraph, of the TEU);
2. Welcomes the broadening of the scope of the principle of gender mainstreaming, which in future will apply to all Union measures, as a result of the decision to devote a specific article among the general implementing provisions (Article 8 of the TFEU) to this principle, so that it becomes a genuine horizontal provision applicable to all areas of Union action;
3. Welcomes the new procedure laid down in Article 19 of the TFEU, which stipulates that Parliament must henceforth give its consent to the adoption by the Council (unfortunately still acting unanimously) of measures to combat all forms of discrimination on the basis of sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation;
4. Welcomes the fact that the ordinary legislative procedure will cover measures to combat trafficking in human beings, in particular women and children, and sexual exploitation (Articles 79(2)(d) and 83(1), second subparagraph, of the TFEU);
5. Takes the view that these new provisions will make it possible for the Commission to submit to the Council and Parliament, without delay, legislative proposals designed to make the various Community policies to combat the trafficking of women and children for the purposes of sexual exploitation more readily understandable and more effective;
6. Calls on the Commission to provide it, within three years following the entry into force of the Treaty of Lisbon, with an initial assessment of the impact of that Treaty in the Member States on the fight against the trafficking of human beings, in particular women and children, for the purposes of sexual exploitation;
7. Welcomes Declaration 19 on Article 8 of the TFEU calling on the Member States to take all necessary measures to prevent and punish all forms of domestic violence and to support and protect the victims of such violence.