



January 2013

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NOTES FROM THE CHAIR Mikael Gustafsson

It is a pleasure to welcome you all back to the parliamentary work. We have a very interesting, exciting and important year in front of us, what regards women's rights and gender equality. The FEMM committee is pleased to welcome the representatives of the Irish Presidency to its first meeting of 2013. We are looking forward to a constructive cooperation on the FEMM committee's core issues such as the elimination of violence against women and targets aimed at ensuring women's empowerment and socio-economic independence. The draft report on the impact of the economic crisis on gender equality and women's rights is on the agenda and amendments will be discussed, as well as the report on women's rights in the Balkan accession countries. Our committee hopes to include Members in the EU-delegation to the UN CSW 57 to NY in March. Besides the amount of administrative work, we need also to be politically well prepared with a strong and clear message from the European Parliament. In this context we will vote an oral question with resolution on the elimination and prevention of all forms of violence against women and girls in view of the UN CSW 57. The vote in the plenary in February will enable us to put forward the EP's formal position in New York. The committee is also organising a public hearing on sexual and reproductive health and rights. I would like to extend a warm welcome to all those interested in attending this hearing!

21 -22 JANUARY – MEETING AGENDA IN BRIEF

- ⌚ Sexual and reproductive health and rights - public hearing
- ⌚ Impact of the economic crisis on gender equality and women's rights - consideration of amendments
- ⌚ Gender Related Asylum Claims in Europe - A Comparative Analysis of Law, Policies and Practice Focusing on Women in Nine EU Member States - presentation of study
- ⌚ Debriefing from the FEMM-delegation to Dublin, Ireland (29-30 November 2012) - exchange of views
- ⌚ Study visit for Women MPs from the southern component of the PA-UfM (Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya and Lebanon) - exchange of views

- ⌚ An Agenda for Adequate, Safe and Sustainable Pensions - consideration of draft opinion
- ⌚ Educational and occupational mobility of women in the EU - consideration of draft report
- ⌚ Women's rights in the Balkan accession countries - consideration of draft report
- ⌚ Exchange of views with the Irish Presidency - Kathleen Lynch TD, Minister of State, responsible for e.a. Equality

THE COMMITTEE WILL VOTE ON

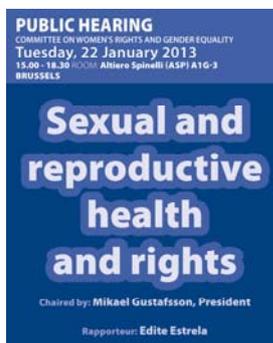
- ⌚ 2011 discharge - European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) - adoption of draft opinion
- ⌚ 2011 discharge: EU general budget, Section III, Commission - adoption of draft opinion
- ⌚ Elimination and prevention of all forms of violence against women and girls in view of the UN CSW 57 - adoption of oral question with resolution
- ⌚ Preparation of the multiannual financial framework regarding the financing of EU cooperation for ACP States and Overseas Countries and Territories for the 2014-2020 period - adoption of draft opinion

Date: Monday, 21 January, 15.00-18.30 and Tuesday, 22 January, 9.00-12.30 and 15.00-18.30

Venue: Altiero Spinelli building, Room 1G3, Brussels

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

SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS



FEMM committee will hold a public hearing with the aim to discuss sexual and reproductive health and rights as a gender equality issue. Renowned experts will present their views in different discussion panels, such as health literacy and sexual education, public health systems and accessibility in the EU and the role of the EU in promoting these rights globally.

The hearing is open to the public. Please click for the [draft programme](#) and the [registration information](#).

EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WITH THE IRISH PRESIDENCY



Uachtaránacht na hÉireann ar
Chomhairle an Aontais Eorpaigh
Irish Presidency of the Council
of the European Union
eu2013.ie

The exchange of views with Kathleen Lynch TD, **Minister of State**, Department of Health and Department of Justice,

Equality & Defence with responsibility for Disability, Older People, Equality & Mental Health takes place in the context of the by the incoming Presidency's traditional presentation of its [programme and priorities](#) in the committee's area of responsibility.

EDUCATIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL MOBILITY OF WOMEN IN THE EU

Consideration of draft report

Rapporteur: **Licia Ronzulli** (EPP)



Occupational mobility is closely related to overall levels of employment in the society and increasing women's the labour market participation. Challenge of occupational mobility as part of the complex phenomena of labour market flexibility accordingly creates the need to adapt education and training systems more effectively to the employment, to boost lifelong learning and skills acquisition. The [draft report](#) examines educational and occupational mobility from a gender perspective and formulates some recommendations to address the gender equality issues which are identified.

IMPACT OF THE ECONOMIC CRISIS ON GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN'S RIGHTS

Consideration of amendments

Rapporteur: **Elisabeth Morin-Chartier** (EPP)

The Rapporteur presented her [draft report](#) at the previous committee meeting, when the deadline for tabling amendments was also set. 179 amendments were tabled by the deadline, which will be the subject of the current discussion in view of possible compromise amendments and the committee vote in February.

WOMEN'S RIGHTS IN THE BALKAN ACCESSION COUNTRIES

Consideration of draft report

Rapporteur: **Marije Cornelissen** (Greens/EFA)



The European Parliament has adopted on 4 December 2008 a [resolution](#) on "The situation of women in the Balkans" where it has noted that ensuring women's rights and gender equality in practice remains a key challenge for Balkan region countries. A renewed analysis of the situation in these countries would, therefore, be useful and coherent. This [draft report](#) examines the development of women's rights in the Balkan accession countries since the adoption of the

forementioned resolution. It also focuses on challenges which these countries have to overcome and formulates recommendations to address the gender equality issues.

AN AGENDA FOR ADEQUATE, SAFE AND SUSTAINABLE PENSIONS

Consideration of draft opinion

Draftsperson: **Regina Bastos** (EPP)

The committee decided to deliver its [opinion](#) to the EMPL committee on this issue, emphasising the gender aspects of pensions. Previously, the European Parliament, amongst other institutions and stakeholders, has responded to the public consultation held in this matter and expressed their expectation for pension issues to be addressed at the EU level in a comprehensive and coordinated way.

PREPARATION OF THE MFF REGARDING THE FINANCING OF EU COOPERATION FOR AFRICAN, CARIBBEAN AND PACIFIC STATES AND OVERSEAS COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES FOR 2014-2020

Adoption of draft opinion

Draftsperson: **Mariya Gabriel** (EPP)

Members of the committee discussed the [draft opinion](#) at the previous committee meeting when the deadline for tabling amendments was also set. 35 amendments were tabled to the draftsperson's text, and the committee will now adopt its final opinion, which will be sent to the DEVE committee.

2011 DISCHARGE - EU GENERAL BUDGET AND EIGE

Adoption of draft opinions

Draftsperson: **Minodora Cliveti** (S&D)



Following the consideration of the draft opinions on the discharge of the [general budget of the EU](#) and the [budget of the EIGE](#) for the year 2011, the committee will now adopt its final opinions, which will be sent to the CONT committee.

Members tabled 10 amendments to the two draft opinions ([1 to the general budget](#) and [9 to the EIGE budget](#)).

ELIMINATION AND PREVENTION OF ALL FORMS OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS IN VIEW OF THE UN CSW 57

Adoption of oral question with resolution

The committee will adopt the text of the oral question for the February Plenary on the subject of violence against women, which would serve as guidance for the FEMM Members travelling to the [UN CSW57](#) in March 2013.

GENDER RELATED ASYLUM CLAIMS IN EUROPE - A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF LAW, POLICIES AND PRACTICE FOCUSING ON WOMEN IN NINE EU MEMBER STATES

Presentation

The study, which will be presented to the committee, examines gender related asylum claims in the following nine Member States: France, Belgium, Hungary, Italy, Malta, Romania, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom. The presentation will be followed by questions and remarks from the Members.

STUDY VISIT FOR WOMEN MPS FROM THE SOUTHERN COMPONENT OF THE PA-UFM (MOROCCO, ALGERIA, TUNISIA, LIBYA AND LEBANON)

Exchange of views

This visit will provide Members of the European Parliament as well as Members of the [Parliamentary Assembly - Union for Mediterranean](#) with an excellent opportunity to discuss the actual issues in the field of gender equality and women's rights.

DEBRIEFING FROM THE FEMM-DELEGATION TO DUBLIN, IRELAND (29-30 NOVEMBER 2012)

Exchange of views

The delegation visit took place in the context of [Ireland's Presidency of the Council](#) of the European Union. The purpose of the visit was to learn about gender equality policies in Ireland and exchange views about the Presidency programme in the field of gender equality. The delegation visited Dublin on 29-30 November to meet representatives of the Houses of the Oireachtas, Irish government bodies as well as civil society active in the field of women's rights and gender equality. Members participating in the delegation will now give a feedback to the committee.

Details of the next meeting

18 February, 15.00 - 18.30, Brussels

19 February, 9.00 - 12.30, Brussels